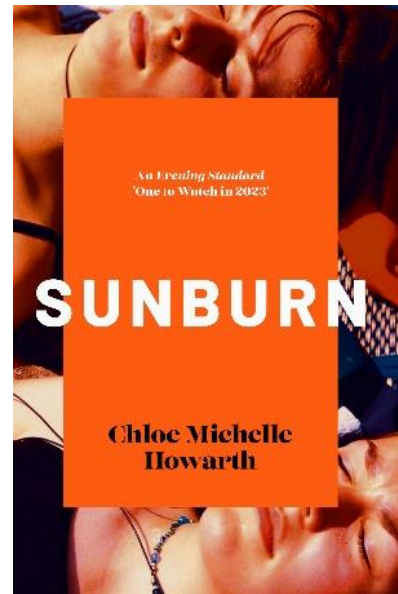
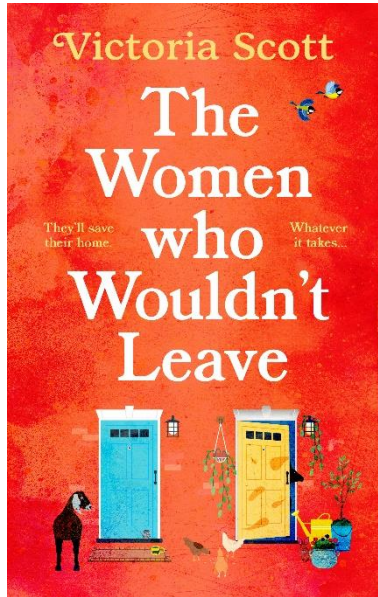
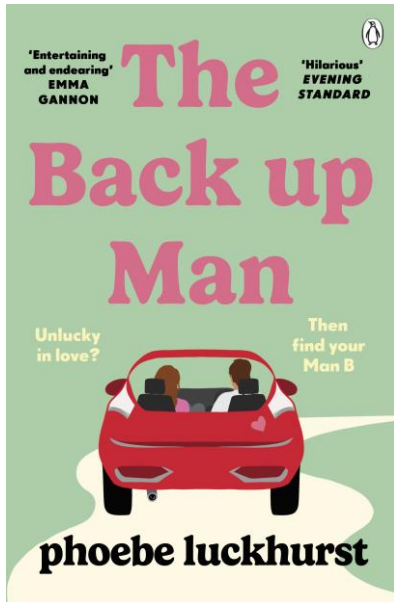


# NORTH BANK

TALENT MANAGEMENT



## Fiction Rights Guide

### London Book Fair 2023

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## **Hot List – Fiction**

**Victoria Scott**

## The Women Who Wouldn't Leave

**UK & Commonwealth rights (ex Canada):** Head of Zeus

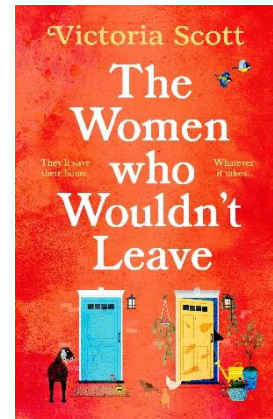
**Publication date:** Summer 2023

**Editor:** Rachel Faulkner-Willcocks

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Story of courage and friendship as the residents of a rural council estate fight the council who want to evict them to make way for a new development, for fans of *The Lido* by Libby Page.**

Tilda has just moved back in with her mother to a small council-owned cul-de-sac in rural Gloucestershire. She tells everyone she lost her job in London, but what happened there left her anxious, depressed, agoraphobic. She spends her time walking around the fields behind the mostly-empty holiday rentals and second homes, and ignoring their old reclusive neighbour, Constance. Then one day, Tilda notices that Constance's animals haven't been fed. The police arrive and find Constance on the floor of her house, exhausted and malnourished, and they take her to hospital. With nobody else to take care of Constance's animals, Tilda reluctantly takes over, but finds a community of other residents willing to help.

The pair bond over the animals and grow close. Then something happens that changes everything. The council send compulsory eviction notices to everyone on the estate. The families are to be rehoused in an inner city estate in Gloucester, as their small estate is being sold to developers. Constance will not be able to take the animals with her, and Tilda realises that both her new life and the countryside she adores, are both under threat. Together, the two women decide they must fight the eviction, and in doing so, they must fight their inner demons, too.

**Victoria Scott** is a Faber Academy graduate. She has a degree in English from King's College, London and a Postgraduate Diploma in Broadcast Journalism from City University, London. She lives near London with her husband and two children, and works as a freelance journalist, media trainer and journalism tutor. GRACE is her second novel.



# Chloe Michelle Howarth

## Sunburn

**UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada):** Verve Books

**UK & Commonwealth audio rights (excl. Canada):** W.F. Howes

**Publication date:** June 2023

**Editor:** Jenna Gordon

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



### **LGBTQ+ literary debut about first love set in rural Ireland in the 1990s, from an exciting new talent**

In the small Irish village of Crossmore in the early 1990s, Lucy feels out of place. She's always felt out of place, despite her fierce friendships, and the traditional path of marriage and motherhood doesn't appeal to her at all. But from the first game of kiss-chase in the playground, there is a spark between her and her classmate Susannah. The girls grow older and Lucy attempts to hide her infatuation, until one summer, when things escalate.

Lucy must then start to live a double life; a performative life, in which she dates her best friend – the farmer's son that everyone assumes she will marry, and one secret life in which she and Susannah are desperately in love.

But whereas Susannah wants the couple to be open about their relationship, Lucy resists. The tension grows as the opportunity to leave Crossmore looms, and Lucy is forced to choose between her two lives – each as terrifying as the other.

**Chloe Michelle Howarth** is an Irish writer from West Cork. She first became interested in literature as a teenager, and in 2015, she moved to Dublin to study English, Media, and Cultural Studies in IADT Dun Laoghaire. During her time in college, she developed her love of writing, as well as performing and traveling. Since graduating, she has returned to the countryside, where she has been endlessly inspired by the landscapes, culture, and people of rural Ireland. She now lives in Brighton.



**Claire Cooper**

## **The Elevator**

**World English rights:** Bookouture

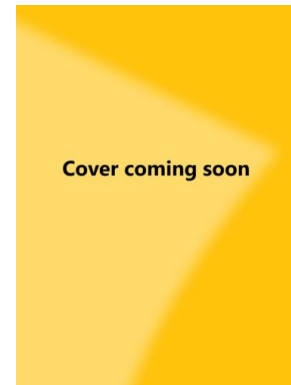
**Publication date:** August 2023

**Editor:** Ruth Tross

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**A fast-paced thriller with a killer twist, for fans of *The Lying Room* by Nicci French and *Those People* by Louise Candlish.**

*The Elevator* follows two women trapped in a lift over one sweltering, claustrophobic day in a New York office building. Trying to rebuild her life after an incident at work, HR director Cerys transfers to a new role in her company's New York office. On the day of an important meeting, she steps into the lift with Maeve, a woman she had noticed arguing with the receptionist in a British accent. A few seconds later, the electronic voice stutters, then stops, and the elevator grinds to a halt.

Unbeknown to Cerys, Maeve is driven by a dark secret which has brought her to New York, and she won't leave until she gets what she wants. Could Cerys be the person she's been looking for? As the hours tick by, one thing becomes clear – one of them might not make it out alive.

**Claire Cooper** grew up in a small village in south Wales before moving to London. She worked for the Civil Service for seventeen years before realising that she much preferred writing novels about psychotic killers to Ministerial speeches. She lives in London with her husband and two cats.



# Contemporary Fiction

# Chloe Michelle Howarth

## Sunburn

**UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada):** Verve Books

**UK & Commonwealth audio rights (excl. Canada):** W.F. Howes

**Publication date:** June 2023

**Editor:** Jenna Gordon

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



### **LGBTQ+ literary debut about first love set in rural Ireland in the 1990s, from an exciting new talent**

In the small Irish village of Crossmore in the early 1990s, Lucy feels out of place. She's always felt out of place, despite her fierce friendships, and the traditional path of marriage and motherhood doesn't appeal to her at all. But from the first game of kiss-chase in the playground, there is a spark between her and her classmate Susannah. The girls grow older and Lucy attempts to hide her infatuation, until one summer, when things escalate.

