



Mushens Entertainment

LONDON BOOK FAIR 2022

Rights Guide

TABLE NUMBERS:

JULIET MUSHENS - B9

LIZA DEBLOCK - B8

SILÉ EDWARDS - B8

RACHEL NEELY - B8

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We proudly present our Rights Guide for the London Book Fair 2022.

More information on our authors, books, and rights can be found on our website at www.mushens-entertainment.com

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Contacts & Co-agents

Juliet Mushens

juliet@mushens-entertainment.com

Silé Edwards

sile@mushens-entertainment.com

Liza DeBlock

liza@mushens-entertainment.com

Rachel Neely

rachel@mushens-entertainment.com

Kiya Evans

kiya@mushens-entertainment.com

France

Eliane Benisti Agency
80 Rue des Saints-Pères
75007 Paris, France

Italy

Berla & Griffini
Via Gian Giacomo Mora 7
20123 Milano
Italy

Spain, Portugal, Brazil

MB Agencia Literari SL
P.O. Box 31308
08080 Barcelona, Spain

Germany

Mohrbooks AG
Seefeldstrasse 303
CH-8008 Zürich, Switzerland

Scandinavia

Sebes & Bisseling
Herengracht 623
1017 CE Amsterdam,
The Netherlands

Eastern Europe

Prava i Prevodi
Yu-Business Centre
Blvd Mihaila Pupina 10B/I
11070 Belgrade, Serbia

Israel

The Deborah Harris Agency
PO Box 8528
Jerusalem 9108401, Israel

Turkey

Anatolia Lit
No. 48 Or.Ko Apt B Blok D:4
34710 Kadikoy-Istanbul
Turkey

China and Taiwan

Grayhawk Agency
1F, No 18, Lane 206, Sec. 1,
Daan Rd,
Daan Dist.
Taipei 106070
Taiwan

Japan

Tuttle-Mori Agency
2-17 Kanda Jimbocho
Chiyoda-ku
Tokyo 101-0051
Japan

Korea

Duran Kim Agency
203 Century II
56 Banpodaero-18-gil
Seocho-gu
Seoul 0665, Korea





Highlights



Drown Me Out

Rhiannon Barnsley

Agent: Silé Edwards

On Submission Soon

Material: Submission MS

Sage is having a nightmare. A recurring one. Every night she watches a woman drown and cannot do anything to save her. When she sees Lara in the local supermarket, she realises that the woman from her nightmare is real, and if she is real, then that means Lara is in danger – but can Sage do anything to stop her dream from becoming a reality?

Lara is a student and popular influencer who has been receiving abusive messages and increasingly threatening gifts left at her door.

Sage inserts herself into the shadows of Lara's life, keeping track of her every move, but as the plan unfolds, not everything is what it seems, and Sage is hiding secrets of her own.

A compelling psychological thriller for fans of Gillian McAllister, Lisa Jewell's *Watching You* and Helen Monks Takhar's *Precious You*. Also perfect for watchers of BBC's new Series *Chloe* and Netflix's *YOU*.

Rhiannon Barnsley is a recent graduate of the Faber Academy *Writing a Novel* Course and an avid reader of all things dark and twisted. Rhiannon grew up in the West Midlands and now lives in South London with her partner and their clingy cat. She has a degree in law and is a practising solicitor.



Truth, Hope, Justice

Hope Bastine

Agent: Silé Edwards

Hope Bastine was born into the cult known as the Children of God.

On Submission Soon

Material: Proposal and Sample Writing

Similar To: *In the Days of Rain, Educated, Not Without My Sister*

She was raised in secret communes around the world, without contact with the outside world, under the law of 'free love'. She slipped out in the early hours of a cold February morning to pursue a life on the 'outside' in earnest.

Behind the thin veil of normality Hope cloaked herself in to assimilate to life outside of the cult lies the shattered psyche of a life less than ordinary. The damage of being forced into a faith by any means necessary takes its toll.

This is a gripping true crime psychological memoir of one woman's pursuit of justice when all else failed. Told in alternating points of view of The Law and The Witness, Hope Bastine finally tells the story of her sixteen-year-long battle for justice.

Hope Bastine story appeared on the cover of the *Sunday Times Magazine*, *ITV This Morning*, *BBC Radio*, and featured in the Discovery+ docuseries, '*Children of the Cult*'. She is continuously called upon by news outlets across the globe to speak her truth. Hope Bastine is now a sleep and trauma psychologist. She is in the final stages of completing her PhD thesis at the Nottingham University on the subsequent cultic generation's personality development.



Dragon Rider

Taran Matharu

Agent: Juliet Mushens



Publication date:

July 2023

Material: Unedited MS

Rights sold:

UK: HarperVoyager (Vicky Leech)

US: HarperVoyager

Netherlands: Van Goor

Options:

Czech: Alpress

Denmark: Forar

Netherlands: Van Goor

Poland: Jaguar

- Sold in a six figure pre-empt in the UK
- Sold in a major six figure deal in the US
- Taran is a major multi-million copy New York Times bestselling author

From the New York Times bestselling author of the SUMMONER series, comes an immersive new fantasy world where humans can bond with dragons...

Jai is a Captive in the Sabine Court – ever since his father Rohan, leader of the Plainsfolk, led an uprising and was put to death by the Emperor who Jai must now serve. The Sabine Empire has a powerful tool, the Gryphon Guard: elite warriors who ride gryphons. Only one thing is more powerful than them: dragons, exclusive to a rival kingdom.

When the emperor's son is betrothed to Princess Erica of the Dansk Kingdom she brings with her a powerful dowry: dragons.

But when the Emperor is found dead, and the Dansk King is accused of his murder, Jai has one choice: run or be killed. And when he finds a stunted dragon's egg, he takes it with him. Soon, united with Princess Erica, he must make a decision. Does he flee to an anonymous life or – aided by his new dragon chick – does he stand up and fight against a cruel Empire that destroyed his people?

Taran Matharu is the New York Times bestselling author of the Summoner series, which has been translated into 15 languages and has sold over two million copies in the English language. His CONTENDER trilogy was published in 2019. He has won the journal de Mickey award in France and the Sakura medal in Japan, and was Book Trust's writer in residence.



