



# Mushens Entertainment

FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR 2022

# Rights Guide

TABLE NUMBERS:

RACHEL NEELY - H6

LIZA DEBLOCK - G6



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

More information on our authors, books, and rights can be found on our website at [www.mushens-entertainment.com](http://www.mushens-entertainment.com)

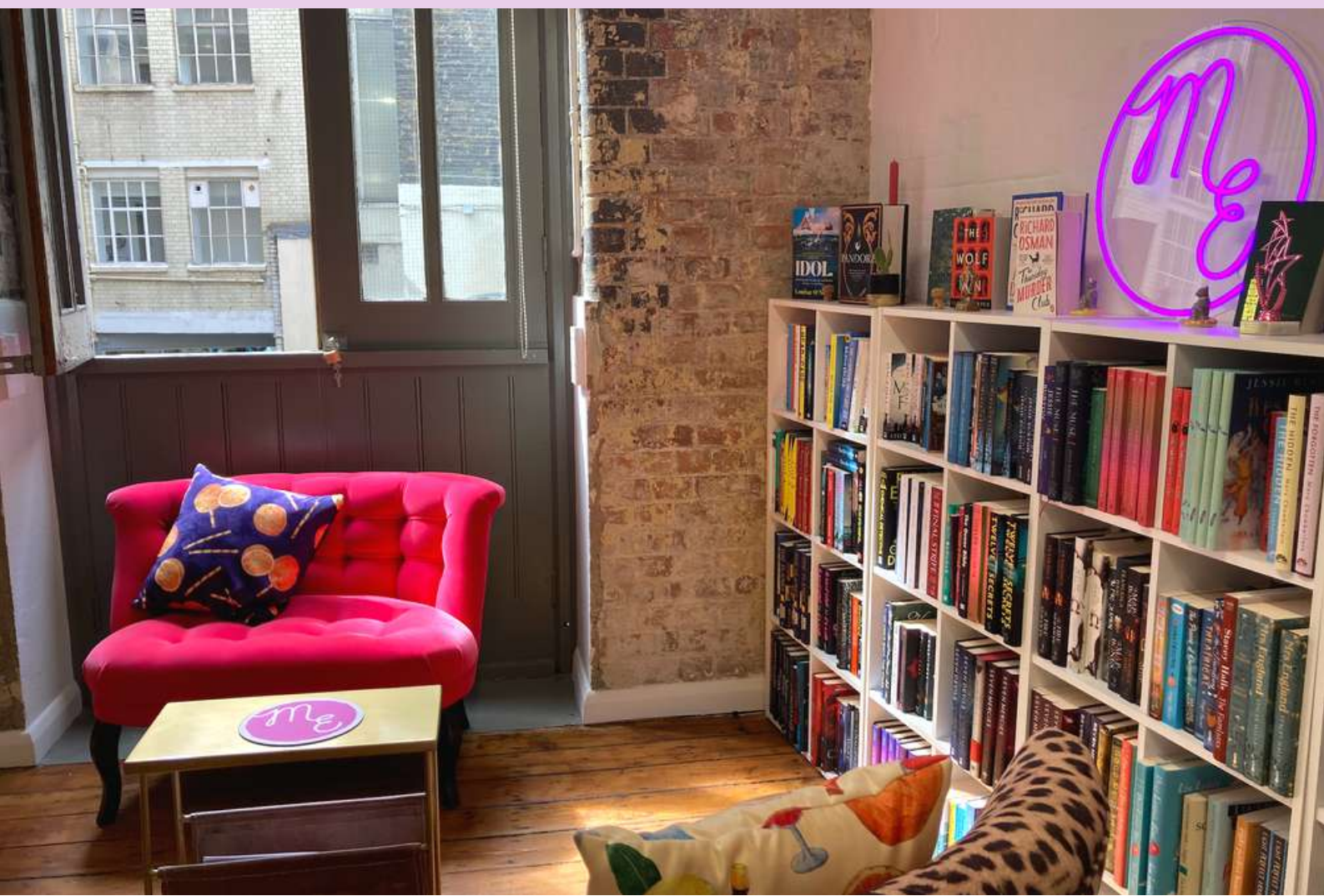
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## Italy

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## 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  
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## Israel

The Deborah Harris Agency  
PO Box 8528  
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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,  
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Taiwan