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# Gráinne Murphy

## Greener

**UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada):** Legend Press

**Publication date:** tbc

**Editor:** Cari Rosen

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



*Helen, Annie and Laura were closer-than-close as teenagers. They spent all their time at Glebe Cottage, where, with Helen's mother holed up in bed with migraines, and her father Jack working away as an actor, the girls shared secrets of parties, boyfriends, and hopes for the future. But when school ended, so did their friendship, as their lives went in different directions.*

*Twenty-five years later, Helen comes back to Glebe Cottage to visit Jack after an absence of over a year, and for the first time since he had a stroke three months earlier. In her absence, Jack and Annie have struck up a friendship, and she's now living in the cottage as his carer. Laura, a single mother, is restless in a way she hasn't been since she was a teenager, and finds calm in helping Jack to care for the garden she has always loved at Glebe Cottage.*

*Helen's return brings the three women back together, in the house around which their lives still revolve, with the father they have somehow ended up sharing. And as a snowstorm forces them to shelter there overnight, can they overcome the distance of the intervening years?*

**Gráinne Murphy** works in Ireland as a self-employed language editor specializing in human rights and environmental issues. Gráinne has received a number of award shortlistings and longlistings for her writing including the Irish Writers Centre Novel Fair Award 2019, Blue Pencil Agency First Novel Award 2019, Caledonia Novel Award 2019, Virginia Prize for Fiction 2013, and the Bath Novel Award 2015.



# Gráinne Murphy

## Winter People

**UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada):** Legend Press

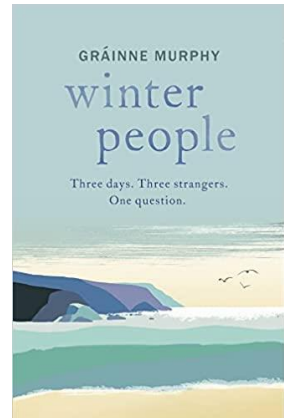
**Publication date:** September 2023

**Editor:** Cari Rosen

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



Praise for WINTER PEOPLE:

'Compassionate, contemplative, and absorbing. Winter People takes a quiet yet clear look at family, love and loss, and the ways in which people might heal.' Claire Fuller, author of Women's Prize-shortlisted and Costa Award-winning *Unsettled Ground*

'There is a gentleness and depth here that is engrossing' Anne Griffin, #1 bestselling author of *When All is Said* and *Listening Still*

'Immersive and absorbing' Joanna Glen, author of Costa shortlisted novel *The Other Half of Augusta Hope*

'Subtle, addictive, beautifully written' Lissa Evans, bestselling author of *Crooked Heart*

**A remarkable literary novel about three lonely people on the West Coast of Ireland, inspired by Gráinne's Sunday Times Audible Award longlisted short story *Further West*. Perfect for fans of *When All is Said* by Anne Griffin.**

When you're on the verge of losing everything, what is there left to live for?

Sis Cotter has lived her whole life in a small house by her beloved beach. Here, she grew up, reared her family, and buried her husband. Now her children are far away and, in three days, her house will be taken from her.

Next door, thirty-nine-year-old Lydia has withdrawn from her husband, her friends, her life. She watches the sea as her own private penance for a wrong she can never put right. Afraid of the world and herself in it, the only way to live is to avoid everyone.

Meanwhile, repossession officer Peter's best friend is dying, and his long-time foster mother is slowly forgetting who he is. Adrift without his two anchors, and struggling with the ethics of displacing people for a living, Peter looks for something to hold onto to remind him of who he is and who he wants to be.

In their isolation, Sis, Lydia and Peter question who they are without the people they love, and search for the words that will bring their people back to them.

**Gráinne Murphy** works in Ireland as a self-employed language editor specializing in human rights and environmental issues. Gráinne has received a number of award shortlistings and longlistings for her writing including the Irish Writers Centre Novel Fair Award 2019, Blue Pencil Agency First Novel Award 2019, and the Caledonia Novel Award 2019. Her first two novels, *Where the Edge Is* and *Ghostlights*, are published by Legend Press.



# Phoebe Luckhurst

## The Back Up Man

**UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada):** Michael Joseph

**Publication date:** January 2023

**Editor:** Rebecca Hilsdon

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

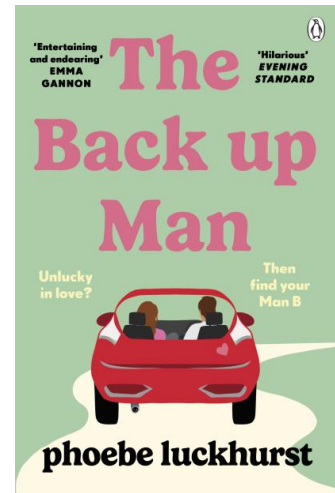
**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell

Praise for Phoebe Luckhurst:

'A new David Nicholls for millennials' *i Magazine*

'Proper laugh out loud stuff' *Fabulous Magazine*

'One to watch' *The Bookseller*



### **Unlucky in love? Then find your back-up man . . .the hilarious second novel from journalist Phoebe Luckhurst**

Shortly after her 29<sup>th</sup> birthday, Anya Mackie finds herself single, homeless and jobless. Well-meaning friends and family rally round, but she's soon stuck in a flatshare with Cold Claire and Weird Richard, and giving trumpet lessons to Glasgow's most unappealing twins. But when Anya stumbles on the pact she made with high school crush, Euan Carrick, where they promised to marry if they were still single at thirty, she thinks it's a lifeline. Until Anya discovers that Euan hasn't been seen for a decade.

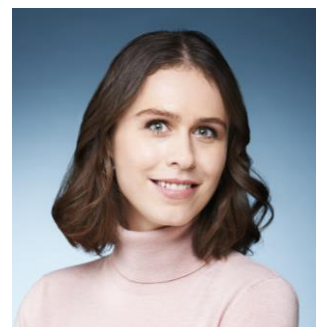
Grudgingly accepting the help (and car!) of handsome-but-emotionally-unavailable Jamie Kildare – another blast from Anya's past, with his own mysterious reasons for tracking down their old school pal – the pair set off across the country to find Anya's back-up-man.

In the age of social media and blue ticks, how could Euan have disappeared?

Will he even remember their pact?

And are some things just better left in the past...?

**Phoebe Luckhurst** is a London-based journalist. She is the Features Editor of the Evening Standard, for whom she also writes features, columns and interviews, and appears regularly on their podcast, The Leader. She has written for the *Guardian*, *Sunday Times Style*, *ELLE*, *ES Magazine*, *Grazia*, *The Telegraph* and *Vogue*. Her first novel, *The Lock In*, was published by Michael Joseph in July 2021.



# Phoebe Luckhurst

## The Lock In

**UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada):** Michael Joseph

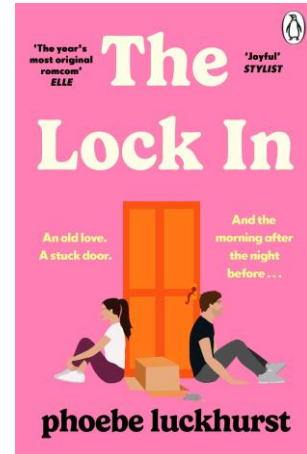
**Publication date:** July 2021

**Editor:** Rebecca Hilsdon

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



Praise for THE LOCK IN:

'David Nicholls for millennials . . . The Lock In is a dream read: an immaculately plotted romcom which vividly captures both late teenagehood and twentysomething houseshares' *i Magazine*

'Funny and compelling from page one and so well written. Such a brilliant premise and really well executed. Officially a huge fan of Phoebe Luckhurst!' *Lucy Vine, bestselling author of Hot Mess*

'Entertaining, endearing, and truly unique. Found myself wincing and laughing with familiarity' *Emma Gannon, bestselling author of Olive*

'Such a fun, clever, original and massively entertaining read . . . I love it, you'll love it' *Lindsey Kelk, Sunday Times bestselling author*

### **A brilliant, smart locked-room romcom sold for six figures in a hotly contested auction**

It's a warm, hungover Saturday in April when 20-something Ellen discovers that a pipe has burst under the kitchen sink, and their flat has started filling with water. In a desperate search for the stopcock, the three flatmates Ellen, Alexa and Jack – plus Alexa's topless Hinge date, Ben – end up by the fuse box in the attic. Then the door handle breaks, and they're trapped.

And so begins a sweaty, stuffy morning. Ben and Alexa must now publicly navigate the morning-after-the-night-before in front of their flatmates. Then, it transpires that Ben went to the boys' version of Ellen's school. Wait – did they used to talk on MSN Messenger? Not only that, Ellen realises, but they used to flirt on MSN Messenger. They actually used to send long, passionate love letters to one another on MSN Messenger. This relationship is the origin story of Ellen's romantic life – as was the bit which came after, which is that Ben ghosted her, breaking her heart and creating a little knot of bitterness that Ellen has never quite exorcised.