The Revels

Stacey Thomas

Agent: Liza DeBlock

On Submission Soon

Material: Submission MS

Rights:

UK (Auction)

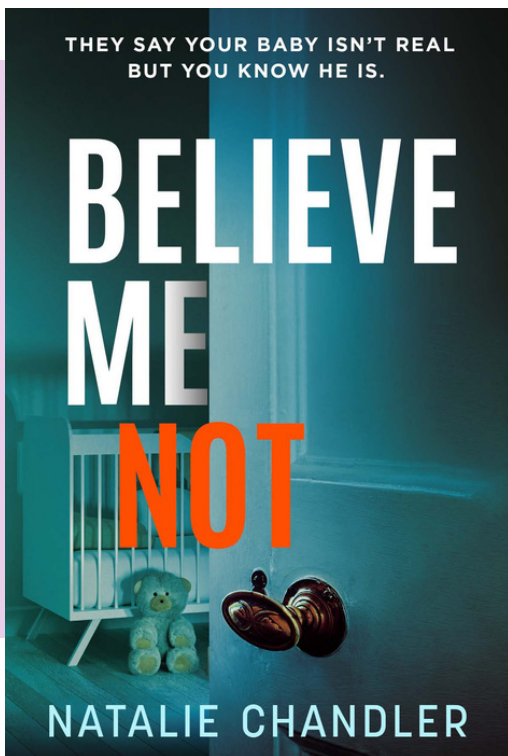
1645 England. Nicholas Pearce is an aspiring playwright, who has just heard news that will transform his life: his beloved half-brother, Francis, has died fighting on the wrong side of the English Civil War. With his brother dead, Nicholas's father makes him an offer. If Nicholas takes up the mantle of heir and joins the family business, in return, he will be legitimised and will finally learn the name of his mother. Nicholas is desperate to learn about his lineage because he harbours a secret – he is a witch. And at a time when the country is torn apart by civil war and rife with suspicions of witchcraft, that is a very dangerous thing to be. Nicholas hears the dead sing and knows all their secrets but cannot utter a word without betraying his nature.

While the gossip surrounding his legitimisation dies down, Nicholas is apprenticed to Judge William Percival – an infamous former witch-hunter who is under pressure to resume his old profession. As tension mounts between Catholics and Protestants, Royalists and Roundheads, neighbour and neighbour, women are decried as witches. But Nicholas knows the truth. He hears the dead sing, he knows all is not as it seems. But will he decide to expose himself and save innocent lives, or will he stay quiet and finally learn the truth about who he is?

Stacey Thomas is a Press Officer for HMRC and a staff writer at *Bad Form Review*. She recently graduated from the CBC novel writing course. *THE REVELS* won the HarperFiction Killing It Competition for Undiscovered Writers and has also been longlisted for the Morley Lit Prize.



Crime & Thriller



Believe Me Not

Natalie Chandler

Agent: Liza DeBlock

Publication date:

9th June 2022

Material: Final pdf

Rights sold:

WEL (Headline Accent - Bea Gabrowska)

Film agent: Emily Hayward-Whitlock (The Artists Partnership)

BELIEVE ME NOT will be the lead title for Headline Accent in Summer 2022.

What if everyone you love is lying to you?

When Megan wakes up in a hospital bed, her first question is: where's my baby?

But her husband, her sister and her doctor say he doesn't exist.

Megan's not in a maternity ward, she's in a psychiatric unit.

Convinced that they're lying to her, Megan is determined to find out the truth.

But how can you prove your baby exists when you can't trust your own memories?

'Compelling and tightly plotted, the story twists relentlessly. I couldn't turn the pages fast enough.'
-DEBBIE HOWELLS, author of *The Vow*

'A fast-paced and gripping thriller that you'll find hard to put down. I loved it.' -SOPHIE FLYNN, author of *All My Lies*

Natalie Chandler was educated at the University of Durham and currently works in behavioural education, specialising in social, emotional and mental health issues. She is a Curtis Brown Creative alumna and was previously selected to be part of the WoMentoring scheme. She lives with her partner and enjoys greeting every dog she meets.



Day One

Abigail Dean

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Publication date:

Spring 2023

Material: Unedited draft due soon

See Next Page for Rights Sold and Options

Stonesmere will never be the same again....

In a quiet lakeside town in the North of England, an anonymous gunman enters a school. Hours later, Marty's mother Ava is dead, her arms outstretched to protect the children she taught.

As the town strives to regain its sense of community in the wake of tragedy, cracks emerge, and with them, conspiracies. Who is the shadowy figure chasing Marty as she grapples with her grief? And what of the group of people who insist the shooting never happened?

Together with her childhood friend Leo, Marty must piece together the mystery of that fateful day - and face up to the truth about the part she played.

Abigail Dean graduated from Cambridge with a Double First in English. She now works as a lawyer for Google, and is writing her second novel. Her debut novel, GIRL A, instantly became a Sunday Times and New York Times Bestseller.

Abigail Dean publishers

Rights sold:

UK (HarperCollins)
US (Viking)
Israel (Kinneret)
Italy (Einaudi)

Options:

Albania (Dritan)
Brazil (Verus)
Bulgaria (Riva)
Croatia (Sonatina)
Czech (Alpress)
Denmark (Gads)
Estonia (Rahva Raamat)
Finland (Aula)
France (Lattes)
Germany (HarperCollins)
Greece (Psichogios)
Hungary (Libri)
Iceland (Útgáfan)
Japan (Hayakawa)
Latvia (ABC)
Lithuania (Alma Littera)



Netherlands (HaperCollins)
Norway (Gursli Berg)
Poland (Prószyński)
Portugal (Presenca)
Romania (Crime Scene Press)
Russia (AST)
Serbia (Vulkan)
Slovakia (Slovart)
Slovenia (Zalozba)
Spain (Ediciones B)
Sweden (Forum)
Taiwan (Locus)
Turkey (Epsilon)
Ukraine (Family Leisure Club)

- **GIRL A sold after a heated nine-way auction in the UK for a major six-figure deal, as well as at auction in the US for a seven-figure sum**
- **GIRL A immediately became a Sunday Times Bestseller and a New York Times Bestseller**
- **It has sold over 300,000 copies in the UK, and is now sold in 35 territories worldwide**



The Girls Who Disappeared

Claire Douglas

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Three missing girls. A twenty year mystery. A woman on the verge of discovering the truth...

