

MODERATE BECOMING GOOD LATER **Sea Kayaking the Shipping Forecast**

Toby Carr

Genre: memoir, adventure travel/sport

All rights available

On submission – under offer

Featured on BBC TV and Radio 4

I experienced the tidal flats and fine sands of the North Sea coast. I saw gannets, puffins, guillemots, eider ducks, dolphins, porpoises and seals. I ate a lot of fish. I loved hearing about similar forecasts and radio broadcasts in other nations, and recorded people reading them in their own language. I returned with the feeling that the sea and its shared, strange

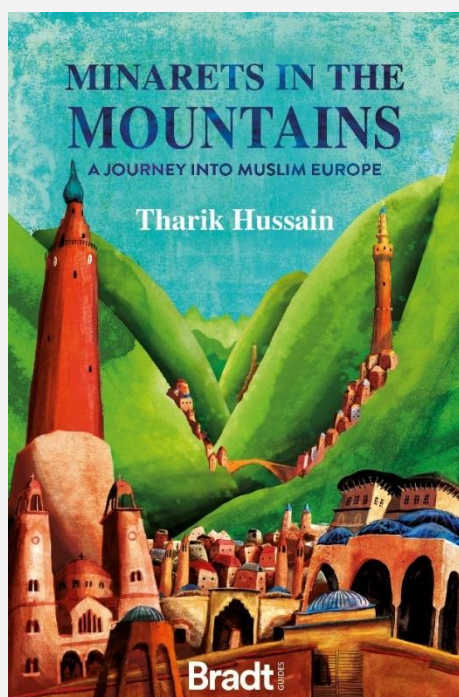
salty fables can bring us together.

Viking, North Utsire, South Utsire, Cromarty, Forties... From the southern shores of Iceland to the tip of North Africa and from Denmark to the west coast of Ireland, the shipping forecast covers some of the most varied and exposed coastlines in the world with large tidal ranges creating unique and unusual features.

Following life-threatening illness and his father's death, Toby felt a desire to push himself further and experience things he never thought possible. He decided to take a sea kayak and paddle in all 31 sections of these estuaries, islands, sand banks, bays and stretches of sea. The book tracks a three-year journey and a personal narrative about tragedy, loss and rediscovery.

Toby Carr is a kayaker, university tutor and practicing architect. When not on the sea, he lives in a small fishing cottage on the Cornish coast of England.





Narrative non-fiction, travel, 80,000 words

Publisher UK/US: Bradt; rights except Germany, China and Norway handled by Helen Edwards

Published July 2021

Longlisted for the Baillie Gifford Prize for Non-Fiction

German offer accepted – awaiting contract

Author shortlisted for Best British Travel Writing of the 21st Century

First English travel narrative by a Muslim writer about Muslim Europe

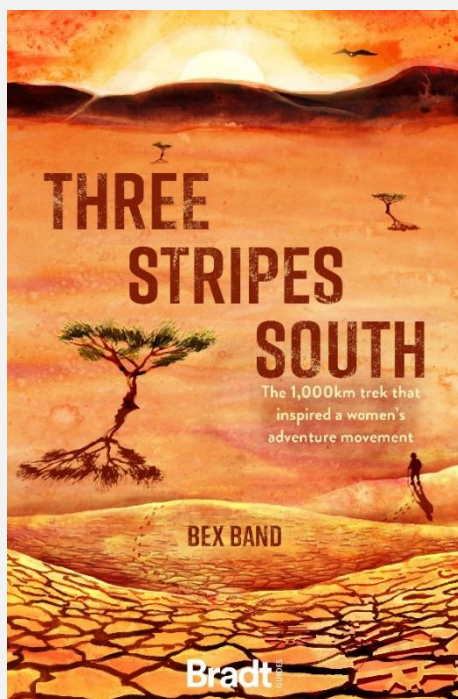
Tharik Hussain took an eye-opening journey with his wife and young daughters around a Europe that is in danger of being erased; a Europe few people believe exists, and many wish didn't: Muslim Europe. Following in the footsteps of renowned Ottoman traveller Evliya Celebi, Tharik reminds us that Europe is as Muslim as it is Christian, Jewish or pagan.