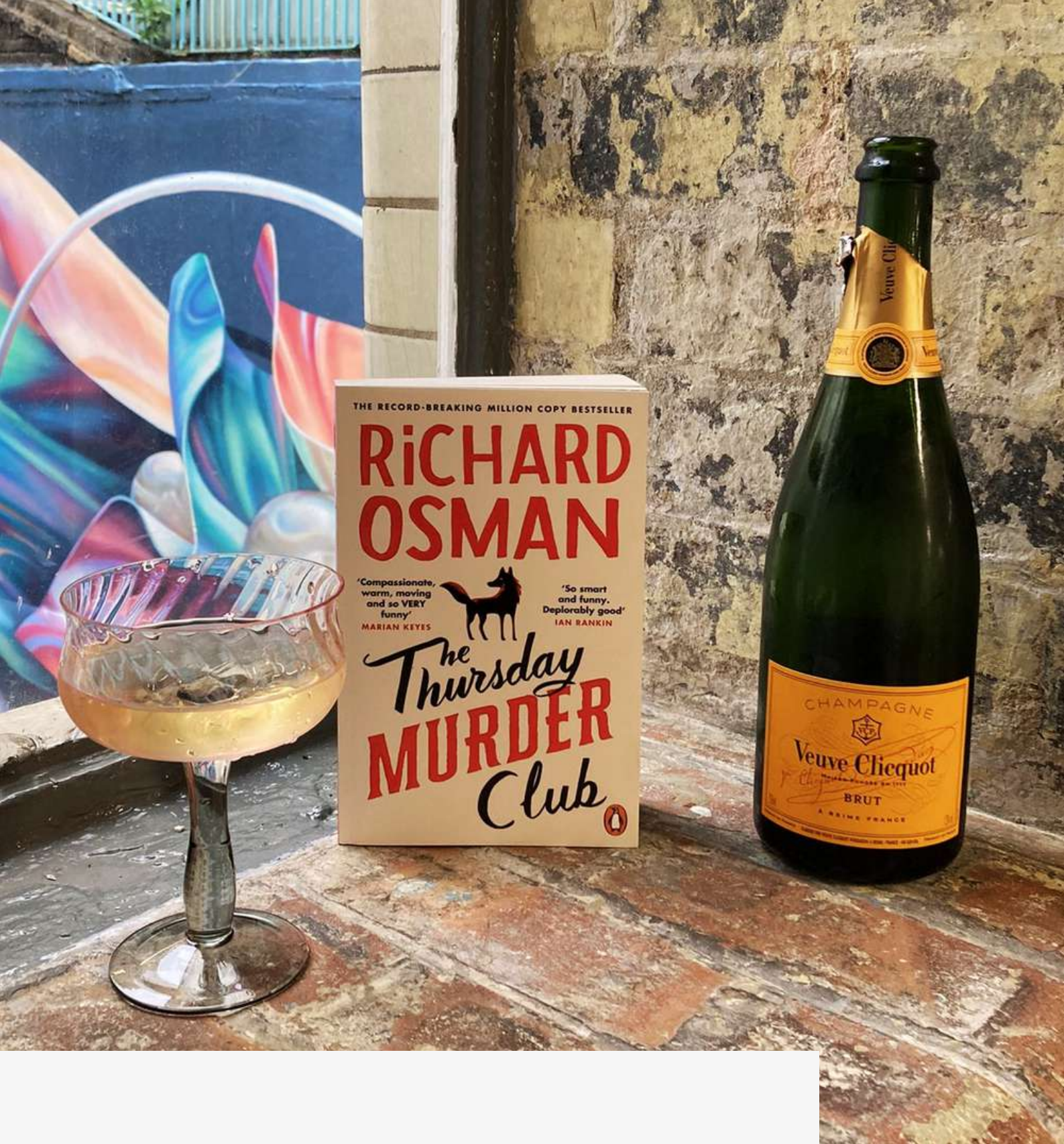
## Japan

Tuttle-Mori Agency  
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## Korea

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





# Highlights



# All Along Of You

Philippa Malicka

Agent: Juliet Mushens

## On Submission

**Material:** Submission manuscript

**Otessa Moshfegh meets the *Talented Mister Ripley* in this literary debut about a fractured wealthy family told through the eyes of their hired help.**

ALL ALONG OF YOU follows the libel trial of TV personality, household name and ceramics entrepreneur, Anna Finbow, whose daughter Mary has cut off all contact with the family. After Anna accuses her daughter's therapist of being behind the split in her newspaper column, the publicity is overwhelming and a legal summons swiftly follows.

Mary is adamant that her childhood was abusive, whereas Anna believes the therapist is a charlatan preying on her daughter's trust fund. And watching it all is young sculptor Augusta (Gus), Anna's dogwalker... who has her own reasons for inveigling her way into Anna's life...

**Philippa Malicka was born in Essex and works in publishing. She is an alumnus of the Prose Fiction MA at the University of East Anglia. Her non-fiction has appeared in *The Sunday Times*, *The Sunday Telegraph* and *Grazia*. ALL ALONG OF YOU is her first novel and was longlisted for the Bridport First Novel Award.**



# Miss Austen Investigates

Jess Bull

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**Pub date:** Spring 2024

**Material:** Submission manuscript

**Rights sold:**

UK (Michael Joseph - Jess Leeke)

US (Union Square)

Italy (Piemme)

France (offer)

Germany (offer)

- **MISS AUSTEN INVESTIGATES** sold in a 4-way auction in the UK, and was pre-empted for six-figures in the US.

**Hampshire, 1795:** A young Jane Austen is plotting to secure a marriage proposal from Tom Lefroy when she uncovers the body of a murdered woman. After her beloved brother, Georgie, is implicated in the crime, Jane has six weeks to expose the real killer, or Georgie will face the gallows.

Jane Austen – witty, spirited, and incredibly clever – is suddenly thrust into a mystery when a milliner’s dead body is found locked inside a cupboard in the middle of a ball. When Jane’s brother Georgie is found with some jewellery belonging to the deceased, the local officials see it as an open and shut case: one which is likely to end with his death. Jane is certain that he is innocent, and there is more to the murder than meets the eye. Her investigations send her on a journey through local society, as Jane’s suspect list keeps on growing – and her keen observational skills of people will be put to the test to solve the crime, and save her brother.

Jess Bull grew up in South East London, where she still lives with her husband, two daughters, and far too many pets. She’s addicted to stories and studied English Literature at Bristol University, and Information Science at City University, London. She began her career as a librarian (under the false impression she could sit and read all day), before becoming a communications consultant. MISS AUSTEN INVESTIGATES is her debut novel.