Publication date:

TBD 2022

Material: Submission MS

Rights solid:

UK (Michael Joseph: Maxine Hitchcock)

US (HarperCollins)

Germany (Penguin)

Praise for Claire Douglas:

"Thrillingly tense and twisty" - *B. A. Paris*

"Claire is a mistress at weaving the reader into a web of domestic deceit" - *Jane Corry*

"Twisty, exciting yet so very real" - *Gillian McAllister*

In a rural Wiltshire town lies The Devil's Corridor. A road which has witnessed eerie happenings from unexplained deaths to the sounds of a child crying at night.

But nothing more puzzling than the Olivia Rutherford case. Four girls drove home but after their car crashed only Olivia was found.

Twenty years later, journalist Jenna Halliday is covering the case. But the locals aren't happy with this stranger's arrival. Least of all Olivia.

Jenna soon starts receiving threatening notes and it is clear someone wants her out of this town before she suffers a dark fate...

Claire has written four more bestselling thrillers, *Last Seen Alive, Do Not Disturb, Then She Vanishes, Just Like The Other Girls*, and *The Couple at No 9* which instantly became a Sunday Times Bestseller. Claire's books have been published in fifteen countries. She lives in Bath with her husband, children and two very fluffy cats.



Daughter of Mine

Claire Frances

Agent: Silé Edwards

On Submission Soon

Material: Submission MS

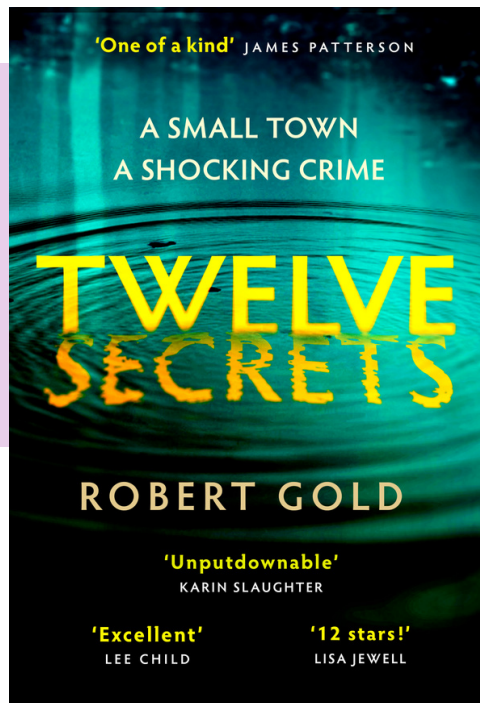
Elizabeth Kay's SEVEN LIES meets Louise Jensen's THE SURROGATE by way of THE TWINS by L.V. Matthews in this twisty domestic suspense novel perfect for book club readers.

After another miscarriage, and without money for any more rounds of IVF, Kate finds out that she is unable to successfully conceive. Her dreams of being a mother are shattered. That is, until her twin sister Julia offers to be her surrogate.

The embryo takes, and Julia is pregnant – but not too long after so is Kate, naturally this time. As the pregnancies progress, Julia grows more and more attached to the baby she is carrying, leading Kate to realise that she will need to choose between her babies and her sister.

But Kate owes Julia, not just for the surrogacy, but for the wrong she did all those years ago. She knows she is indebted to her sister, but she wants her babies - and will do anything to keep them.

Claire Frances has a masters in Professional Writing, specialising in fiction, a diploma in Print Journalism and Radio, and studied Creative Writing at university. She has worked as a journalist and freelance feature writer for *BBC Countryfile Magazine* and *Devon Life* and was a host blogger for *The Huffington Post UK*. Claire lives on Dartmoor with her husband and two children.



Twelve Secrets

Robert Gold

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Publication date:

3rd March 2022

Material: Edited manuscript

Rights sold:

UK (Sphere: Ed Wood and Rosanna Forte)
Germany (Goldmann)
Italy (Longanesi)

Film agent: Emily Hayward-Whitlock (The Artists Partnership)

UK rights were sold at auction for a six-figure deal and Italian rights were quickly pre-empted.

Twelve Secrets is a **smart, satisfying, one-of-a-kind thriller that entertained me from start to finish.** It examines the confluence of family loyalties and dark secrets while keeping the plot boiling. - **JAMES PATTERSON**

A pacy thriller full of twists and turns. **You won't be able to put TWELVE SECRETS down** until the very end. - **KARIN SLAUGHTER**

Ominous at the beginning, breathless by the end ... this is excellent hardcore suspense - **LEE CHILD**

Fast-paced and brimming with superb characters. **I couldn't put it down for a single second. Twelve stars!** - **LISA JEWELL**

Ben Harper's life changed forever the day his older brother Nick was murdered by two classmates. It was a crime that shocked the nation and catapulted Ben's family and their idyllic hometown, Haddley, into the spotlight.

Twenty years on, Ben is one of the best true crime journalists in the country and happily settled back in Haddley, thanks to the support of its close-knit community. But when a fresh murder case shines new light on his brother's death and throws suspicion on those closest to him, Ben's world is turned upside down once more.

He's about to discover that Haddley is a town full of secrets. No-one is as they seem. Everyone has something to hide.

And *someone* will go to any length to keep the truth buried...

Rob Gold has co-written three James Patterson titles in 2016 for his Bookshot series. Rob started his career as an intern for CNN in Washington DC, before he moved into the publishing world, where he was the nationwide book buyer for Asda. He now works in sales for a publisher. Living in west Putney, you often might find him running along the riverbank or back through the woods from Barnes.



The Honeymoon

Kate Gray

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Publication date:

July 2023

Material: Submission MS

Rights sold:

UK (Welbeck)

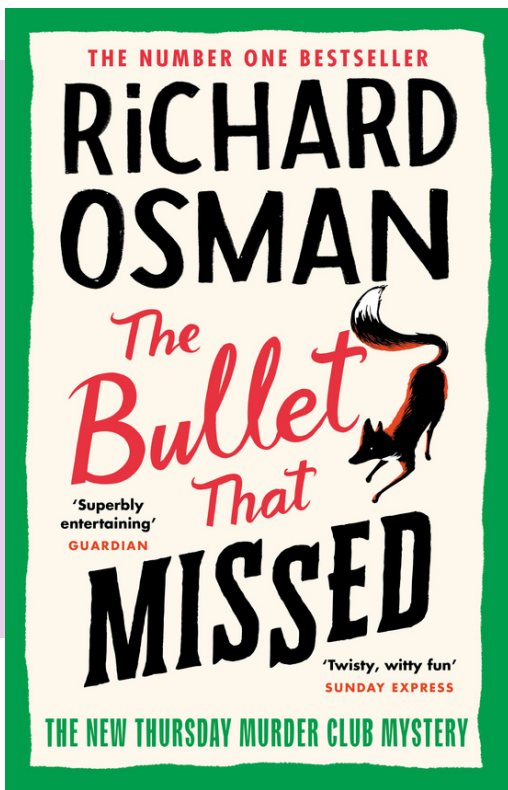
When Erin and Sophia meet on the last night of their honeymoons in Bali, neither could predict that the night will end in tragedy.