In the Western Balkans, Islam has shaped places and people for more than half a millennium. Encountering blonde-haired, blue-eyed Muslims, visiting mystical Islamic lodges clinging to the sides of mountains, praying in mosques older than the Sistine Chapel, he paints a picture of a breath-taking history and culture, while exploring the historical roots of European Islamophobia.

Like William Dalrymple's *In Xanadu*, this is a vivid re-imagining of a region's cultural heritage, unveiling forgotten communities, empires and rulers; and like Kapka Kassabova's *Border*, it is a quest that forces us to consider who makes up our identities and, more importantly, who decides.

Tharik Hussain is a journalist (BBC, Aljazeera) specialising in Muslim travel and Islamic heritage. He is co-author of Lonely Planet titles including, *Oman*, *UAE*, and *Arabian Peninsula* and *Thailand* and a contributing author for *The Ordinary Chaos of Being Human: Tales from Many Muslim Worlds*. He also produced an award-winning BBC radio documentary on America's Muslim heritage.





Genre: memoir/adventure travel

60,000 words

Publisher UK/US: Bradt; rights except Germany, China and Norway handled by Helen Edwards

Published August 2021

Finalist in the Shextreme Non-Fiction Book Award 2021, celebrating women writing about adventure

A young woman loses her confidence, gets it back on a 1000-km trek the length of Israel, and launches a women's adventure community.

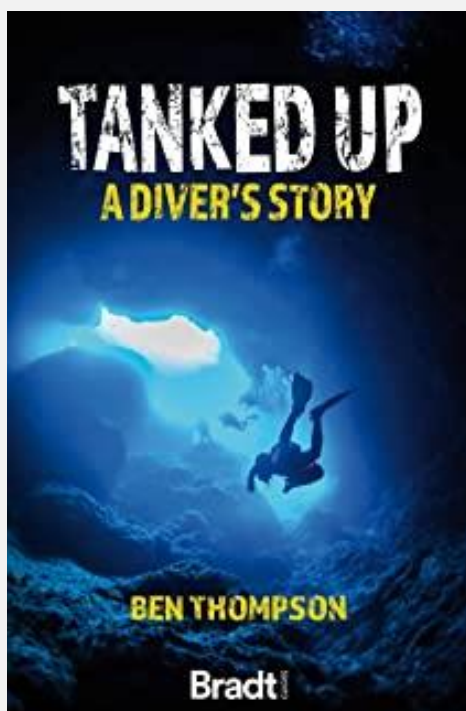
Low self-esteem is something many women can relate to. For Bex, it began at school with undiagnosed dyslexia and bullying. In her twenties she found herself in a vicious cycle of unhappy jobs and bouts of depression.

Desperate for a change, she decided to walk the length of Israel with her partner, including a dangerous crossing of the Negev Desert. She'd never done anything like it before and the experience changed her life.

Having noticed the outdoors was male-dominated and competitive and therefore off-putting to women, she decided to tackle this injustice with the community Love Her Wild. Since launching she's taken over 1,000 women on adventures around the world and become a spokesperson for women in the outdoors.

Bex Band has been nominated for The Great Outdoors Personality of the Year and a National Diversity Award, was awarded 'Legacy Maker' on the San Miguel Alternative Rich List and won the Next Generation Award. In 2019, Business Leader named her one of the UK's Top 30 Inspirational Entrepreneurs and she's been featured in *Conde Nast*, *The Observer*, *High Flying Magazine*, *Trail* and on the BBC.





Genre: memoir, adventure/sport

90,000 words

Publisher UK/US: Bradt; rights except Germany, China and Norway handled by Helen Edwards

Published April 2021

‘As with so much in life, it’s about being in the right place at the right time, and the right place is rarely sitting at home, wishing.’