# Underwater

Fiona McPhillips

Agent: Rachel Neely

**Pub date:** TBD 2024

**Material:** Submission  
manuscript

**Rights sold:**

UK (Transworld - Imogen  
Nelson)  
US (Flatiron)

- **UNDERWATER was pre-empted in both the UK and the US in significant six-figure deals**

**In 1980s Dublin**, 17-year-old Louise Morgan, is a new student at Highfield Manor. Shortly after enrolling at the exclusive private school, she discovers that her new best friend Shauna is being abused by their swimming coach. Lou sets out to entrap and expose the teacher, but ends up implicated in his murder.

Thirty years later, when a lawsuit is brought against another teacher at Highfield, Shauna's brother takes on the student's case and enlists Lou to testify to the school's history of burying allegations of abuse, in the hopes of bringing down the institution that has repeatedly chosen to protect its reputation over the students in their care.

Fiona McPhillips is a journalist and author of two nonfiction books. Her prose has been published in *The Manchester Review*, *Barren*, *Hobart* and elsewhere and her poetry has appeared in *Atrium*, *Headstuff* and *The Galway Review*. Her debut novel, *UNDERWATER*, was runner-up for the 2021 CWA Debut Dagger award. She is also the recipient of a 2021 Arts Council literature bursary.



# A Most Rebellious Queen

## Hayley Nolan

Agent: Liza DeBlock

**Queen. Mother. Activist. Reformer.**

**It is time Anne Boleyn finally spoke her truth.**

Raised in the rebellious, reformist French Court, Anne Boleyn returns home determined to use her voice to bring Luther's ideas to the English Court. But catching the eye of Henry VIII changes her life - even though she has no intention of becoming his mistress, and is desperate to avoid his fixation upon her.

Then, when Henry takes the unprecedented step of proposing to make Anne his wife, she suddenly sees the unique opportunity to aid her ailing cause from a true position of power.

But once crowned, Anne's reformist passions will be her downfall. Fearing for his power, odious king's advisor, Cromwell, sets about framing Anne for adultery in order to abolish a most rebellious Queen for good...

**On submission**

**Material:** Submission manuscript

**Hayley Nolan is a Tudor historian whose non-fiction book, Anne Boleyn: 500 Years of Lies has sold 40,000 copies after being published by Amazon in 2019. Hayley has partnered with some of the country's most respected historical organisations including Historic Royal Palaces (Tower of London, Hampton Court Palace), Anne Boleyn's childhood home of Hever Castle, the English Heritage site of Eltham Palace, Henry VIII's childhood home. She has worked with the House of Commons, UK Parliament Week and written for Women's Aid on the romanticisation of Anne Boleyn's death.**



# Crime & Thriller



# The Inner Circle

Anna Mazzola

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**Publication date:**

**Material:** Partial submission manuscript, full draft due in January 2023

**Rights sold:**

UK (Orion)

Alex is a solicitor trying to keep afloat in a struggling London legal aid practice. When she takes on a new case for a Moldovan woman whose younger sister's body was found in the Thames, Alex assumes Natalia's story will be the usual sadly predictable tale of addiction and poverty.

On the other side of the river, Kat has secured her dream job: special adviser to the charismatic new Home Secretary, introducing her to a seductive new world of power, elitism and influence.

But when the girl's inquest is speedily shut down, and Kat begins to query why immigration cases have been quashed, both Alex and Kat suspect that they have stumbled upon high level corruption. Might it link to the disappearance of Alex's sister twelve years before?

What follows will take them to the heart of a political scandal involving misogyny, international corruption, and abuse of power.

**Sold in a pre-empt on a partial manuscript. Anna is the award-winning author of three historical thrillers plus one ghost novel. Her debut novel, *The Unseeing*, won an Edgar Allan Poe award in the US. Her third novel, *The Clockwork Girl*, set in 18th century Paris, reached number 11 in the Sunday Times Chart. Anna is also a human rights and criminal justice solicitor working with survivors and training other advocates. She lives in Camberwell, South London, with one husband, two children and a snake.**



# New Series

Richard Osman

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**Publication date:**

September 2025

**Material:** Manuscript coming in 2025

**See next page for rights**

**This is the new series from The Sunday Times, New York Times, and international bestselling author Richard Osman.**

**It follows a father and daughter-in-law duo who run their own private investigation company which takes them around the world, solving mysteries that nobody else can.**

**Richard Osman is a creative director for Endemol UK. He has worked as an executive producer on numerous shows. Richard's 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, has been nominated for an Edgar Award in the US, and is also an international bestseller in Sweden, Iceland, and Germany.**

# Richard Osman publishers

## Rights sold:

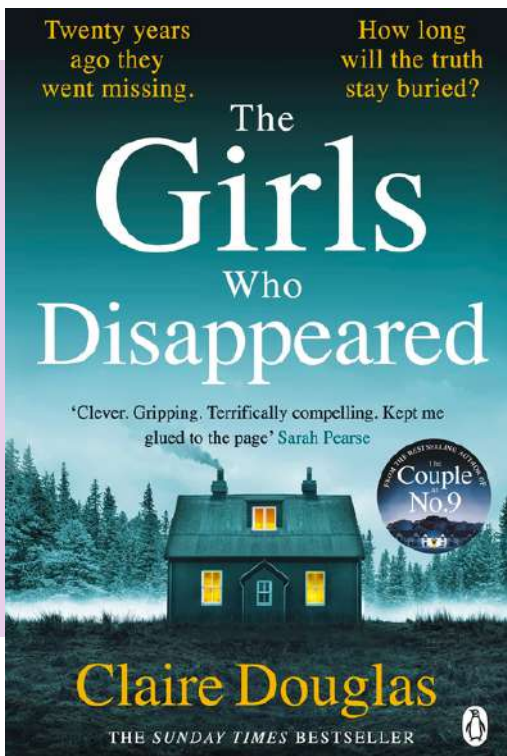
UK (Viking)  
US (Pamela Dorman Books)  
Denmark (Gyldendal)  
Germany (Ullstein)  
Netherlands (Cargo)  
Norway (Gursli Berg)

