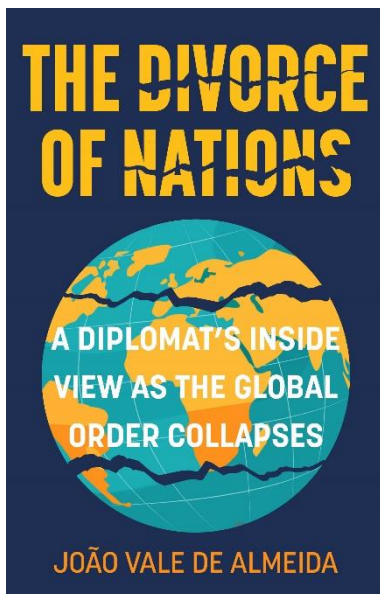
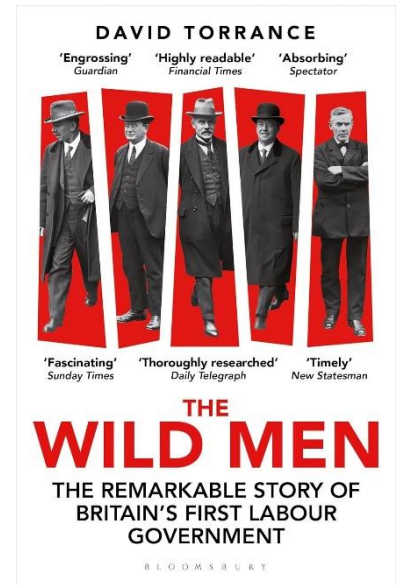
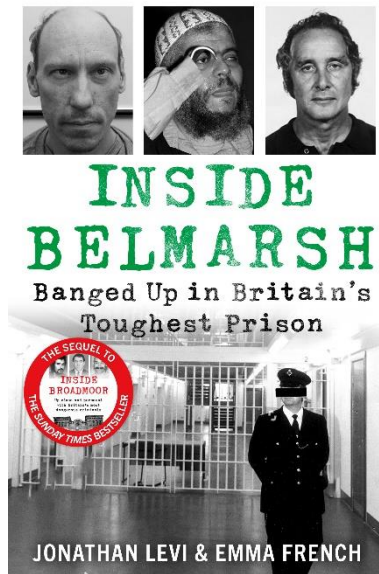
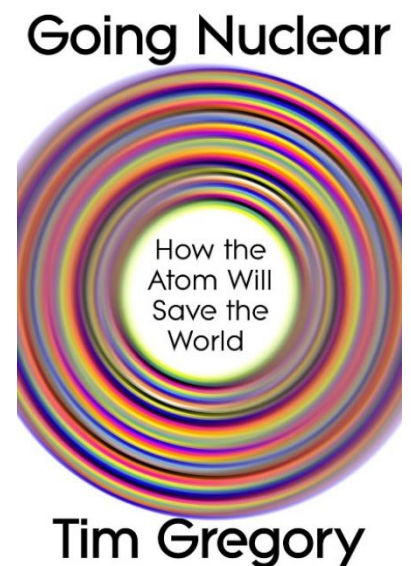


NORTH BANK

TALENT MANAGEMENT



Non-Fiction
Rights
Spring 2025



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Hotlist – Non-Fiction

Neil West

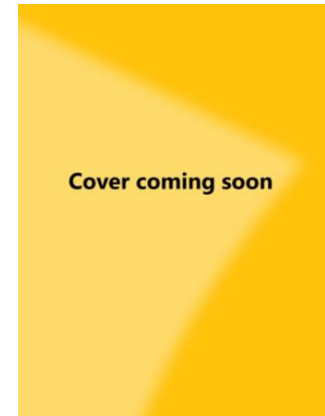
Simplify: Lessons from Apple

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Pan Macmillan

Proposal available

Publication date: Autumn 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole



An insider's account of Apple's approach to simplicity and how that drives its leadership, culture and success, and how we can apply this to our own work and life.

Humans love simplicity. Our brains are programmed to prefer options that require less thought. In our messy world it's easy for complexity to creep into our work. Creating simple products and services is difficult. But Apple has become the most valuable company on the planet precisely because its products and software are intuitive and easy to use. But Apple's dedication to simplicity goes far deeper than AirPods, App Store, iPhone and the other products we use every day. Simplicity guides Apple's sense of purpose, the way it focuses, how it sets up its teams, and how it communicates. It takes effort. It means saying no to all the other great ideas. But now you too can learn the secrets to this success.

In *Simplify*, West shows;

- Why MacDonalds and Apple have more in common than you think.
- Why Neil was never given a sales target as Head of Apple Music in Europe
- How to present the Apple Way.
- How to do the work so the customer doesn't.
- When and why Apple leaves money on the table.

Neil West spent ten years as Apple's Head of Music in UK & Europe helping grow iTunes into the world's biggest music retailer. He then spent six years as Head of Apple Services for Southern Europe — managing App Store, Apple Music, Apple TV+, Fitness+, Apple Books, and more — a billion-dollar business. Neil has spoken about his work on Podcasts and he is an experienced public speaker, recently giving a [TEDx talk](#) on The Beatles, Steve Jobs and Team Management.

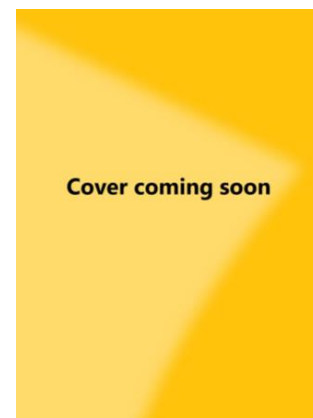


Karen Farrington

The Great Italian Break Out: The True Audacious Escape Stories of World War Two

Proposal available
Publication date: TBC

Principal agent: Matthew Cole



In September 1943 thousands of Allied troops fled prisoner of war camps after the Italian Armistice but when German forces swept down the peninsula to regain control they were left in enemy territory. Even after survival instincts kicked in, how could the fugitives escape to safety, or even tell who was friend or foe?

In 1943, there were more than 60 prisoner of war camps throughout Mussolini's Italy. Behind barbed wire and under the guards' dark gaze were captive Allied soldiers. After the Italian Armistice thousands escaped as guards deserted their posts, but when German forces swept down the peninsula to regain control they were left stranded in enemy territory.

The Great Italian Break Out tells the remarkable stories of those men scattered across the Italian countryside, whose experiences have been all but forgotten. The luckiest made it to the safety of the Swiss frontier, the Vatican or the Allied Lines, some had a more arduous journey to France or Yugoslavia, and a handful escaped to Spain by boat. The unfortunate died in their quest of freedom, and many chose to join the partisans, fighting a dangerous guerilla war against the German occupiers.

This book reveals the compelling, uplifting and tragic stories of those on the run and celebrates men who, when it came to the Second World War, took a road less travelled.

Karen Farrington is a writer and former Fleet Street journalist whose published work includes titles on social and military history and a range of bestselling TV tie-ins. She is the author of two recent companion books to *The Repair Shop*, and was lead researcher on *The Life and Times of Call The Midwife*. Previous work on military history includes *The Blitzed City*, an account of the Coventry Blitz, and *Witness To World War II*.



Jess Venner

The Lost Voices of Pompeii: The Last 24 Hours

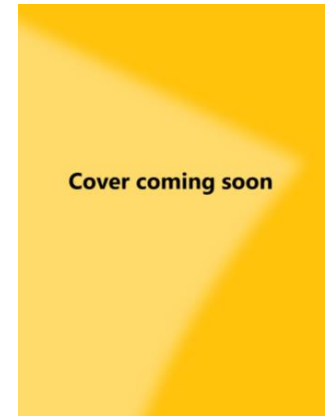
UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: HarperCollins

North American rights: William Morrow

Proposal available

Publication date: Spring 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole



***The Lost Voices of Pompeii* will transport readers into the final 24 hours of the ancient city, vividly detailing the lives of seven diverse characters. Through a blend of meticulous research and compelling storytelling, this book brings Pompeii's last day to life in a way that is both immersive and unforgettable.**

In her thrilling new take on the ancient city, Dr Jess Venner casts aside traditional archaeological and historical perspectives to immerse readers in the vibrant daily lives of its inhabitants. We meet Julia Felix, a successful female entrepreneur defying Roman convention; a slave who gains his freedom during a night of revelry; and politician Gaius Cuspius Pansa who is hosting the Plebian Games at the amphitheatre.

Using real historical figures the book plausibly recreates their final day before the eruption; a fresh narrative approach that brings the ancient streets to life through the eyes of those who lived, worked, loved, and ultimately met their fate there.

Dr Jess Venner is an award-winning ancient historian and archaeologist, and a world-leading expert on Pompeii and Herculaneum. She is currently an academic at the prestigious Institute of Classical Studies in London and was elected as an Associate Fellow of the Royal Historical Society for her contributions to history. She has a following of over 140,000 engaged history fans on TikTok as [@lifeinthepastlane](https://www.tiktok.com/@lifeinthepastlane), and has appeared in publications such as *The Times*, *The Mirror*, *The Daily Star*, and *Ancient History Magazine*.



History & True Crime

Jess Venner

The Lost Voices of Pompeii: The Last 24 Hours

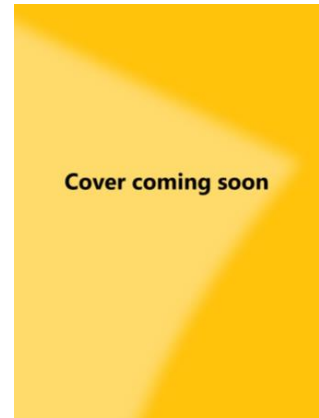
UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: HarperCollins

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Alexander Martin

The Age of Fraud: The story of how criminals took over the internet

Proposal available

Publication date: TBC

Principal agent: Matthew Cole



This book tells the story of online fraud, how the organised crime groups perpetuating it have honed the art of moving money from victims' accounts into their own pockets over the last 30 years, and why law enforcement agencies and the financial industry are struggling to stop it.

Online fraud has become one of the world's biggest problems. It no longer just threatens financial ruin for individual victims, but now poses a risk to critical national infrastructure and entire countries are being held to ransom.

Journalist Alexander Martin tells how organised crime groups - from the New York Mafia in the 1990s through to Russian hacker gangs today - have engaged in an arms race with law enforcement and cybersecurity defenders to steal hundreds of billions of dollars.

In this globetrotting and wide-ranging investigation, we meet an unassuming British business executive who ends up being kidnapped by the Mafia in New York, the transformative impact cryptocurrencies have had on cybercrime and how the Russo-Ukrainian war caused a rupture in ransomware groups based in both countries. We also see behind the scenes as these incidents drive governments and different parts of the financial industry to fight over who, in the end, should pay for the losses.

Alexander Martin is a journalist who has reported on cybersecurity for more than a decade and is currently the UK Editor for *The Record*. He was also an inaugural Fellow at the European Cyber Conflict Research Initiative in 2022-2023. His investigative work has examined international cyber conflict, uncovered hacking incidents, and revealed the work going on behind closed doors in governments to address the challenges posed by technology.



Edward Burke

Ghosts of a Family: Ireland's Most Infamous Unsolved Murder and the Origins of the Troubles

World All Languages ex audio: Merrion Press

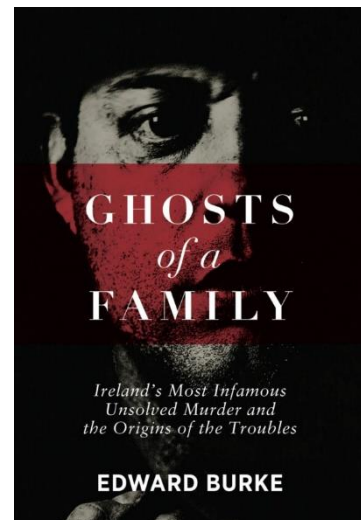
Rights sold through publisher

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

Publication date: September 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



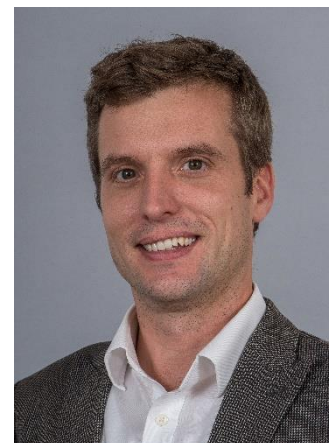
The gripping true crime story of Ireland's most infamous unsolved murder – the sectarian massacre of six Catholic civilians in 1922.

At 1.20 a.m. on 24 March 1922, five men, four dressed in British police uniforms, broke into the North Belfast house of Owen McMahon, a well-known Catholic publican. They fatally shot McMahon, four of his sons and Eddie McKinney, an employee of the family. Nobody was ever charged for these ruthless and cold-blooded murders.

In retaliation for these and other Belfast murders, the IRA assassinated the former head of the British Army and a subsequent British ultimatum to the Irish government sparked the first salvos of the Irish Civil War days later. The reluctance of the unionist Belfast government to pursue loyalist killers drove the rift between Northern Ireland's two main communities even deeper, laying the foundations for the Troubles at the end of the twentieth century.

Over 100 years later, Edward Burke has expertly uncovered the identity of the McMahons' likely murderer. This is a riveting cold-case investigation that invokes the smoke-filled streets of Belfast during the cataclysmic violence of 1920–22, and explores how the ramifications of the McMahon killings are still being felt to this day.

Dr Edward Burke is an Assistant Professor at University College Dublin, specialising in the study of insurgency, terrorism and political violence. His work focuses on the British Army's campaigns in Northern Ireland, and he has been as an expert witness in the Houses of Parliament, the European Parliament and has lectured at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, MI5, the British Army (The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst) and the Northern Ireland Office. He has written for the *Guardian*, *Irish Times*, *Financial Times*, *Economist*, *New York Times* and *El País* among other publications, as well as appearing on the BBC and the Irish broadcaster, RTÉ.



Peter Gillman and Emanuele Midolo

Murder in Cairo: The Killing of David Holden

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Biteback

Editor: Olivia Beattie, Biteback

Publication date: 2025

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

Film/TV rights under option

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



In December 1977 David Holden, chief foreign correspondent of the *Sunday Times*, arrived at Cairo Airport to report on the crucial peace talks between Egypt and Israel. A few hours later he was dead: killed by a single bullet through his heart. His body was stripped of identification and dumped in a ditch by a busy road.

Who killed Holden, and why? The newspaper's renowned Insight team, overseen by its legendary editor Harold Evans, pursued the case for the best part of a year. They had cracked stories such as the thalidomide scandal and the case of the Soviet mole Kim Philby. This time it failed – and shortly before he died in 2020 Evans said this was the biggest regret of his long and distinguished career.

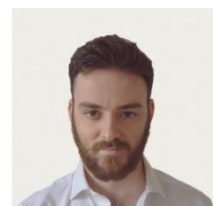
Now a member of the original Insight team has resumed the quest. Peter Gillman wrote the newspaper's private internal report into the murder, never published before. He has teamed up with a young investigative journalist from today's *Sunday Times*, Emanuele Midolo, to relate a story of intrigue, double-dealing, betrayal and revenge, set against the background of the turmoil of the Cold War. Holden was leading multiple lives, was secretly gay and had been recruited to work as a spy for MI6 and an informant to the CIA, using his journalistic activity as a cover. Building on previously unpublished evidence, confidential sources and years of meticulous research, *Murder in Cairo* reveals the truth at last.

The project is backed by Tina Brown, Harold Evans' widow, who will contribute a foreword, and the drama option has already been sold.



Peter Gillman has been a professional journalist for more than 50 years, working for both the *Weekend Telegraph* and *Sunday Times*. He has written numerous books, including the award-winning biography of George Mallory, *The Wildest Dream*, which inspired the film of the same name.

Emanuele Midolo is a reporter at *The Times* and *The Sunday Times*. He was chief investigative reporter at *Property Week* and a contributor to *Forbes*, *Wired UK* and publications across the UK, France and Italy.



Rory Cormac

Fakers

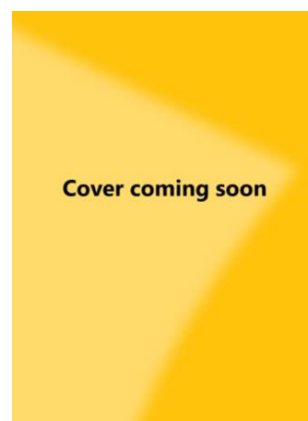
World English language rights: Oxford University Press

Editor: Matthew Cotton

Publication date: 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



***Fakers* is a spy story with a difference. It draws on 8,000 recently declassified top secret files to uncover the true story of the UK's Cold War counter-disinformation team.**

It reveals the rise and fall of a small team of outsiders creating fake groups and using forgeries to manipulate international politics. They tracked down hostile forgeries around the world and responded with a global counter-offensive of their own: attacking enemy leaders, suppressing Black Power, subverting the United Nations, and even inciting violence. The close-knit team, with complicated personal lives, worked together at the height of Cold War intrigue, tension, and paranoia.

These men and women, and their intersecting lives, are remarkable but have never been revealed before. *Fakers* brings these new characters – and their mysterious work – to life. It captures the drama of Ben McIntyre, and the intrigue and real-world moral dilemmas of John Le Carre, but offers an entirely new story, characters, and settings. Rather than the back alleys of Berlin, *Fakers* opens a new world of Cold War intrigue, moving from Accra to Casablanca to Bermuda, and plenty of surprising places in between.

Professor Rory Cormac specialises in researching covert action. He is the author of five books on intelligence history, including *Disrupt and Deny*, the definitive account of British covert action, and has published numerous articles on the subject. Cormac's research on covert action has been turned into television and radio documentaries reaching a worldwide audience of millions. He has spoken on covert action and intelligence at 10 Downing Street, the Home Office, Cabinet Office, Ministry of Defence, US Pentagon and US State Department. He holds a PhD in War Studies from King's College London and is a Professor of International Relations at the University of Nottingham.



Claire Hubbard-Hall

Her Secret Service: The Forgotten Women of British Intelligence

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Weidenfeld and Nicolson

Editor: Maddy Price

Publication date: 2024

North American rights: Kensington Books

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



Since the inception of the Secret Service Bureau back in 1909, women have worked at the very heart of British secret intelligence – yet their contributions have been all but written out of history. Now, drawing on private and previously-classified documents, leading historian Claire Hubbard-Hall brings their gripping true stories to life.

From encoding orders and decrypting enemy messages to penning propaganda and infiltrating organisations, the women of British intelligence played a pivotal role in both the First and Second World Wars. Prepare to meet the true custodians of Britain’s military secrets, from Kathleen Pettigrew, personal assistant to the Chief of MI6 Stewart Menzies, who late in life declared ‘I was Miss Moneypenny, but with more power’, to Jane Archer, the very first female MI5 officer who raised suspicions about the Soviet spy Kim Philby long before he was officially unmasked and Winifred Spink, the first female officer ever sent to Russia in 1916.

