

FICTION
SPRING
2022

AGENCE
DEBORAH
DRUBA

Client List

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Editions du Faubourg <https://editionsdufaubourg.fr/> (World)
Editions LiberFaber <http://liberfaber.com/fr/accueil.html> (World)
Editions Terre Urbaine <https://terreurbaine.com/> (World)
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Germany

Lisa Frühbeis (author) <http://xn--lisafrhbeis-yhb.de/> (World)

UK

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JEAN-LUC PORQUET
**THE BIG TRIAL OF THE
ANIMALS**

ILLUSTRATED BY JACEK WOZNIAK

CLIENT: ÉDITIONS DU FAUBOURG

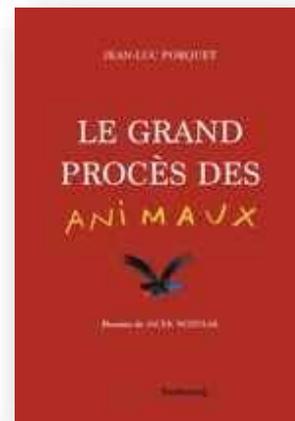
PUB DATE (FRANCE): OCTOBER 2021

MATERIAL: FULL FRENCH MANUSCRIPT (160 PP)

+ SAMPLE TRANSLATION

RIGHTS SOLD: KOREA

RIGHTS HANDLED: WORLD



A spectacular trial, under the eye of cameras from all over the world. All sorts of animals parade before the president of the court. Each one of them must say why his species deserves to survive. Why human society should spend a fortune to protect it. Only one in ten will be saved. The jury will be the public.

The great horned owl, the black swift, the Vulcan butterfly, the mudworm... The interrogations are lively, tense, hilarious. And the animals are very convincing. So, which one to choose? The president of the court is becoming more and more nervous. It's true that things are getting a bit out of hand...

This satirical fable is also a joyful lesson in ecology. It invites us to look at the animal world with a different eye.



JEAN-LUC PORCHET has been writing for weekly *Le Canard enchaîné* for more than 25 years. Passionate about environmental issues, he denounces with humor the hypocrisies of politicians and the failings of companies. He is the author of *Lettre au dernier Grand Pingouin* (Verticales, 2016) and *Cabu, une vie de dessinateur* (Gallimard, 2018).

JACEK WOZNIAK is an illustrator whose drawings are regularly published in *Le Canard enchaîné*. He publishes in October 2021 *Peut-on rire du tout? Une rétrospective de 35 ans au Canard enchaîné* (Le Seuil).

PRAISE

"Copiously and delightfully illustrated, *Le Grand procès des animaux* is an instructive and mischievous satirical animal fable with a very theatrical tone. [...]" **Emmanuelle Caminade, L'or du livre.**

"This funny but very political trial, illustrated by the poetic Wozniak, turns against its instigators. (...) A vibrant appeal for mankind to live in peace with the animal reign that will cause delight in nests and burrows." **Anne-Sophie Mercier, Le Canard enchaîné.**

"A favorite! A short, intelligent, incisive, militant, cynical and lucid text. A plea for the animal cause, a new alert on our duty to act, a fascinating crash course in zoology, a moving ode to nature and life." **Eline, Le Cyprès-Gens de la Lune Bookstore, (Nevers)**



JO Mc MILLAN

THE HAPPINESS FACTORY

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

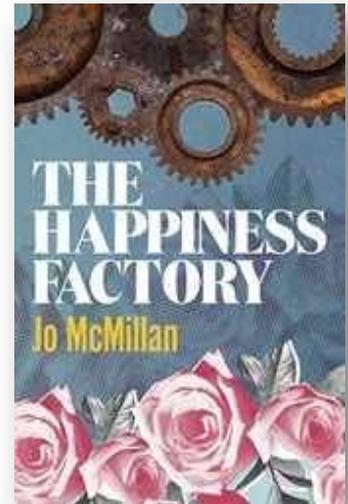
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (272PP)

PUBDATE (UK): JANUARY 2022

RIGHTS SOLD:

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE (UK, NA – please contact Helen
Edwards helen@helenedwardsrights.co.uk)

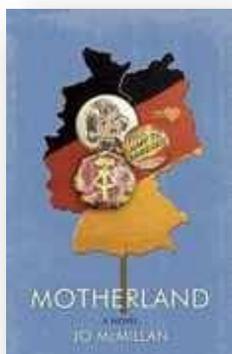


Mo Moore, estranged daughter of a sex-aid entrepreneur, regards her father as good as dead. And then he really does die and leaves her all his wealth. Stuck in a job in elderly care, newly single, and with nothing and no-one to keep her in England, Mo does what she's always done when things get tough: she runs. It could have been anywhere, but a classified ad catches Mo's eye, and it takes her to China. She lands in Pingdi, a remote mountain village that for centuries supplied dildos to the Imperial bedchamber, and whose revived sex-aid factory is in a financial fix. Soon Mo finds herself on the wrong side of the authorities and needing all the help she can get: China is a land of pointing fingers and blind eyes, of closed doors and open secrets, of rules and recklessness – a place, she discovers, where it's not easy to be female.

The Happiness Factory is about the families we run from and a love story to the families we make for ourselves – sometimes in the most unexpected places. It's a portrait of a country as it emerges from a Maoist past into its roaring global present. And at its heart are fathers: the way they make you and mark you, and how they follow you, however far you go – even to the furthest edge of China.

JO McMILLAN has lived and worked in China, Malaysia and the UK, and is currently based in Berlin. She has a PhD in anthropology. Her writing has appeared in *Granta*, *Traveller* and the *Times Higher Education Supplement*. Her first novel, *Motherland*, was published in the UK and in Germany.

ALSO AVAILABLE



CLIENT: AUTHOR

PUBLISHER: JOHN MURRAY

MATERIAL: FULL MS (272 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): 2015

RIGHTS SOLD: GERMAN (ULLSTEIN VERLAG)

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

It's 1978, Jess is thirteen and she already has a reputation – as the daughter of the only communist in town. But then, it's in the blood. The Mitchells have been in the Party since the Party began. Jess and her mother Eleanor struggle to sell socialism to Tamworth – a sleepy Midlands town that just doesn't want to know. So when Eleanor is invited to spend a summer teaching in East Germany, she and Jess leap at the chance to see what the future looks like. On the other side of the Iron Curtain they turn from villains into heroes. And when Eleanor meets widower Peter and his daughter, Martina, a new, more peaceful life seems possible.

But the Cold War has no time for love and soon the trouble starts. Peter is dispatched for two years of solidarity work in Laos. Friends become enemies, and Jess discovers how easy it is to switch sides – how sides can be switched for you, sometimes without you even knowing.

Motherland is a tender mother-daughter story and a tragi-comic portrait of a childhood overcome with belief. It's about loss of faith and loss of innocence, and what it's like to grow up on the losing side of history.

HELEN E. MUNDLER

THREE DAYS BY THE SEA

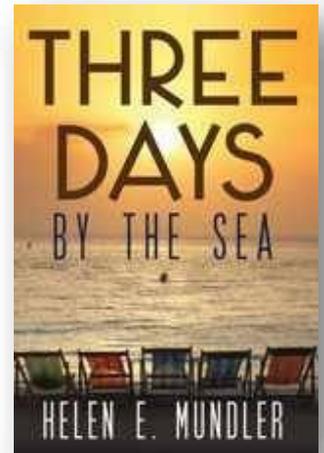
CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (304 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): MAY 2022

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



In the Ellis family, no-one talks about Susie but no-one can forget her – until Gina and Robert receive invitations to a family reunion by the sea in Cornwall.

As the three days unfold, the stories and secrets of each character are mapped against England's changing society. Gradually, the truth of Susie's disappearance over twenty years ago is revealed.

Three Days by the Sea is a subtle, funny and moving story of hope and renewal. With both dry, sharp humour and warmth, Helen Mundler unpicks the trials and tensions of family life.