## Options:

Albania (Polis)  
Brazil (Intrinseca)  
Bulgaria (Soft Press)  
Catalan (Columna)  
China (Jieli)  
Croatia (Egmont)  
Czech (Jota)  
Estonia (Rahva Raamat)  
Finland (Otava)  
France (Lattes)  
Greece (Psichogios)  
Hungary (Agave)  
Iceland (Drapa)  
Israel (Tchelet)  
Italy (SEM)

Japan (Hayakawa)  
Kazakhstan (Foliant)  
Korea (Sallim)  
Latvia (ABC)  
Lithuania (Jotema)  
Macedonia (Kultura)  
Poland (Agora)  
Portugal (Planeta)  
Romania (SC Crime Scene Press)  
Russia (Mann, Ivanoc, and  
Ferber)  
Serbia (Vulkan)  
Slovakia (Slovart)  
Slovenia (Mladinska)  
Spain (Planeta)  
Sweden (Albert Bonniers)  
Taiwan (Faces)  
Thailand (Biblio)  
Turkey (Bilgi)  
Ukraine (Family Leisure Club)  
Vietnam (1980)

- **THE THURSDAY MURDER CLUB** has sold over 4,500,000 copies in the UK alone since publication in September 2020, and over 5,600,000 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.
- **THE BULLET THAT MISSED** is now the fastest selling UK hardback since BookScan records began. Penguin Random House's most pre-ordered audiobook of all time.



# 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:**

15 September 2022

**Material:** Final pdf

**Rights sold:**

UK (Michael Joseph: Maxine Hitchcock)  
US (HarperCollins)  
Germany (Penguin)  
Russia (Eksmo)

**Options:**

Brazil (Trama)  
Croatia (Egmont)  
Czech (Albatros)  
Estonia (Postimehe Kirjastus)  
Korea (Korea Studies)  
Lithuania (Vega)  
Norway (Gyldendal)  
Poland (Filia)  
Portugal (Presenca)  
Romania (Grup Media)  
Spain (Planeta)  
Taiwan (Ecus)

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.**



# General Fiction



# One New Message

Lia Louis

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**What if one day you woke to find all your draft emails had been sent? Including that one love declaration meant for your ex-boyfriend – the only man you’ve ever loved…?**

**Publication date:**

TBD 2023

**Material:** Unedited manuscript

**Rights sold:**

UK (Bonnier - Sarah Bauer)

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)

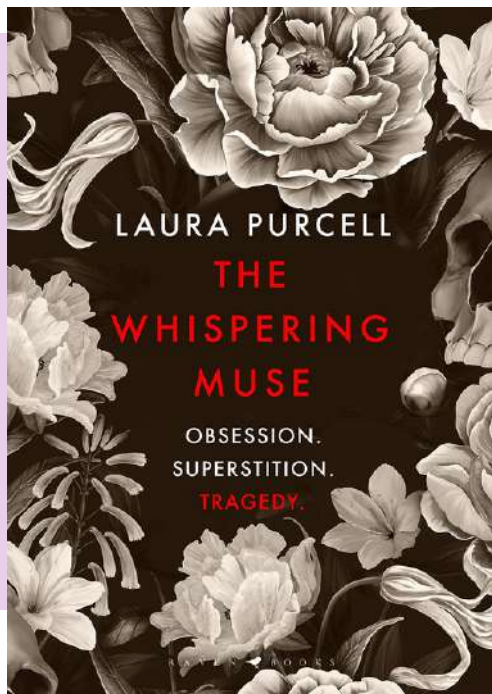
Turkey (Epsilon)

Three years ago, thirty-year-old receptionist Millie Chandler had her heart broken in public, when a surprise she'd planned for her boyfriend, Owen, backfired. Ever since, Millie has become a closed book, vowing to keep everything to herself – her feelings, her truths, even her dreams. But Millie does write emails – sarcastic replies to her rude, tactless boss, rants to friends she wishes would be better, demanding customer services in response to bad service, and of course, that five-hundred-word love declaration to Owen, who, three years on, is about to marry someone else. She just never sends them. They live in her drafts, where nobody ever reads them and nobody gets hurt – especially, not her. But after a server outage at work, Millie wakes up on a normal-seeming Wednesday morning to find that all of her emails have been sent. Every. Single. One.

As every truth, lie and secret she's worked so hard to keep only to herself are catapulted out into the open, Millie must fix the chaos her words have caused, and face everything she's ever swept under the carpet.

**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.**





# The Whispering Muse

Laura Purcell

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**Be careful what you wish for... it may just come true.**

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

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.