In *Her Secret Service*, Hubbard-Hall rescues these silenced voices and those of many other fascinating women from obscurity to provide a definitive account of women’s contributions to the history of the intelligence services.

Claire Hubbard-Hall is a leading historian and author specialising in the forgotten voices of women in the world of secret intelligence. She also writes and speaks on the subjects of dress and disguise and secret gadgetry. She has appeared on several TV documentaries on Channel Five and the History Channel, and has contributed to radio programmes on BBC Radio Scotland and LBC. She has over 8k followers on Twitter, where she tweets about women in intelligence [@spyhistory](https://twitter.com/spyhistory). She has excellent links with Bletchley Park, the Imperial War Museum, the Spy Museum in Washington DC, and Spyscape in New York which opened in 2018.



Anthony Seldon

The Path of Light

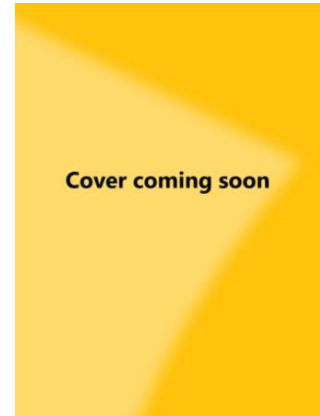
UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Atlantic

Editor: Ed Faulkner

Publication date: Autumn 2025

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Material available soon



In the follow up to the profound and compelling *The Path of Peace: Walking the Western Front Way*, historian and political commentator Anthony Seldon embarks on an ambitious walk of remembrance across Europe.

He begins at the Swiss border where the trenches of the First World War ended, continues up through the Rhine and the Black Forest across Germany, through Czechoslovakia, and finishes in Auschwitz. On this journey, he explores the people and communities of these areas who resisted tyranny. How many of us today would stand up?

Anthony Seldon is a British educator and historian. He is the author or editor of more than 35 books on contemporary history, politics and education, and is best known for his biographies of recent prime ministers from John Major to Liz Truss. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham from 2015 to 2020 and is currently Head of Epsom College. He is honorary historical adviser to 10 Downing Street and chairs *The Times* Education Commission.



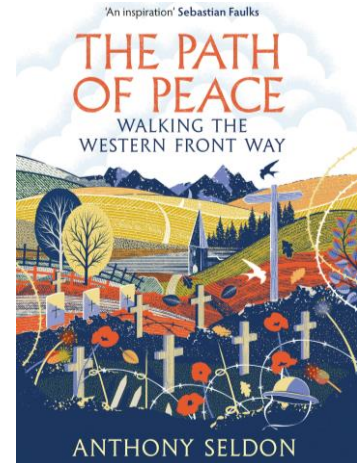
Anthony Seldon

The Path of Peace: Walking the Western Front Way

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Atlantic
Editor: James Pulford
Publication date: November 2022

Dutch rights: van Maaskant Haun
All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available



For 35 days in August and September 2021, the historian and political commentator Anthony Seldon walked 1000 km from the Swiss border along the line of the Western Front back to the English Channel. He was walking in two time dimensions, which this book celebrates: the present day, with all the travails of a long-distance walk through two epidemic-stricken countries, and a walk 100 years ago, through the battlefields and experiences of the combatants who fought in the First World War.

His walk brings to life the dream of a soldier, Douglas Gillespie, who imagined such a 'path of peace' through the 600 miles of No Man's Land, along which he wanted those from all countries to walk, inspired to find peace by those who had fallen. The walk has given decisive momentum to the construction of the Western Front Way pathway, which is beginning to take shape month by month, and which will become a northern equivalent of the Camino de Santiago.

Mixing memoir with history, travel and nature-writing, *The Path of Peace* is a powerful meditation on life and death for fans of WG Sebald.

Anthony Seldon is a British educator and historian. He is the author or editor of more than 35 books on contemporary history, politics and education, and is best known for his biographies of recent prime ministers from John Major to Liz Truss. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham from 2015 to 2020 and is currently Head of Epsom College. He is honorary historical adviser to 10 Downing Street and chairs *The Times* Education Commission.



Richard Aldrich and Rory Cormac

The Secret Royals: Spying and the Crown, from Victoria to Diana

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Atlantic

Editor: James Nightingale

Publication date: Autumn 2021

North American rights: Georgetown University Press

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

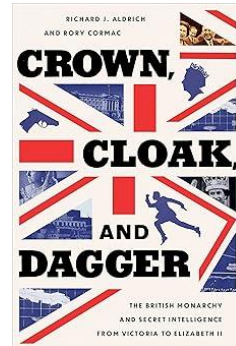
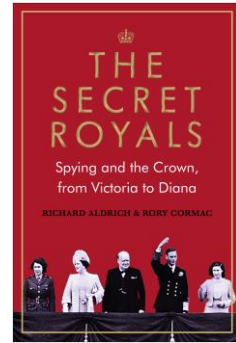
Manuscript available

***The Secret Royals* uncovers a remarkable relationship. It reveals how intelligence grew out of persistent attempts to assassinate Queen Victoria and then operated on a private and informal basis, drawing on close personal connections between senior spies, the aristocracy, and the monarchy.**

With highlights ranging from the secret role of George VI in wartime deception operations with Eisenhower, to the Queen's infamous trip to Northern Ireland in 1977, *The Secret Royals* offers a new global history of the royal family, shining a torch into the most secret rooms of the state and revealing them, for the first time, as real policy actors. Through a prism of intelligence, spies and security, it presents the British monarchy in an entirely new light with new narratives and fresh evidence.

Richard J. Aldrich is an award-winning spy writer, historian and presenter. He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, Professor of International Security at the University of Warwick and the author of many books including *GCHQ: The Uncensored Story of Britain's Most Secret Intelligence Agency* (2019) and *The Black Door: Spies, Secret Intelligence and British Prime Ministers* (2016). Richard has assisted with national museum exhibitions related to intelligence and advises English Heritage on the Blue Plaques scheme in London.

Professor Rory Cormac has written four books on secret intelligence and international security, including *The Black Door: Spies, Secret Intelligence and British Prime Ministers*, co-authored with Richard Aldrich. His most recent is *How to Stage a Coup* (Atlantic, 2022). Alongside Richard Aldrich, he has co-presented history documentaries for Channel 4, including *The Queen and the Coup* (2020). His research has also been adapted into radio documentaries including BBC Radio 4's *MI6's Secret Slush Fund* (2017). He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.



Richard Aldrich

Exposure: The CIA, the Cold War and the American Press

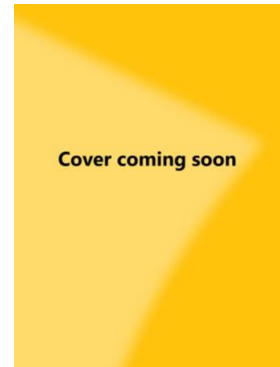
World English Language rights: Georgetown University Press

Publication date: Autumn 2027

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



In 1980, Ronald Reagan promised that if he were elected, he would “unleash the CIA” upon America’s enemies. By the final decade of the Cold War the CIA had become much more than just an intelligence agency, it had become symbolic of all that was contested and controversial in American foreign policy. The American press was ‘ground zero’ for this angry debate, but the real relationship between the CIA and the American press during the Cold War is complex and remains largely unexplored.

Exposure explores the complex personal relations, friendships and rivalries, of America’s most famous reporters and editors with their opposite numbers in the CIA. Its rich cast of characters includes many household names including Joe and Stewart Alsop, Jack Anderson, Bob Woodward and Ben Bradlee, but also some unknowns like Andrew Tully, the first American to write a book on the CIA. It’s also the story of unlikely friendships between figures like *New York Times* journalist Tad Szulc and Robert Kennedy, or renegade reporter Seymour Hersh and CIA Director Bill Colby.

This book argues that in their efforts to “watch the watchers” the journalists themselves recognised how closely they had come to resemble the very object of their investigations. In their operations abroad, field reporters and spies often fell over each other or were mistaken for each other – or even were the same thing. Journalism and espionage were parallel professions and shared common values, including the diligent protection of their most secret sources – and ultimately their affection for the CIA.

Richard J. Aldrich is an award-winning spy writer, historian and presenter. He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, Professor of International Security at the University of Warwick and the author of many books including *GCHQ: The Uncensored Story of Britain’s Most Secret Intelligence Agency* (2019) and *The Black Door: Spies, Secret Intelligence and British Prime Ministers* (2016). Richard has assisted with national museum exhibitions related to intelligence and advises English Heritage on the Blue Plaques scheme in London.



Carla Valentine

Murder Isn't Easy: The Forensics of Agatha Christie

UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada): Sphere

Editor: Rhiannon Smith

Publication date: October 2021

US rights: Sourcebooks

Chinese (simplified) rights: Beijing Xinchang Cultural Media Co., Ltd

Japanese rights: Kagaku Dojin Publishing Company Inc.

Chinese (complex) option: Ecus

Finnish rights: Minerva Kustannus Oy

German rights: Droemer

Hungarian rights: Libri Könyvkiado

Polish rights: Wydawnictwo SQN

Russian rights: Bombora

Slovak rights: Slovensky Spisovatel

Czech rights: Bourdon a.s.

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available

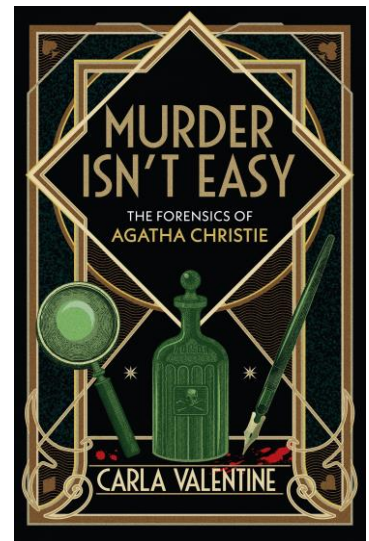
***Murder Isn't Easy: Agatha Christie's Forensics* combines two of Carla's great passions – working with dead bodies and the novels of Agatha Christie.**

We are living in a golden age of true crime documentaries with Netflix hits highlighting the critical role of forensic science in solving baffling crimes and securing convictions. Carla applies her expert knowledge of modern forensic science to Agatha Christie's classic canon of whodunnits.

In many ways Agatha Christie was a pioneer of the emerging science of forensics and, over the course of her 50-year writing career, she was able to translate this fascinating yet abstruse new discipline into terms the public could understand, helping to change the face of criminal investigations for generations to come.

The basic tenet of forensic science is that 'every contact leaves a trace', and Carla begins her study into Christie's novels as any investigator would – by surveying 'the scene of the crime' (a phrase coined by Christie herself). She examines the use of fingerprints, firearms, handwriting, impressions, blood spatter analysis and toxicology in the novels, before finally revealing the role the dead body itself played in offering vital clues to dastardly crimes.

Carla Valentine spent ten years working as an Anatomical Pathology Technician in mortuaries around the UK before becoming Technical Curator of Barts Pathology Museum in London, one of the world's most famous pathology museums, in 2011.



Nino Strachey

Young Bloomsbury: The Generation That Reimagined Love, Freedom and Self-expression

UK & Commonwealth rights: Two Roads (Hachette)

US rights: Atria (Simon & Schuster)

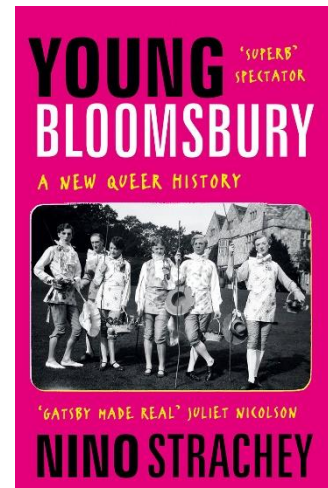
Publication date: June 2022

Editors: Kate Craigie (UK) / Peter Borland (US)

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



In *Young Bloomsbury*, Nino Strachey writes about an aspect of Bloomsbury history that has been largely overlooked: the way a younger generation of writers and artists inspired the original Bloomsbury Group during the 1920s.

Surprisingly little has been written about second-generation Bloomsbury – the ‘bright young things’ who tantalised Lytton Strachey and other ageing ‘Bloomsburies’ at Gordon Square parties with their captivating looks and provocative ideas.

Young Bloomsbury introduces us to an extraordinarily colourful cast of characters, including the overtly effeminate novelist and music critic Eddy Sackville-West, ‘who wore elaborate make-up and dressed in satin and black velvet’; the handsome bisexual sculptor Stephen Tomlin; and the butch lesbian psychologist Alix Strachey. Talented and productive, these larger-than-life figures had high-achieving professional lives and extremely complicated emotional lives. According to Nino, ‘Bloomsbury had always celebrated sexual equality and freedom in private, feeling that every person had the right to live and love in the way they chose.’ But by the 1920s, transgressive self-expression was becoming more public, with cross-dressing Young Bloomsbury giving Old Bloomsbury a new voice in a shared rebellion against pre-war conventions.

These pioneering trail-blazers, captured endlessly in photographs at Charleston, Garsington and Monk’s House, provide rich source material for Nino’s group biography, which will intrigue a younger, more gender-fluid, readership today.

Nino Strachey is a writer, public speaker and historian who works as Head of Research for the National Trust. Nino is descended from a family at the heart of the Bloomsbury Group, and she has a particular interest in this area. She has previously published *Rooms of Their Own*, an exploration of the homes of three writers linked to the Bloomsbury Group: Virginia Woolf, Vita Sackville-West and Edward Sackville-West.



Lubaaba Al-Azami

Travellers in the Golden Realm: How Mughal India Connected England to the World

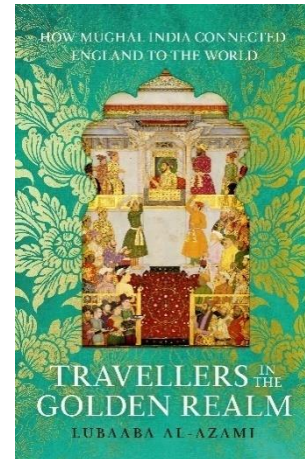
World English Language: John Murray Press

Editor: Joe Zigmond

Publication date: 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



First Encounters: How England and Mughal India Shaped the World follows the first Englishmen to visit Mughal India, in the late 16th and early 17th centuries – eccentric pioneers from an insignificant northern island who turned up and attempted to sell coarse woollen broadcloth to a sub-tropical world superpower; or walked there overland with the ambition of fulfilling a life-long dream to ride on an elephant. Far from being feared, they were utterly ridiculed - and it is safe to say that colonising this great, wealthy and exotic empire was very far indeed from their minds.

Thus began the story of a centuries-long, inter-dependent relationship between two nations which has no parallel in all of history, and whose cultures remain inextricably bound together to this day. In putting the British Raj into its wider context, cultural historian Lubaaba Al-Azami equips us with a new lens through which to view contemporary discussion.

In doing so, she brings to life a glamorous and action-packed period of history populated by some wonderful characters which has never been given due attention, focusing in particular on pivotal female characters from the time. In terms of academic heft, her writing is unrivalled – but she also brings a lively narrative voice and has an uncanny way of bringing people and places to life. *First Encounters* is a dramatic, engaging and eminently timely exploration of global history, international relations, politics and empire, going beyond the relationship between England and India, to explore how first encounters between those nations changed global politics forever.

Lubaaba Al-Azami is a cultural historian of early modern England and its relationships with the wider world. She speaks and writes on topics ranging from history, literature and religion to theatre and film criticism. Her speaking engagements have spanned from local radio to national festivals, and she has written across an array of print and digital media.

She was previously a researcher, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), at the University of Liverpool and the University of Oxford, where she worked on 17th century English interactions with Mughal India. She has previously studied and researched at King's College London, the School of Oriental and African Studies and the George Washington University. She currently lectures in Shakespeare & Early Modern Literature at the University of Manchester.



Christopher Harding

Barbarians: Warlords, Westerners and the Struggle for Japan

World All Languages: Allen Lane (Penguin)

Rights sold through publisher

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



***Barbarians* tells the epic story of how Japan as we know it was forged in a hundred years of warfare, intrigue and tempestuous relations with the early modern West.**

The first Europeans ever to set foot on Japanese soil were traders and missionaries who arrived in the 1540s during the high noon of the samurai age. Three legendary warlords battled and schemed against their rivals to turn a patchwork quilt of feuding territories into one country under their rule.

Using first-hand contemporary accounts, *Barbarians* reveals 'Japan' as early western visitors encountered it: exquisitely beautiful, in its natural landscape and the virtuous lives of its inhabitants, and yet accustomed to bloodshed as a way of life. Japanese sentiment towards their European visitors was equally mixed. These *Nanbanjin* – 'southern barbarians' – stank, they kept livestock in their homes and had atrocious manners. But their firearms could make efficient killers, and their sailing ships had the potential to turn Japan into a global power.

Barbaric in one another's eyes, warlords and westerners nevertheless saw the potential for profitable friendships. *Barbarians* tells the story of how, across a single dramatic century and amid escalating violence, friendship turned to enmity and the great warlords of the day turned against their guests. After Tokugawa Ieyasu won for himself the title and powers of Shogun, he set about building a thriving society – but a closed one. Having helped to shape the birth of Japan, westerners found its doors shut to them.

Dr Christopher Harding is a cultural historian of modern Asia. He writes and broadcasts on topics ranging from religion and spirituality to politics, pop culture, psychiatry, and psychotherapy, and was named one of BBC Radio 3's New Generation Thinkers in 2013. Christopher's first major radio series *The Borders of Sanity* was broadcast in 2016. *Japan Story* and *The Japanese* were published by Allen Lane in 2018 and 2020. Christopher studied at the University of Oxford and now lectures in modern Indian and Japanese history at the University of Edinburgh.



Christopher Harding

The Light of Asia: A History of Western Fascination with the East

World English Language: Allen Lane

Editor: Simon Winder

Publication date: January 2024

Chinese (complex) rights (excl. Mainland China, incl. Hong Kong & Macao):

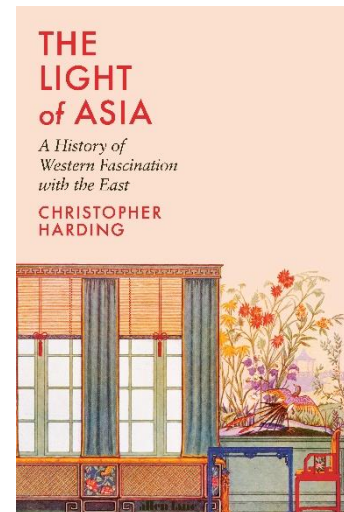
ChinaTimes Publishing Company

Chinese (Simplified) rights: Social Sciences Academic Press

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



***The Light of Asia* traces the West's fascination with Asia from ancient Greece through to the present day. The story is told via the lives and grand designs of adventurers and spiritual seekers, converging in the twentieth century on three fascinating and revealing figures: a monk, Bede Griffiths, 'father of the New Age'; a philosopher, Alan Watts, one of the leading lights of Sixties' counter-culture; and a psychiatrist, Erna Hoch, a hitherto underrated pioneer in treating mental illness across cultures.**

The book's central theme is Western restlessness and the search for meaning in Asia, and in India in particular. What the Greeks imagined as a land of strange creatures and fantastic wealth at the earth's farthest reaches became in the modern era the inspiration for new, more vital ways of understanding and being in the world – developed for Westerners who felt condemned to live at a disappointed, desiccated remove from it. For all that the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries saw this questing impulse commercialized, trivialised and subject to criticisms of cultural appropriation, the sense of lack and longing that fired modern Western interest in Asia has not gone away. *Eastern Promise* delves into these deep-set feelings, arguing that at heart they have been less about escapism than a powerful desire to feel at home in the world.