Ellen is now living out the moment she has dreamed of for almost a decade: confronting someone whom she maintains ruined her life at school. Meanwhile, Alexa is squirming – because she doesn't want this revelation to derail a relationship with Ben before it starts. In the meantime, Jack is live-tweeting the whole thing, and it's gone viral.

As the hours tick by, the flatmates face two questions: will they ever get out of this attic, and even if they do, will they be able to look each other in the eye ever again?

**Victoria Scott**

## **The Women Who Wouldn't Leave**

**UK & Commonwealth rights (ex Canada):** Head of Zeus

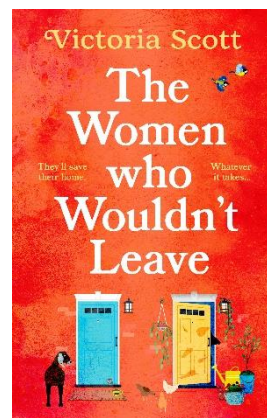
**Publication date:** Summer 2023

**Editor:** Rachel Faulkner-Willcocks

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Story of courage and friendship as the residents of a rural council estate fight the council who want to evict them to make way for a new development, for fans of *The Lido* by Libby Page.**

Tilda has just moved back in with her mother to a small council-owned cul-de-sac in rural Gloucestershire. She tells everyone she lost her job in London, but what happened there left her anxious, depressed, agoraphobic. She spends her time walking around the fields behind the mostly-empty holiday rentals and second homes, and ignoring their old reclusive neighbour, Constance. Then one day, Tilda notices that Constance's animals haven't been fed. The police arrive and find Constance on the floor of her house, exhausted and malnourished, and they take her to hospital. With nobody else to take care of Constance's animals, Tilda reluctantly takes over, but finds a community of other residents willing to help.

The pair bond over the animals and grow close. Then something happens that changes everything. The council send compulsory eviction notices to everyone on the estate. The families are to be rehoused in an inner city estate in Gloucester, as their small estate is being sold to developers. Constance will not be able to take the animals with her, and Tilda realises that both her new life and the countryside she adores, are both under threat. Together, the two women decide they must fight the eviction, and in doing so, they must fight their inner demons, too.

**Victoria Scott** is a Faber Academy graduate. She has a degree in English from King's College, London and a Postgraduate Diploma in Broadcast Journalism from City University, London. She lives near London with her husband and two children, and works as a freelance journalist, media trainer and journalism tutor. GRACE is her second novel.



# Victoria Scott

## Grace

**UK & Commonwealth rights (ex Canada):** Head of Zeus

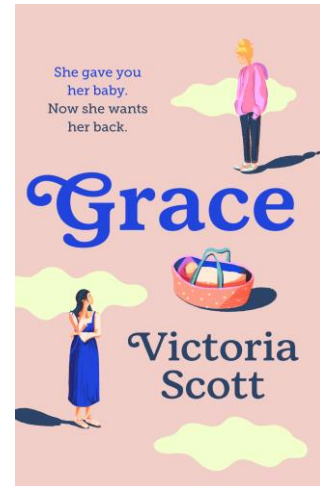
**Publication date:** August 2022

**Editor:** Rachel Faulkner-Willcocks

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



Praise for Victoria Scott:

'A thought-provoking, compelling and entertaining read. I could barely put the book down until its equally heart-wrenching and heart-warming ending. A wonderful, smart and funny book' - *Louise Fein, bestselling author of People Like Us*

'An extraordinary novel about love and hope and family and what happens in the space between the words. I adored it' - *Kirsten Hesketh, author of Another Us*

**A searing book-club novel about two mothers facing an impossible choice, for fans of Amanda Prowse and Jodi Picoult**

She gave you her baby. Now she wants her back.

Nineteen-year-old Michelle has had a tough life, to say the least. Then she gets pregnant. She is convinced she would be a terrible mother but having grown up in care, she cannot bring herself to subject her child to the same fate.

Amelia and her husband have dreamed of having a family for years, but have lost all hope after the worst kind of tragedy. Then they are offered the chance to adopt baby Grace, and it feels like they finally have everything they've ever wanted.

But then Michelle decides she wants her daughter back, and it's up to the courts to decide. What is best for Grace – a mother's love, or a stable home? Whatever the ruling, one thing is certain: neither woman's life will ever be the same again...

# Victoria Scott

## Patience

**UK & Commonwealth rights (ex Canada):** Head of Zeus

**German rights:** Droemer Knauer

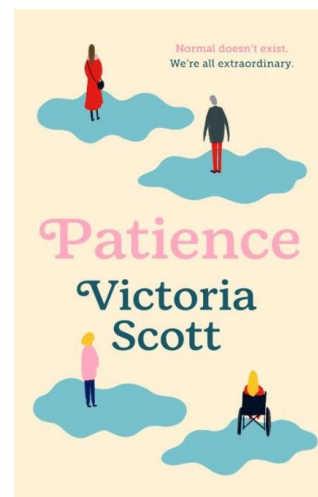
**Publication date:** August 2021

**Editor:** Hannah Smith

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



'A thought-provoking, compelling and entertaining read. I could barely put the book down until its equally heart-wrenching and heart-warming ending. A wonderful, smart and funny book' - *Louise Fein, bestselling author of People Like Us*

'Inspired by truth, Patience and her family come alive on the pages. I felt every single emotion with them' - *Alice Peterson, author of Monday to Friday Man*

'An eye-opening and heartwarming tale' - *Woman's Own*

'An extraordinary novel about love and hope and family and what happens in the space between the words. I adored it' - *Kirsten Hesketh, author of Another Us*

**The sparkling debut book club novel by an incredible new voice, perfect for fans of Jodi Picoult**

A new high-risk treatment gives you the chance to cure your child's disease. Do you take it?

The Willows have been through a lot. Louise has devoted her life to caring for her disabled youngest daughter. Pete works abroad, almost never seeing his loved ones. And their eldest, Eliza, is burdened by all the secrets she's trying to keep from her overloaded family.

Meanwhile, Patience observes the world while trapped in her own body. She laughs, she cries, she has opinions and knows what she wants. But those who love her most – and make every decision about her life – will never know.

Or will they? When the Willows are offered the opportunity for Patience to take part in a new gene therapy trial to cure her Rett syndrome, they face an impossible dilemma. Are the very real risks worth the chance of the reward, no matter how small?

# Catherine Mangan

## One Italian Summer

**World English rights:** Sphere  
**Dutch rights:** HarperCollins Holland  
**Publication date:** April 2022  
**Editor:** Rebecca Roy

**Manuscript available**  
**All other rights available**  
**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



### A witty, escapist romance for fans of Sue Moorcroft and Lucy Coleman

When Lily's long-term relationship ends, she flees her life in New York to travel to her best friend's wedding on the sun-drenched Italian island of Ischia - but could there be more to the secluded island than she ever imagined?

Ten days with nothing but sparkling seas, breath-taking beaches and delicious food sounds like the perfect cure for a broken heart. And Lily can hardly believe she'd never heard of Ischia before now. But Lily's blissful break is short-lived as she discovers not only has she lost her boyfriend, she's also lost her job.

As Lily searches for inspiration, she connects with local Matt, who shows her the magic the beautiful Italian island has to offer, and quickly inspiration strikes: Ischia needs more tourists and Lily knows just how to help.

As Ischia slowly heals Lily's heart, will she in turn inject new life into the island? And will local Matt offer the possibility of a future she'd never dreamed of?

**Catherine Mangan** is an award-winning Irish entrepreneur and creator of the language-learning app Smigin, which has users in 175 countries. She studied languages at University College Cork before moving to Italy (briefly) with friends, which was the start of a life-long love affair with the country. She now divides her time between Ireland and Silicon Valley. Her first novel, *The Italian Escape*, was published by Sphere in April 2021.



**Catherine Mangan**

## **The Italian Escape**

**World English rights:** Sphere  
**Dutch rights:** HarperCollins Holland  
**Publication date:** April 2021  
**Editor:** Rebecca Roy

**Manuscript available**  
**All other rights available**  
**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**A glorious and uplifting escapist novel set against the stunning backdrop of the Italian coast. The perfect holiday read for fans of Rosanna Ley, Rachel Hore and Karen Swan**

Sparkling sea, sun, delicious food and Aperol Spritz – escape to Italy with the perfect summer romance . . .