Ben Thompson was always fascinated by the deep, and at fourteen he spotted a poster for a dive club in a Yorkshire chip shop. By the age of twenty-five, he was getting paid to dive the world’s most exquisite coral reefs. But Ben’s love affair with the

sea was always fuelled by a need to escape.

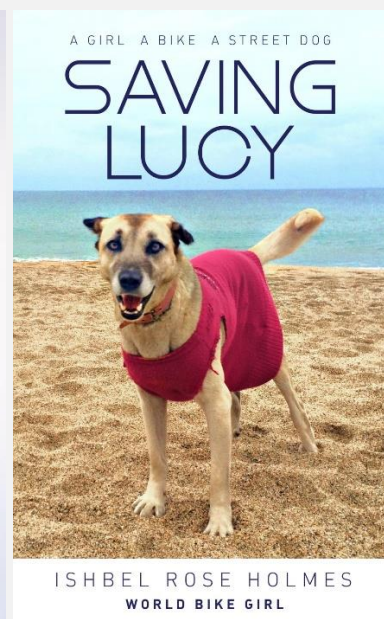
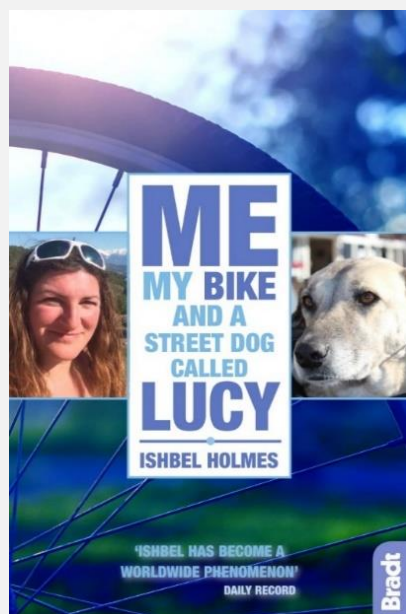
From diving one of the world’s only vertical shipwrecks to exploring Indonesia in a pirate boat, from encountering great white sharks to bonding with America’s largest naked diving group, *Tanked Up* reveals the wonders of the underwater world and the dramas of a dive instructor’s life.

Through it all, he and Vic (his dive buddy and life partner) keep searching for the perfect place to build their own dive centre, and perhaps to lay down roots.

A book about diving and dreaming, serendipity and vocation, this colourful memoir traces the author’s years seeking out remote and undamaged marine ecosystems in Asia, the Caribbean and Africa, and his journey from restlessness to a place of peace.

Ben Thompson has worked in the dive and yachting industry for almost thirty years. He built and ran his own dive centre in Mozambique, which he chronicled in a series of articles for UK-based *Dive* magazine. A keen environmentalist, he has a BA hons degree in Marine Environmental Management and has been involved with many campaigns to help save our seas.





Genre: memoir, travel/animals. 50,000 words + photos

UK: Bradt

US and Canada: Velo Press (*Saving Lucy*)

Audio: Tantor Media

German: DuMont Reise (lead title winter 2019-2020)

Spanish world: Planeta Mexico

Chinese: China Industry and Commerce Associated Press

Norwegian: Mangschou

Ishbel, the Scottish-Iranian 'World Bike Girl', was cycling the world when a lame street dog crossed her path, determined to follow. Protecting Lucy, Ishbel began to understand her own past: homeless at age sixteen, unwanted, abused, vulnerable. She decided to give her the love and the home she never had. Their journey across Turkey to Syria took them into the hearts of everyone they met.