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Christopher Harding

The Japanese: A History in Twenty Lives

World English Language: Allen Lane

Editor: Simon Winder

Publication date: November 2020

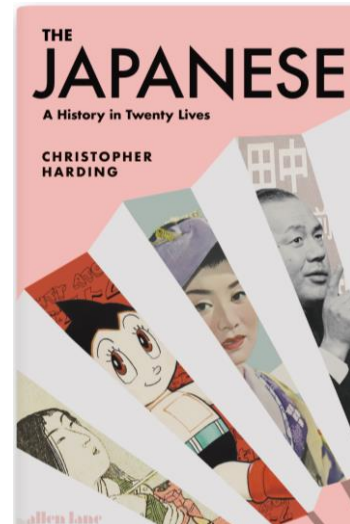
Chinese (simplified) rights: Ginkgo Book Co. Ltd.

Chinese (complex) rights (excl. Mainland China, incl. Hong Kong & Macao): Linking Publishing Co. Ltd.

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



***The Japanese* introduces readers to more than a millennium of Japanese history through vivid, interconnected pen portraits of 20 of Japan's most fascinating and influential lives.**

Who are the Japanese? This is a question that not just outsiders but the Japanese people themselves have struggled with. It is the challenge and the conundrum at the core of more than a millennium of recorded history in Japan. It is the question at the heart of this book.

As Japan enters a new phase of its long existence, with the dawning of the age of a new emperor, *The Japanese* sets out to tell the story so far. It does so not by way of a traditional blow-by-blow narrative, with battle after battle and leaders coming and going. Instead, it hones in on 20 powerfully influential figures who have since become woven into Japan's national fabric. The result is a complete, accessible and clearly themed overview of Japanese history.

Beginning with Japan's legendary shaman queen, Himiko, who communed with the gods for the sake of her nascent nation, the book runs right up the present day with the new Empress Masako. Along the way we meet the builder of a great city, a fearsome woman warrior, a global adventurer, a merciless military commander, the creators of classic theatre, satire, and art, and radically differing ideas about who 'the Japanese' should become in a highly competitive and often hostile modern world.

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Christopher Harding

Japan Story: In Search of a Nation 1850 to the Present

UK & Commonwealth rights: Penguin Press
Editor: Simon Winder
Publication date: Autumn 2018

Chinese (simplified) rights: Sichuan
Italian rights: Hoepli
North American rights: Tuttle Publishing
All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available

'How much I admired it, what a lot I learned from it and, above all, how very much I enjoyed it.' – **Neil MacGregor**

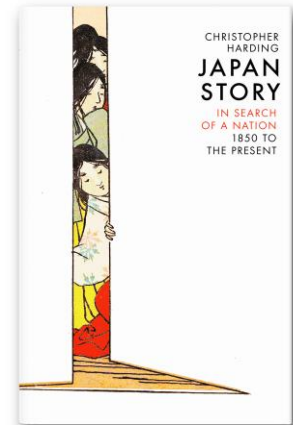
'Lucid and lyrical ... delivered with his flair for storytelling ... one of the best accounts I've ever read of what happens — for better and worse — when a country's relationship with the world is abruptly renegotiated.' – **Telegraph**

***Japan Story* is a fresh and surprising account of Japan's culture from the 'opening up' of the country in the mid-nineteenth century to the present.**

It is told through the eyes of people who greeted this change not with the confidence and grasping ambition of Japan's modernizers and nationalists, but with resistance, conflict, distress.

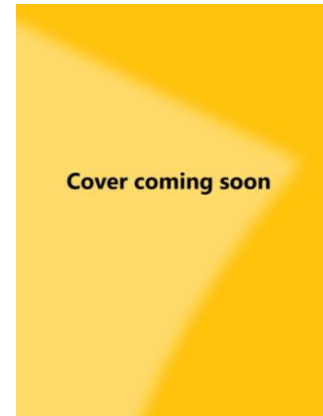
We encounter writers of dramas, ghost stories and crime novels where modernity itself is the tragedy, the ghoul and the bad guy; surrealist and avant-garde artists sketching their escape; rebel kamikaze pilots and the put-upon urban poor; hypnotists and gangsters; men in desperate search of the eternal feminine and feminists in search of something more than state-sanctioned subservience; Buddhists without morals; Marxist terror groups; couches full to bursting with the psychological fallout of breakneck modernization. These people all sprang from the soil of modern Japan, but their personalities and projects failed to fit. They were 'dark blossoms': both East-West hybrids and home-grown varieties that wreathed, probed and sometimes penetrated the new structures of mainstream Japan.

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Karen Farrington

The Great Italian Break Out: The True Audacious Escape Stories of World War Two



Proposal available
Publication date: TBC

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

In September 1943 thousands of Allied troops fled prisoner of war camps after the Italian Armistice but when German forces swept down the peninsula to regain control they were left in enemy territory. Even after survival instincts kicked in, how could the fugitives escape to safety, or even tell who was friend or foe?

In 1943, there were more than 60 prisoner of war camps throughout Mussolini's Italy. Behind barbed wire and under the guards' dark gaze were captive Allied soldiers. After the Italian Armistice thousands escaped as guards deserted their posts, but when German forces swept down the peninsula to regain control they were left stranded in enemy territory.

The Great Italian Break Out tells the remarkable stories of those men scattered across the Italian countryside, whose experiences have been all but forgotten. The luckiest made it to the safety of the Swiss frontier, the Vatican or the Allied Lines, some had a more arduous journey to France or Yugoslavia, and a handful escaped to Spain by boat. The unfortunate died in their quest of freedom, and many chose to join the partisans, fighting a dangerous guerilla war against the German occupiers.

This book reveals the compelling, uplifting and tragic stories of those on the run and celebrates men who, when it came to the Second World War, took a road less travelled.

Karen Farrington is a writer and former Fleet Street journalist whose published work includes titles on social and military history and a range of bestselling TV tie-ins. She is the author of two recent companion books to *The Repair Shop*, and was lead researcher on *The Life and Times of Call The Midwife*. Previous work on military history includes *The Blitzed City*, an account of the Coventry Blitz, and *Witness To World War II*.



Karen Farrington

The Angels of Englemere Wood

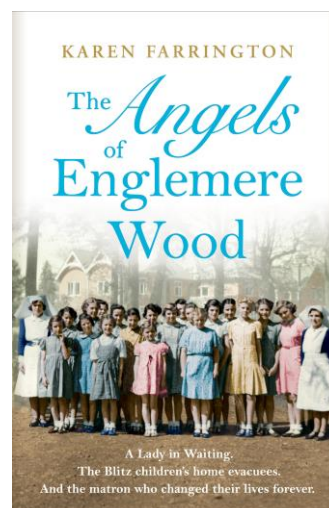
UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Michael Joseph

Editor: Ariel Pakier

Publication date: July 2022

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



This is the true story of a group of poor East End girls who, to escape the merciless bombing of the Luftwaffe, were dispatched to a children's home in the countryside where they came under the wing of the formidable but kindly Matron Doris Bailey – the Angel of Englemere. It is a project incredibly close to Karen's heart thanks to her personal connection to 93-year-old Queenie Clapton, who spent part of the war at Englemere Wood, near Ascot, and whose life was utterly transformed by the care and guidance of Matron Bailey.

The Angels of Englemere Wood recounts some of the most visceral elements of life at the time: evacuation and emotional upheaval, rationing and royalty, love and loss. It is a forensic account of the people who came into the orbit of girls in the children's home – from princesses to paupers.

Above all the book is about the power of education and of transcending the circumstances you are born into – a refreshing beacon of light and hope in dark times.

Karen Farrington is a writer and former Fleet Street journalist whose published work includes titles on social and military history and a range of bestselling TV tie-ins. She is the author of two recent companion books to *The Repair Shop*, and was lead researcher on *The Life and Times of Call The Midwife*. Previous work on military history includes *The Blitzed City*, an account of the Coventry Blitz, and *Witness To World War II*.



Siân Evans

1936: The Year of Three Kings

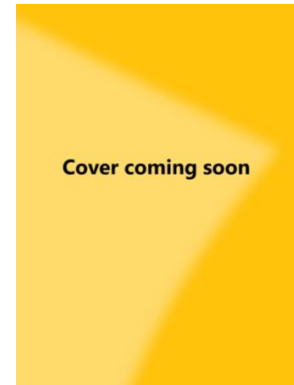
UK & Commonwealth rights: Hodder & Stoughton

Editors: Rowena Webb / Tom Perrin

Publication date: 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



1936 is one of the most momentous, and consequential, years in British history – a genuine turning point that changed the course of the 20th century. The year began with King George V dying in Sandringham and ended with King George VI ascending to the throne in the most dramatic circumstances imaginable following the abdication of his older brother King Edward VIII.

Upending the traditional narrative that Edward VIII gave up the throne because ‘of the woman I love’ (the American divorcée Wallis Simpson), Siân contends that it was his two-day visit to the South Wales coalfields in November 1936 that propelled him towards his fateful decision. Supporting her argument is a fascinating contemporary account from her own family archive that sheds fresh light on the King’s Visit. Contrasting London high society with the lives of ordinary people in the ‘distressed areas’ during the Great Depression, the book’s chapters will unfold over the course of the year, month by month, until the two worlds collide with explosive consequences that November.

Edward’s decision to abdicate cast a shadow over the monarchy that continues to this day as the event that brought our recently departed Queen to the throne. He remains box office – featuring in several seasons of *The Crown* – and the parallels with Prince Harry and Prince Andrew are uncanny. Blending royal and social history, *1936* puts a fascinating new spin on Edward’s notoriety.

Siân Evans is the author of several books, most recently *Maiden Voyages: Women and the Golden Age of Transatlantic Travel*. She specialises in writing narrative non-fiction, particularly social history and biographies, set in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Her articles have appeared in many publications, including the *Daily Mail*, the *Daily Express*, *BBC Antiques Roadshow* magazine, *Coast* magazine, National Trust Members’ magazine and *The Lady*. A freelance film consultant for the National Trust, she has an MA in Cultural History from the Royal College of Art, London.



Siân Evans

Maiden Voyages: Women and the Golden Age of Transatlantic Travel

UK & Commonwealth rights: Two Roads/Hachette

Editor: Lisa Highton

Publication date: September 2020

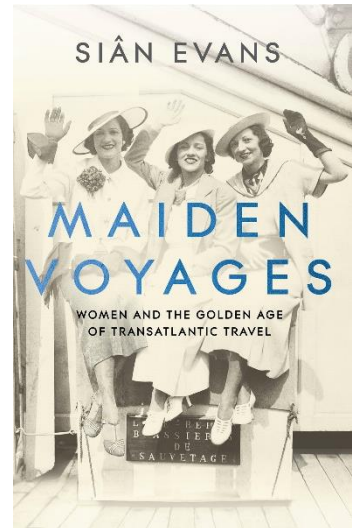
US rights: St Martin's Press

Simplified Chinese rights: Cultural Development Press Co

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



***Maiden Voyages* is a celebration of transatlantic tales, both life-affirming and cautionary, exploring how women's lives were transformed by their journeys between the Old and the New Worlds during the first half of the twentieth century. Whether they were travelling for leisure or pleasure, by virtue of their celebrity or to preserve their anonymity, as matrons, migrants or millionairesses, as passengers or staff, their individual stories provide fascinating and informative narratives, largely untold till now.**

The book addresses how transatlantic travel and the opportunities it provided changed many aspects of women's lives. The ocean liners were financed, engineered and built by men, but they were designed and marketed to appeal particularly to women, who were believed to be instinctively the more cautious and safety-conscious sex, especially after the sinking of the Titanic in 1912.

Intercontinental travel was often a transformational process for women of all classes, whether escaping to a new life, eluding the past, taking a gamble on the future, or as a practical and convivial way of earning an independent living and seeing something of the world. *Maiden Voyages* considers the widely disparate reasons for travel: from working women who made their lives and careers at sea, to those who used the voyage as a stepping stone on their individual journeys.

Anecdotal in tone and chronological in approach, *Maiden Voyages* covers from 1912 to the 1950s, with the main emphasis on the 1920s and 1930s — the 'Golden Age' of travel between the wars.

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Siân Evans

Queen Bees: Six Brilliant and Extraordinary Society Hostesses Between the Wars

UK & Commonwealth rights: Two Roads/Hachette

Editor: Lisa Highton

Publication date: April 2017

Korean rights: The Open Books Co.

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available.



***Queen Bees* looks at the lives of six remarkable women who made careers out of being society hostesses, including Lady Astor, who went on to become the first female MP, and Mrs Greville, who cultivated relationships with Edward VII, as well as Lady Londonderry, Lady Cunard, Laura Corrigan and Lady Colefax. Written with wit, verve and heart, *Queen Bees* is the story of a form of societal revolution, and the extraordinary women who helped it happen.**

In the aftermath of the First World War, the previously strict hierarchies of the British class system were weakened. For a number of ambitious, spirited women, this was the chance they needed to slip through the cracks and take their place at the top of society as the great hostesses of the time. In an age when the place of women was uncertain, becoming a hostess was not a chore, but a career choice, and though some of the hostesses' backgrounds were surprisingly humble, their aspirations were anything but. During the inter-war years these extraordinary women ruled over London society from their dining tables and salons — entertaining everyone from the Mosleys to the Mitfords, from millionaires to maharajahs, from film stars to royalty — and their influence can still be felt today.

Siân Evans is the author of several books, most recently *Maiden Voyages: Women and the Golden Age of Transatlantic Travel*. She specialises in writing narrative non-fiction, particularly social history and biographies, set in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Her articles have appeared in many publications, including the *Daily Mail*, the *Daily Express*, *BBC Antiques Roadshow* magazine, *Coast* magazine, National Trust Members' magazine and *The Lady*. A freelance film consultant for the National Trust, she has an MA in Cultural History from the Royal College of Art, London.



Richard Henriques

From Crime to Crime

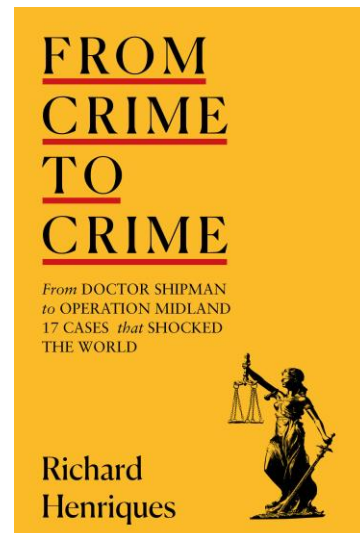
World English language rights: Hodder & Stoughton

Editor: Rupert Lancaster

Publication date: June 2020

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available

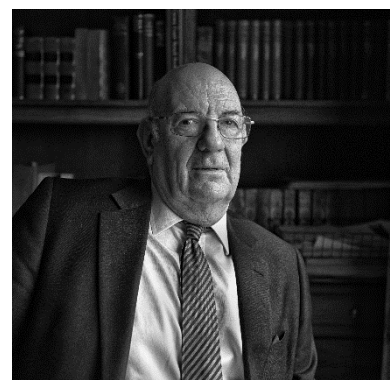


Sir Richard has been centre stage in some of the most high-profile and notorious cases of the late 20th and early 21st centuries, appearing in no fewer than 106 murder trials, including prosecuting the killers of James Bulger and Britain's most prolific serial killer Dr Harold Shipman. After becoming a judge in 2000 he presided over many well-known cases including the transatlantic airline terrorist plot, the Morecambe Bay cockle pickers, the killing of Jean Charles de Menezes, and many others. He sat in the Court of Appeal on the appeals of Barry George, then convicted of murdering Jill Dando, and Jeremy Bamber, the White House Farm killer.

He was much in the news following his damning review of Operation Midland, in which Carl Beech (aka 'Nick') made a series of false allegations against a group of prominent and completely innocent individuals.

His memoir gives an inside account of sixteen of the most interesting cases in which Sir Richard was involved. It offers insight into the inner workings of the criminal justice system, as well as Sir Richard's own views on Britain's judicial practices.

Sir Richard Henriques is an eminent British judge and former Justice of the High Court of England and Wales. In 2016, Sir Richard was brought out of retirement to review Operation Midland, an investigation into allegations of sexual assault by high profile individuals, which were ultimately found to be false. Sir Richard's damning assessment uncovered several critical errors which the Metropolitan Police had made in their investigations and capped an extraordinary career in the law.



Michelle Rawlins

Women of Steel: How Sheffield's Feisty Factory Sisters Helped Win the War

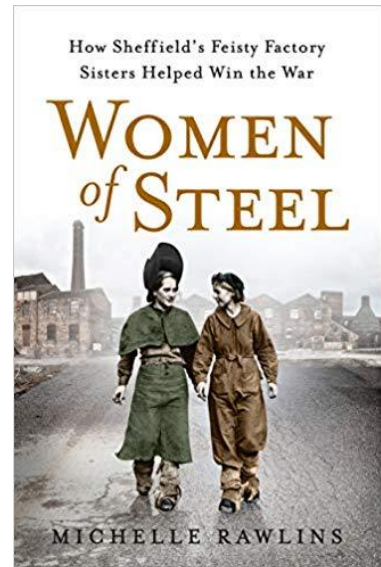
World English language rights: Headline

Editor: Fiona Crosby

Publication date: June 2020

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



In 2010 a statue was unveiled in the centre of Sheffield, commemorating the brave women who kept the city's munitions factories operating during the Second World War. The campaign for this long-overdue recognition was spearheaded by Kathleen Roberts, now in her mid-90s.

Kathleen's story forms the central narrative spine of *Women of Steel*, which follows a group of young women whose lives were transformed by their wartime experiences. Overnight they were thrown into intimidating, dangerous environments and made to work intensive 12-hour shifts, six days a week. Many were left with permanent physical and mental scars. But despite the hardship, they rose to the challenge. This is a story of triumph over adversity, and a heart-warming tale of camaraderie on the factory floor.

Women of Steel is the final opportunity to hear the voices of a band of tough Northern women whose grit, hard work and determination made an invaluable contribution to winning the war.

Michelle Rawlins is an award-winning journalist with over 20 years' experience writing articles for national newspapers, magazines and online publications. She has also worked as a ghostwriter. Based in Yorkshire, she has built up close relationships with all of the elderly ladies featured in the book and has earned their trust to tell their stories.