Erin is married to handsome and thoughtful Jamie, who sells elaborate security systems: he represents safety to a woman who hasn't always had that stability in her life.

Sophia was an ambitious and successful investigative journalist until a scoop went horribly wrong - leaving her working an entry-level role in local news. Her honeymoon with supportive Mark is a chance to escape and hatch a plan for redemption. When the two women meet at the hotel pool, they spontaneously decide to go on a double date to celebrate their last night. But when a stranger spills a drink over Erin the evening ends abruptly. Hours later he is discovered dead.

But it was an accident... right? Back home, and when Erin struggles to answer Sophia's questions, it becomes clear that there's another side to this story. Many marriages can survive anything - but when it starts on a lie is it really 'til death do us part?

Kate Gray is a psychological thriller author. She has also written commercial women's fiction as Katy Colins, her previous six novels have been translated into several languages and been published internationally. Kate Gray has a degree in Journalism and has previously worked in public relations. Kate lives in Warwickshire, England and juggles her love of writing around her two young children.



The Bullet That Missed

Richard Osman

Agent: Juliet Mushens

It is an ordinary Thursday, and things should FINALLY be getting back to normal.

Publication date:

15 September 2022

Film agent: Emily Hayward-Whitlock (The Artists Partnership)

Material: Manuscript coming soon - only for option holders

See next page for rights

But trouble is never far away, as The Thursday Murder Club encounter a local news legend on the hunt for a killer headline. They soon find themselves hot on the trail of two murders, ten years apart.

To make matters worse, a new nemesis pays Elizabeth a visit – and tasks her with a deadly mission she can't refuse. To kill or be killed. While Elizabeth grapples with her conscience (and a gun), the mystery unfolds amongst a cast of TV stars, money launderers and ex-KGB colonels.

Can the gang, and their unlikely new friends, solve the murders and save Elizabeth before the killer strikes one final time?

Richard Osman is a creative director for Endemol UK. He has worked as an executive producer on numerous shows. His debut novel *THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB* has been published in over 40 territories and has spent as many weeks as #1 on the Sunday Times Bestseller List in the UK. He became a New York Times bestseller and has been nominated for an Edgar Award in the US. He is also an international bestseller in Sweden, Iceland, and Germany.

Richard Osman publishers

Rights sold:

UK (Viking)
US (Pamela Dorman Books)
Brazil (Intrinseca)
Finland (Otava)
Germany (Ullstein)
Netherlands (Cargo)
Norway (Gursli Berg)
Spain (Planeta)
Sweden (Albert Bonniers)

Iceland (Drapa)
Italy (SEM)
Israel (Tchelet)
Japan (Hayakawa)
Korea (Sallim)
Latvia (ABC)
Lithuania (Jotema)
Macedonia (Kultura)
Portugal (Planeta)
Romania (SC Crime Scene Press)
Russia (Mann, Ivanoc, and
Ferber)
Serbia (Vulkan)
Slovakia (Slovart)
Slovenia (Mladinska)
Taiwan (Faces)
Thailand (Biblio)
Turkey (Bilgi)
Ukraine (Family Leisure Club)
Vietnam (1980)

Options:

Albania (Polis)
Arabic (Dar Al Tanweer)
Bulgaria (Soft Press)
Catalan (Columna)
China (Jieli)
Croatia (Egmont)
Czech (Jota)
Denmark (Gyldendal)
Estonia (Rahva Raamat)
France (Lattes)
Greece (Psichogios)
Hungary (Agave)

- **THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB** has sold over 3,750,000 copies in the UK alone since publication in September 2020, and over 5,000,000 worldwide.
- **THE MAN WHO DIED TWICE** is officially one of the fastest-selling novels since records began, with over 100,000 copies sold in its first week in the UK. Only 3 novels have ever sold more.



Publication date:

7th July 2022

Material: Unedited MS

Rights sold:

UK (Trapeze)

US (Emily Bestler Books)

Germany (Penguin Verlag)

Options:

Czech (Albatros)

Estonia (Rahva Raamat)

Hungary (Publish & More)

Italy (Mondadori)

Netherlands (HarperCollins)

Norway (Bastion)

Poland (Burda)

Romania (Grup)

Russia (AST)

Slovenia (Aurora)

Spain (Planeta MX)

Sweden (Forum)

Turkey (Epsilon)

The Key to My Heart

Lia Louis

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Can you ever really find the one after 'the one'?

Some people spend their whole lives trying to find the one. But Natalie had found him - and married him. And then Russ died.

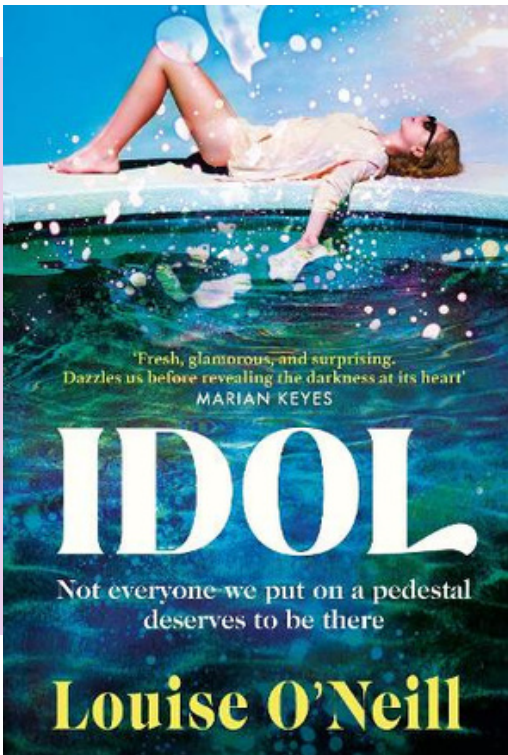
Two years ago, her whole world was shattered. Still now, she feels like she's trying to piece her broken heart back together, one day at a time.

But then she finds a sheet of music - one that only Russ would know - in the piano stool in King's Cross station where she's secretly been playing for the last few months.