- Shortlisted for the Lonely Planet/Stanford's Adventure Travel Award 2019
- Featured in [*The Herald Scotland*](#), [*Daily Record*](#), [*Lonely Planet*](#), [*The Telegraph*](#), [*The National Student*](#), [*The Big Issue*](#)
- Reached #12 in all books on Amazon UK after her interview on BBC Radio 4's Saturday Live show, #1 in Cycling/Dog Care/Middle Eastern travel

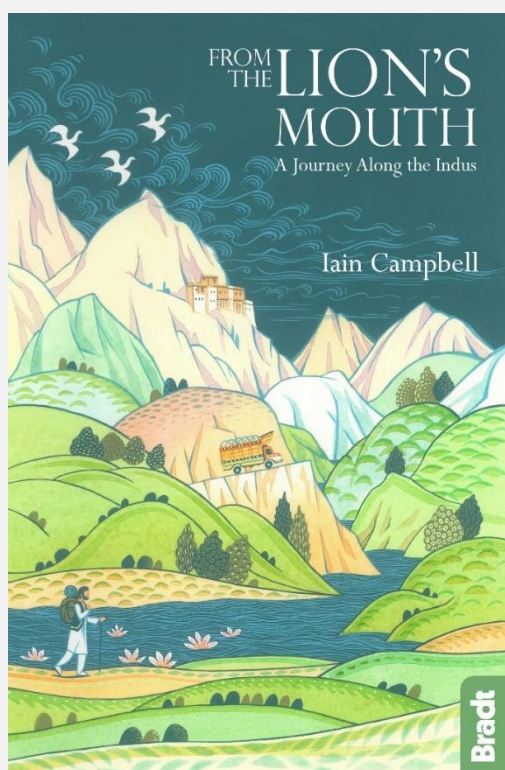
'A journey of tears, laughter and hope... Beyond inspiring!' – Dion Leonard, author of *Finding Gobi*

'Hooked by page 2. Tears by page 5.' – Jason Lewis, author and adventurer

'Down to earth, honest and funny' – Anna McNuff

'Ishbel is awesome.' – Nicola Sturgeon, First Minister for Scotland

Ishbel Holmes lives in Scotland with her dog, her partner and her daughter.



Genre: travel literature

65,000 words

Publisher: Bradt (2019)

Shortlisted for the Stanfords Adventure Travel Book of the Year Award

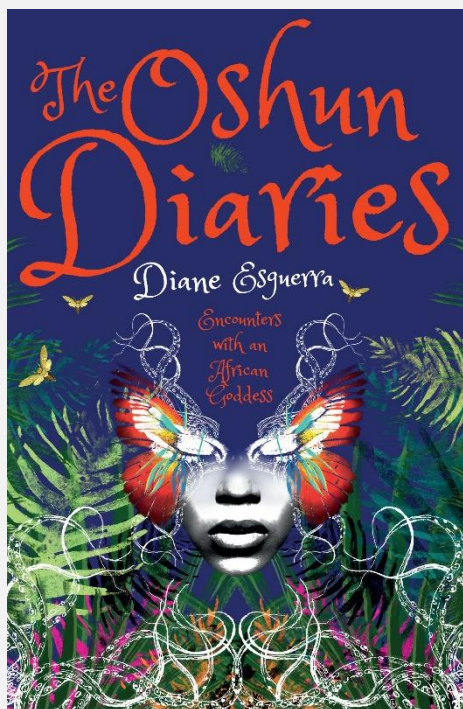
Multiple-page features in: *The Scotsman*, *The Daily Record*, *Sunday Mail*

Iain Campbell followed the Indus River – ‘the river from the lion’s mouth’ as the Tibetans call it – from the muddy delta to its source in the Tibetan plateau. He journeyed on bus roofs and trains, making lung-crushing mountain ascents, through a world defined by water.

His book reveals the secrets of a river that both gives life and destroys lives as it twists through Pakistan and The Punjab, Kashmir and Ladakh. This is also a story about stories, with first-hand accounts from Alexander the Great’s armies to European mountaineers, and the characters he encounters on his way – Sufi ascetics, Pakistani spell-makers, toddler Buddhist abbots and mischievous mountain fairies.