Niamh Kelly's life hasn't turned out quite as she'd expected. She's thirty-three, still living at home and was recently dumped . . . by her boss. So when her sister invites her to tag along on a work trip to the sun-drenched Italian coast, Niamh jumps at the chance, eager to escape into a world of sparkling prosecco, delicious food, and breath-taking beaches.

Upon her arrival, Niamh immediately falls in love with the beautiful Italian town they're staying in and realises she never wants to leave, deciding instead to stay and open up a quaint coffee shop nestled in charming old town streets – even if she has no idea what she's doing. But when a family tragedy and a tricky tourist season threaten her new business, Niamh isn't so sure she can stick it out.

With help from her new-found Italian friends – and the possibility of romance on the horizon – can she make her new life in the sun a success?

# Rachel Wells

## Alfie the Christmas Cat

**World English language rights:** Avon

**Chinese (simplified) option:** Beijing Savor Time Culture

**Dutch rights:** HarperCollins Netherlands

**Finnish option:** Otava

**French option:** City Editions

**German option:** Bastei Luebbe

**Italian option:** Garzanti Libri

**Japanese option:** HarperCollins

**Polish option:** Wydawnictwo Amber

**Portuguese option:** Porto Editora

**Russian option:** AST Publishers

**Spanish option:** Duomo

**Czech option:** Albatros

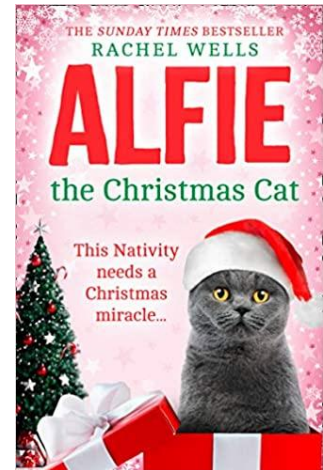
**Publication date:** November 2020

**Editor:** Molly Walker-Sharp

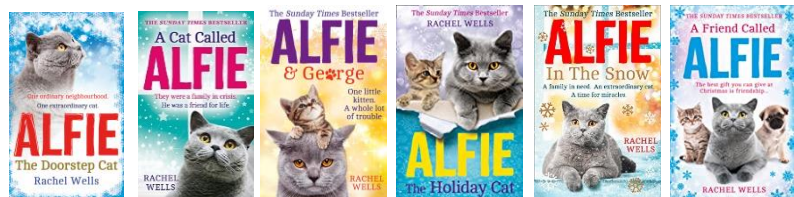
**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



### Previous books in the series:



The seventh book in the bestselling adult fiction series about friend to the community Alfie the cat.

Christmas is around the corner, and Alfie and George can't wait. This year, the residents of Edgar Road have come together to put on a festive show and raise money for a local homeless shelter.

As December approaches, plans are in full swing: auditions are being held, props are being built, Alfie and George are rehearsing daily, and everyone is having a very merry time.

But then things start to go wrong. And when the residents arrive at the theatre one morning to discover their set has been trashed, it becomes clear someone is trying to sabotage their performance.

Alfie and George know it's up to them to find the culprit and save the day. Because, after all, the show must go on...

**Rachel Wells** is a mother, writer and cat lover. She lives in Devon with her family and her pets and believes in the magic of animals. Rachel grew up in Devon but lived in London in her twenties, working in marketing and living in a tiny flat with an elderly rescue cat. After having a child, she moved back to Devon and decided to take the plunge and juggle motherhood with writing.



# Pam Williams

## A Trace of Sun

**UK & Commonwealth (excluding Canada) rights:** Legend Press

**UK & Commonwealth audio rights (excl. Canada):** W.F. Howes

**Publication date:** March 2024

**Editor:** Cari Rosen

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell

Cover coming soon

**‘Mammy go be waiting for you when you reach, eh Raef. Imagine, after all this time, all of you go be together.’**

In 1960, Raef is eight when hardship forces his parents to seek a better life in England, taking his little brother with them and leaving him in Grenada. An unimagined seven years of separation follows.

Arriving in London aged fifteen, harbouring feelings of abandonment, Raef’s dreams of reunion are shattered. He has a new little sister, Luci, who has stolen his place in his parents’ hearts. Despite Mammy’s attempts to welcome him back into the fold, he remains an outsider, and his father never seems to accept him as part of the family.

As Raef’s mental condition worsens, the family fractures and splits apart. Twenty years later, a letter arrives from his mother’s deathbed. He learns that secret past traumas have determined the course of his life and that the question of his identity runs deeper than he’d ever imagined. But will the truth absolve him of his guilt - or destroy his future?

After graduating from St Martin’s School of Art in 1984, Pam Williams spent two decades as a fashion journalist and freelance stylist before leaving the industry to become a foster carer, and is now a special needs teacher. She joined the Afrikan Heritage Writers Group in 2014, inspired to finally share her work by the death of her heroine, Maya Angelou, and was chosen to participate in the London Writers Award, Spread the Word scheme in 2019. Pam’s parents left Grenada for London in the early 1960s and she was born there two months later – and aged seven met two siblings for the first time, when they were brought over to England to join the family.



# Historical Fiction

**Lora Davies**

## **The Widow's Last Secret**

**World English rights:** Bookouture

**Audio rights:** WF Howes

**Publication date:** January 2022

**Editor:** Therese Keating

**Manuscript available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Victorian England, 1846: A gripping and powerful story about one woman's incredible courage in the face of heartbreak, and a secret that – if revealed – could destroy everything. Perfect for fans of Kate Morton and Tracy Rees.**

Six years ago, Bella Farrow lost everything. Desperate and starving, she made a terrible mistake that forced her to abandon her home, her livelihood and her family. And when the only person she trusted – her beloved, steadfast husband – was killed in a tragic accident, Bella was left alone. She had to make her own way, while keeping her past hidden upon risk of imprisonment, or worse...

Now Bella is living a quiet life under a secret identity and making a good, honest living. But then a young, handsome man named James Earham comes to town, and everything changes. Their instant connection disturbs her heart, her peace and her safety. Because Bella knows that for their love to flourish, she will have to reveal the secret that has remained hidden all these years – and put her trust in James.

Bella's heart tells her to confess everything. But can she be sure James is really who he says he is? Can Bella truly be herself with him? Or is she putting her life in the hands of the one person who could betray her?

**Lora Davies** studied English at the University of Hull before training as an actor at East 15. After working as an actor and director for companies including English Touring Theatre, The Orange Tree and Theatr Clwyd, Lora rediscovered her passion for writing on a course at her local bookshop. She graduated last year from Royal Holloway, University of London with a Masters in Creative Writing. Her first novel, *Daughter of the Shipwreck*, was published in August 2021.



**Lora Davies**

## Daughter of the Shipwreck

**World English rights:** Bookouture

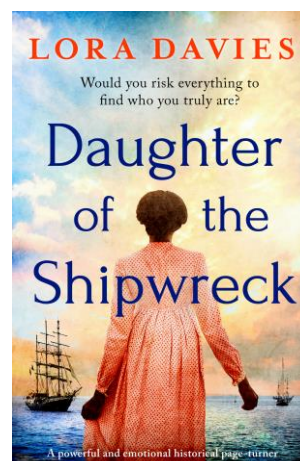
**Audio rights:** WF Howes

**Publication date:** Summer 2021

**Editor:** Therese Keating

**Manuscript available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**An atmospheric upmarket historical mystery about two separated siblings in 1820s London, perfect for fans of *The Confessions of Frannie Langton* and *Blood and Sugar***

It's 1820 and nineteen-year-old Mercy arrives in London. Orphaned as a child, she has come to live with the well-to-do Dr Stephens and his wife, Catherine, a passionate campaigner for the abolition of slavery. Mercy has never questioned her background, but the exhibition of Gericault's *The Raft of the Medusa* brings confusing memories to the surface: the creaking of wood and the splash of sea-spray.

Meanwhile, Mat, a young black sailor has arrived in the city. Having been separated from his little sister fifteen years ago when they were both sold into slavery, Mat now has one mission in mind: to find the men responsible, and to take his revenge. When he discovers that his sister is still alive and living in London he is overjoyed, but he soon realises that she could be in grave danger.

As dark clouds gather, the siblings must discover the truth about Mercy's past, and find a way back to each other, before it's too late.