David Torrance

Nine Days in May: The Dramatic Story of the General Strike

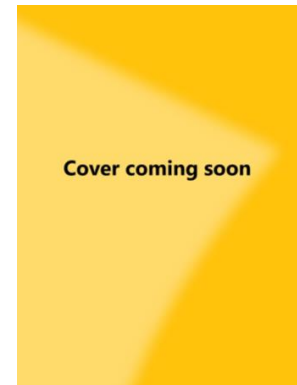
UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Bloomsbury Continuum

Editor: Tomasz Hoskins

Publication date: 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



By breakfast time on Tuesday 4 May 1926, almost two million workers had downed tools in the only nationwide strike ever held in the UK.

Building on his critically-acclaimed study of the first Labour government in 1924 – *The Wild Men* – David Torrance continues his historical narrative of a politically turbulent decade with *Nine Days in May: The Dramatic Story of the General Strike*.

Tracing the General Strike’s origins and its course at a local and national level, Torrance tells the dramatic story from the perspective of those at the top (ministers and officials), those directly involved (trade unionists and middle-class volunteers), and those caught in the middle.

Through extensive archival research, Torrance will bring the General Strike to life, reliving those nine dramatic days through the accounts of those who lived and breathed it.

David Torrance is a constitutional specialist at the House of Commons Library and a widely published historian of Scottish and UK politics as well as an experienced biographer of political figures such as the SNP politicians Alex Salmond and Nicola Sturgeon. As a former journalist and broadcaster with 20 years’ experience, he has an excellent network of media contacts across the UK.



David Torrance

The Wild Men

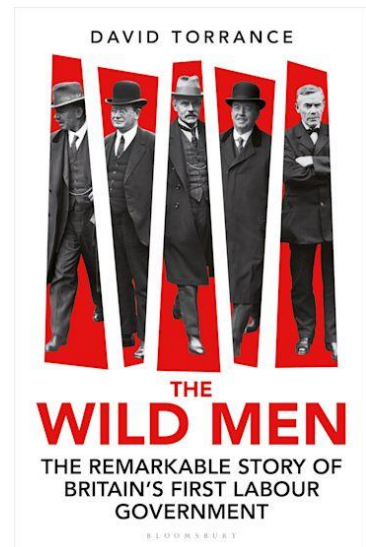
UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Bloomsbury Continuum

Editor: Tomasz Hoskins

Publication date: January 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



The thrilling story of the ‘wild men’ who made up Labour’s first government nearly a century ago, written by the historian and constitutional expert David Torrance.

Writing to *The Times* from the Carlton Club in early 1924, the former Conservative MP George Terrell railed against the ‘Communists, the wild men, the work-shy, the ignorant and the illiterate’ on whom the Labour Party relied for support in Parliament. Establishment Conservatives and Liberals were terrified at the prospect of the first Labour government. Winston Churchill declared it ‘a national misfortune’ akin to defeat in wartime; others said Labour lacked a mandate to govern.

But just who were these ‘wild men’? Ramsay MacDonald, their leader, was the illegitimate son of a Scottish farm labourer; Arthur Henderson (Home Secretary) a Scottish iron moulder; J. H. Thomas (Colonial Secretary) a Welsh railwayman; John Wheatley (Minister of Health) an Irish-born miner and publican; and William Adamson (Scottish Secretary) a Fife coal miner. Never before had men from such backgrounds occupied the corridors of power in Westminster.

Wild Men tells the story of that first Labour administration – its unexpected birth, fraught existence and controversial downfall – through the eyes of those who found themselves holding the levers of power. Blending biography and history into a compelling narrative, the book will reassess the UK’s first Labour government a century after it shook up a British establishment still reeling from the First World War.

David Torrance is a constitutional specialist at the House of Commons Library and a widely published historian of Scottish and UK politics as well as an experienced biographer of political figures such as the SNP politicians Alex Salmond and Nicola Sturgeon. As a former journalist and broadcaster with 20 years’ experience, he has an excellent network of media contacts across the UK.



Jonathan Levi and Emma French

Inside Belmarsh: Britain's Toughest Prison

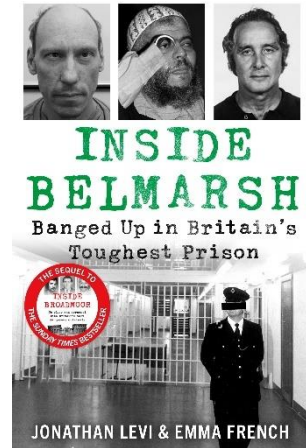
World English Language rights: Bonnier

Editor: Ciara Lloyd

Publication date: Summer 2025

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



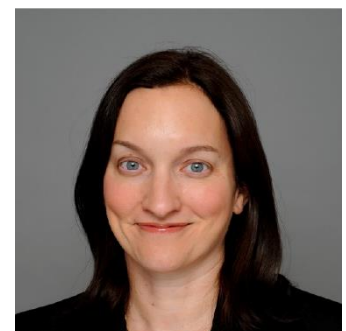
In the third book in their successful *'Inside...'* series, Jonathan Levi and Emma French will deploy their trademark combination of exclusive access to prisoner testimony and staff revelations, weaving a compelling, unfiltered story examining the lives and crimes of its most deadly and notorious prisoners. From the accounts they received of what it was like for the Hatton Garden gang, who smarted at the injustice of doing time alongside monstrous killers, to unique insights on inmates past and present including Julian Assange, John Warboys, Ian Huntley, Jonathan Aitken, Michael Adebowale, Thomas Mair and Wayne Couzens.

No prisoner has ever escaped... but some have certainly tried. Routine, fights, drugs, gangs and, sometimes, redemption, Emma and Jonathan will discover the truth about what it's like to live and work in 'Hellmarsh', Britain's toughest and most renowned prison.

Jonathan Levi is a successful television executive and BAFTA-nominated documentary film maker. Attracted to the extremes in society, he was the first person to ever gain full access to the patients and staff at Broadmoor for a highly-acclaimed primetime ITV series offering startling insights into the minds of some of Britain's most notorious psychiatric patients.

He was Factual Producer on the ITV four-part drama, Hatton Garden, and has made programmes with Andrew Lloyd Webber about his art collection and his musicals, and has hosted fundraisers with The Old Vic.

Dr Emma French writes about how particular people, places and stories hit the headlines and capture the public imagination. Her books include *Selling Shakespeare to Hollywood*, and, as Co-Author with Jonathan Levi, *Hatton Garden: The Inside Story*, *Inside Broadmoor* and *The Real Bodyguard*. She lives in London with Jonathan and their three children



Jonathan Levi and Emma French

Inside HMP Wakefield: Life Behind Bars in the Monster Mansion

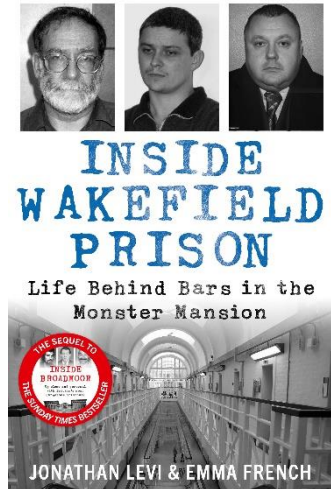
World All Languages rights: Bonnier
Rights sold through publisher

Editor: Ciara Lloyd
Publication date: 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available

The highest-selling true crime book in the UK in 2024.

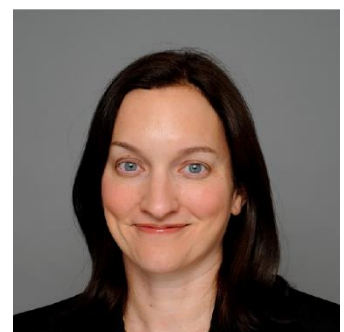
Nicknamed 'Monster Mansion', HMP Wakefield has seen some of the most infamous prisoners of all time pass through its cells. From Levi Bellfield to Harold Shipman, Ian Huntley and Charles Bronson, the book will give chilling insight into all the terrible men who have served time there. Monster Mansion will follow the prison's long and intriguing history from when it was first built in 1594 all the way up to the present day. Today, just over 750 of Britain's most dangerous offenders are kept there, including 'Hannibal the Cannibal' Robert Maudsley, notorious killer Jeremy Bamber and former Lostprophets singer Ian Watkins. Featuring all the sinister and truly horrifying stories that have emerged from the prison, as well as new unheard tales, this book will fascinate and shock readers on every page.



Jonathan Levi is a successful television executive and BAFTA-nominated documentary film maker. Attracted to the extremes in society, he was the first person to ever gain full access to the patients and staff at Broadmoor for a highly-acclaimed primetime ITV series offering startling insights into the minds of some of Britain's most notorious psychiatric patients.

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Jim Dixon

Scattering Plenty: The People Who Made the Modern Countryside

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: The History Press

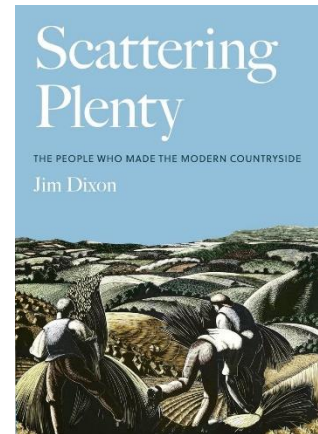
Editor: Claire Hopkins

Publication date: March 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available

A book about the people who have shaped the British countryside, from the turn of the twentieth century to the present day.



With the issue of food supply back on the agenda due to the war in Ukraine, and debate raging between farmers and conservationists over re-wilding, this is a good moment to shine a light on our past, present and future relationship with the land.

Scattering Plenty is the story of the politicians, administrators and scientists who have transformed the British landscape over the past century. The pressing need to feed the nation during two world wars sparked a farming revolution, which was followed by the UK's entry into the EEC with its infamous Common Agricultural Policy. Farming and land use changed on a massive scale during this period, with farmers increasingly coming into conflict with scientists trained in the new disciplines of ecology and conservation, who were charting huge losses in species, habitats and landscape diversity.

Jim brings the subject to life through a series of pen portraits of important, but little known, individuals. Figures such as Arthur Tansley, the pioneer of ecology; George Stapledon, the champion of modern farming; and Evelyn Sharp, who oversaw the creation of the first national parks. Often the missing dimension in British political, social and economic histories, the story of the countryside is revealed here to be full of human interest and drama. Looking forward, the book asks where farming will go in the 21st century when people want much more out of the land and are vocal in campaigning for it.

Jim Dixon started his career as a student of ecology before spending ten years in the field, working closely with conservation administrators, farmers and policy makers. During 10 years at the RSPB he influenced early Environmentally Sensitive Areas and legislation to protect hedgerows and ancient woodland. He became expert on the policies and procedures of the EU, and in the corridors of power in Whitehall and Westminster where he worked closely with ministers and senior officials. Following stints in MAFF and Defra, from 2003 to 2014 he led the Peak District National Park Authority as CEO, including for four years chairing the UK network of national parks. Since leaving the Peak District he has written professionally, penning a regular column for *The Times* Nature Notebook. In 2018, he joined Julian Glover's Landscapes Review panel and in 2021 the board of the National Association of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.



Popular Science & Psychology

Nafees Hamid

The Extremist Mind

UK & Commonwealth rights: Bloomsbury

Editor: Sarah Lambert

Publication date: TBC

North American rights: BenBella

Complex Chinese rights: Spark press

All other rights available

Proposal available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole



We've all been exposed to extremist, populist, and conspiratorial narratives and yet most of us roll our eyes at it or laugh it off. What causes some small minority of people to take these narratives seriously? What causes an even smaller percentage of that population to actually act on those narratives? Why do some even give their lives based on those ideas? And, most importantly, what can we do to stop people from committing political violence?

Cognitive scientist Nafees Hamid has travelled the world meeting members of ISIS, Hezbollah, NeoNazis, QAnon, and a variety of other violent and divisive movements. He has interviewed, surveyed, conducted psychology experiments with them and is one of the few people to have scanned their brains. The book details Nafees's experiences going out into the field to find the subjects: from escaping an ISIS recruiter; to realising his research assistant had gradually been radicalised right under his nose; to a former flatmate who turned to QAnon during the pandemic, challenging Nafees to put into practice everything he had learned in order to de-program his friend.

The Extremist Mind weaves together personal memoir with evolutionary psychology, neuroscience, political economics, and anthropological fieldwork with jihadists, white nationalists, QAnon devotees, and violent extremists of other stripes including climate activists who tried to recruit Nafees to teach them the ways of ISIS.

Dr Nafees Hamid is a Cognitive Scientist of extremism, conspiracy theories, and political violence. In his current role at King's College London, he co-leads a multi-nation research project which explores the role of trauma and mental health on pathways to peace versus violence in fragile and conflict affected states.

His expertise has been called upon by the UN, US State and Defence Departments, UK Foreign Office, French Prime Minister's Office, NATO, the EU Commission and many more. He has been featured in documentaries, including Netflix's *The Mind Explained* and Morgan Freeman's *Through the Wormhole*.



Tim Gregory

Going Nuclear – How the Atom Will Save the World

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: The Bodley Head (Penguin)

Publication date: June 2025

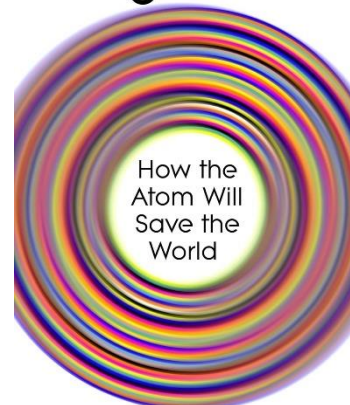
North American rights: Pegasus Books

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available

Going Nuclear



Tim Gregory

In this provocative, timely and well researched book, nuclear chemist Tim Gregory argues our species' very survival hinges on whether we choose to unleash the potential of the atom and embrace a nuclear future.

Going Nuclear will be an exploration of the immense power in the centre of the atom, the areas of our world that it touches, and the potential it has to solve the biggest problems our species faces. The book retraces our relationship with nuclear through the Nuclear Revolution of the early 20th century and look towards the Nuclear Renaissance that could — and should — ensue over the coming decades. Gregory argues that there is no net zero without nuclear power.

There is perhaps no branch of science more important to our modern world and yet so cloaked by fear, secrecy, and misconception than nuclear science. Besieged by green fearmongering from the outside and hindered by a legacy of insularity from the inside, it is time to set the record straight and lift the veil on nuclear.

Praise for Tim Gregory

'He shows an uncanny ability to swiftly understand, to clearly explain, and to be joyful in the process. His scientific delight is contagious.' – Chris Hadfield

'Meticulously researched and eminently readable... [Gregory] writes with aplomb, his sentences backed by hard evidence and served with clarity, erudition and occasionally humour...' – Wall Street Journal

Tim Gregory is a nuclear chemist for the National Nuclear Laboratory in the heart of the British nuclear industry. His academic background is in geology, planetary science, and isotope cosmochemistry, and he holds a PhD in the latter. He is also a speaker, presenter and is the author of *Meteorite: How Stones from Outer Space Made our World*



Becky Smethurst

A Brief History of Black Holes

World English language rights: Pan Macmillan

Publication date: 2025

Simplified Chinese rights: People's Literature

Korean rights: Kachi

Spanish rights: Blackie Books

Turkish rights: Ithaki

Italian rights: Apogeo

Polish rights: Helion

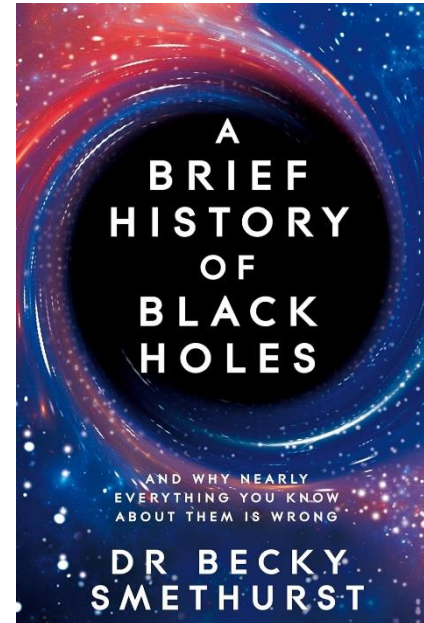
Czech rights: Euromedia Group

Serbian rights: Balans Knjige

Japanese rights: Yama-Kei

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



In *A Brief History of Black Holes*, award-winning University of Oxford researcher Dr Becky Smethurst charts five hundred years of scientific breakthroughs in astronomy and astrophysics.

Right now, you are orbiting a black hole. The Earth orbits the Sun, and the Sun orbits the centre of the Milky Way: a supermassive black hole, the strangest and most misunderstood phenomenon in the galaxy.

In this cosmic tale of discovery, Dr Becky Smethurst takes us from the earliest observations of the universe and the collapse of massive stars, to the iconic first photographs of a black hole and her own published findings. She explains why black holes aren't really 'black', that you never ever want to be 'spaghettified', how black holes are more like sofa cushions than hoovers and why, beyond the event horizon, the future is a direction in space rather than in time.

Told with humour and wisdom, this captivating book describes the secrets behind the most profound questions about our universe – all hidden inside black holes.

Dr Becky Smethurst is an award-winning astrophysicist and science communicator. She is based at the University of Oxford, where her specialism is in how galaxies evolve together with their supermassive black holes. Her YouTube channel, [Dr Becky](#), has over 750,000 subscribers and engages 2 million viewers each month with her videos on weird objects in space, the history of science and monthly recaps of space news.



Catherine Heymans

How to Design a Universe

World All Languages rights: Bloomsbury Sigma
Rights sold through publisher

Publication date: 2026
Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Proposal available



An astrophysicist's investigation into how our Universe is made and how improbable it is that we exist at all. Could she use a computer to simulate her reality? If she could, what are the chances that someone else has already created her perceived-to-be-real virtual world?

Sent on a mission by her son to answer the existential question “are we living inside a computer simulation?” Prof. Catherine Heymans throws all the physics she knows at the problem to find him the answer. As the Astronomer Royal for Scotland she is used to creating giant maps of the Universe that transport us 10 billion years back in time. But what if all the ancient light that she has spent her entire career collecting is just a series of computer impulses in an elaborate simulation of her own reality? She knows how to simulate an entire Universe of galaxies: has she been naive to think a future scientist couldn’t create a complete virtual world much closer to home?

Assembling the facts, Prof. Heymans takes us on her journey to understand how one day we might simulate our own lives. She introduces us to the fundamental laws of nature that govern the Universe, delving into the unexpected realm of the quantumverse. A wide-ranging exploration of the world around us and everything in it, filled with humour and personal stories of life as a high-flying academic and mother of three.

Catherine Heymans is the Astronomer Royal for Scotland, the first woman to hold the post. She is also Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Edinburgh and the Director of the German Centre for Cosmological Lensing at the Ruhr-University Bochum, Germany.