HELEN E. MUNDLER studied at Durham University before obtaining her doctorate in Strasbourg, and her Habilitation in Nanterre. She is currently associate professor at a university in Paris. She has published two other novels, *Homesickness* (Dewi Lewis, 2003) and *L'Anglaise* (Holland House, 2018), as well as three critical works, *Intertextualité dans l'oeuvre d'A.S.Byatt* (Paris, Harmattan, 2003), *The Otherworlds of Liz Jensen: a Critical Reading* (Boydell and Brewer, Rochester, USA, 2016), and *The Noah Myth in Twenty-First-Century Novels: Rewritings from a Drowning World* (Boydell and Brewer, Rochester, USA, 2022). In 2018 her short story 'The Fish' was shortlisted for the Fish Publishing Prize in Ireland.

Recently Helen has been involved in teaching creative writing workshops in Strasbourg and judging a short story competition, and has been instrumental in developing creative writing as a sub-discipline of English Studies in French universities.

At present she is working on a fourth novel, *Clouds Without Shadows*.

PRAISE FOR *L'ANGLAISE*

'*L'Anglaise* is an intelligent, finely-wrought exploration of what home means to those who leave and those who stay. In graceful prose it speaks of love engendered, lost, mourned and renewed; of shadows cast and cast off; of how time illuminates, and forgiveness sets us free.' **Liz Jensen, author of *The Ninth Life of Louis Drax, The Uninvited, Ark Baby, etc***

"An intense, unsettling and unflinchingly honest novel" **James Wilson, author of *The Bastard Boy, The Woman in the Picture, etc***

FICTION / NOVEL

PRAISE FOR *HOMESICKNESS*

‘...beautifully and tenderly told...’ John Carey; as Booker Prize Judge Chairman, John Carey nominated *Homesickness* as a book he would have liked to see in the Prize list.

‘Mundler writes about sex as it really exists, a physical act freighted with emotional, spiritual and moral complexity... a smart and courageous book.’ **Foreword Reviews**

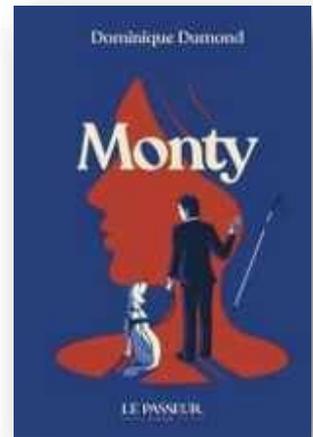
‘Mundler writes beautifully, with a deep understanding...’ **Time Out**

‘... a remarkable début.’ **Manchester City Lif**

DOMINIQUE DUMOND

MONTY

CLIENT: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR
PUBLISHER: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR
MATERIAL: FULL MS (168PP)
PUBDATE (F): JANUARY 2022
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



The relationship between a visually impaired man and his guide dog, who gradually come to identify with each other.
A new subject treated with finesse, lightness of touch and great sensitivity.

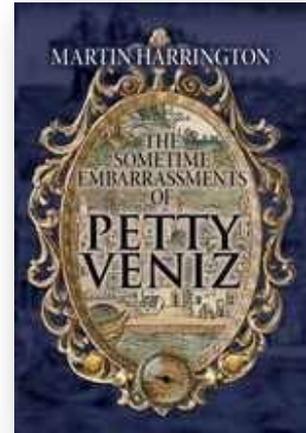
When Hervé loses his sight, he doesn't lose his morale, quite the contrary. With communicative verve - because when you are visually impaired "black humor is a must" - he reveals the secret of his drive: Monty, his guide dog who at every moment helps him find his way through his invisible surroundings. Thanks to him, he can relearn everything, live differently, rediscover with enthusiasm what makes life worth living. As time goes by, he communicates with Monty, reads his thoughts and manages to make himself understood by his dog without even speaking to him. How is it possible to reach such a point of fusional intimacy?

In this light-hearted and endearing, funny and touching story, praising the existence of guide dogs who give life back to the visually impaired, Hervé never feels sorry for himself. With tenderness and spiritedness, emotion and authenticity, he invites us to follow him on this beautiful path of life... and love.