**Ellee Seymour**

## The Royal Station Master's Daughters series

**UK rights:** Bonnier (Zaffre)

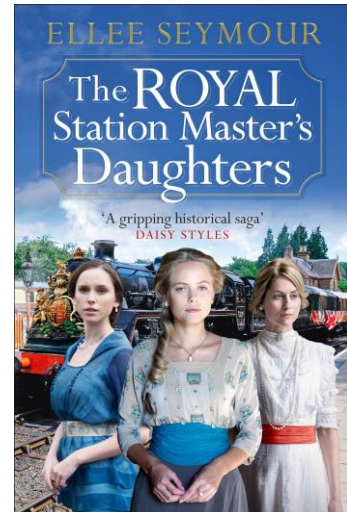
**Publication date:** April 2022

**Editor:** Claire Johnson-Creek

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**The bold new WWI saga series based on the Saward family, who ran the train station at Wolferton, the local stop for the Royal Sandringham Estate.**

Young Maria Saward and her siblings have never enjoyed the comforts of family life – the products of Willie Saward's second marriage to a much younger woman, they were shunned by their extended family, and were left in poverty after Willie's death. In desperate times, Maria turns up in the village of Wolferton, asking Royal Station Master Harry Saward for bed and board in return for work.

With the men of the village off fighting in Gallipoli, Maria is given a chance to prove herself. Harry's three daughters help her overcome the shadows of her past life that haunt her, while each facing their own challenges and heartache.

Their trust in Maria is shattered when Harry's jewelled Faberge pin is stolen, and then a blackmailer turns up at Harry's house threatening to tell all about Maria's past. Can Maria continue to find her place in this village, or will the secrets and betrayals of her past be her ruin once again?

Other books in the series:



**Ellee Seymour** is an author, ghost writer and PR consultant. *The Shop Girls* is her first book as an author. It was a joy for her to research and write this heart-warming true story about a glamorous bygone era, based on an elegant ladies' department store in Cambridge with its very own Mr Selfridge-styled character as the boss who the shop girls either loved or loathed. Heyworth's closed 49 years ago and had all but faded from living memory when Ellee began researching the book. Ellee lives near Cambridge.



**Carolyn Kirby**

## **When We Fall**

**UK & Commonwealth rights:** No Exit Press

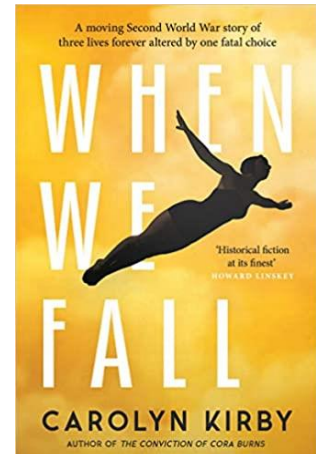
**Publication date:** May 2020

**Polish rights:** Swiat Ksiazki

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



### **A sweeping upmarket WWII novel set in England and occupied Poland – a *Times* and *Sunday Times* Historical Novel of the Year**

England, 1943. Lost in fog, pilot Vee Katchatourian is forced to make an emergency landing where she meets enigmatic RAF airman Stefan Bergel, and then can't get him out of her mind.

In occupied Poland, Ewa Hartman hosts German officers in her father's guest house, while secretly gathering intelligence for the Polish resistance. Mourning her lover, Stefan, who was captured by the Soviets at the start of the war, Ewa is shocked to him on the street one day.

Haunted by a terrible choice he made in captivity, Stefan asks Vee and Ewa to help him expose one of the darkest secrets of the war. But it is not clear where everyone's loyalties lie until they are tested...

**Carolyn Kirby** is the author of two novels. *The Conviction of Cora Burns* was listed for debut novel awards by the Historical Writers' Association and the Crimefest/Specsavers Crime Fiction Prize. *When We Fall* was chosen by the *Time* and *Sunday Times* as one of the best novels of 2020.

Carolyn worked in social housing and as a teacher before becoming a full-time writer. Originally from Sunderland, she has two grown-up daughters and lives with her husband in Oxfordshire.



**Carolyn Kirby**

## **The Conviction of Cora Burns**

**UK & Commonwealth rights:** No Exit Press

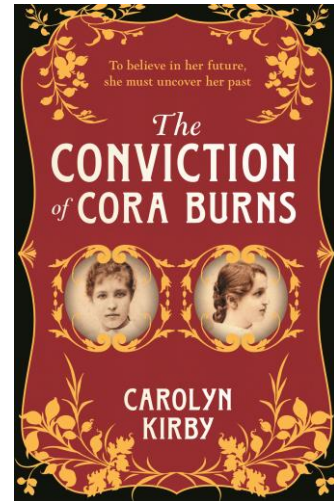
**Publication date:** March 2019

**US rights:** Dzanc Books

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**SHORTLISTED FOR THE CRIMEFEST/SPECSAVERS DEBUT CRIME FICTION AWARD 2020**

**LONGLISTED FOR THE 2019 HWA DEBUT CROWN**

To believe in her future, she must uncover her past...

Birmingham, 1885.

Born in a gaol and raised in a workhouse, Cora Burns has always struggled to control the violence inside her.

Haunted by memories of a terrible crime, she seeks a new life working as a servant in the house of scientist Thomas Jerwood. Here, Cora befriends a young girl, Violet, who seems to be the subject of a living experiment. But is Jerwood also secretly studying Cora...?

With the power and intrigue of Laura Purcell's *The Silent Companions* and Sarah Schmidt's *See What I Have Done*, Carolyn Kirby's stunning debut takes the reader on a heart-breaking journey through Victorian Birmingham and questions where we first learn violence: from our scars or from our hearts.

# **Crime & Thriller**

# Claire Cooper

## The Elevator

**World English rights:** Bookouture

**Publication date:** August 2023

**Editor:** Ruth Tross

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**A fast-paced thriller with a killer twist, for fans of *The Lying Room* by Nicci French and *Those People* by Louise Candlish.**

*The Elevator* follows two women trapped in a lift over one sweltering, claustrophobic day in a New York office building. Trying to rebuild her life after an incident at work, HR director Cerys transfers to a new role in her company's New York office. On the day of an important meeting, she steps into the lift with Maeve, a woman she had noticed arguing with the receptionist in a British accent. A few seconds later, the electronic voice stutters, then stops, and the elevator grinds to a halt.

Unbeknown to Cerys, Maeve is driven by a dark secret which has brought her to New York, and she won't leave until she gets what she wants. Could Cerys be the person she's been looking for? As the hours tick by, one thing becomes clear – one of them might not make it out alive.

**Claire Cooper** grew up in a small village in south Wales before moving to London. She worked for the Civil Service for seventeen years before realising that she much preferred writing novels about psychotic killers to Ministerial speeches. She lives in London with her husband and two cats.



**Lisa Rookes**

## **The Gallows Tree**

**World English rights:** Orion

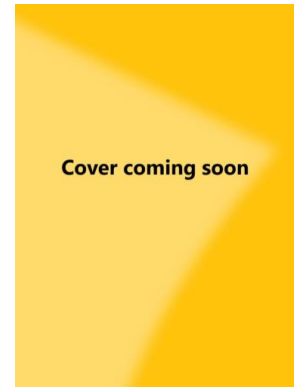
**Publication date:** Spring 2024

**Editor:** Leodora Darlington

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Gripping thriller set in rural Yorkshire for fans of *Pine* by Francine Toon and *The Burning Girls* by CJ Tudor.**

When Cass's best friend Joni is crowned Gallows Queen three years in a row, nobody is surprised. But Joni goes missing that night, her crown left hanging on the Gallows Pole. And when there's another grisly discovery in the village, the press descends and leaps on the gristly, pagan-type legends of the past.

Twenty years before, Cass, Joni and three other village teenagers had formed an unbreakable bond, when the village was under financial strain and their families were falling apart – and their lives remain entwined via a complex web of relationships and memories.

But they all have a secret, a secret they all vowed they would never tell. And now the past is catching up with them, and the nooses on the Gallows Tree could be beckoning for them all.

**Lisa Bradley** is an award-winning journalist and lecturer. She spent the start of her career as a crime reporter and news editor before moving to national newspapers and women's magazines. She is currently head of the undergraduate Journalism programme at the University of Sheffield and has won further multiple awards for her teaching. Her first two novels *Paper Dolls* and *The Lesson* were published by Quercus in 2020 and 2021. She lives in Holmfirth in South Yorkshire with her husband, two sons, an arthritic Labrador and a disabled pug.