Iain Campbell has travelled widely in the mountains of his home country of Scotland and further afield. He studied history at Oxford University where he specialised in medieval religious history. He lives with his family in Edinburgh.





Genre: travel literature

55,000 words

Publisher: Eye Books

Excerpted in Watkins *Mind Body Spirit* magazine October 2020

Memory is visceral. All I can recall, about the drive into the southern Nigerian town of Oshogbo that November afternoon in 1986, is the screech of worn tyres on khaki-coloured roads, the all-pervading dust, the torrid heat and the rivulets of sweat trickling down the back of the albino driver's neck.

When Diane Esquerro first heard of a mysterious Austrian high priestess to Ifa goddess Oshun in Nigeria, a love goddess of female empowerment, her curiosity was aroused. It was the start of an extraordinary friendship leading to a quest to take part in Oshun rituals. Decades later, fulfilling a promise, she found herself travelling with her sister to Ifa shrines in Florida amid vultures, snakes, goats' heads, machetes, torrential rain and a cigar-smoking god.

‘profoundly moving and enlightening... A stunning memoir.’ - Cal Turner Reviews

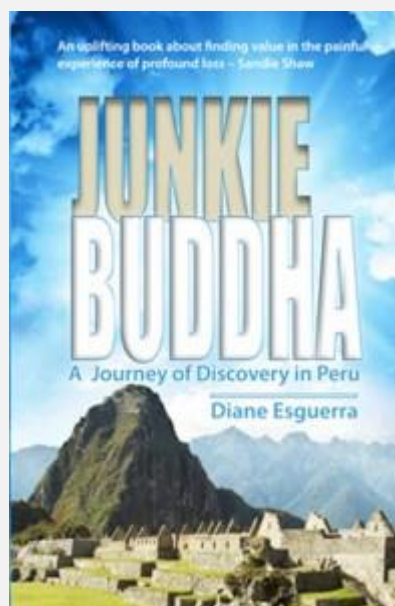
‘pushed me completely out of my comfort zone’ – Bookbound

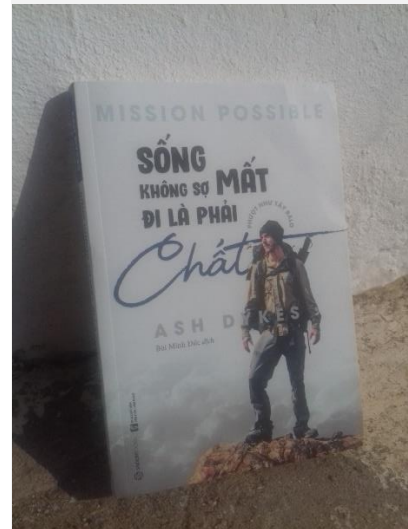
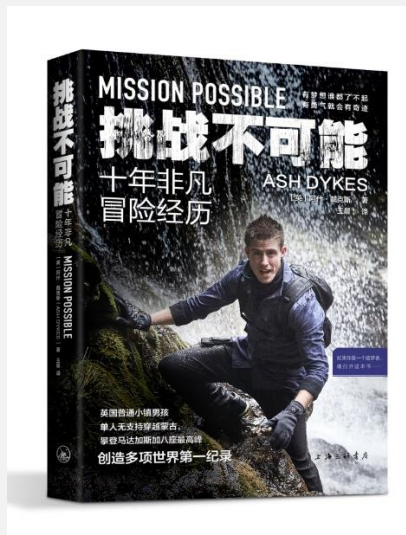
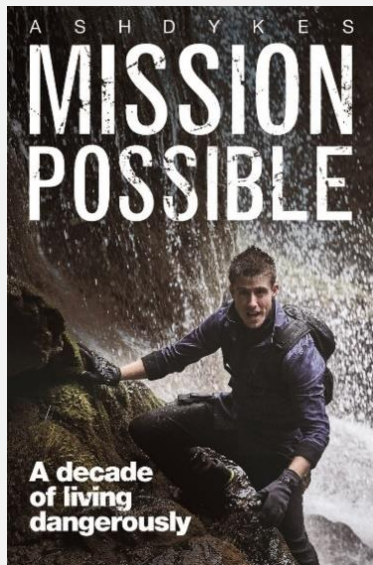
Praise for *Junkie Buddha*:

‘This is an inspiring and uplifting book about finding infinite value in the most intense and painful experience of profound loss’ – Sandie Shaw, singer

‘I could not put this gripping travel memoir down’ – Julia Stephenson, author and journalist

‘Diane Esquerro is a very fine writer’ – Eddy Canfor-Dumas, screenwriter and novelist





Genre: memoir, adventure travel
60,000 words + photos

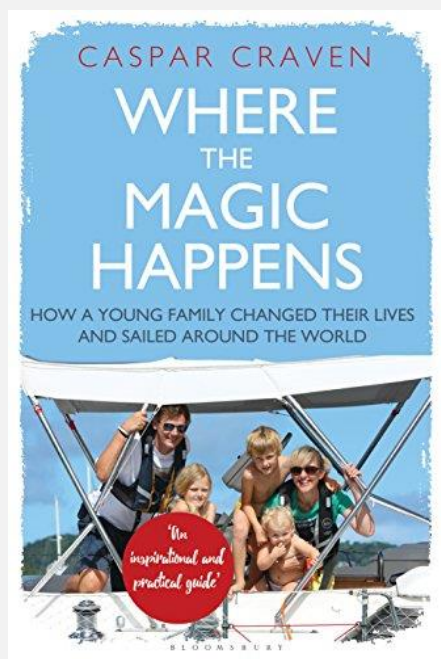
UK: Eye Books

China: Shanghai Joint Publishing

Vietnam: Saigon Books

- **Documentary Walking the Yangtze to be broadcast by National Geographic across Asia, Middle East and Africa; further territories to be confirmed**
- Media appearances include Sky News, ITV's Good Morning Britain, BBC's The One Show, Fox News, the BBC, *The Guardian*, *The Times*, Joe Rogan podcast
- Affiliated with major brands and organisations, Ash has a global reach of over 1 million people per month through his social media channels – and growing

Ash Dykes at 23 became the first person to walk solo and unsupported across Mongolia. At 25, he traversed the length of Madagascar via its eight highest peaks, achieving another world first. A few years later in 2019, he became the first person on record to walk the entire length of the Yangtze River, a 12-month, 4,000-mile journey along the third longest river in the world, the longest to run through a single nation. He followed it on foot from its true, scientific source on the Tibetan plateau as far as its mouth where it pours into the East China Sea, through wild terrain rarely seen. The Welsh adventurer's down-to-earth, positive approach, his ordinary background and his honest voice are irresistibly inspiring.



Genre: memoir, family travel/nautical

70,000 words + photos

US & UK: Adlard Coles (Bloomsbury) 2018

Audio: Audible

Amazon UK bestseller

Shortlisted for Mountbatten Award

Featured on BBC Radio 2, ITV News, *The Daily Express*, *The Times*, CNN.com, WGN News Chicago (TV)

When Caspar and Nichola created a plan to sail around the world with their children aged 9, 7 and 2, they didn't even own a boat. People thought they were mad. But magic happens when you step outside your comfort zone, when you dare to imagine. An inspirational story of their vision and family teamwork to create life-changing adventure.