Two passions have animated **DOMINIQUE DUMOND** since his youth: theater and music. Despite a genetic disease that deprived him of reading at the age of 20 and a visual acuity that never ceased to diminish, he devoted his entire life to them, embracing in turn the professions of agent, manager, artistic director, producer, and finally director of a major Parisian theater.

The arrival of Monty, his first guide dog, was such a game-changer for him that he wanted to pay tribute to him in a novel. Monty is the 1000th dog trained by the Paris Guide Dog School in 30 years.

MARTIN HARRINGTON
**THE SOMETIMES
EMBARRASMENTS OF
PETTY VENIZ**



CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (400 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): NOVEMBER 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD

A vision, a peculiar international movement flooding the city, an Empress, and a strange artefact called the Chimaera... Petty Veniz will never be the same again, for it seems the Apocalypse is at hand.

It is the bizarre culmination of a series of events which began a year or two before, when the 'The Most Ancient and Venerable University of St Mark the Evangelist, commonly known as Petty Veniz', found that it is not, as it had thought, securely wealthy: it is, in fact, insolvent. When the university's head, a hitherto unassuming academic called Bill Westey, announces that he has experienced a vision, the world of the University is turned upside down, culminating in the arrival of the Empress, who controls the Chimaera.

The Professor of Moral Philosophy, Jim Gentry, infatuated with one of his doctoral students, becomes convinced that his mental disturbance is the cause of the city's crisis. Fifty years after Gentry's death, his younger contemporary Moses Mandeville receives a copy of the journal Gentry kept at that time. It is the incentive that the now aged Mandeville needs, to complete his account of the 'sometime embarrassments' of Petty Veniz.

A brilliant, unique book: gripping, satirical and thought-provoking, set in an alternative world which yet somehow our own.

Born in Kenmare, Co. Kerry, Ireland, **MARTIN HARRINGTON** is a graduate of the University of Warwick, and spent much of his life in the book trade in Oxford. He was for some years editor of the *Oxford University Gazette* and the *Oxford University Calendar*. His sense of a certain resemblance between the University of Oxford and the old Republic of Venice – two 'Most Serene Republics' – was the genesis of *The Sometime Embarrassments of Petty Veniz*. He is now retired and lives near Oxford.

ARAM KEBABDJIAN ODE TO JOY

CLIENT: ÉDITIONS DU FAUBOURG

PUB DATE (FRANCE): AUGUST 2021

MATERIAL: FULL FRENCH MANUSCRIPT (250
PP)

RIGHTS SOLD:

RIGHTS HANDLED: WORLD



He ordered two coffees and then some food. Mostly, he smoked. Only one thing really bothered him: was he still a person? Was he in any way meaningful in the geopolitics of the world today? He, Sigmund Oropa, that insignificant knight, parked in his closet at the European Union's Fraud Office, writing non-binding reports on alleged misappropriations of EU funds? He gazed up at the treetops. The sky, the fluttering birds. The acacias, the orange trees, everything was fragrant. In a way, the situation was not completely hopeless. He felt that he had been right to stand up to Angela.

With delicate humor, Aram Kebabdjian paints the portrait of an international civil servant, torn between his old demons and his ideal of justice. A philosophical tale and a brilliant examination of the cynicism of our time.

ARAM KEBABDJIAN previous books are *Les Désœuvrés* (Seuil, 2015), a satire of the contemporary art world, for which he received the Grand Prix du premier roman de la Société des Gens de Lettres, and *Le Songe d'Anton Sorrus* (Seuil, 2017).