**Publication date:**

2 February 2023

**Material:** Final pdf

**Rights sold:**

UK (Bloomsbury - Alison Hennessey)

Japan (Hayakawa)

Russia (Arkadia)

Spain (Urano)

**Options:**

Germany (Festa)

Italy (Oscar - Mondadori)

Taiwan (Spring)

Turkey (Ithaki)

**Laura Purcell is the Edgar Award nominated author of *The Silent Companions*, *The Corset*, *Bone China*, *The Shape of Darkness*, and she contributed to the Sunday Times bestselling *The Haunting Season*. She is a former bookseller who lives in Colchester, Essex with her husband and pet guinea pigs.**



# Salt Blood

Francesca de Tores

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**Publication date:**

TBD 2024

**Material:** Submission manuscript

**Rights sold:**

UK (Bloomsbury - Emma Herdman)

**SALT BLOOD was pre-empted in a significant six-figure deal and will be the lead title for Bloomsbury in 2024**

**Mary Read.**

**Mark Read.**

**Unwanted daughter.**

**Dead son.**

**Feared pirate.**

**Wife. Mother. Lover.**

**SALT BLOOD** follows Mary Read – sometimes living as Mark Read – the infamous pirate who terrorised the seas in the Golden Age of Piracy. Raised as a boy in order to collect inheritance money, they continued to live as a man during a stint in the navy, before returning to sea as a woman and eventually becoming a feared pirate alongside Anne Bonny.

Mary Read lived untold lives, and this novel takes you on a coming-of-age journey from grand houses to ships sailing beneath a flag of death, from the misery of loss to the untold pleasures of love.

Francesca's research was impeccable and she was fascinated by the intricacies and nuances of Mary's existence, gender presentation, and love.

**Francesca De Tores has previously been published as Francesca Haig (where she has published award-winning poetry, a YA fantasy trilogy, and a literary contemporary novel). This is her historical debut. Francesca is a former creative-writing lecturer and her previous novels have received starred reviews from Kirkus, Booklist and Library Journal.**



# Spitting Gold

Carmella Lowkis

Agent: Rachel Neely

**Publication date:**

May 2024

**Material:** Submission MS

**Rights sold:**

UK: Doubleday (Charlotte Trumble)

US: Atria (Loan Le)

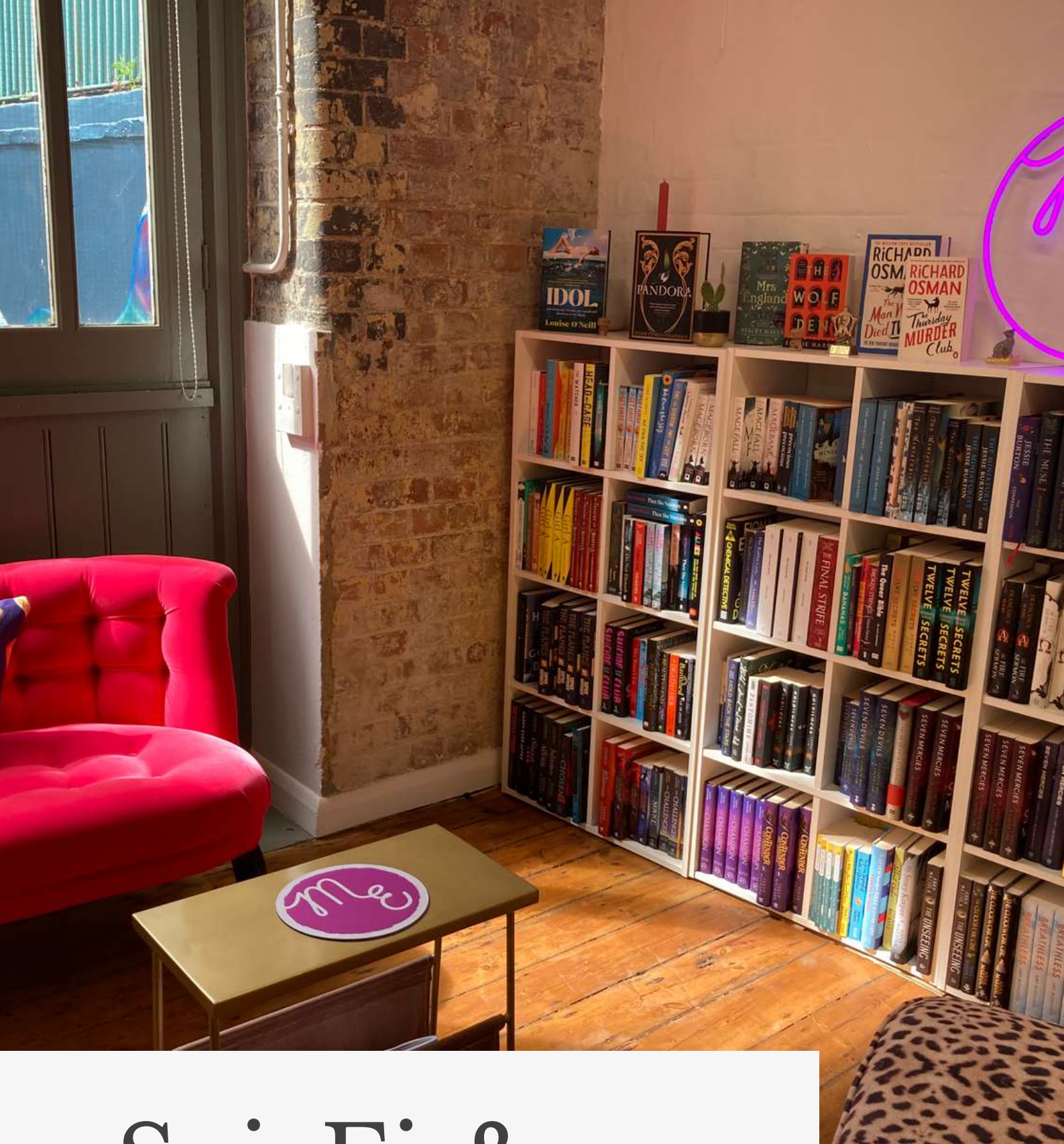
**SPITTING GOLD was sold in a six-figure pre-empt in the UK, after multiple pre-emptive attempts. Shortly after securing the UK deal it was pre-empted for a second time, in another six-figure deal with Atria in the US.**