For the first time, Natalie realises that maybe life does still hold a little magic. And with every note she plays, she feels as if she's unlocking another fragment of her heart...

But will she ever truly find love again after she'd already found forever?

Lia Louis lives in the United Kingdom with her partner and three young children. Before raising a family, she worked as a freelance copywriter and proofreader. She was the 2015 winner of Elle magazine's annual writing competition and has been a contributor for Bloomsbury's Writers and Artists blog for aspiring writers.



Publication date:

12 May 2022

Material: Final pdf

Rights sold:

UK (Bantam - Frankie Gray)

Russia (Eksmo)

Idol

Louise O'Neill

Agent: Juliet Mushens

'Follow your heart and speak your truth.'

For Samantha Miller's young fans - her 'girls' - she's everything they want to be. She's an oracle, telling them how to live their lives, how to be happy, how to find and honour their 'truth'.

And her career is booming: she's just hit three million followers, her new book *Chaste* has gone straight to the top of the bestseller lists and she's appearing at sell-out events.

Determined to speak her truth and bare all to her adoring fans, she's written an essay about her sexual awakening as a teenager, with her female best friend, Lisa. She's never told a soul but now she's telling the world. The essay goes viral.

But then - years since they last spoke - Lisa gets in touch to say that she doesn't remember it that way at all. Her memory of that night is far darker. It's Sam's word against Lisa's - so who gets to tell the story? Whose 'truth' is really a lie?

Louise O'Neill grew up in Clonakilty, a small town in West Cork, Ireland. Her first novel, *Only Ever Yours*, was released in 2014 and won the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year at the Irish Book Awards, the Eilís Dillon Award for a First Book and the Bookseller's inaugural YA Book Prize. Louise contributes regularly to Irish TV and radio, and has a weekly column in the Irish Examiner.



The Tragedies

Laura Purcell

Agent: Juliet Mushens

At The Mercury Theatre in London's West End, rumours are circulating of a curse.

Publication date:

9th February 2023

Material: Unedited MS

Rights sold:

UK (Bloomsbury)

Japan (Hayakawa)

Spain (Urano)

Laura Purcell's THE SHAPE OF DARKNESS was nominated for an Edgar Award in 2022.

It is said that the lead actress Lilith has made a pact with Melpomene, the tragic muse of Greek mythology, to become the greatest actress to ever grace the stage. Suspicious of Lilith, the jealous wife of the theatre owner sends dresser Jenny to spy on her, and desperate for the money to help her family, Jenny agrees.

What Jenny finds is a woman as astonishing in her performance as she is provocative in nature. On stage, it's as though Lilith is possessed by the characters she plays, yet off stage she is as tragic as the Muse who inspires her, and Jenny, sorry for her, befriends the troubled actress. But when strange events begin to take place around the theatre, Jenny wonders if the rumours are true, and fears that when the Muse comes calling for payment, the cost will be too high.

Laura Purcell is a former bookseller living in Colchester, Essex with her husband and pet guinea pigs. She is the author of six novels, among them Gothic novel *The Silent Companions*, which was a Radio 2 Book Club pick, was selected for the Zoe Ball ITV Book Club and was the winner of the Thumping Good Read Award. Her short story 'The Chillingham Chair' was included in The Haunting Season anthology, which was an instant Sunday Times Bestseller. Recently, she wrote *Roanoke Falls*, a dramatic podcast for Realm, working with John Carpenter and Sandy King Carpenter.



Open Minded

Chloe Seager

Agent: Silé Edwards

On Submission Soon

Material: submission MS

Meet Holly...who is convinced she is getting engaged, but is instead asked to try an open relationship by her boyfriend of nine years.

Meet Fliss...who has just been asked to go exclusive by her boyfriend, despite being in an open relationship with him for the last five years.

When Fliss overhears Holly crying in the ladies' loos during her first date in nine years, they both decide to ditch their dates and have dinner together, where Fliss agrees to teach Holly everything she knows about being in an open relationship and Holly decides to teach her about how to lead a happy monogamous life. But both Fliss and Holly have more to learn about love, and themselves, than they thought.

OPEN MINDED is a feel-good novel about finding yourself and what you really want out of a relationship. perfect for fans of Beth O'Leary, THE HATING GAME, and IN AT THE DEEP END.

Chloe Seager is an agent for Children's and YA books. She represents a range of award-winning and bestselling authors. Chloe has also written books for a younger audience. She penned the Emma Nash books, a YA series published with HQ, and collaborated on a new middle-grade series with the hosts of Capital FM's breakfast show.



The Moon Represents My Heart

Pim Wangtechawat

Agent: Liza DeBlock

Publication date:

Spring 2023

Material: Unedited

Manuscript

Rights sold:

UK (Oneworld - Juliet Mabey)

Italy (Keller Editore)

Option (Offer)

Film agent:

Tara Timinsky (Grandview LA)

Father

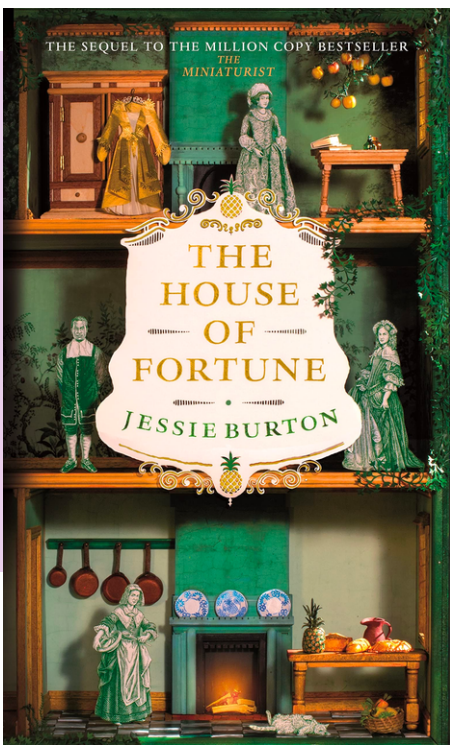
Joshua understands the strict rules of time travel: only observe, things cannot be changed. But things are changing quickly for him. When the opportunity of a lifetime comes to attend university in London and leave the Kowloon Walled City in Hong Kong behind, he finds the courage to take it. From there, he feels it: this is where life begins. Stepping on that plane is the first decision that will have ramifications for generations to come.