‘Caspar’s message is incredibly motivating’ - Sir Ranulph Fiennes

'... freedom from the pressures of modern life saved his marriage, and transformed his relationship with his kids' - *The New York Post*

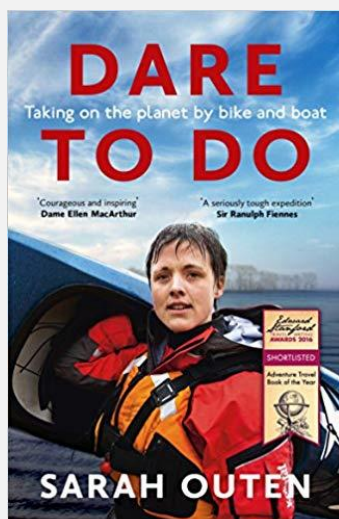
‘an incredible personal development and business book all told through the lens of a gripping real life transformation and adventure story... needs to be made into a film.’
– Dr John Demartini, author of *The Values Factor*

Caspar Craven is a respected keynote speaker on leadership, team building and dealing with adversity, and inspires and motivates teams to create change. He and his wife Nichola run Thrive workshops to help people achieve more from life.

See Speaker Showreel and press:

www.casparcraven.com





World Rights: Nicholas Brealey (Hodder)

Published 2016

Shortlisted for the Edward Stanford Adventure Travel Book of the Year

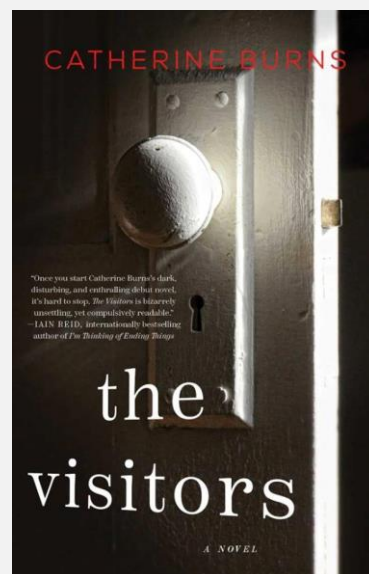
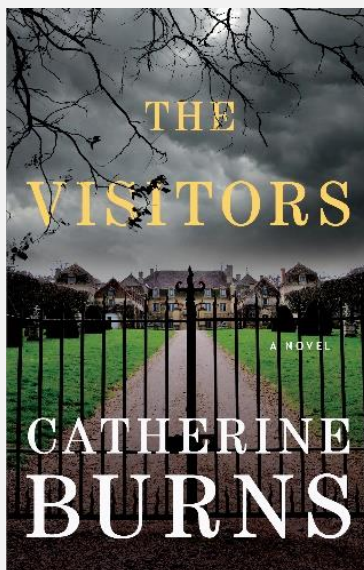
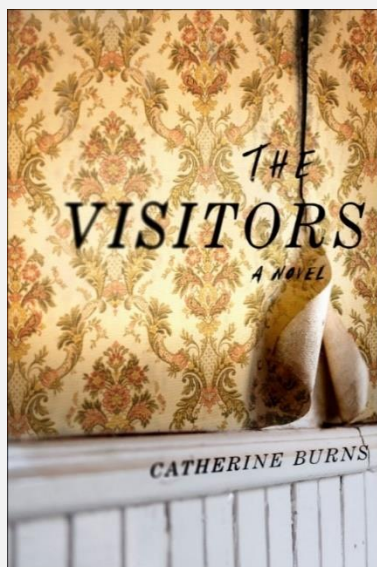
An Amazon bestseller

‘remarkable’ – *Sunday Times*

DARE TO DO chronicles Sarah Outen’s attempt to circumnavigate the planet by human power only: by bike and boat.

The documentary film, HOME: An Outward Journey Inward, was launched in 2019 and won prizes around the world.