Supported by a grant from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, her research focusses on cosmology, specifically making detailed observations of the ‘Dark Universe’.



Sam Conniff & Katherine Templar-Lewis

The Uncertainty Toolkit

World All Languages rights: Bluebird (Macmillan)

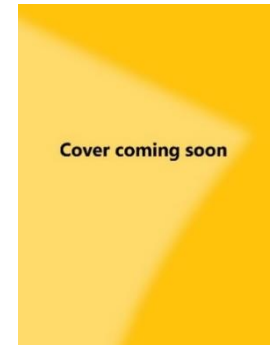
Rights sold through publisher

Editor: Jodie Lancet-Grant

Publication date: June 2025

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



According to the World Uncertainty Index, these are ‘the most uncertain times in Human History,’ with economic instability to political polarisation, climate crisis, and global conflict. And while uncertainty is a unifying factor of our time, uncertainty affects everyone in their own way. One person's climate anxiety is another person's cancelled travel plans. Our experiences of uncertainty are entirely subjective.

The tools to succeed in this time are not taught to us at school. But in this book, Sam Conniff and Katherine Templar Lewis present to you precisely that: a guide, backed by science, that provides readers the skills to transform their own relationship with uncertainty. Based on cutting-edge research from a specialist laboratory called the Decision Making in Uncertainty Centre, within the world-renowned Brain Science department at University College London.

The book contains the incredible true stories of people who've transformed and thrived in uncertainty. They are ex-smugglers, former addicts, prisoners, hostages, refugees and many others who've learned to thrive amid deep ambiguity, threat, challenge and jeopardy. The intentionally paradoxically named Uncertainty Experts are not from the School of Business as Usual. Having figured out how to turn their experiences into transferable skills, they're now thriving in the conventional world where most of us live.

Sam Conniff is the author of *Be More Pirate* sold which sold to PRH (UK) and S&S (US), with further deals in Holland, Sweden, Germany and Russia. *Be More Pirate* has sold 45,000 copies in the UK. Sam is the founder of award-winning creative agency Livity and has received recognition in the UK for his work as a social entrepreneur, including Ernst & Young's Entrepreneur of the Year and a Big Society Award. He was nominated for an MBE in 2020, which he declined.



Katherine Templar Lewis is a cognitive scientist and science communicator. She is the co-founder of the female-led, neuroaesthetic studio Kinda Studios. She teaches at UCL and Goldsmiths University and runs the innovative Others@ project at UCL bringing creatives into the labs. She regularly appears as an expert across media channels, including Sky, BBC, NBC, The TODAY show, and Radio 4. She is the writer and cohost of Audible podcast on the human senses *Beyond Five Senses*.



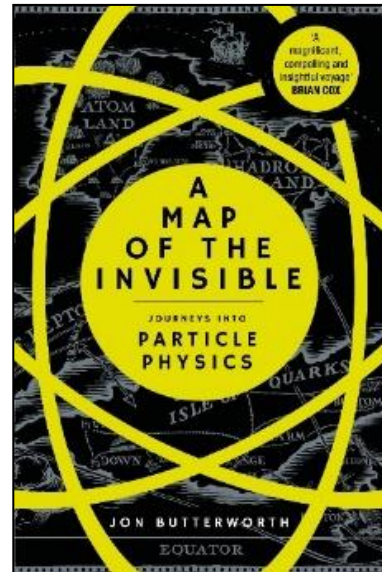
Jon Butterworth

A Map of the Invisible: Journeys into Particle Physics

UK & Commonwealth rights: William Heinemann (PRH)
Publication date: September 2018

US rights: The Experiment
Chinese (simplified) rights: Beijing Zito Books
French rights: Presses polytechniques et universitaires romande
Italian rights: Hoepli
Russian rights: AST
Audio rights North America: Blackstone
All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available



‘A magnificent, compelling and insightful voyage’– **Professor Brian Cox**

What is the universe made of? How do we know? And what don't we know yet? Over the last sixty years, scientists around the world have worked together to explore the fundamental constituents of matter, and the forces that govern their behaviour. The result, so far, is the ‘Standard Model’ of elementary particles: a theoretical map of the basic building blocks of the universe. With the discovery of the Higgs boson in 2012, the map as we know it was completed, but also extended into strange new territory.

A Map of the Invisible is an explorer’s guide to the Standard Model and the extraordinary realms of particle physics. After shrinking us down to the size of a sub-atomic particle, pioneering physicist Jon Butterworth takes us on board his research vessel for a journey in search of atoms and quarks, electrons and neutrinos, and the forces that shape the universe. Step by step, we travel into the world of the unseen, discovering phenomena both weird and wonderful, from atoms to black holes and dark matter, and beyond, to the outer reaches of the cosmos and the frontiers of human knowledge.

Beautifully illustrated with gradually evolving maps offering an inventive visual glossary as the journey progresses, *A Map of the Invisible* provides an essential introduction to our world and to particle physics. It is a landmark work of non-fiction by one of the leading scientists and science writers working today.

Dr Jon Butterworth is a Professor of Physics at UCL and was Head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy there from 2011 to 2018. He also works on the ATLAS Experiment at CERN’s Large Hadron Collider. He studied at the University of Oxford, receiving a DPhil in particle physics. He is the author of *Smashing Physics*, *A Map of the Invisible* and of the ‘Life and Physics’ blog for the *Guardian*. He was awarded the 2013 Chadwick Medal of the Institute of Physics for his pioneering experimental and phenomenological work in high energy particle physics.



Jon Butterworth

Smashing Physics: The Inside Story of the Hunt for the Higgs

UK & Commonwealth rights: Headline

Publication date: May 2015

US & Canadian rights: The Experiment

Chinese (complex) rights: Owl Publishing

Chinese (simplified) rights: Post & Telecom Press

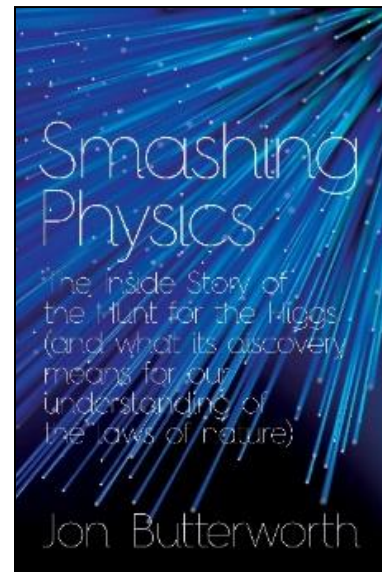
German rights: Franckh-Kosmos Verlag

World English language audio rights: Audible

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



'The work of an important scholar and natural populariser of science.' – **Guardian**

If you want to know what being a professional scientist is really like, read it!' – **Professor Brian Cox**

The discovery of the Higgs boson made headlines around the world. Two scientists, Peter Higgs and François Englert, whose theories predicted its existence, shared a Nobel Prize. The discovery was the culmination of the largest experiment ever run, the ATLAS and CMS experiments at CERN's Large Hadron Collider.

But what really is a Higgs boson and what does it do? How was it found? How has its discovery changed our understanding of the fundamental laws of nature? And what did it feel like to be part of it? This book is the first popular inside account of the hunt for the Higgs. It is a story of incredible scientific collaboration, inspiring technological innovation and ground-breaking science. It is also the story of what happens when the world's most expensive experiment blows up, of neutrinos that may or may not travel faster than light, and the reality of life in an underground bunker in Switzerland. This book will also leave you with a working knowledge of the new physics and what the discovery of the Higgs particle means for how we define the laws of nature. It will take you to the cutting edge of modern scientific thinking.

Dr Jon Butterworth is a Professor of Physics at UCL and was Head of the Department of Physics and Astronomy there from 2011 to 2018. He also works on the ATLAS Experiment at CERN's Large Hadron Collider. He studied at the University of Oxford, receiving a DPhil in particle physics. He is the author of *Smashing Physics*, *A Map of the Invisible* and of the 'Life and Physics' blog for the *Guardian*. He was awarded the 2013 Chadwick Medal of the Institute of Physics for his pioneering experimental and phenomenological work in high energy particle physics.



Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw

Black Holes: The Key to Understanding the Universe

World All Languages rights: William Collins

Rights sold through publisher

Editor: Myles Archibald

Publication date: October 2022

US rights: Custom House

Italian rights: Hoepli

Czech rights: Albatros

Portuguese rights: Saida de Emergencia

Chinese simplified: CNG

German rights: Frankckh-Kosmos

Polish rights: Helion

Turkish rights: Nova Kitap

Croatian rights: Stilus Knjiga

Korean rights: RH Korea Co

Serbian rights: Heliks

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available

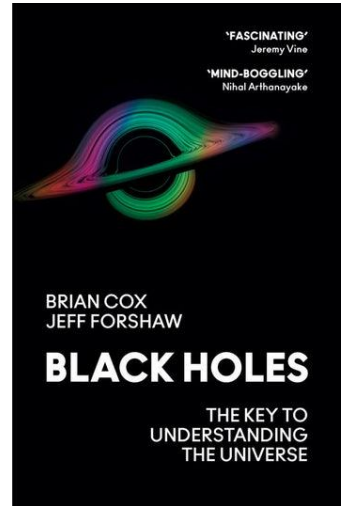
A Brief History of Time for the 21st Century

At the heart of the Milky Way lies a supermassive black hole 4 million times more massive than our Sun. A place where space and time are so warped that light is trapped if it ventures within 12 million km. According to Einstein, inside lies the end of time. According to 21st-century physics, the reality may be far more bizarre.

In this groundbreaking book, Professor Brian Cox and Professor Jeff Forshaw take you to the edge of our understanding of black holes; a scientific journey to the research frontier spanning a century of physics, from Einstein to Hawking and beyond, that ends with the startling conclusion that our world may operate like a giant quantum computer.

Dr Brian Cox OBE is Professor of Particle Physics at the University of Manchester, The Royal Society Professor for Public Engagement in Science and a Fellow of the Royal Society, and a hugely successful television presenter.

Professor Jeff Forshaw is Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Manchester, specializing in the physics of elementary particles. In 1999, he was awarded the Institute of Physics Maxwell Medal for 'outstanding contributions to theoretical physics'. He appears frequently on television and radio discussing science.



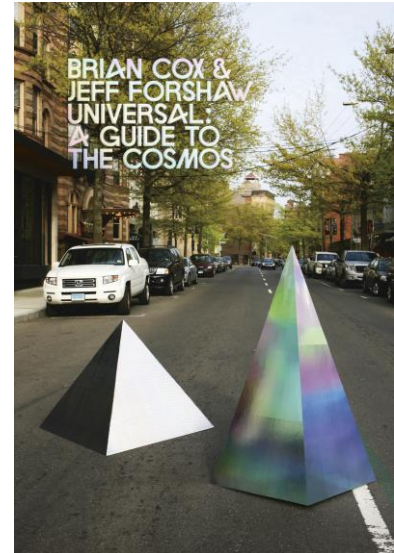
Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw

Universal: A Guide to the Cosmos

UK & Commonwealth rights: Penguin Press
Publication date: September 2018

US rights: Da Capo Press
Danish rights: Gyldendal
German rights: Franckh-Kosmos Verlag
Italian rights: Hoepli
Chinese (complex) rights: Owl Publishing
Chinese (simplified) rights: Beijing Mediatime Books Co.
French option: Dunod Editeur
Japanese option: Discover 21
Korean option: SeungSan
Portuguese (Brazil only) option: Editora Fundamento
Spanish option: Random House Mondadori (Debate)
All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available



We dare to imagine a time before the Big Bang, when the entire Universe was compressed into a space smaller than an atom. And now, as Brian Cox and Jeff Forshaw show, we can do more than imagine: we can understand. Over the centuries, the human urge to discover has unlocked an incredible amount of knowledge. What it reveals to us is breathtaking.

Universal takes us on an epic journey of scientific exploration and, in doing so, reveals how we can all understand some of the most fundamental questions about our Earth, Sun, Solar System and the star-filled galaxies beyond. Some of these questions — How big is our solar system? How fast is space expanding? — can be answered from your back garden; the answers to others — How big is the Universe? What is it made of? — draw on the astonishing information now being gathered at the frontiers of the known universe. Science reveals a deeper beauty, connects us to our world, and to our Universe; and, by understanding the groundbreaking work of others, reaches out into the unknown. What's more, as *Universal* shows us, if we dare to imagine, we can all do it.

Dr Brian Cox OBE is Professor of Particle Physics at the University of Manchester, The Royal Society Professor for Public Engagement in Science and a Fellow of the Royal Society, and a hugely successful television presenter.

Professor Jeff Forshaw is Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Manchester, specializing in the physics of elementary particles. In 1999, he was awarded the Institute of Physics Maxwell Medal for 'outstanding contributions to theoretical physics'. He appears frequently on television and radio discussing science.



Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw

The Quantum Universe: Everything That Can Happen Does Happen

UK & Commonwealth rights: Penguin
Publication date: 2011

US rights: Da Capo
Czech rights: Dokoran
Chinese (simplified) rights: Guomai Culture & Media Co. Ltd.
French rights: Dunod Editeur
Hebrew rights: Books in the Attic
Hungarian rights: Akkord
Italian rights: Hoepli
Japanese rights: Discover 21
Korean rights: SeungSan
Polish rights: Prozynski Media
Portuguese rights (Brazil only): Editora Fundamento
Russian rights: Mann, Ivanov and Ferber
Turkish rights: Ginko Kitap Limited Şirketi
Serbian rights: Heliks
World Spanish language rights: Random House Mondadori (Debate)
All other rights available

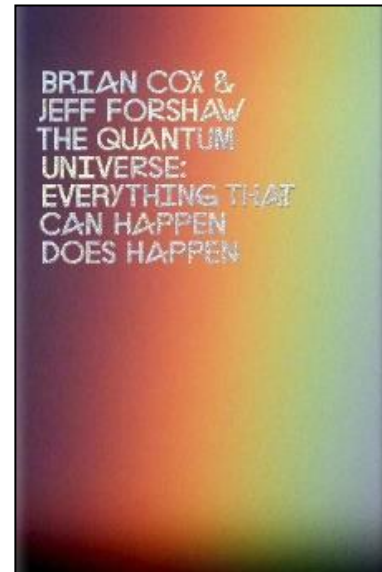
Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available

Brian and Jeff's bestselling first book *Why Does $E=MC^2$?* began from a very simple starting point: it is not possible to work out whether we are moving or standing still. In a series of small steps, carefully taken, they then constructed Einstein's theory of space and time. They showed that time travel into the far future is possible, that we all move through spacetime at the speed of light, that time runs slow for fast-movers and from the point of view of a beam of light, no time passes at all.

In *The Quantum Universe*, Brian and Jeff will take the same approach to the world of quantum mechanics. The sub-atomic realm has a reputation for weirdness — spawning any number of profound misunderstandings, journeys into eastern mysticism and woolly pronouncements on the interconnectedness of all things. Their contention is that there is no need for quantum mechanics to be viewed this way (although as they will show, in a very tangible sense, all things are interconnected). It is at heart a simple and understandable theory that allows for concrete, if quite astonishing, predictions about the natural world.

Dr Brian Cox OBE is Professor of Particle Physics at the University of Manchester, The Royal Society Professor for Public Engagement in Science and a Fellow of the Royal Society, and a hugely successful television presenter.

Professor Jeff Forshaw is Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Manchester, specializing in the physics of elementary particles. In 1999, he was awarded the Institute of Physics Maxwell Medal for 'outstanding contributions to theoretical physics'. He appears frequently on television and radio discussing science.



Brian Cox & Jeff Forshaw

Why does $E=MC^2$?

World English Language rights: Da Capo Press

Publication date: July 2009

Basque rights: Universidad del Pais Vasco

Bulgarian rights: Riva

Chinese (simplified) rights: Guomai Culture & Media Co. Ltd.

Chinese (complex) rights: Owl Publishing

Czech rights: Dokoran

French rights: Dunod Editeur

German rights: Kosmos Verlag

Hungarian rights: Europa

Italian rights: Hoepli

Japanese rights: Kinokuniya Company

Greek rights: Efaltirio Press

Korean rights: Book 21 Publishing Group

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Principal agent: Matthew Cole

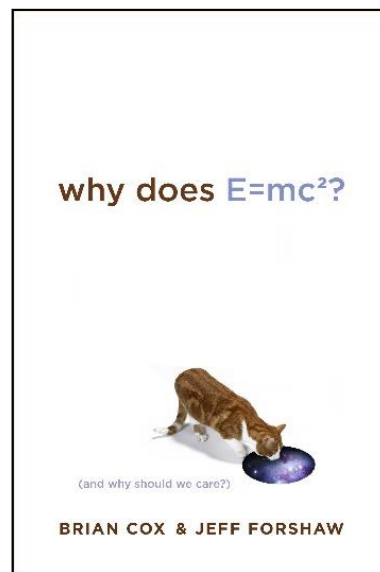
Manuscript available

This is an engaging and accessible explanation of Einstein's equation that explores the principles of physics through everyday life. In this riveting, deeply informative exploration of Einstein's famous equation, Professor Brian Cox & Professor Jeff Forshaw go on a journey to the frontier of 21st century science to consider the meaning behind the iconic sequence of symbols that make up Einstein's famous equation. Breaking down the symbols themselves, they pose a series of questions: What is energy? What is mass? What has the speed of light got to do with energy and mass?

In answering these questions, they take us to the site of one of the largest scientific experiments ever conducted. Lying beneath the city of Geneva, straddling the Franco-Swiss border, is a 27 km particle accelerator, known as the Large Hadron Collider. Using this gigantic machine — which can recreate conditions in the early Universe fractions of a second after the Big Bang — Cox and Forshaw describe the current theory behind the origin of mass.

Dr Brian Cox OBE is Professor of Particle Physics at the University of Manchester, The Royal Society Professor for Public Engagement in Science and a Fellow of the Royal Society, and a hugely successful television presenter.

Professor Jeff Forshaw is Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of Manchester, specializing in the physics of elementary particles. In 1999, he was awarded the Institute of Physics Maxwell Medal for 'outstanding contributions to theoretical physics'. He appears frequently on television and radio discussing science.