**Paris, 1866.** When Baroness Sylvie Devereux receives a house-call from Charlotte Mothe, the penniless sister she disowned several years ago, she fears that her shady past is about to catch up with her high-society present. With their father ill and Charlotte unable to pay his medical bills, Sylvie is persuaded to reprise her role as a gifted medium.

The sisters are recruited by the De Jacquinots, who believe they are being haunted by their Great Aunt, the Comtesse de Lisle, who is rumoured to have hidden the family fortune before her death. The De Jacquinots hire Sylvie and Charlotte to find the treasure and exorcise the ghost.

The con gets underway, with the sisters deploying every trick in their playbook. But when inexplicable things start to happen, Sylvie begins to wonder if she has finally come face to face with a real ghost, or if she herself is being conned. Only one thing is for certain - when it comes to the De Jacquinots, treasure isn't the only thing they have buried.

**Carmella Lowkis grew up in Wiltshire and has a degree in English Literature and Creative Writing from the University of Warwick, where she was mentored by Sarah Moss (the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Summerwater*). After graduating, she worked in libraries, before moving into book marketing. She is currently a Senior Marketing Executive at Vintage, PRH, and lives in North London with her girlfriend.**



# Sci-Fi & Fantasy



# Talonsister

Jen Williams

Agent: Juliet Mushens

**Publication date:**

Autumn 2023

**Material:**

Unedited manuscript

**Rights sold:**

UK (Titan - Davi Lancet)  
Audio (Bolinda)

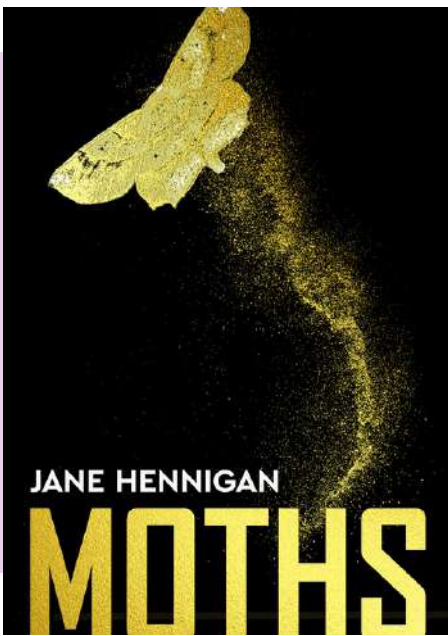
**A living weapon journeys into a forbidden land. How much trouble can she get into? The answer, it turns out, is quite a lot.**

Leven has no memory of her life before she was a soldier. The process of turning her into a Herald – a magical killing machine – was traumatic enough that it wiped her mind clean. Now, with the war won and the Imperium satisfied, she finds herself unemployed and facing a bleak future. Her fellow Heralds are disappearing, and her own mind seems to be coming apart at the seams. Strange visions, memories she shouldn't have, are resurfacing, and none of them make any sense. They show her Brittletrain, the ancient and mysterious island that the Imperium was never able to tame. Leven resolves to go to this place of magic and warring queens, with the hope of finding who she really is.

Envoy Kaeto has done a number of important little jobs for the Imperium, most of them nasty, all of them in the shadows. His newest assignment is to escort the bone-crafter Gynid Tyleigh as she travels across the Imperium – as the woman responsible for creating the Heralds, his employers owe her a great deal. But Tyleigh's ambition alarms even Kaeto, and her conviction that she has found a new source of Titan bones, buried deep in the earth, could lead to another, even bloodier war.

Ynis was raised by the griffins, and has never seen another human face. She lives wild, as they do, eating her meat raw and flying with her talon-sister, T'rook. The griffins fiercely protect their isolation – the piles of skulls that litter the mountains of Brittletrain are testament to that – but the magic they guard will always make them a target for the greed of men. By choosing not to kill Ynis when she was just a baby, the griffins may have doomed themselves – because the girl's past is coming for her, and it carries a lethal blade.

**Acquired at a 5-way auction. Jen Williams has won Best Fantasy Novel at the British Fantasy awards for both *The Ninth Rain* and *The Bitter Twins* with her *Winnowing Flame* trilogy. She has previously written the *Copper Cat* trilogy, as well as the thriller *Dog Rose Dirt*.**



# Moths

Jane Hennigan

Agent: Liza DeBlock

**Publication date:**

14th March 2023

**Material:** Edited manuscript

**Rights sold:**

WEL (Angry Robot  
(Eleanor Teasdale and  
Gemma Creffield)  
France (J'ai Lu)  
Audio (WF Howes)

**Moths was originally self-published on Amazon and sold over 10,000 copies and generated over 1,400, 4\* reviews on Goodreads**

**A thrilling dystopia, in turns heart-breaking and heart-pounding...**

Forty years ago, the world changed. Toxic threads left behind by mutated moths infected every man and boy, killing them quietly in their sleep, or turning them into crazed killers. No one was safe from their psychopathic wrath and no one could reach them. All seemed hopeless.