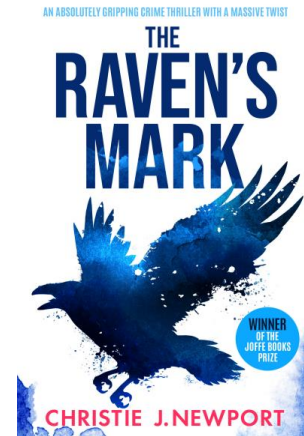


# Christie Newport

## The Raven's Mark

**World English rights:** Joffe Books  
**Publication date:** November 2022  
**Editor:** Emma Grundy Haigh

**Manuscript available**  
**All other rights available**  
**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Winner of the Joffe Books Unpublished Writers of Colour Award. A gripping new crime series set in Preston featuring Detective Beth Fellows, perfect for fans of *The Chestnut Man*.**

A brutal murder. A raven tattoo. A twisted killer has returned.

And Detective Beth Fellows cannot fail again . . .

Detective Chief Inspector Beth Fellows is thrown into the biggest case of her career: the brutal murder of Rose Danes. She quickly realizes Rose's murder is linked to a cold case she investigated two years previously. The victim, fourteen-year-old Celine Wilson, survived but now languishes in a coma.

Both girls were branded with the image of a raven. The only lead is a vague description and a first name, Simon.

Beth's convinced he's the killer. Especially when she receives a mobile phone containing one sole contact, Simon — and a warning to tell no one.

Then a key witness is kidnapped and Beth finds herself in a race against time to stop the killer before he can kill again.

She's breaking all the rules to play his game. But will it be enough?

**Christie Newport** is a mixed-race writer living in Northumberland. Since developing a rare illness as a child, Christie found reading and creating stories to be an escape. In recent years Christie has taken her writing seriously, honing her skills through courses and various brilliant opportunities. Writing crime and psychological thrillers set in her home city is her passion.



# Owen Matthews

## White Fox

**UK & Commonwealth rights:** Transworld

**US rights:** Doubleday

**Editor:** Simon Taylor

**Publication date:** March 2023

**Polish option:** Amber

**German option:** Bastei Luebbe

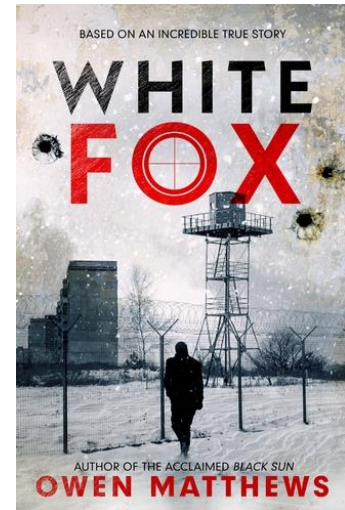
**Greek option:** Klidarithmos

**Portuguese rights:** Grupo Almedina

Manuscript available

All other rights available

Principal agent: Elizabeth Counsell



### The gripping conclusion to the acclaimed Cold War thriller trilogy

A stunning debut thriller...ferocious, authentic and utterly terrifying...absolutely riveting. -- Geoffrey Wansell, *Daily Mail*

An outstanding first novel...Matthews writes superbly. — *Sunday Times* 'Crime Book of the Month'

Fact and fiction combine to keep the pages turning in this impressive debut thriller. -- Antonia Senior, *The Times* 'Best Historical Fiction of the Year'

Enthralling...Black Sun propels Matthews straight into the first division of thriller writers. -- Adam LeBar, *Financial Times*

1963. In a desolate Russian penal colony, the radio broadcasts news of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Vasin's new posting as director of a gulag camp in the middle of the frozen tundra is far from a promotion. This is where disgraced agents, like Vasin, disappear - sent to die forgotten. And quietly. But tensions in the camp are running high and when a violent revolt breaks out, Vasin finds himself on the run. With him is a mysterious prisoner - who holds the key to the most dangerous secret in the world: who ordered Kennedy's murder. In a breathless race that takes them through the Soviet Union, Vasin must stay one step ahead of the most ruthless spy and police organizations in the world . . . and keep the most wanted man in Russia alive. It's a journey that will push Vasin's loyalty, morality and his patriotism to the limit. And he must confront the ultimate choice: fall in line, or die fighting the system.

### Also in the series:



**Owen Matthews** is an award-winning correspondent, historian and fluent Russian-speaker who has lived and worked in Moscow for over 25 years. He worked first as a staffer for The Moscow Times and then as Newsweek magazine's Moscow Bureau Chief. He currently contributes regularly to Foreign Policy, Spectator, Daily Mail, Telegraph and The Critic. His previous novels and non-fiction books have been translated into 28 languages.



# Michael Grothaus

## Beautiful Shining People



**World English rights (excluding US & Canada):** Orenda Books

**World Serbian rights:** Vulkan

**Publication date:** March 2023

**Editor:** Karen Sullivan

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell

**A remarkable Japan-set speculative novel about quantum computing and what it means to belong in a rapidly changing world – perfect for fans of *Ex-Machina* and *Machines Like Me* by Ian McEwan.**

Tokyo, late 2040s.

It's an ordinary world, one where cars drive themselves, drones glide across the sky, and robots work in hamburger shops. There are two superpowers and a digital Cold War, but all conflicts are safely oceans away. The new frontier: quantum computing – and it will change the world.

17-year-old coding genius John arrives in Tokyo, invited by Sony, who want to buy his quantum algorithm. One cold night he enters a small, strange cafe – a cafe run by a disgraced sumo wrestler accompanied by a peculiar dog with a spherical head. And then there's the waitress, who hides a striking secret. There's something different about her – a kind of splintering inside her, like there's something in there that doesn't belong. John might be the only person that can help her discover the truth – about what's inside, where her missing father went, and who might be looking for them now. It's a discovery that will take them from the neon streets of Tokyo to Hiroshima's tragic past to the snowy mountains of Nagano, and from the safety of family to the machinations of Big Tech and man's incessant struggle for power.

**Michael Grothaus** is an author and journalist from Saint Louis, Missouri, now living in London. He spent his twenties in Chicago where he earned his degree in filmmaking from Columbia and got his start in journalism writing for Screen. After working for institutions including The Art Institute of Chicago, Twentieth Century Fox, and Apple he earned his postgraduate degree with distinction in creative writing from the University of London. His writing has appeared in the *Guardian*, *Litro Magazine*, *Fast Company*, *VICE*, *the Irish Times*, *Screen*, *Quartz*, and others. His debut novel, *Epiphany Jones*, was published in 2016 and his first non-fiction book, *Trust No One*, was published by Hodder in November 2021.



# J D Kirk

## One For the Ages

Book 16 in the DCI Jack Logan series

**World English rights:** Zertex Media

**German option:** Zertex Media

**Bulgarian option:** Studio of A Ltd

**Czech option:** Dobrovsky

**Russian option:** Eksmo

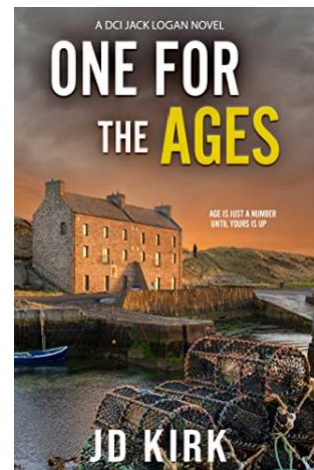
**Audio rights:** Zertex Media

**Publication date:** February 2023

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Over 2 million copies sold**

**Packed with action, pathos, and dark humour, the series is perfect for fans of Ian Rankin, Val McDermid and Stuart MacBride.**

**Age is just a number... Until yours is up.**

When a blood-soaked old man is spotted wandering through a sleepy fishing village in the far north of Scotland, his neighbours think he's been in an accident.

Until he leads them to his home, and to the carefully arranged remains of his late wife.

It is the first murder that the remote Highland village has ever seen. It will not be the last.

Someone is targeting the elderly and vulnerable in their homes. Someone they know. Someone they trust.

**Previous books in the series:**



JD Kirk is the pen-name of award-winning former children's author Barry Hutchison, who first turned his hand to tartan noir in early 2019 with the publication of his first DCI Jack Logan novel, A Litter of Bones. JD lives in Fort William in the Scottish Highlands.



**J D Kirk**

## **Westward**

**Book 4 in the Robert Hoon series**

**World English rights:** Zertex Media

**Danish rights:** Lindbak + Lindbak

**Lithuanian option:** Jotema

**Macedonian option:** Knigoholicari

**Publication date:** December 2022

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Former Detective Superintendent, Bob Hoon, has had one hell of a year.**

Former Detective Superintendent, Bob Hoon, has had one hell of a year. After being repeatedly beaten, shot at, blown-up, and tortured, Hoon is looking forward to spending a quiet Christmas drinking heavily in front of the TV, while pointedly ignoring the older sister who has invaded his home. The world, however, has other plans.