Melanie Windridge

Aurora: In Search of the Northern Lights

World English language rights: HarperCollins

Editor: Myles Archibald

Publication date: February 2016

Chinese (simplified) rights: Beijing United

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

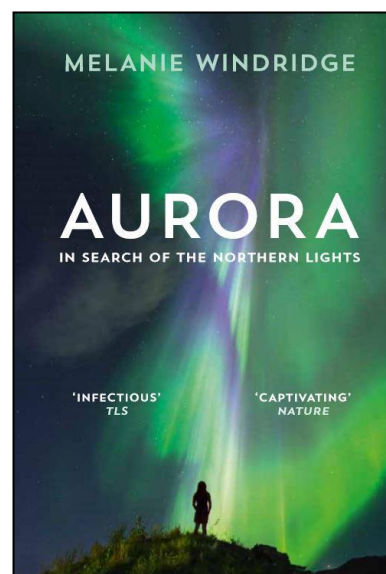
Manuscript available

‘Her enthusiasm for all things aurora is, ultimately, infectious and there will be something of interest here for anyone with even a passing curiosity in this remarkable natural phenomenon’ – *Times Literary Supplement*

Aurora is a narrative of discovery exploring the visual beauty, legends and science of the northern lights —including the developing threat of space weather — and challenging the popular paradigm of how the lights are formed. The book offers new insights into this extraordinary and evocative phenomenon, a scientific marvel unlike any other in which the powers of astronomy, geology, magnetism and nuclear physics combine to create one of the wonders of the natural world. *Aurora* combines a lucid and fascinating exposition of the science(s) behind the lights with an elegant travelogue following plasma physicist Melanie Windridge as she pursues the aurorae in their different forms across the globe, observing them in their own natural landscapes.

Travelling through Sweden, Norway, Iceland and Canada, it is a completely original and utterly compelling account of the visual manifestation of the natural world’s elegant power. *Aurora* uses the fascinating story of the northern lights - and the beauty of the Arctic - to bring the complex subject of plasma physics to life for a general audience, showing the ways that astrology, geology and physics come together to create the aurorae.

Melanie Windridge has a PhD in Plasma Physics from Imperial College London, where she worked on fusion energy at Culham Centre for Fusion Energy (CCFE) in Oxfordshire. Melanie was the Institute of Physics’ Schools lecturer for 2010, spending the year visiting schools to talk about nuclear fusion. As well as being an experienced lecturer, Melanie has made several television appearances, including various programmes for the National Geographic Channel and the BBC. She has had articles published online by *The Times* and the *Guardian*. She loves mountains and adventure and has climbed many alpine peaks, including Mont Blanc, Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Elbrus. In May 2018 she achieved her lifetime ambition of summiting Mount Everest.



Current Affairs & Business

Neil West

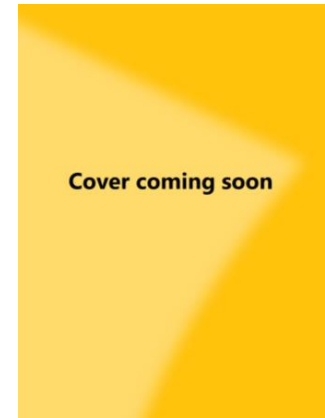
Simplify: Lessons from Apple

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Pan Macmillan

Proposal available

Publication date: Autumn 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole



An insider's account of Apple's approach to simplicity and how that drives its leadership, culture and success, and how we can apply this to our own work and life.

Humans love simplicity. Our brains are programmed to prefer options that require less thought. In our messy world it's easy for complexity to creep into our work. Creating simple products and services is difficult. But Apple has become the most valuable company on the planet precisely because its products and software are intuitive and easy to use. But Apple's dedication to simplicity goes far deeper than AirPods, App Store, iPhone and the other products we use every day. Simplicity guides Apple's sense of purpose, the way it focuses, how it sets up its teams, and how it communicates. It takes effort. It means saying no to all the other great ideas. But now you too can learn the secrets to this success.

In *Simplify*, West shows;

- Why MacDonalds and Apple have more in common than you think.
- Why Neil was never given a sales target as Head of Apple Music in Europe
- How to present the Apple Way.
- How to do the work so the customer doesn't.
- When and why Apple leaves money on the table.

Neil West spent ten years as Apple's Head of Music in UK & Europe helping grow iTunes into the world's biggest music retailer. He then spent six years as Head of Apple Services for Southern Europe — managing App Store, Apple Music, Apple TV+, Fitness+, Apple Books, and more — a billion-dollar business. Neil has spoken about his work on Podcasts and he is an experienced public speaker, recently giving a [TEDx talk](#) on The Beatles, Steve Jobs and Team Management.



João Vale de Almeida

The Divorce of Nations: A diplomat's inside view as the global order collapses – from 9/11 to Brexit, Ukraine and beyond

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: The History Press

Editor: Claire Hopkins

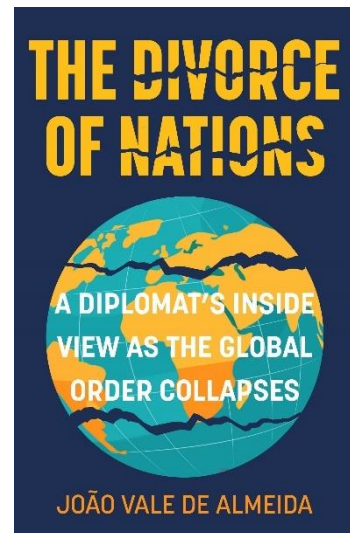
Publication date: April 2025

Portuguese rights: Dom Quixote (Grupo Leya)

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Today, we find ourselves in arguably the most dangerous geopolitical situation of modern times. This book outlines the key moments that got us here.

As one of the world's foremost diplomats, João Vale de Almeida has seen up close how the global order established in the 20th century has crumbled during the first quarter of the 21st century.

The Divorce of Nations features the issues and personal observances of figures such as Barack Obama, George W Bush, Boris Johnson, Angela Merkel, Nicolas Sarkozy, and Donald Trump. João also recalls the fifteen times he met Vladimir Putin and the early warning signs in the run up to the invasion of Georgia in 2008, the precursor to the annexation of Ukrainian territory in 2014 and the full invasion in 2022.

Other key moments include the global response to the Great Financial Crisis, how the world shifted in the aftermath of 9/11 and the impact of China joining the World Trade Organisation the same year. As the first ever EU Ambassador to the UK, João details a vivid and unique account of the first 1,000 days of Brexit, the ultimate act of divorce so far.

This vital book consists of João's personal testimony of how countries – and indeed the world – have been sleepwalking towards 'The Divorce of Nations' and the steps we can take to fix it.

João Vale de Almeida worked at the Brussels headquarters of the EU for over half of his 40-year career, including as Chief of Staff to the President of the European Commission. He served as European Union Ambassador to the UN, in New York; to the United States, in Washington; and to the United Kingdom from 2020 to 2023. His expertise in European affairs is unsurpassed and his direct knowledge of global affairs is unique.



Gerard Lyons

Borrowed Time: How debt shapes your life and the world in 12 questions

World English language rights: Reaktion Books

Editor: Dave Watkins

Publication date: 2026

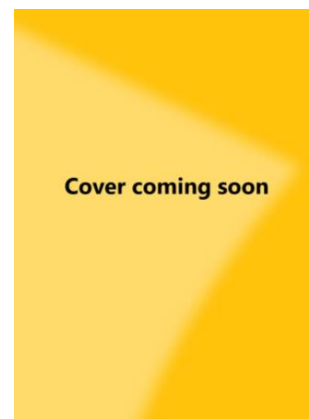
Audio rights UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada): WF Howes

Complex Chinese rights: Spark Press

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



***Borrowed Time* is a vital new examination of debt that looks at twelve questions to explore how the economics of the debt we are born, live and die with impacts us individually and the wider world around us.**

A succession of economic shocks have hit the world economy this century, from the global financial crisis in 2008 to the recent pandemic. This has led to a surge in debt and levels are now at all-time highs, in the public as well as the private sector.

By exploring debt through 12 questions that get to the heart of the modern economy, Gerard looks at how big picture macroeconomics relates to everyday lives via some of the most pressing topics of our time; from ageing populations in many industrialised countries, the financialisation of Main Street over the last 40 years, who precisely should pay for student debt, could a major country such as the UK go bust, and do we have an environmental debt to the planet?

Gerard Lyons has been described by *The Times* as ‘one of the most influential analysts of the global economy’. He has over thirty years of experience in senior roles in the City and public policy. Gerard’s analysis of the global economy – particularly emerging economies across Asia, Africa and the Gulf and Middle East – has regularly been sought by policymakers, including politicians and central bankers both at home and abroad. He has spoken in 82 countries, testified to committees of the US Congress and Senate, and to committees in UK Parliament.



Anthony Seldon

Truss at 10

World English Language: Atlantic

Editor: James Pulford

Publication date: August 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



The inside story of the shortest serving Prime Minister in history.

Truss was Prime Minister for just 49 days, despite enjoying an 80-seat majority and a span of 28 months before she needed to face Labour in the polls. Since the office was created in 1721, no Prime Minister has come anywhere close to self-destructing so quickly. How did she so spectacularly blow her opportunity?

Based on detailed interviews and contemporary documents from those at the very heart of her government, *Truss at 10* gives a precise, forensic and detailed account of her premiership, focusing on the critical steps that led to her demise.

Anthony Seldon is a British educator and historian. He is the author or editor of more than 35 books on contemporary history, politics and education, and is best known for his biographies of recent prime ministers from John Major to Boris Johnson. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham from 2015 to 2020 and is currently Head of Epsom College. He is honorary historical adviser to 10 Downing Street and chairs *The Times* Education Commission.



Anthony Seldon

Johnson at 10

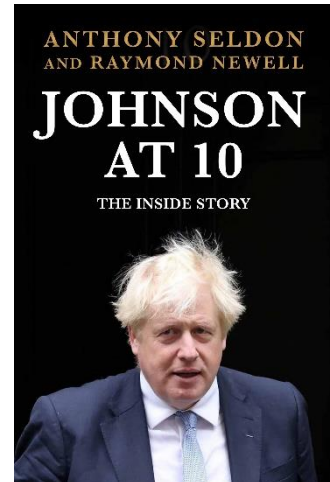
World English Language rights: Atlantic

Editor: James Pulford

Publication date: May 2023

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



After his sudden rise to power in the summer of 2019 amid the Brexit deadlock, Boris Johnson presided over the most dramatic period of British history in almost a century. From the controversial prorogation of Parliament in August 2019 to the Conservative party's historic landslide victory later that year, the agonising upheaval of Brexit and the Covid-19 pandemic, the Afghanistan crisis, the conflict in Ukraine, and the series of devastating scandals that were ultimately Johnson's undoing, his premiership has been more explosive than any other in living memory.

In this gripping work of contemporary history, Anthony Seldon, one of Britain's leading political and social commentators, and co-author Raymond Newell give the first full account of Johnson's seismic time in office from the summer of 2019 to the autumn of 2022. Based on major interviews with key aides and allies, and full of new revelations, *Johnson at 10* is the definitive portrait of the most divisive prime minister since Margaret Thatcher and the latest instalment in Anthony's bestselling 'Prime Ministers at 10' series.

Anthony Seldon is a British educator and historian. He is the author or editor of more than 35 books on contemporary history, politics and education, and is best known for his biographies of recent prime ministers from John Major to Boris Johnson. He was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Buckingham from 2015 to 2020 and is currently Head of Epsom College. He is honorary historical adviser to 10 Downing Street and chairs *The Times* Education Commission.



Caroline Wheeler

Death in the Blood

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Headline

Editor: Sarah Emsley / Martin Redfern

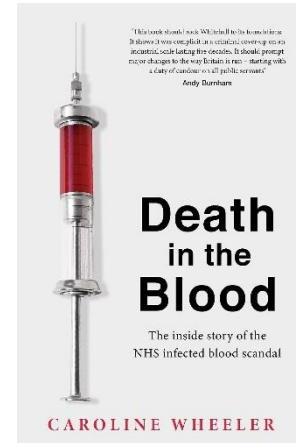
Publication date: September 2023

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Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Twenty years ago Caroline Wheeler, now political editor of the *Sunday Times*, took a phone call as a rookie journalist on a local paper that was to change her life and the course of her career. A 34-year-old haemophiliac, Mick Mason, told her that he had been infected with hepatitis and HIV after receiving blood products via the NHS when he was just a teenager. Mark's heart-breaking story was the spark that ignited Caroline's interest in the contaminated blood scandal – the worst treatment disaster in the history of the NHS.

In the 1970s and 1980s almost 5,000 UK haemophiliacs contracted HIV or hepatitis C after being infected by contaminated blood products. So far more than 2,800 are known to have died, and tens of thousands more lives have been destroyed in the families of those affected. The victims who were lucky enough to survive have spent the last 40 years desperately searching for answers.

Caroline has been integral to the campaign for justice for the victims and their families, and played a pivotal role in getting prime minister Theresa May to agree to an infected blood inquiry in 2019. In August 2022 it was announced that the UK government will pay around 4,000 victims interim compensation payments of £100,000 each. While this is a harrowing story of human suffering and loss, it is also a story of survival against the toughest odds, and of hope that one day the wrongs of the past will be recognised.

Death in the Blood is based on thousands of government documents, court and inquiry transcripts, interviews with prime ministers, cabinet ministers, Downing Street advisers, senior civil servants, doctors, and above all the victims and their families whose personal testimony forms the beating heart of the book. It is an epic human drama.

Caroline Wheeler is political editor of the *Sunday Times*. She has been a lobby journalist for over 18 years with an insider's knowledge of Westminster and Whitehall. Caroline has covered the contaminated blood scandal for two decades. Her work has been credited by politicians, including the former health secretary Andy Burnham, with helping to bring about the infected blood inquiry.



Joey D'Urso

More Than a Shirt

World All Languages rights: Orion
Rights sold through publisher

Editor: Tierney Witty
Publication date: 2025

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Proposal available



Twenty-Two Football Shirts that explain the world, geopolitics and the biggest stories of our time

Football is the world's most popular sport, and the shirts worn by teams and their supporters are its greatest means of cultural expression. Every year clubs launch new kits with increasingly extravagant marketing campaigns and convoluted explanations of how their designs reflect their history and local community. But football shirts are much more than just a symbol of which club we support. A seemingly innocuous combination of colours, sponsor logos and materials can all reflect the social values, financial struggles and political ideologies of the day, as geopolitical issues increasingly seep into every aspect of the game.

Investigative journalist Joey D'Urso has travelled across the globe, combining on-the-ground reporting with unparalleled analysis to collate a list of the twenty-two football shirts that best explain the modern world. *More Than A Shirt* will take fans on a journey from Birmingham to Belgrade and onto Medellin and Mumbai, outlining how we can see the war in Ukraine in the shirt of Schalke in Germany or China's foreign policy in West Bromwich Albion's; how the shirts of state-owned clubs are used for sportswashing; and why the French national kit embodies worldwide migration patterns.

Joey D'Urso is senior data journalist at The Times. Previously he was Investigations Writer for The Athletic UK, covering football, and he has reported on politics and social media for Reuters, BBC News, BuzzFeed News, Wired and the Sunday Times. Joey was nominated for Football Journalist of the Year by the Football Supporters Association in 2022 and have twice been nominated in the sports journalism category at the British Journalism Awards. He has also recently completed a part-time MSc at the Oxford Internet Institute.



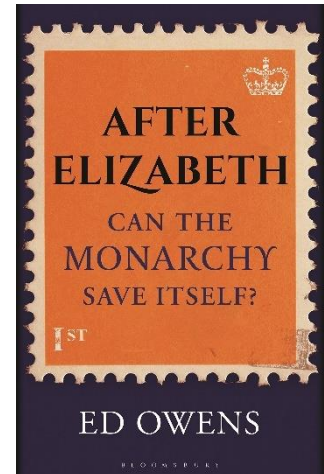
Ed Owens

After Elizabeth: Can the Monarchy Save Itself?

World All Languages rights: Bloomsbury
Rights sold through publisher

Editor: Robin Baird-Smith
Publication date: September 2023

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available



The British monarchy has been through turbulent times of late. Rocked by scandal and strife, and without it seems a clear plan for the future following the death of Queen Elizabeth II, we have been left wondering: what happens next?

Nothing seems certain. Will the monarchy survive with its continuing echoes of an Imperial past? Will young people - disenchanted with the political status quo - find the ritual and practice of the monarchy quite so mesmerising as previous generations have done? What might a republican Britain look like?

Ed Owens argues that the monarchy must embrace reform and transform itself radically. No more private jets while preaching about the importance of the environment; no more secrecy obscuring royal influence in high places; and no more hangers on enjoying grace-and-favour homes. A major slimming down is essential. And it's time the family archives were opened.

All these issues will have a direct effect on the common good of the nation as it tries to reinvent itself as a modern working democracy, and endeavours to equip itself for the coming decades. Ed Owens situates this critical moment of royal transition in its historical context in order to set out a vision for monarchy that is future-proof, but which would also see the crown play an integral role in the evolution of 21st-century Britain.

Ed Owens is the author of *The Family Firm: Monarchy, Mass Media and the British Public*. He is an historian, royal commentator and public speaker. He is often in demand on radio and television. Ed is an Honorary Research Associate at the Centre for the Study of Modern Monarchy at Royal Holloway, University of London. His other academic interests include the histories of mass media, empire, national identity, emotion and celebrity culture. Ed splits his time between the UK and France where he continues to teach, research and write about the history of the monarchy.



Tom Harper

Broken Yard: The Fall of the Metropolitan Police

UK & Commonwealth rights: Biteback

Editor: Olivia Beattie

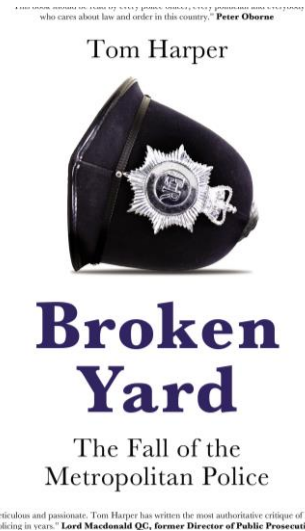
Publication date: October 2022

Audio rights UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada): WF Howes

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Broken Yard is a riveting, eye-opening account of corruption, racism and mismanagement inside Britain's most famous police force. The book charts Scotland Yard's fall from a position of unparalleled power to the troubled and discredited organisation we see today, barely trusted by its Westminster masters and struggling to perform its most basic function: the protection of the public.

Barely a week goes by without the Metropolitan Police Service plunging into a new crisis. Steeped in ignominy and depleted in numbers, the Met is a shadow of its former self.

From the Stephen Lawrence case to the murder of Sarah Everard, Tom Harper examines the most notorious cases involving the Met over the past thirty years. The result is a devastating picture of a world-famous police force riven with corruption, misogyny and rank incompetence.

As a top investigative reporter at the *Sunday Times* and the *Independent*, Tom Harper covered Scotland Yard for fifteen years, beginning not long after the fatal shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes, an innocent Brazilian killed by Met police officers after being mistaken for a terror suspect in 2005.

Tom Harper is a multi-award-winning investigative journalist. His honours include Scoop of the Year and Young Journalist of the Year at the British Press Awards. Tom has also been nominated as Specialist Journalist of the Year, News Reporter of the Year and Crime and Legal Affairs Journalist of the Year at the British Journalism Awards. He has held senior roles at a number of national newspapers, including the *Independent* and the *Sunday Times*.