But humanity, as it does, adapted and society moved on. Now, men are kept in specially treated dust-free facilities for their safety, and are never able to return to the outside. The world is quiet, but secrets are kept safe in whispers.

Very few people remember what life was like before the change, but Mary knows. She had a family. She was happy.

This is her story.

**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.**





# A Woman's Place is in the Kitchen

Sally Abé

Agent: Liza DeBlock

**Pub date:** June 2024

**Material:** Submission proposal and sample material

**Rights sold:**

UK (Fleet - Amy Perkins)

- **A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN THE KITCHEN will be a lead title for Fleet in 2024 after it was pre-empted by Amy Perkins.**

Sally Abe first fell in love with food while cooking in her student apartment in Sheffield. She didn't plan it, had no clue what to do, but she fell fast and hard into an industry where only 17% of the workforce are women, despite the cultural expectation that women do all the cooking at home. Moving down to London, she entered the hospitality industry which was at times glitzy, shocking, hilarious, cringe worthy, but also wonderful.

A WOMAN'S PLACE IS IN THE KITCHEN is Sally's journey from Sheffield to The Savoy, from living on the breadline to running her current restaurant The Pem, which boasts a brigade of 80% female chefs. Sally brings readers along on a journey through famous kitchens where she was shouted at by famous chefs, introduces them to the best wine and meals they will ever have, and shows that kitchens – Michelin starred kitchens to be exact – are the best place for women to be creative and artistic. This is simultaneously Sally's love letter to the industry she has worked in for over 15 years, as well as a call to arms to show that women can tackle this male-dominated industry, and that they should.

**Sally Abe is a fine-dining chef at the top of her profession. She has worked in some of the best establishments in the UK, including The Savoy, The Ledbury, and she retained a Michelin star at The Harwood Arms, the UK's #1 gastropub. She currently runs The Pem, named after the suffragette Emily Wilding Davison, which boasts a brigade of 80% women producing some of the finest dishes in London. She was named Female Chef of the Year in 2021 by SquareMeal, and was shortlisted or GQ's overall Chef of the Year in 2021.**



# The Grey Guy

Jonathan Broom-Edwards

Agent: Liza DeBlock

## On submission

**Material:** Submission proposal

Jonathan Broom-Edwards is the Grey Guy. He is someone who can blend into any environment or situation without needing to stand out. His skills and talents are not forced upon others, but they present themselves to an exceptionally high level when needed. He has learned to strip away his ego. He has learned resilience. He is the modern day Cincinnatus.

But Jonathan wasn't always the Grey Guy. Growing up in an unstable home, alongside being born with Talipes Equinovarus which affects his left leg, he had to adapt to life's challenges. Through navigating childhood, to attending university where he learned he was great at the high-jump, to experiencing success, injury, and recovery, Jonathan discovered tools to help him navigate his own mind, and push beyond barriers to become happy and confident in who he is. Taking readers through his own inspirational journey, he hopes to help them discover new tools to encounter stressful situations, and find comfort and reassurance in who they are.

**Jonathan Broom-Edwards was born in Colchester and grew up in Berkshire, yet he only discovered later in life that he was eligible for Paralympic classification.**

**Without looking back, he successfully built a team around him that quickly saw him win silvers and then a gold at the World Championship in 2019. He also turned a 2016 Paralympic silver medal into a gold medal in 2021 in Tokyo after overcoming what should have been a career ending injury. Awarded an MBE for his Services to Athletics in 2022, he is now training to defend his Paralympic title at Paris 2024, alongside empowering and educating others on mind-set management and bridging the gap between the able and slightly less able.**



# Material Witnesss

Eleanor Houghton

Agent: Liza DeBlock

**Publication date:**

TBD 2024

**Material:** Proposal and  
sample material available

**Rights sold:**

UK (Icon Books - Ellen  
Conlon)

Audio (WF Howes)

Nearly one hundred and seventy years have passed since Charlotte Brontë took her last breath, but astonishingly, witnesses to her life still survive. These were present as she penned the first lines of *Jane Eyre*, as she walked the cobbled streets of Haworth with her sisters, as she dined with William Makepeace Thackeray at his home in London or as she joined Arthur Bell Nicholls at the altar in the summer of 1854. Yet, powerful as their stories are, their testimonies have remained unheard until today.

In this meticulously researched biography, Dr Eleanor Houghton rummages through Charlotte Brontë's closet, examining her clothing as witnesses to her life and revealing never before known secrets that bring the famous author to life. Readers are introduced to more than Charlotte Brontë the author, they are presented to her as a daughter, a sister, a wife, and simply, as a woman. Myths are shattered, long-held preconceptions challenged, and a real, raw, three-dimensional woman is recalled to life.

**Eleanor Houghton is a cultural historian, illustrator, and writer. She was awarded the Wolfson Doctoral Scholarship for her work on the Brontë collection. She is a historical consultant who has recently worked on BBC's *Gentleman Jack*, Frances O'Connor's *Emma*, and *The Ballad of Renegade Nell* on Disney+. She is a trusted consultant at The Brontë Parsonage Museum.**



# Coming Soon



# Love on the Menu

Mimi Deb

Agent: Rachel Neely

**One takeaway dinner. Two lonely hearts. Did someone order a romcom?**

**Publication date:**

11 May 2023

**Material:** Unedited MS

**Rights sold:**

WEL: Avon

- **Mimi Deb won the AvonxMushens Entertainment Prize which was for writers of colour across the UK**

Gia thrives on taking risks. After having her heart broken back home in India, she moved to London alone to chase her dreams.