When a routine trip to an Inverness shopping centre is interrupted by a squad of heavily armed Santas, Hoon, his sister, and an old army colleague find themselves trapped alongside several hundred terrified hostages. With so much potential for bloodshed, the police gathering outside the centre can only wait, watch, and try to negotiate with the terrorists within.

But patience has never been Hoon's strong point. And so, if he and everyone else in the centre are going to make it home for Christmas, Hoon is left with only one choice.

He's going to Die Hard the \*\*\*\* out of this thing.

**Previous books in the series:**



**J D Kirk**

## **The One That Got Away**

Book 1 in the DI Heather Filson series

**World English rights:** Zertex Media

**Publication date:** May 2023

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



### **What if your worst enemy was your only hope?**

When a fifteen-year-old girl fails to make it home after school, DI Heather Filson believes she's dealing with just another teenage runaway.

The girl's grandfather, a notorious Glasgow gangster, disagrees. Convinced one of his underworld enemies has grabbed her, he's prepared to bathe the city in blood in order to bring his princess home.

But, as the days pass and the evidence mounts, Heather starts to fear that they're both wrong, and that a brutal killer from the past has returned.

A killer who once stalked the streets of her hometown, preying on vulnerable young victims.

A killer that DI Heather Filson is uniquely familiar with...

**Uncover the secrets of *The One That Got Away* in the first book in a brand new Scottish crime fiction series by JD Kirk, author of the multi-million selling DCI Jack Logan novels.**

JD Kirk is the pen-name of award-winning former children's author Barry Hutchison, who first turned his hand to tartan noir in early 2019 with the publication of his first DCI Jack Logan novel, *A Litter of Bones*. JD lives in Fort William in the Scottish Highlands.



# Marion Todd

## A Blind Eye

Book 7 in the DI Clare Mackay series

**World English rights:** Canelo

**German option:** Amazon Germany

**Audio rights:** WF Howes

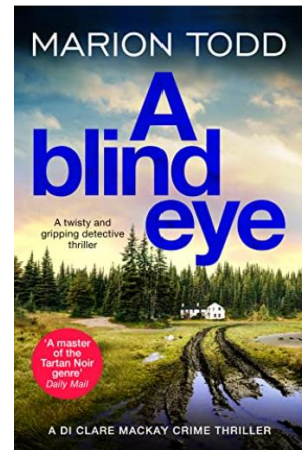
**Publication date:** July 2022

**Editor:** Louise Cullen

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Over 200,000 copies sold**

### Can DI Clare Mackay unravel a dead man's secrets?

Harry Richards, local Solicitor. Found in his car, throat slit.

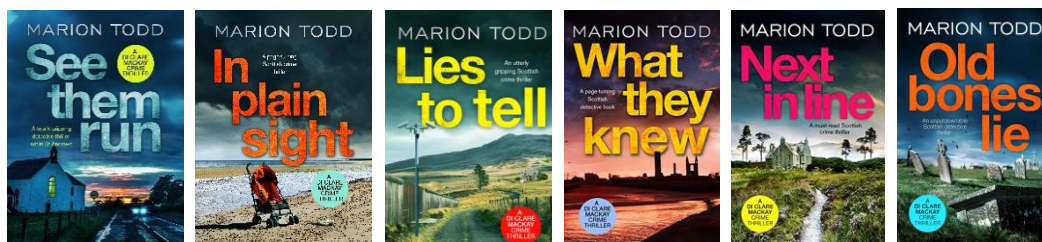
DI Clare Mackay is on the case. She soon learns that Harry was no innocent victim.

But when the wife of one of Harry's colleagues is also discovered dead in her car, Clare realises there might be something bigger at play.

Can she find out who's behind the murders before they turn their attention to her?

An utterly gripping addition to the bestselling crime series by much-loved Scottish author, Marion Todd. Perfect for fans of Alex Gray, Caro Ramsay and the *Karen Pirie* series.

### Previous books in the series:



A native of Dundee, **Marion Todd** studied music with the Open University and worked for many years as a piano teacher and jobbing accompanist. A spell as a hotel lounge pianist provided rich fodder for her writing and she began experimenting with a variety of genres. Early success saw her winning first prize in the *Family Circle Magazine* short story for children national competition and she followed this up by writing short stories and articles for her local newspaper. Now a full-time writer, Marion lives in North-east Fife, overlooking the River Tay.



# Rebecca Bradley

## She Knew Her Killer

Book 3 in the DI Claudia Nunn series

**World English Language rights:** Joffe Books

**Audio rights:** WF Howes

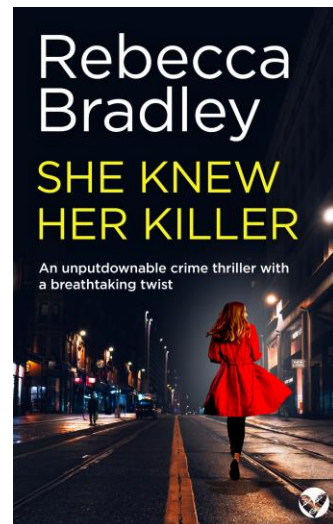
**Publication date:** May 2022

**Editor:** Emma Grundy Haigh

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Five old school friends reunited for a weekend in Sheffield. A drunken game of truth or dare. One won't survive.**

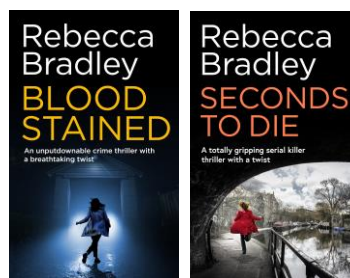
The young woman is found murdered in a swanky hotel room. Detective Claudia Nunn gets the text just as she leaves her therapist's office. The victim's friends all say the same thing: she had been distracted and kept disappearing all weekend. And on the Saturday, someone had screamed abuse in her face.

Did she know her killer?

As Claudia closes in on the murderer, the top-brass start closing down the investigation. And the team become the target of violent attacks.

Someone will do anything to stop the truth getting out.

**Previous books in the series:**



**Rebecca Bradley** was medically retired from the police after fifteen years of service, finishing as a detective constable on a specialist unit. She has since been writing full time, and is the author of the successful self-published DI Hannah Robbins series. She also the host of the Virtual Crime Book Club. Outside of the crime world, she lives in Northern England with her family and two cockapoos, and drinks copious amounts of tea.



**Will Jordan**

## **Dark Harvest**

**World English rights:** Blackstone

**German rights:** Blanvalet

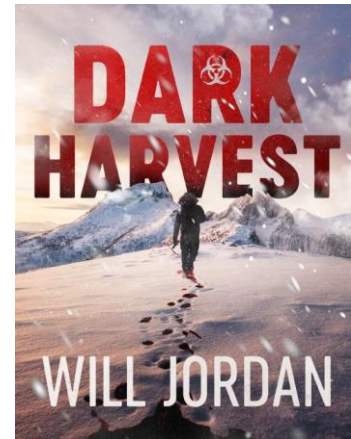
**Publication date:** August 2022

**Editor:** Daniel Ehrenhaft

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**A nail-biting standalone international thriller by bestselling Scottish author and star YouTube film critic Will Jordan.**

*Dark Harvest* is an action-packed ticking clock thriller inspired by the true story of the Dyatlov Pass Incident, in which nine Soviet hikers were found dead in the Ural mountains in 1959. Each of the bodies had massive injuries, including one woman who was missing her tongue, and some showed signs of radiation poisoning. The deaths have never been explained.

Fast forward to 2019, and ex-forces freelance security consultant Cameron Becker is protecting high-profile VIPs as they travel around Iraq. This time, it's Russian businessman Luka Belikov. But when Belikov is abducted on his watch, it's up to Becker to find him. In the meantime, WHO medic Lori Dalton is working in a Turkish refugee camp. When a disturbing find in an abandoned village brings her and Becker together, they quickly realise that there are forces at work here that are much bigger than either of them can handle – the international forces at work here pose a real and present danger to them and the rest of the world. As bio-terrorists prepare to attack four major international transport hubs, Lori and Becker must race against time to uncover the perpetrators, stop the plot, and save the human race.