Darragh McGee

Imitation Games: How the Gambling Industry Hijacked Sport

UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada) rights: Yellow Jersey, Random House

Editor: Joe Pickering

Publication date: 2025

Chinese (complex) rights: Heliopolis Culture Group

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

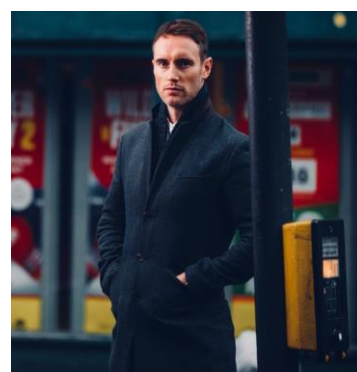
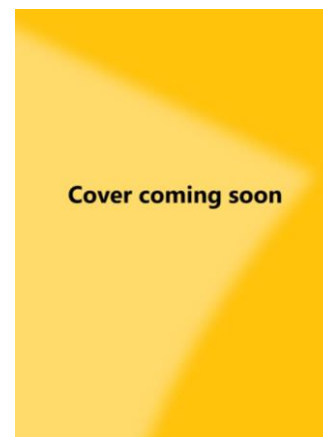
Proposal available

Sport and gambling have always been inextricably linked but over the past decade smartphone technology and light-touch regulation have turbocharged the sports gambling industry. Today, bets can be placed on virtually any sport anywhere in the world, with the 'slot machine in your pocket' offering instant in-play betting opportunities at your fingertips.

In *Imitation Games*, Darragh sets off on an eye-opening global investigation to discover who are the winners and losers of this dramatic transformation. As the profits of the online betting giants have soared, so too have associated gambling problems, especially among susceptible young men. Darragh's younger brother is one of them and his slide into addiction contrasts with Darragh's more innocent brush with gambling in the analogue days of the local bookie just a few years earlier. A new generation is fluent in the language of odds-talk, accumulators and 'cash outs'.

Drawing on a decade of scientific research as well as reportage and exclusive interviews, Darragh asks whether elite sport is in danger of becoming a mere imitation of itself, owned and engineered by the gambling industry for profit. He argues, '*Imitation Games* cuts to the heart of our cultural relationship with the accelerated risk and uncertain rewards of addictive technologies that can tune and manipulate human behaviour at scale. It reminds us of why we love sport and why urgent action is needed if we are to protect the next generation of fans from the dark side of gambling's digital turn.'

Darragh McGee is an academic based at the University of Bath. He is a sociologist of global health and an authority on the changing relationship between digital technology, gambling and sport, and his research has been featured in a range of international media, including *The Guardian*, *WIRED*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *CBC*. He leads a pioneering project on gambling expansion across Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2020 Darragh was named a BBC New Generation Thinker, and he has appeared on Radio 3, Radio 5 Live and BBC World Service, as well as Ireland's RTÉ Radio 1 and Newstalk.



Gavin Barwell

Chief of Staff: Notes from Downing Street

World English language rights: Atlantic

Editor: Mike Harpley

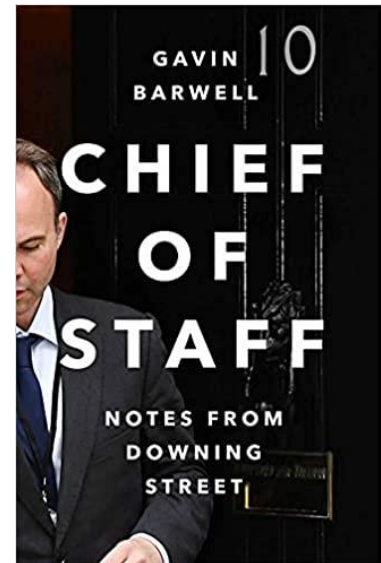
Publication date: September 2021

Audio rights UK & Commonwealth (excl. Canada): WF Howes

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Based on reams of detailed contemporaneous notes, *Chief of Staff* is an invaluable and gripping insider record of the most turbulent period in Britain's recent political history by Gavin Barwell, Theresa May's former Chief of Staff. He was by her side when she negotiated her Brexit deal, met Donald Trump, heard about the poisoning of the Skripals in Salisbury, made the decision to authorise the use of military force in Syria, met Jeremy Corbyn and Keir Starmer to broker a cross-party Brexit agreement – and ultimately made the decision to stand down as Prime Minister.

Gavin Barwell served as Chief of Staff to Prime Minister Theresa May from June 2017 to July 2019 during one of the most turbulent periods in British political history. As the Prime Minister's senior political adviser, he was intimately involved in the conduct of the Brexit negotiations; the development of key domestic policies such as the long-term plan for our NHS and the commitment to net zero carbon emissions; and in formulating the UK response to international incidents such as the attempted murder of Sergei Skripal.



Alan Duncan

In The Thick of It: The Private Diaries of a Minister

UK & Commonwealth rights: William Collins

Editor: Arabella Pike

Publication date: September 2021

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



As Minister of State at the Foreign Office, Alan Duncan was once described as Boris Johnson’s ‘pooper-scooper’. For two years, he deputised for the Johnson when he was Foreign Secretary. Few are more attuned to Boris’s strengths and weaknesses as a minister and his suitability for high office than the man who helped clear up his mistakes.

Riotously candid, these diaries cover the most turbulent period in recent British political history – from the eve of the referendum in 2016 to the UK’s eventual exit from the EU. As two prime ministers fall, two general elections unfold and a no-confidence vote is survived, Duncan records a treasure-trove of insider gossip, giving biting and often hilarious accounts of petty rivalries, poor decision-making, big egos, and big crises.

Nothing escapes Alan’s acerbic gaze. Across these unfiltered daily entries, he builds a revealing and often profound picture of UK politics and personalities. A rich seam of high politics and low intrigue, this is an account from deep inside the engine room of power.

Sir Alan Duncan was the UK’s Foreign Minister, and the de facto Deputy Foreign Secretary, from 2016 to 2019. He was the Member of Parliament for Rutland and Melton until stepping down in 2019. For the past thirty years, he has been at the centre of British political life. He has been at the heart of every Conservative Party leadership race since John Major succeeded Margaret Thatcher in 1990, spearheading William Hague’s 1997 leadership campaign, and has held senior positions such as Shadow Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and Shadow Minister for Justice. He was the first ever openly gay Conservative MP, coming out in 2002.

One of UK politics’ most forthright and engaging personalities, Alan is recognised as one of the best-connected and well-informed experts on the Middle East and, as Johnson’s deputy in the Foreign Office, sat in the very midst of everything in government that took place between the EU referendum and the UK’s eventual exit from the EU in January 2020.



Duncan Mavin

Meltdown: The Collapse of Credit Suisse

UK and Commonwealth rights: Pan Macmillan

Editor: Mike Harpley

Publication date: November 2024

US rights: Pegasus

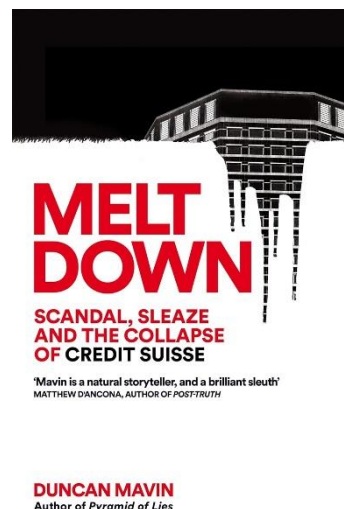
Dutch rights: Balans

Chinese (simplified) rights: China CITIC Press

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



For centuries, Swiss banks have served the globe's wealthiest individuals, employing a strict culture of anonymity and gaining massive wealth in the process. But when Credit Suisse collapsed, the veil of secrecy came down and the world was suddenly privy to the corruption, scandal and empty hubris that keep our biggest banks alive.

It was a 166-year-old bastion of Swiss banking, amongst the most important and influential financial institutions in the world – but a veneer of high-class service disguised a darker, dirtier reality. From its sterile Zurich headquarters, the bank catered to a clientele that included dictators, drug dealers and former Nazi officers, and helped fleece its own clients out of billions of dollars. This continued for decades, even as Credit Suisse continued to expand, acquiring smaller banks and granting its own executives lucrative bonus contracts.

Meltdown is the fascinating history of one of the biggest financial institutions of our times - and a thrilling exposé of the wider financial services sector - which promises to give readers a shocking and brutally honest look into a previously-unknown world of greed, lies and unrelenting human ambition.

"This is more than a richly detailed story about the hubris, corruption and incompetence that doomed Credit Suisse; it's a stark warning to all of us about what happens when we let bankers do what they like" - Oliver Bullough, bestselling author of Butler to the World

Duncan Mavin is a seasoned international financial journalist. He is currently an editor at *Bloomberg News* in London, and has been a reporter, editor and columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *Barron's*, and Canada's *National Post*. He's also the bestselling author of *Pyramid of Lies*, the political and financial exposé about the Greensill scandal that *The Sunday Times* dubbed 'Britain's version of Bad Blood.'



Duncan Mavin

The Pyramid of Lies: Lex Greensill and the Billion Dollar Scandal

World English language rights: Macmillan

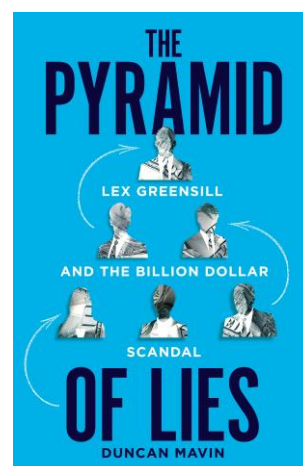
Editor: Mike Harpley

Publication date: July 2022

Film/TV rights under option by Sixty-Six Media & Shadowfox Productions

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Pyramid of Lies is the true story of Lex Greensill, the Australian farmer who became a billionaire banker and then crashed to earth, exposing a tangled network of flawed financiers, politicians and industrialists.

Lex Greensill had a simple, billion-dollar idea – democratising trade finance. Suppliers want to get their invoices paid as soon as possible. Companies want to hold off as long as they can. Greensill bridged the two, it's mundane, boring even, but he saw an opportunity to profit. However, margins are thin and Lex, ever the risk taker, made lucrative loans with other people's money: to a Russian cargo plane linked to Vladimir Putin, to former Special Forces who ran a private army, and crucially to companies that were fraudulent or had no revenue.

When the company collapsed it exposed the revolving door between Westminster and big business and laid bare how David Cameron was allowed to lobby ministers for cash. In Greensill's aftermath, Credit Suisse and Japan's SoftBank are nursing billions of dollars in losses, a German bank is under criminal investigation, and thousands of jobs are at risk.

What *Bad Blood* did for Silicon Valley and *The Smartest Guys in the Room* did for Wall Street, *The Pyramid of Lies* does for the world of shadow banking and supply chain finance. It is a world populated with some of the most outlandish characters in business and some of the most outrageous examples of excess. It is a story of greed and ambition that shines a light on the murky intersection between politics and business, where lavish fortunes can be made and lost.

Duncan Mavin is a seasoned international financial journalist. He is currently an editor at *Bloomberg News* in London, and has been a reporter, editor and columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *Barron's*, and Canada's *National Post*. He's also the bestselling author of *Pyramid of Lies*, the political and financial exposé about the Greensill scandal that *The Sunday Times* dubbed 'Britain's version of Bad Blood.'



Rory Cormac

How to Stage a Coup: And Ten Other Lessons from the World of Secret Statecraft

World English language rights: Atlantic

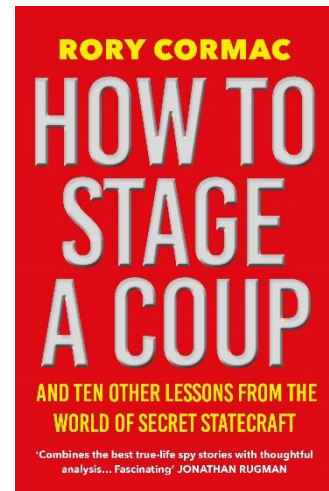
Editor: James Nightingale

Publication date: June 2022

Turkish rights: Turkuvaz Kitap

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



In his 2020 lecture, the Chief of the General Staff referred to the increasing threat from the 'grey zone' of international relations: a shadowy world of plausible deniability, ambiguity and intervention that exists somewhere between war and peace.

Rory Cormac is Professor of International Relations at the University of Nottingham and in *How to Stage a Coup* he draws on his academic expertise on a subject of growing relevance for global politics.

The book is an accessible and pacy overview of state covert action – from poisonings and electoral interference to disinformation and cyber-sabotage. There is no shortage of recent headline-grabbing examples – the Skripal poisoning, the assassination of Iranian military leader Qasem Soleimani, and Chinese disinformation around Covid-19 – which the book places in a broader framework. The narrative is filled with dramatic historical incidents and contains powerful arguments about the effectiveness of covert action, and how best to counter it.

Professor Rory Cormac specialises in researching covert action. He is the author of five books on intelligence history, including *Disrupt and Deny*, the definitive account of British covert action, and has published numerous articles on the subject. Cormac's research on covert action has been turned into television and radio documentaries reaching a worldwide audience of millions. He has spoken on covert action and intelligence at 10 Downing Street, the Home Office, Cabinet Office, Ministry of Defence, US Pentagon and US State Department. He holds a PhD in War Studies from King's College London and is a Professor of International Relations at the University of Nottingham.



Jonathan Rugman

The Killing in the Consulate: Investigating the Life and Death of Jamal Khashoggi

UK & Commonwealth rights (excl. Canada): Simon & Schuster

Editor: Ian Marshall

Publication date: October 2019

Film/TV rights under option

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



‘Reads like a page-turning spy thriller. That it is true makes it all the more chilling. Engrossing and enthralling.’ – **Tim Marshall, bestselling author of *Prisoners of Geography***

From Channel 4 News’s award-winning Foreign Affairs Correspondent, the inside story of the chilling murder of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul.

Few international news stories have gripped the popular imagination like the killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi in the Saudi consulate in Istanbul in October 2018. The blood-curdling revelations sent shockwaves around the world, and the repercussions for the wider region continue to reverberate.

A journalist with deep contacts in Turkey and throughout the Middle East, as well as in Washington DC, Jonathan conducts exclusive interviews with the key players in this chilling drama, including Khashoggi’s friends, family and fiancée. He pieces together the events surrounding the death in minute-by-minute detail, while considering the broader diplomatic implications of the rivalry between the strongmen of Turkey and Saudi Arabia for supremacy in the Islamic world, the humanitarian catastrophe created by the brutal war in Yemen, and the biggest crisis in Western–Saudi relations since 9/11. Fresh revelations and compelling storytelling are interwoven with first-rate geopolitical analysis.

Jonathan Rugman has been Foreign Affairs Correspondent at Channel 4 News since 2006. His journalism has won more than ten awards, including a BAFTA for his coverage of the 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris. A frequent visitor to the Middle East, he chronicled the ‘Arab Spring’ revolts from Tunisia and Egypt to Libya, Syria and Bahrain. He was based in Washington DC as Channel 4’s US Correspondent for three years and before that lived in Turkey, where he wrote his first book, *Ataturk’s Children*.



Douglas McWilliams

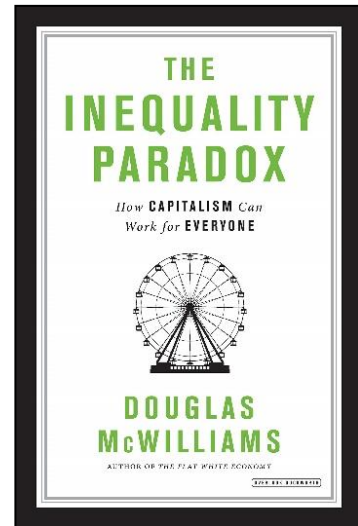
The Inequality Paradox: How Capitalism Can Work for Everyone

World English language rights: Abrams & Chronicle Books

Publication date: September 2019

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



In his illuminating book, Douglas McWilliams argues that inequality is largely driven not by a conspiracy of the rich, as Thomas Piketty suggests, but by technology and globalization that have led to the paradox of rising inequality even as worldwide poverty drops.

But what are the implications of this seeming contradiction, and what ultimately drives the global distribution of wealth? What can societies do to reshape capitalism for the 21st century? Drawing on the latest research, McWilliams investigates how wealth is concentrated and why it persistently remains in the hands of very few. In accessible and thought-provoking prose, McWilliams poses a comprehensive theory on why capitalism has not met its match in the form of increasingly disparate income distribution, but warns of the coming wave of technological development--the fourth industrial revolution--that threatens to create a scarcity of unskilled jobs that will lead to even greater inequality and explains what governments can do to prepare for this.

From the inquisitive layperson to the professional economist or policymaker, *The Inequality Paradox* is essential reading for understanding the global economy in its present state. McWilliams is a fresh, authoritative voice entering the global discussion, making this book indispensable in preparing for the imminent economic challenges of our changing world.

Douglas McWilliams is one of the world's leading economists. He is the founder and executive deputy chairman of Cebr, the leading economics think tank. Cebr is well-known around the world for its expertise in forecasting the economy and understanding globalisation and technology. Douglas presents regularly in the House of Commons and has previously served as the Gresham Professor of Commerce. Before he set up Cebr, Douglas was Chief Economic Adviser to the Confederation of British Industry, Chief Economist for IBM and chaired the Economics Committee of Business Europe.



David Clegg & Kieran Andrews

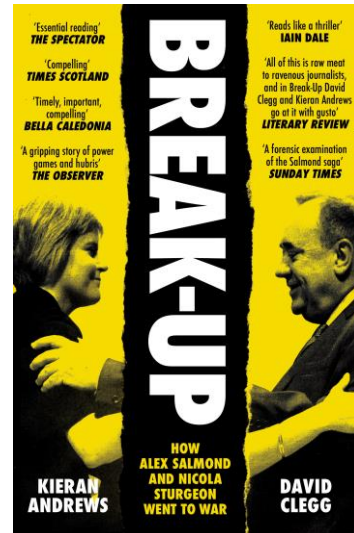
Break-Up: How Alex Salmond and Nicola Sturgeon Went to War

UK & Commonwealth rights: Biteback
Editor: Olivia Beattie
Publication date: August 2021

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available

'A gripping story of power games and hubris' – *Observer*



Alex Salmond and Nicola Sturgeon's political partnership changed the face of Scotland, bringing the country to within 200,000 votes of independence in 2014 and holding sway at Holyrood for more than a decade. Since the referendum, Scottish nationalism has been a movement on the up, but the relationship between the former First Minister and his protégée and successor broke down.

Break-Up tells the inside story of how an alliance that goes back thirty years was ripped apart amid shocking claims of sexual assault, driving a wedge through the once unbreakable unity of the Scottish National Party. With unrivalled access to both camps and the women who made the allegations, and with rigorously fair-minded reporting, journalists David Clegg and Kieran Andrews go behind the headlines to uncover the truth about this extraordinary episode, in a piece of political history that reads like a thriller.

This is a jaw-dropping tale of inappropriate behaviour in the highest reaches of power, of lies, distrust and alleged conspiracy, with profound implications not only for Salmond and Sturgeon themselves but for Scotland's governing party and the wider independence campaign.