Son

When Tommy's parents travel to the past and never reappear, it feels as though time has stopped. But as it slowly restarts and everyone else moves forward, Tommy looks to the past. Struggling with the loss of his father, Tommy falls in love with a girl from the 1930s. Although his gifts allow him to walk through time, Tommy's inability to confront his own history in the face of tragedy begins to affect his present, and has severe ramifications for the people who can truly bring him happiness.

Told through incredible prose, readers will experience joy and loss, remember the best days they've ever had, and learn what it means to live in the here and now.

Pim Wangtechawat is a Thai-Chinese writer from Bangkok with a Masters in Creative Writing from Edinburgh Napier University. Her short stories, poems, and articles have been published in various magazines and journals such as The Mekong Review, The Nikkei Asian Review, and YesPoetry. She is currently working on her second book and aims to tell stories that reflect our shared humanity and bring more Asian writers to the forefront of fiction.



The House of Fortune

Jessie Burton

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Publication date:

7th July 2022

Film agent: Rich Green,
Gotham Group

Material: Edited
manuscript

Rights sold:

UK (Picador)

US (Bloomsbury)

Arabic (Dar Molhimon)

Bulgaria (Ciela Norma)

Croatia (Profil)

Finland (Otava)

France (Gallimard)

Germany (Insel)

Italy (La Nave di Teseo)

Netherlands (Luitingh-
Sijthoff)

Poland (Literackie)

Portugal (Presença)

Spain (Salamandra)

Sweden (Mondernista)

In the golden city of Amsterdam, in 1705, Thea Brandt is turning eighteen, and she is ready to welcome adulthood with open arms. At the city's theatre, Walter, the love of her life, awaits her, but at home in the house on the Herengracht, all is not well – her father Otto and Aunt Nella argue endlessly, and the Brandt family are selling their furniture in order to eat. On Thea's birthday, also the day that her mother Marin died, the secrets from the past begin to overwhelm the present.

Nella is desperate to save the family and maintain appearances, to find Thea a husband who will guarantee her future, and when they receive an invitation to Amsterdam's most exclusive ball, she is overjoyed – perhaps this will set their fortunes straight.

And indeed, the ball does set things spinning: new figures enter their life, promising new futures. But their fates are still unclear, and when Nella feels a strange prickling sensation on the back of her neck, she remembers the miniaturist who entered her life and toyed with her fortunes eighteen years ago.

Perhaps, now, she has returned for her . . .

Jessie Burton studied at Oxford University and The Central School of Speech and Drama. Rights to *The Miniaturist*, her first novel, sold in forty territories around the world, the bulk of which were sold at auction. Her second and third novels, *The Muse* and *The Confession* also became bestsellers. She has written the children's illustrated titles *The Restless Girls*, and *Medusa* which was published in 2021.



Junkanoo

Jane Dolphin

Agent: Juliet Mushens

On Submission Soon

Material: Submission MS

1800s Jamaica. Sapphire is an extremely wealthy White Jamaican heiress, orphaned and raised by Ruth, the enslaved housekeeper.

In order to flee an unwanted suitor, Sapphire is sent to Bristol into the care of her cousin. There she discovers a house full of secrets, and learns one of her own: that she is not white after all, and that her true mother is still enslaved on the plantation she left.

Meanwhile, the new plantation owners arrive in Jamaica to take up residence, and Lavinia, the mistress, soon finds herself at odds with Ruth. Ruth longs to escape and reunite with Sapphire, but both are in precarious positions: can they escape the fates society has dictated for them?

Jane Dolphin is of mixed English and Jamaican heritage. After studying English Literature at London University, she worked in publishing for several years as an editor and researcher before retraining as a barrister. She practised in children and family law and now lives near Bath. The first 10,000 words of JUNKANOO were shortlisted for the Good Housekeeping First Novel Award and was shortlisted also for the Mumsnet Debut Novel competition.



The Clockwork Girl

Anna Mazzola

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Publication date:

3 March 2022

Material: Final pdf

Rights:

UK (Orion)

Romania (Humanitas)

Russia (Atticus)

**Praise for THE
CLOCKWORK GIRL:**

'Evocative, chilling,
compelling' **TAMMY COHEN**

'Breathtakingly good' **ABIR
MUKHERJEE**

'An atmospheric and
constantly surprising thriller'
THE TIMES

Paris, 1750.

In the midst of an icy winter, as birds fall frozen from the sky, chambermaid Madeleine Chastel arrives at the home of the city's celebrated clockmaker and his clever, unworldly daughter.

Madeleine is hiding a dark past, and a dangerous purpose: to discover the truth of the clockmaker's experiments and record his every move, in exchange for her own chance of freedom.

For as children quietly vanish from the Parisian streets, rumours are swirling that the clockmaker's intricate mechanical creations, jewelled birds and silver spiders, are more than they seem.

And soon Madeleine fears that she has stumbled upon an even greater conspiracy. One which might reach to the very heart of Versailles...

A intoxicating story of obsession, illusion and the price of freedom.

Anna is also a human rights and criminal justice solicitor, working with victims of crime. She lives in Camberwell, South London, with her family, a snake, a lizard and a cat. Her fourth novel is a ghost story set in Fascist Italy.



The Beholders

Hester Musson

Agent: Juliet Mushens

Publication date:

TBC 2024

Material: Submission MS

Rights sold:

UK (4th Estate - Katie Bowden)

Spain (offer)

THE BEHOLDERS was pre-empted in a significant six-figure sum.

1878. Harriet is a new maid in Finton Hall: beautiful Clara Gethin languishes at home while her husband, a popular MP, is away in. Her erratic moods and strange behaviour towards her baby son unsettle Harriet, who confides in her diary. Harriet is conflicted herself, reluctant to leave a hard but independent life in service for a stale marriage engagement, and she is intrigued by the strange promise her late mistress forced from her to 'keep Clara safe'. She is enchanted by her new mistress's unearthly singing voice and adores the little boy but doesn't know if she should trust her good fortune when Clara promotes her well above her station to lady's maid. There are other mysteries in Finton Hall – the disturbing objects and decorations scattered through the lavish house; the secretive, beautiful servants who seem surprised by and resentful of Harriet's presence; and the absent master, whose anticipated return comes to fill Harriet with dread. When she learns the truth, she is forced to break with everything she knows. But the truth runs deeper than she can see at first, and the darkness of Finton Hall threatens to destroy even her freedom.