**Will Jordan** lives near Edinburgh, Scotland. Will is the author of the Ryan Drake series, the ninth and final instalment of which was published in November 2020. The series has sold over 150,000 copies to English-language readers and has been optioned for a major feature film, with shooting scheduled to begin this year. He is also the author of *Deadly Cargo*, written with James Patterson as part of his BookShots series. Outside of writing, Will is the founder of the YouTube account *The Critical Drinker*, which has amassed over 1 million subscribers so far and 252 million views.



# Will Jordan

## Something to Die For

Book 9 in the Ryan Drake series

**World English language rights:** Canelo

**Film option:** Dreamrunner Pictures

**German rights:** Blanvalet

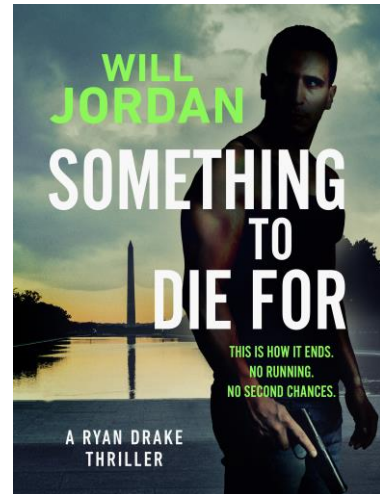
**Publication date:** November 2020

**Editor:** Iain Miller

**Manuscript available**

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**'It doesn't let up for a moment'** *Shots Magazine*

**'This is a heart-stopper for anyone who likes plenty of action and explosions'** *Daily Mail*

**The epic conclusion to Ryan Drake's mission from a master of the action thriller, perfect for fans of Robert Ludlum and Vince Flynn.**

Time has run out for Ryan Drake. Most of his friends are dead or disappeared. Corrupt CIA Director Marcus Cain is poised to ascend to the highest levels of power, and the shadowy group known as the Circle is causing chaos across the globe.

But one shred of hope remains. A message hidden by his mother shortly before her death launches Drake and his sister Jessica on a desperate race against time. But they aren't the only ones tracking down the answers...

Meanwhile Drake's estranged ally, Anya, embarks on a mission of her own, driven by murderous vengeance. The trail of bodies left in her wake attracts powerful enemies, threatening the delicate balance that holds the world in check.

A climactic showdown awaits, where Drake must question everything if he is to defeat the enemy within.

**Previous books in the series:**



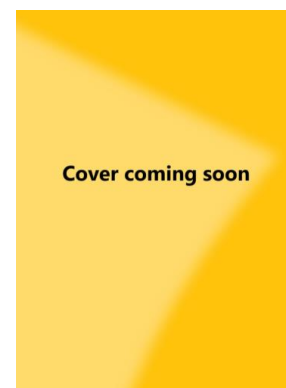
**Fantasy**

# Megan Freeman

## Emily Emerson Has Got the Grimm

Currently on submission

Principal agent: Elizabeth Counsell



### The spectacular YA romantasy debut novel from Faber Academy Graduate Megan Freeman

*What if magic wasn't a gift, but a disease?*

Emily Emerson has got The Grimm. She was eight when she started showing signs of the disease. Odd dreams, hallucinations – impossible things that happen around her. Until one night Emily is rushed to the Wildsmoor Facility, a correctional school for afflicted children, where her life is changed forever.

Fast forward seven years and Emily is fifteen. Like a shadow she lives her days, each one blurring into the next, hardly aware of life passing her by. Until she meets Emir.

Emir isn't like the other kids at Wildsmoor. He's quicker, livelier, and says things that he shouldn't – dangerous things. Emir is electric, in more ways than Emily can know. He introduces her to The Cure, a secret society for children who believe that The Grimm isn't a disease at all, but a gift. As Emily starts to wake up, so do her strange abilities, and the outcome is magic.

**Megan Freeman** writes young adult fiction and loves all things magic and mythology. She juggles writing with her day job working for a children's mental health charity, promoting wellbeing through surf therapy. Megan hails from the far west of Cornwall, and when she's not working or writing, loves tramping around the moorland and swimming or surfing in the sea.



**AJ Smith**

## The Sea Rises

Book 3 of the Form & Void Trilogy

**UK & Commonwealth rights:** Head of Zeus

**Russian option:** Fantastika Book Publishers

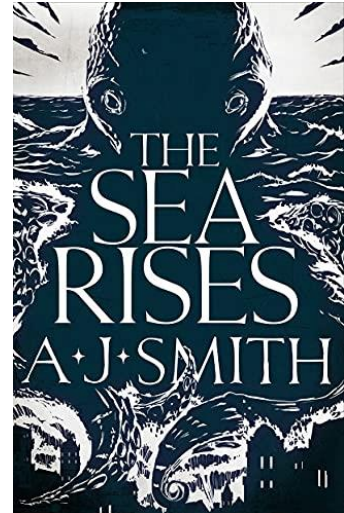
**Unabridged UK & Commonwealth audio rights:** Audible

**Publication date:** March 2022

**Editor:** Nic Cheetham

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Praise for book one in the series, *The Glass Breaks*:**

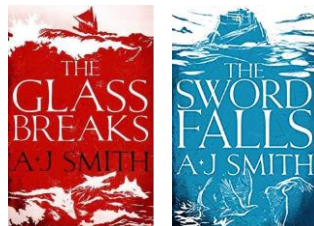
'Best described as George R.R. Martin meets H.P. Lovecraft, *The Glass Breaks* is a fine example of British fantasy writing at its most entertaining' – the *Guardian*.

**The epic conclusion to a new trilogy from one of the most exciting voices in British fantasy.**

The glass breaks, the sword falls, the sea rises. Ages end and the sea rises. As the sea rises, so too does the old world. Lord Marius Cyclone faces an unimaginable danger. The mighty legions of Santago Cyclone – known as the Bloodied Harp – and King Oliver Dawn Claw will be upon the Dark Harbour in less than a day, and truce seems impossible, even as the end of the world of Form creeps ever nearer.

But the tide waits for no man. Marius has only one choice if his people are to survive: flight, into the Void. All the while, a primal power awakens. The Sunken God has lived through many ages and watched countless civilisations rise and fall. And he will not let his quarry flee without a fight.

**Previous books in the series:**



**AJ Smith** has a degree in psychology, philosophy and sociology and, since graduating, AJ has been working with troubled children in a high school in Luton and has had various articles related to counselling and youth work published. Fantasy fiction has always been his own version of therapy and a place where he can make up what happens next rather than waiting for the real world to decide.



**AJ Smith**

## **The World Raven**

Book 4 of the Long War series

**UK & Commonwealth rights:** Head of Zeus

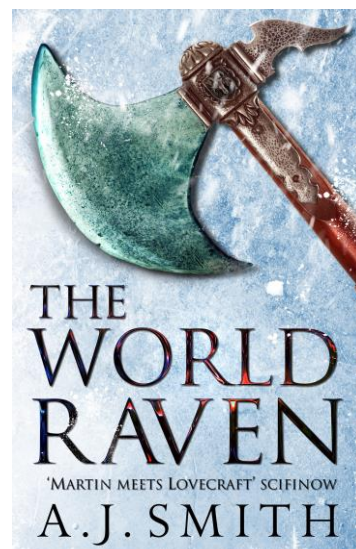
**Russian option:** Fantastika Book Club Publishers

**Publication date:** August 2016

**Editor:** Nic Cheetham

**All other rights available**

**Principal agent:** Elizabeth Counsell



**Praise for the *Long War* series:**

'A brilliantly engrossing series, full of action, great stories, a captivating set of characters, now a fitting conclusion'

**The final instalment in the acclaimed epic fantasy series by AJ Smith.**

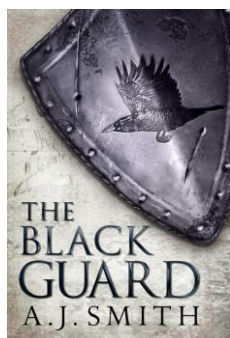
The dead god is waking. His power-mad priestess has deployed a mass of men and beasts onto the plains of Ro Weir. Faced with this black swarm, the last remnants of a nation crumbles and falls. *This is the final battle for the mortal lands of Ro.*

Far to the north, the ice men of Rowanoco muster their Exemplars against the witch's assassins. In the blistering southern deserts, a squire with no master walks unscathed through a poisoned city. And, in the halls beyond the world, a thrice-born man dares to tread the path of Giants...

All that was dead will rise. All that now lives will fall...

This is the final epic battle for the Lands of Ro.

**Previous books in the series:**



# Contact

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