Ben always plays things safe. He works the same job in the same restaurant, night after night.

But tonight, is going to be different. Because fate will mean one of his deliveries goes to Gia's apartment and in return a note from her will make its way back to him at the restaurant.

Ben and Gia have never met. But with each new delivery, Ben slips in a note of his own and waits patiently for her reply.

One by one, these notes transform their lives in unexpected ways and an unlikely and truly unique love story begins.

**Born in Calcutta, Mimi Deb has worked as a journalist for leading national dailies and magazines, before producing TV dramas and, later, feature films. In 2021, Mimi won the Avon-Mushens Commercial Fiction Prize for *Love on the Menu*. When not writing, Mimi is probably running along the Thames thinking of her next story, or next meal.**



# Daughter of Mine

Claire Frances

Agent: Rachel Neely

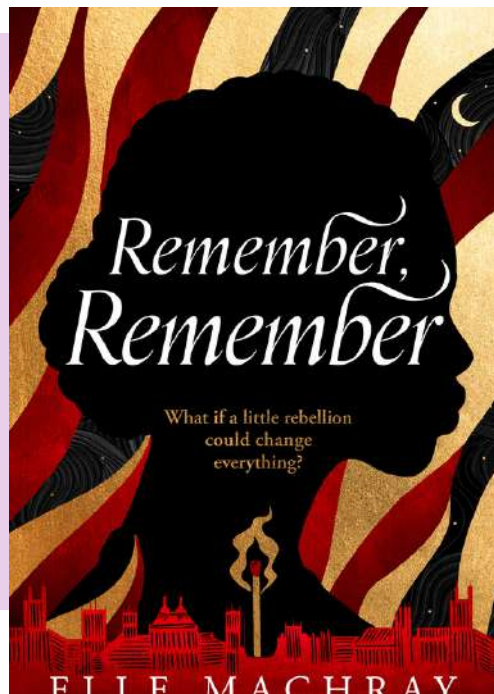
**On submission Autumn  
2022**

After suffering a miscarriage, Kate is diagnosed with polycystic ovary syndrome and told that she will struggle to carry a baby to term, even if she can get pregnant.

When her identical twin, Julia – who lives alone in the annexe next door to their farmhouse – offers to be her surrogate, it seems the perfect solution. But, when Kate finds out she is also pregnant a week after her sister, things shift between the sisters and Kate starts to suspect Julia is having doubts about giving the baby up.

Kate and Julia give birth hours apart to Rose and Isabelle, but then Julia – who is legally considered Isabelle’s mother until adoption papers are signed after the birth – changes her mind and decides to keep her sister’s baby. Kate is devastated but determined to keep both of her daughters.

**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 and finds her inspiration to write flows most freely when she’s roaming the moors with Charlie, her Chocolate Labrador.**



# Remember, Remember

Elle Machray

Agent: Rachel Neely

**Publication date:**

Spring 2024

**Material:** Partial submission manuscript, full ms coming soon.

**Rights sold:**

UK (HarperNorth - Daisy Watt)

In 1765, enslaved Delphine escaped her master. Five years later, she has carved a life for herself at a one-of-a-kind brothel in Soho.

The only thing she's missing is her brother, Vincent. But their reunion doesn't go to plan when Delphine finds him standing over the unconscious body of his master.

After Vincent is captured and threatened with transportation, Delphine risks her carefully curated freedom to save him. Their struggle makes it to the Supreme Court, that grants Vincent his freedom, just moments before he is tragically murdered by a mob outside the courthouse.

Delphine must find the courage to act against injustice. She must find the courage, for Vincent. Aided by an unexpected face from her past, and inspired by the Gunpowder Plot, Delphine resolves to strike at the heart of the British Empire.

**Elle Machray lives in Edinburgh and studied Politics at the University of Leeds. Elle currently works in cyber security, specialising in behaviour change and reducing the human risk factor. After beginning her writing journey in lockdown, she was selected to join the HarperCollins Author Academy in 2021.**



**On submission Autumn  
2022**

# Everyone I Know Is Dying

Emily Slapper

Agent: Rachel Neely

After attending her grandmother's empty funeral, 26-year-old Iris starts to wonder if she has prioritised the wrong things in life.

When she finally gets the promotion she has been coveting upon her return to work, the expected sense of triumph never arrives. Why, instead of celebrating, does Iris find herself sprawled on the floor of her hallway crying uncontrollably?

Iris has no terrible secrets or hidden traumas, and yet crippling depression threatens to overwhelm her. She finds solace in the arms of her flatmate George, who never fails to find the joy in small things. But security soon begins to feel like suffocation.

So, when Iris is reintroduced to handsome but seemingly unattainable ex-colleague Patrick, she sees the potential for a different kind of relationship, and becomes obsessed with making him fall in love with her – whatever the cost.

**Emily Slapper grew up in Northampton before studying Cinema and Photography at the University of Leeds. After graduating she moved to London to work in advertising whilst hoping to one day become a screenwriter. But wanting to write films turned into wanting to write books and so she started a Creative Writing MA at Royal Holloway. *Everyone I Know is Dying* is her debut novel.**