Genre: fiction/literary crime/horror

UK: Legend

US: Scout Press (Simon & Schuster)

ANZ: Hachette

Audio: Oakhill

Croatia: Znanje

Czech: Alpress

Spanish: Panamericana

US mass market paperback Feb 2020

‘Once you start Catherine Burns’ dark, disturbing, and enthralling debut novel, it’s hard to stop. *The Visitors* is bizarrely unsettling, yet compulsively readable.’ – Iain Reid, internationally bestselling author of *I’m Thinking of Ending Things*

- Reached #1 on Kindle on Amazon UK for Crime/Suspense/Horror
 - ‘This week’s must-read books’ – *New York Post*
 - Books Etc’s October Book of the Month
 - A ‘Crime must-read’ - LitHub
 - A ‘Book to read in one sitting’ – MediaBookBub

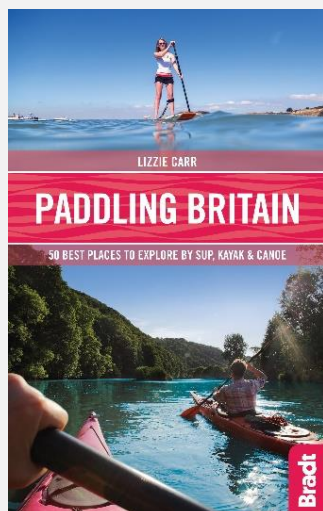
Marion lives with her older brother John in a crumbling house. A timid woman in her fifties, she turns a blind eye to the noises she hears coming from the cellar. You can lock them in... But secrets find a way out.

‘thrilling debut novel: disturbing, gripping, and hugely impressive’ – The Bookbag

‘Burns blurs the line between crime fiction and horror’ – *Publishers Weekly*

Catherine Burns was born in Manchester, graduated from Cambridge, worked as a bond trader in the City of London before studying at the Moscow Institute of Film and teaching film theory at Salford University. This is her first novel.

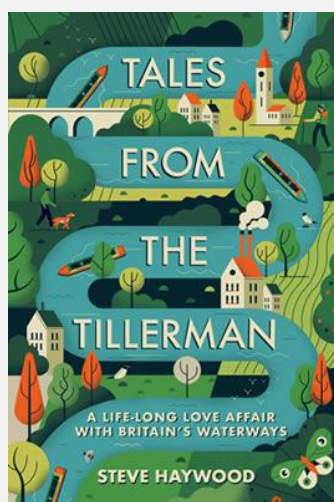
British interest



World English: Bradt

Amazon #1 bestseller for a year

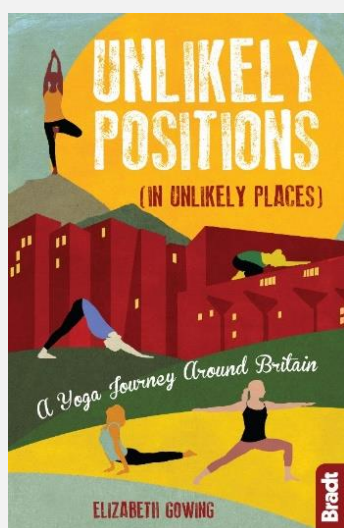
Lizzie Carr, a.k.a. Lizzie Outside, is an adventurer and environmentalist. She was the first person to paddleboard the length of England's waterways solo and unsupported, and was the first woman to cross the English Channel alone on a stand-up paddleboard. In this practical book she shares 50 of her favourite paddles around Britain.



World incl audio: Adlard Coles (Bloomsbury)

September 2021

Steve Haywood's hugely entertaining story of his life-long love affair with Britain's waterways. Steve is the author of five waterways books and a HarperCollins Crime Club novel. Previously a producer on BBC's Newsnight and Panorama, he was editor of award-winning BBC1 programmes, produced programmes for Channel Four and was awarded a Royal Television Society award for his contribution to specialist journalism.



World English: Bradt

Audio: WF Howes

Elizabeth Gowing follows yoga around Britain, discovering new positions and philosophies. She is the author of *Travels in Blood and Honey; becoming a beekeeper in Kosovo* (2011); *Edith and I; on the trail of an Edwardian traveller in Kosovo* (2013), *The Rubbish-Picker's Wife; an unlikely friendship in Kosovo* (2015) and *The Silver Thread; a journey through Balkan craftsmanship* (2017). She is regularly on Radio 4's From Our Own Correspondent.

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