Hester Musson was born in 1977 and grew up in Leicestershire. She studied English Literature at Bristol University and has a masters in drama from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. While pursuing an acting career, her day jobs included working in TV as a freelance autocue operator. She currently writes for Art Fund, the national charity for art, and its magazine Art Quarterly, and blogs for a nature conservation and rewilding organisation in Devon.



Sci-Fi & Fantasy





Moths

Jane Hennigan

Agent: Liza DeBlock

Mary considers tying her teenage son to the radiator.

On Submission soon

Material: Submission MS

Rights sold:

Audio: WF Howes

Olivia flees the bloody scalpel of a surgeon, as he hunts her through the corridors of A&E.

All around the world men are turning into crazed killers or dying in their sleep, as toxic threads left behind by moths find passage on every breath of wind.

The threads spell doom for humanity – half of it, at least. All around the world, men are dying in their sleep or turning into rage-fuelled killers. The world, as we know it, ends. However, humanity adapts and society moves on.

Many years later, very few even remember what life was like before the change. Mary does, though, and when an opportunity presents itself, she is faced with soul-searching decisions to make. Will she cling to the only strand of the past she has left or will she risk it all in the name of equality?

Jane Hennigan was born and raised in Aldershot in Hampshire. After a decade working in E-commerce, she gained a degree in English Literature and Philosophy from Royal Holloway, and an MA in Creative Writing from the University of Surrey. She spent seven years teaching English literature undergraduates, before moving to the seaside to concentrate on writing.



Non-Fiction



Reclaiming

Yewande Biala

Agent: Silé Edwards

I am more than enough, and I am perfect with all my imperfections.

Publication date:

14 July 2022

Material: Unedited MS

Rights sold:

UK (Coronet: Joelle Owusu-Sekyere)

Similar To: *My Body, Sista Sister, Notes to Self*

Acquired by Joelle Owusu-Sekyere at Hodder in an overnight pre-empt.

Lots of media interest in Yewande, the book announcement was picked up by several newspapers in the UK.

In 2021, Yewande Biala wrote a searing viral essay on the debilitating effects of having your name constantly mispronounced or changed.

From the incredible response to the essay, it was clear that there are still so many conversations to be had around the way that we as a society respond to each other, and the direct effect it is having on our sense of self.

Reclaiming consists of 10 interlinked essays covering a wide breadth of topics from struggling with your body image and mental health to navigating social media and dating apps without damaging your self esteem. Each essay covers a different topic, affirming to readers that maintaining your sense of self in a world that is not supportive of you is difficult, but not impossible.

Nuanced, distinctly sharp, and full of wit, *Reclaiming* holds a mirror up to us all, and encourages us to like what we see.

Yewande Biala is an oncology vaccine specialist who rose to fame after appearing on Love Island in 2019. Since then she amassed a following of over 700,000 on Instagram and 130,000 on Twitter.



Unlikeable

HOW PROBLEM WOMEN
SHAPED POP CULTURE

Anna Bogutskaya

Agent: Silé Edwards

Publication date:

Spring 2023

Material: Submission MS

Rights sold:

US (Sourcebooks: Erin McClary)

Similar To: *Trick Mirror*,
Bad Feminist, *Bitch: In
Praise of Difficult Women*

**Currently on UK
submission**

UNLIKEABLE traces the evolution of female characters, examining what exactly makes them popular. From Samantha Jones in *Sex and the City*, and Rosamund Pike's incredible Amy Dunne in *Gone Girl* to the iconic Regina George in *Mean Girls*; broadcaster, producer and film festival director Anna Bogutskaya takes us on a journey through film, TV and wider culture, exploring the real-world effects of centering the likeability of a fictional female character – and by extension women.

Anna's writing is provocative, incisive, and accessible. She openly rejoices in how liberating it is to see a woman indulge in their impulses on screen and get away with it, and masterfully navigates conversations relating to womanhood dealing sensitively with how we process, display, and consume female rage, desire, and sexuality.

Anna has worked at Pedro Almodovar's production company El Deseo and was the Film and Events Programmer at the BFI, where she created the *Woman With A Movie Camera* summit. As a writer, she has contributed to media outlets such as *Sight & Sound*, *Little White Lies*, *BFI*, *Tortoise*, *The Guardian*, *i-D* and *NME*. As a broadcaster, she is a regular contributor to *BBC5Live's Kermode & Mayo's Film Review*, *BBC World Service's The Arts Hour*, and others. She also produces and hosts *The Final Girls*, *The Next Supremes*, *Hello, Sidney*, *Censor This* podcasts and as well as being a contributor to many others. She also regularly hosts panels, and Q&As with notable people in the film industry, and has a following of over 10k on Twitter.



Doctor, Interrupted

Clara Doran

Agent: Silé Edwards

On Submission soon

Material: submission
manuscript

Similar To: *Dear Life, This
is Going to Hurt, The
Language of Kindness*

I can tell you about what it is like to suffer from a chronic illness. I can tell you what it's like to face the diagnosis of a condition with no cure. I can tell you the story from both sides of the desk.

When Clara Doran was diagnosed with Multiple sclerosis, her world fell apart. She was mother to a newborn, and a practising doctor - intending to return to medicine. Her experiences as a General Practitioner for NHS and Private Health Care services couldn't prepare her for the rollercoaster journey she was about to take through the health care system as a patient.

Heart-wrenching and eye-opening, this is the story of a doctor learning to heal themselves.

Clara has worked in both NHS and Private Healthcare for 14 years. She has completed post graduate studies in Aesthetic Medicine, Sleep Medicine and Functional Medicine. Following her own diagnosis with a chronic neurological condition, she founded *Noggin: The Brain People*, creating a product range and resources to help people improve their brain health. She completed the 'How to Write a Memoir' foundation course with Curtis Brown Creative in 2019, and was subsequently selected for a place on the limited Curtis Brown Intensive Memoir Course with Cathy Rentzenbrink in 2020.



The Mixed Race Experience

Reflections and Revelations on Multiracial Identity

Natalie and Naomi Evans

Agent: Silé Edwards

Publication date:

7th July 2022

Material: Fully edited manuscript

Rights sold:

UK (Square Peg)

Acquired in a hotly contested auction

Publishing as a 2022 lead title for Square Peg in the UK

Similar To: *Why I'm No Longer Talking to White People About Race, Brit(ish), Me and White Supremacy*

Why is it so hard for mixed race people to navigate their identity?