At its heart, it is also a story about how women who voiced concerns about the behaviour of the most powerful man in the country were used as political pawns – and about what that means for the #MeToo movement.

David Clegg is the editor of *The Courier*. As political editor of the *Daily Record*, he revealed that former First Minister Alex Salmond was facing allegations of sexual assault. The story won him Journalist of the Year, Political Journalist of the Year and Scoop of the Year at the 2018 Scottish Press Awards. He was also named Political Journalist of the Year in 2014, 2015 and 2017. David is a regular contributor to the Sky News Press Preview and is a sought-after pundit on Scottish politics.



Kieran Andrews is the Scottish political editor of *The Times* and has been the go-to journalist following the twists and turns of the Salmond inquiries, exposing many of the Scottish government's failings in the investigation and its fallout. He regularly appears as a pundit on Times Radio, the BBC and Sky News. Kieran is the convener of the Scottish Parliamentary Journalists' Association. He was on the frontline for the 2014 independence and 2016 Brexit referendums.



Lifestyle, Health, Motivation & Gift

Max Nightingale

Murder in Tinseltown: A Hollywood Era Choose-Your-Own-Story Mystery

UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada rights: HarperNorth

Editor: Meg Jones

Publication date: November 2024

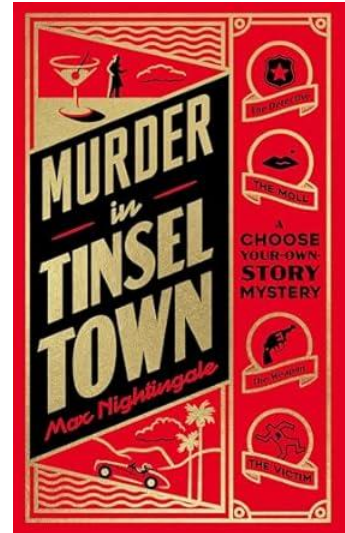
US rights: Pegasus Books

Polish rights: Wydawnictwo Czarna

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Can your sleuthing skills help identify the murderer of a Hollywood starlet?

Los Angeles, 1958. The biggest, brightest and best names in Hollywood have gathered at the Royale Premiere Hotel on the eve of the biggest awards show of the year.

Things take a devilish turn when leading lady Blanche Aikerman is found murdered in her room. With a list of suspects as long as Aikerman's accolades and credits, YOU are thrust into the action and must fully immerse yourself in the role of an LAPD homicide detective on the scene to hunt, capture and correctly charge the culprit.

Blending all the fun and appeal of the traditional hard-boiled detective story with a classic choose-your-own-path model, this book puts you right in the thick of the action. Larger-than-life characters, cunning suspects and puzzles will try to throw you off the scent as you are presented with a series of choices at every turn of the page.

Be cautious though as only one path will lead you to the right killer, others may not lead to the results that you're seeking...

Transporting the reader right into the heart of 1950s Los Angeles, *Murder in Tinseltown* is a brand-new story full of head-scratching interactions and clues set against the glamorous backdrop of Hollywood's Golden Era.

Born and raised in the gritty backstreets of LA, **Max Nightingale** has lived within the city's dark underworld and brooding atmosphere for decades. A former private investigator turned full-time author, one of his most famous cases was the murder of the famed Hollywood starlet Blanche Aikerman, which has been detailed for the very first time in *Murder in Tinseltown*. Can you find the culprit any quicker...?



Pixie Turner

Food Therapy: Understand and Repair Your Relationship with What You Eat

UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada rights: Piatkus (Little Brown)

Editor: Holly Harley

Publication date: January 2023

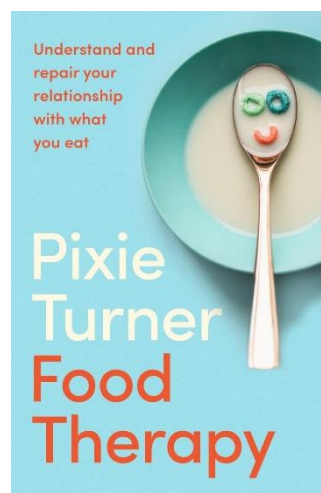
Spanish rights: Editorial Planeta

Japanese rights: IMK

All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Diets don't just fail to make us healthy. They take up unnecessary space in our minds and prevent us from living life to the fullest.

In *Food Therapy*, Pixie Turner presents a fresh new approach to rehabilitating our relationship with food. Instead of focusing on rules, reduction and restriction, this practical book will help you uncover the roots and psychology of your relationship with food – how your experiences and feelings affect what you eat – and introduce you to a lifelong practice that will free you from a destructive relationship with food and dieting.

Healthy eating begins in the mind. As a registered nutritionist and qualified ACT therapist, Pixie has a wealth of experience with clients who come to her for help with disordered eating and body image problems. This book will help you understand why diets don't work, and will empower you to rebuild your relationship with food by using psychological tools to identify your unique problematic points, and counter those with healthy eating habits.

By understanding why we eat, and bringing awareness to our food, we can rebuild the damage caused by diets and eat freely, without guilt, and set ourselves on a course to lifelong health. *Food Therapy* will change your mind about eating well.

Pixie Turner is a registered nutritionist (RNutr) and science communicator, and she also has qualifications in psychotherapy, which makes her uniquely positioned to write this book. Alongside her degrees in biochemistry and nutrition and her qualifications in psychotherapy, she has over 130,000 followers on her 'Pixie Nutrition' social media accounts. Her science communication work extends across mainstream media as well as social media. Pixie has been featured as a nutrition expert on the BBC, Sky and Channel 5, and in publications such as *Red magazine*, the *Evening Standard*, *Grazia*, the *Telegraph* and more. She is the author of *The Wellness Rebel* (2018), *The No Need to Diet Book* (2019) and *The Insta-Food Diet* (August 2020), all published by Head of Zeus.



Charlotte Jessop

The Modern Money Manifesto

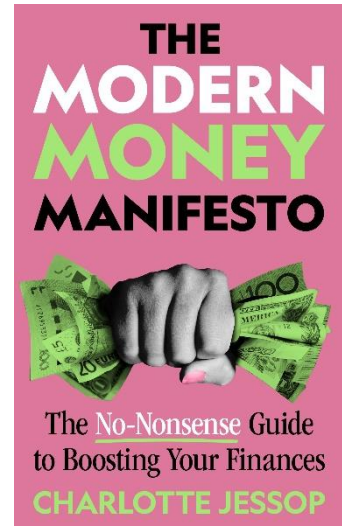
UK & Commonwealth excl. Canada rights: Bedford Square

Editor: Jamie Hodder-Williams

Publication date: December 2024

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



Feeling trapped by the boomer narrative of ‘work hard, save hard, buy a house, save for retirement’, maths teacher Charlotte Jessop created Looking After Your Pennies, a financial education website, to share her knowledge, skills and personal wisdom with other 20- and 30-somethings. Looking After Your Pennies is now a multimedia business, delivering financial education to over 80,000 followers across Charlotte’s website, YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok. Her Tik Tok videos have been viewed by millions and she enjoys a high level of engagement.

The Modern Money Manifesto distils Charlotte’s savvy financial advice into a practical guidebook aimed squarely at millennials and Gen Z. Written in her trademark no-nonsense style, the book rips up the rulebook on financial planning. Young people need a new toolkit to navigate the world of WFH, multi-hyphenate careers and astronomical house prices. *The Modern Money Manifesto* calls for nothing less than a revolution in our attitude to money management as Charlotte guides the reader through every stage of financial life – from juggling multiple streams of income to deciding whether it’s the right thing to buy a property or not.

With the cost-of-living crisis set to intensify over the coming years, this empowering book by an exciting new voice in the personal finance space is both timely and necessary. It’s tough out there but, Charlotte demonstrates, you have more options than ever before. *The Modern Money Manifesto* will teach you to play by a new set of rules and live life on your own terms.

Charlotte Jessop is a financial educator who has appeared on BBC News, Sky News, BBC radio, and ITV, and her writing has appeared in the *Financial Times*, *Sun*, *Metro*, *Telegraph*, and *i* paper. She has also worked with the *Financial Times* charity Financial Literacy and Inclusion Campaign to assist in the development and delivery of resources in schools.



Helen Coffey

Zero Altitude: How I Learned To Fly Less and Travel More

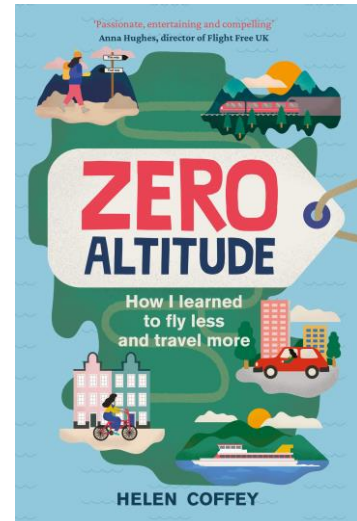
UK & Commonwealth rights: Flint (History Press)

Editor: Simon Wright

Publication date: June 2022

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Travelling without flying when you're a travel journalist is already a challenge. Throw in a worldwide pandemic that closes borders, imposes national lockdowns and reintroduces the dreaded Q-word (say it quietly now: *quarantine*) into common parlance, and it becomes a whole lot more challenging...

What started as a personal mission for one very frequent flyer to embrace the flight-free life for a whole year quickly became the norm for just about everyone – albeit unintentionally. But having lived through the grounding of the vast majority of flights overnight and the subsequent toppling of airlines from their formerly lofty heights, now's a better time than ever to explore new forms of transport.

And, as the aviation industry rebuilds, now is the perfect time to ask: what should it look like in the wake of Greta Thunberg, Extinction Rebellion and scientists' increasingly vocal arguments that the amount we flew BC – Before Covid – simply wasn't sustainable?

Neither climate change nor coronavirus will ever curb our wanderlust; but travel doesn't have to mean air travel. Part travelogue, part research-based investigation, *Zero Altitude* charts the journey of travel writer Helen Coffey as she attempts to keep seeing new places with clipped wings in a post-pandemic world, and to answer the big question: is a flight-free future really the only answer?

Helen Coffey is a leading travel journalist and speaker with over eight years' experience in the industry. Currently deputy head of travel at the *Independent*, she has previously worked at national titles including the *Telegraph*, *Evening Standard* and *Daily Express*. She is regularly called upon to appear on media outlets as an expert contributor on travel-related consumer stories. These include the BBC News Channel, BBC World News, BBC Breakfast, BBC Radio 5 Live, BBC Radio Wales, BBC Radio 4 and LBC, among others.



Jan Hall & Jon Stokes

Changing Gear: Creating the Life You Want After a Full-On Career

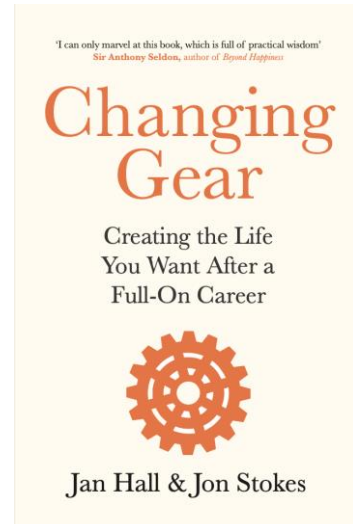
World English language rights: Headline

Editor: Lindsey Evans

Publication date: February 2021

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Manuscript available



Coping with transition can be hard at every stage of life, but it presents unique challenges as we come to the time of our lives when we are facing the end of full-on, full-time work.

Changing Gear looks at why work is such an important part of a person's identity, and how challenging it can be when it's time to change gear, whether that's to explore a new path or take a step back from our careers entirely.

Offering insight, advice and practical exercises to help you make the right decisions, this valuable guide gives you the tools to navigate complicated situations, identify what's most important, and develop the skills you need to cope with change.

Jan and Jon have guided hundreds of senior leaders through significant transitions, as well as having first-hand experience of their own transitions. Together they provide a powerful set of perspectives.

Jan Hall ran a number of businesses before becoming one of the UK's top headhunters working regularly with the chairmen and CEOs of some of the world's biggest companies. During her career as a headhunter, CEO and executive coach, she has supported hundreds of professional people in their work transitions and this has also inevitably crossed into their home lives too. In 2013 she wrote *Dementia Essentials - How to Guide a Loved One Through Dementia* (Vermilion), which was her way of grieving following the death of her mother. She continues to advise business leaders and Boards via her advisory firm, No 4.

Jon Stokes is a Senior Fellow in Management Practice at Saïd Business School, University of Oxford and a chartered clinical psychologist. He has advised a wide range of commercial and public sector organisations including investment banks, professional service firms and the prison service. He was chairman of the Adult department at The Tavistock Clinic and the Founder Director of Tavistock Consulting. Today he is a director of Stokes & Jolly and teaches at Oxford University. His publications include chapters on 'The Psychodynamics of Teams' and 'Organisational Stress' in *The Unconscious at Work* and 'Why do we work' in *Talking Cure*, the book accompanying a TV series, and 'Leadership and Executive Coaching' in *The Sage Handbook of Coaching*.

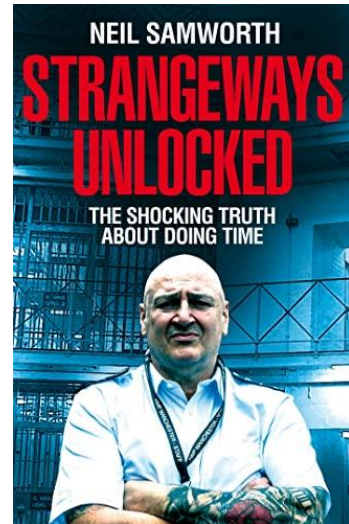
Memoir & Narrative Non-Fiction

Neil Samworth

Strangeways Unlocked: The Shocking Truth about Doing Time

UK & Commonwealth rights: Macmillan
Editor: Ingrid Connell
Publication date: March 2022

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available



A darkly funny, harrowing and heartbreaking look at the reality of prison life, with first-hand accounts from men who found themselves on the wrong side of the cell doors.

Neil 'Sam' Samworth spent eleven years as a prison officer at HMP Manchester, better known as Strangeways. He has seen it all: from notorious criminals, dangerous gangsters and repeat offenders to those who simply made the wrong decisions. In this shocking page-turner, he tracks down former prisoners and staff, and uncovers the inside story of what life is really like in one of the UK's most infamous high-security prisons.

We'll see a prisoner whose unwanted feud with an inmate ends in a fight and the loss of his eye, another who is convicted for theft but leaves addicted to spice, and many who become victims of the IPP system where they find themselves serving indefinite sentences for petty crimes. We'll see the dark underworld of the prison system, where riots can occur at any time, where the worlds of gangbangers suddenly collide, where class A drugs and contrabands roam. On the other side, we'll see staff grappling with a failing prison system, while dealing with an inmate who records the highest ever psychopath rating and caring fully for another they suspect is feigning handicap.

In brutally raw and gripping detail, *Strangeways Unlocked* gives voice to the people behind the bars and exposes a prison system that is failing them, providing an unforgettable account of a life that many can only imagine.

Neil Samworth grew up in Sheffield and had a variety of jobs before becoming a prison officer at Forest Bank in Manchester. In 2005, he transferred to HMP Manchester, still known as Strangeways, the notorious jail where riots took place in 1990. Sam spent 11 years there.



Carla Valentine

The Language of Bones

UK & Commonwealth ex Canada rights: Sphere

Editor: Tig Wallace

Publication date: 2026

Principal agent: Matthew Cole

Proposal available



In this moving and personal book, Carla Valentine takes the reader on a journey of discovery as she uncovers the scientific and emotional aspects of our relationship with bones and mortality. Carla is the curator of a pathology museum which contains thousands of bones and skeletons. Tragically, Carla's own brother was diagnosed with bone cancer and she personally observed the utter decimation the disease causes over the course of a few years.

The Language of Bones is a beautiful exploration of what bones mean to us and Carla seeks the answers to questions of life and death as she navigates her own grief by delving deeper, beyond the soft tissue, to the skeleton. For this book Carla will investigate and share information about the treatment, display and nature of bones, as well as the incredible narratives that surround them.

Carla Valentine spent ten years working as an Anatomical Pathology Technician in mortuaries around the UK before becoming Technical Curator of Barts Pathology Museum in London, one of the world's most famous pathology museums, in 2011. During her mortuary career, she carried out autopsies on a variety of deceased victims including those of the July 7/7 Bombings in London. She has written about her profession for the Association of Anatomical Pathology Technologists, the *Huffington Post* and *Londonist*. She also writes the successful blog *The Chick and the Dead*.



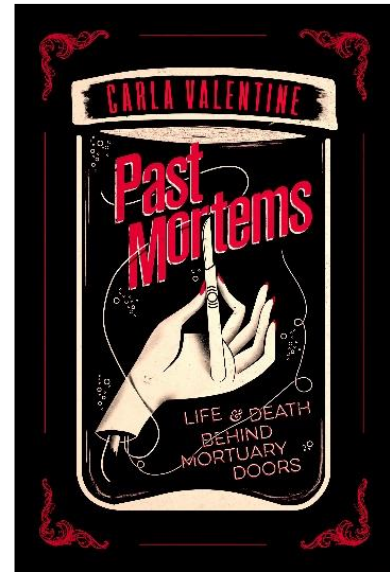
Carla Valentine

Past Mortems: Life and Death Behind Mortuary Doors

UK & Commonwealth rights: Sphere
Editor: Rhiannon Smith
Publication date: March 2018

US rights: St Martin's Press
Chinese (complex) rights: Ecus
Chinese (simplified) rights: China CITIC Press
Japanese rights: Kagaku Dojin Publishing Company
Russian rights: AST
Vietnamese rights: BeBooks
All other rights available

Principal agent: Matthew Cole
Manuscript available



A day in the life of Carla Valentine — curator, pathology technician and 'death professional' —is not your average day. She spent ten years training and working as an Anatomical Pathology Technologist: where the mortuary slab was her desk, and that day's corpses her task list.

Past Mortems tells Carla's stories of those years, as well as investigating the body alongside our attitudes towards death, shedding light on what the living can learn from dead and the toll the work can take on the living souls who carry it out. Fascinating and insightful, *Past Mortems* reveals the truth about what happens when the mortuary doors swing shut or the lid of the coffin closes...

Carla Valentine spent ten years working as an Anatomical Pathology Technician in mortuaries around the UK before becoming Technical Curator of Barts Pathology Museum in London, one of the world's most famous pathology museums, in 2011. During her mortuary career, she carried out autopsies on a variety of deceased victims including those of the July 7/7 Bombings in London. She has written about her profession for the Association of Anatomical Pathology Technologists, the *Huffington Post* and *Londonist*. She also writes the successful blog *The Chick and the Dead*.



Contact

Matthew Cole

Literary Agent – Non-Fiction

Matthew.Cole@northbanktalent.com

www.northbanktalent.com

 [@northbanktalent](https://twitter.com/northbanktalent)

 [@northbanktalent](https://www.instagram.com/northbanktalent)

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