In *The Mixed Race Experience*, Naomi and Natalie Evans, founders of *Everyday Racism*, share their experiences of growing up mixed race. How they process, understand and learn about their identity and use their privilege to advocate for change, as well as addressing the privileges and complexities of being mixed race today.

Weaving in interviews from people who are mixed race, in mixed race relationships or raising mixed race children, practical advice and research to dispel common myths and stereotypes, this book navigates topics such as: handling racism in your own family, understanding colourism and light-skinned privilege, navigating microaggressions and unlearning internalised racism.

Naomi and Natalie are both of Black Jamaican and White British heritage. They decided to set up an anti-racism platform on Instagram [@everydayracism](https://www.instagram.com/everydayracism) which now has almost 200k followers. The page shares stories from BIPOC and educational posts focusing on how to be anti-racist. They have been published in various publications including *Red magazine* and *Grazia*, and regularly run anti-racism training with establishments and schools all over the world.



Harpy

Caroline Magennis

Agent: Silé Edwards

Publication date:

Spring 2024

Material: Proposal and Sample

Rights sold:

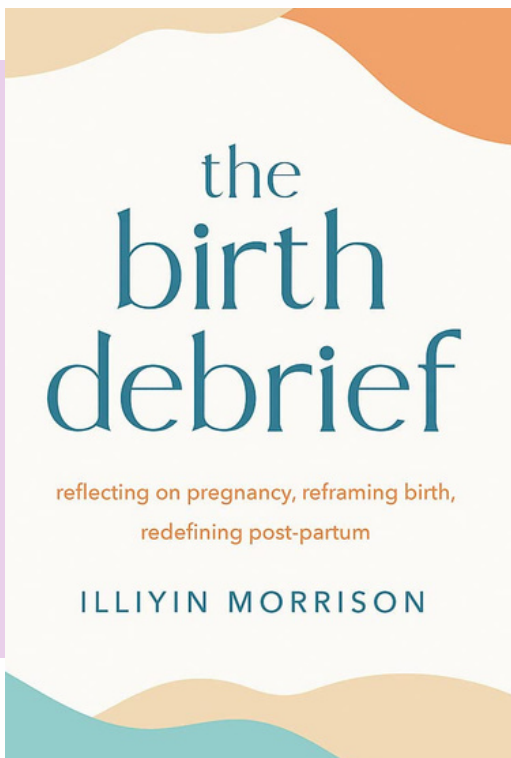
UK (Icon Books - Ellen Conlon)

Whilst roughly one in five women are intentionally childless, the media is fascinated by the topic – whether Jennifer Aniston being rumoured to announce an adoption at the *Friends* reunion, or the use of derogatory terms like ‘crazy cat lady’ or ‘spinster’.

The idea that women could choose a childless life seems to be anathema, but it’s an increasing fact, that each generation has more childless women than the last, with reasons ranging from more economic freedom for women, to the desire to prioritise career, or friendships. So why is it still so taboo?

In her new book HARPY, academic and writer, Caroline Magennis invites us to meditate on the privileges of this choice and to question the structures that condemn women who make an active choice not to be parents.

Caroline Magennis, originally from Portadown, Co. Armagh, is an academic and writer based in Manchester. Her essays on Northern Irish fiction have been featured in books published by Cambridge, Oxford, Palgrave and Routledge and her second book, Northern Irish Fiction After The Troubles: Affects, Intimacies, Pleasures, will be published by Bloomsbury in 2021. Her writing has appeared in The Independent, Prospect Magazine and The Irish Times. She has chaired literary festival events and is regularly invited to give lectures for academic and public audiences.



The Birth Debrief

Reflecting on pregnancy,
reframing birth, redefining
postpartum

Illiyin Morrison

Agent: Silé Edwards

Publication date:

August 2022

Material: unedited

Manuscript due soon

Rights sold:

World English (Quercus: Jane Sturrock)

Similar To: *Your Baby, Your Birth, Give Birth Like a Feminist, I am Not Your Baby Mother*

Pre-empted by Quercus

From the moment we are born and throughout our lives, one of our biggest wishes is to be heard.

As babies we cry, as toddlers we may throw ourselves down in rage. Throughout our lives, this need shows up in different ways, but the desire is the same: as human beings we need to be listened to, to be validated and to be understood.

Whether your birthing plan got thrown out of the window or the birth was seemingly straightforward, childbirth and early parenthood are some of the most transformational, mind and body experiences you can ever undertake, but so often we aren't afforded the time and space to reflect and reframe those experiences.

The pressure to adjust, to be ok, to ignore any difficult emotions and to get on with it can be stifling. THE BIRTH DEBRIEF is here to help.

Illiyin's Instagram page, [@mixing.up.motherhood](https://www.instagram.com/mixing.up.motherhood), started in March 2020 to empower and educate women on birthing experiences and recovery, and now has over 30,000 engaged followers from all over the world. She offers an international Birth Debrief service to women and birthing people from all walks of life. Her debriefs are in such high demand and she is regularly fully booked up to three months in advance.



Love, Wine, and Other Highs

A Kind of Memoir

Lauren Rae

Agent: Silé Edwards

Publication date:

1 July 2022

Material: Full Translatable Manuscript

Rights sold:

World English Language
(Little A: Victoria Haslam)
Audio (Audible)

Similar To: *Everything I Learned about Love, Wrong Knickers, How to Fail*

Audio rights were won at Auction by Victoria Haslam, who then pre-empted print rights for Little A.

A candid, comical memoir about coming of age in the decade of bad dates, worse hair and non-stop Carrie Bradshaw.

Lauren Rae thought she had it all sussed out. Leaving her awkward teenage years in the past, the future was hers for the taking. Why shouldn't she have it all? Dream job, beautiful home, perfect man, great friends...Like Whitney said, 'I'm Every Woman'—and that's just who Lauren would be too.

But growing up a young black woman in the early noughties wasn't quite the dream Lauren had envisioned. Unpaid internships, disappointing men and lying friends challenged her mental strength and pushed her towards the wine bottle. But with a nagging sound that might have been depression ringing in her ears, Lauren picked up her pen and made it her mightiest weapon.

Lauren Rae is a twenty-something journalist and writer. Her originally self-published memoir completely sold out in just few weeks on a limited print run. The demand for a reprint was so high that Lauren created a newsletter to keep her highly engaged audience satisfied.

Lauren is based between Berlin, Rome and London, having grown up in the UK with insatiable wanderlust. Her journalism has featured in online and print media including *Stylist*, *Bustle*, *Refinery29* and *Elle*.