PRAISE

"The author builds the protagonist's journey like a house of cards, each card being a chapter of the novel. (...) Aram Kebabdjian takes us into the meanders of his hero's conscience, combining the art of portraiture with that of suspense." Livres Hebdo

"Behind the portrait, full of biting humor, of a man of his time lost in administration, lurks that of an era – ours - where cynicism and greed have finally destroyed the utopias." Voici

"Through this intrigue, the author manages above all to shed light on certain contradictions that constitute the European idea, avoiding the double pitfall of condemnation and praise." Alternatives Economiques

"If you are looking for a book that makes you smile and think at the same time, this one is for you. (...) Sometimes a philosophical tale, sometimes a dark *roman à clé*, *Ode to Joy* is a success. A very nice surprise of this new literary season with a finely wrought writing that intelligently serves the author's intent. A must read!" Ernest

"Aram Kebabdjian has skilfully constructed a novel which, under the guise of a man's existential quest, dismantles a system (the pages on European standards are a Kafkaesque delight) and its abuses. I let you discover what will happen to the whistleblower and his fight, not without pointing out that, like Jean-Philippe Toussaint and his *La Clé USB*, this new journey through the spheres of Brussels bureaucracy is as fascinating as it is terrifying." HC.Dahlem

BOOKSELLERS

"When Zweig meets Sciacia, European literature is at its best. It took the Promethean son of Armenia and Germany to dare tell this story." Librairie Tschann, Yannick

"Subtly and lucidly, Aram Kebabdjian delivers a novel that is both funny and terrifying about the excesses of the market economy when it 'takes care' of humanitarian causes. Chilling." Le Divan, Lucie

"Aram Kebabdjian's humor and humanity will make for a delicious reading experience!" Simon Gémon, Atout livre.

"European issues are not a sexy topic... Literature, and in particular a novel, had to take an interest to change this unfortunate state of affairs. Here it is, it's *L'ode à la joie* by Aram Kebabdjian. It features Sigmund Oropa, whose name was undoubtedly predestined for service to Europe, locked in a closet of the European Commission, a judge without a tribunal, heir to a mafia family, hungering for justice. Like a modern day Don Quixote, he seizes recordings on probable embezzlement of funds intended for migrant camps, and when he sets out to investigate, there's no doubt that this forgotten bureaucrat will fight against windmills like his illustrious predecessor, just as ridiculous and vain, pitiful and moving, comical also by virtue of a skillful and amused pen. Of course there will be battles that he won't be able to avoid waging: the quest of his ideals, of his youth, of the possibility of desire and the joy of finally taking a stand. Bankrupt and destitute, this protagonist with improbable ambitions could very well find in this picaresque epic a new momentum, be it his last." Librairie L'Esperluète, Chartres, Olivier L'Hostis

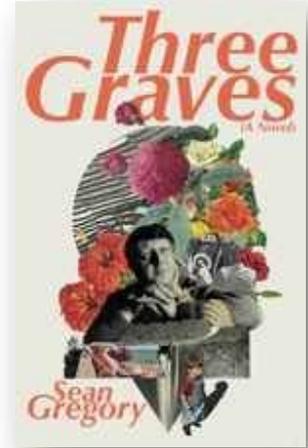
"An astonishing novel that plunges us into the intricacies of bureaucracy with incredible poetry." Librairie Au fil des mots, Blagnac, Cécile Rivière

"This is the story of Sigmund, an international civil servant tasked with combatting fraud. And yet, he is worried. Problems are piling up, challenges are considerable, and everyone seems to be making do with this state of affairs. There is something rotten in the Kingdom of Europe. A delicate, melancholic novel of a man facing himself, powerless to become a hero." Librairie Les Nouveautés, Fabrice

"With fine cynicism and a lot of intelligence, Kebabdjian evokes in this novel the recent political and human crises of the European continent and raises the question of the unity of the European Union." Librairie Les Champs magnétiques, Maria

SEAN GREGORY
THREE GRAVES

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (310PP)
PUB DATE (UK): SEPTEMBER 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE (UK, NA – please contact Helen
Edwards helen@helenedwardsrights.co.uk)



We've reserved three graves for you, Mr Burgess. One for your body, one for your books and one for your ego.

John Wilson dreamt of becoming a renowned composer but set aside music for literature, writing under the name Anthony Burgess.

Decades later, having become a celebrated writer and in Manchester for a book signing, he encounters three spectres from his. They refer to him as Our Jackie, and he senses the façade of Burgess begin to crumble. Walking rain-soaked streets he is drawn back to his past lives in pre-independent Malaya, wartime London, 1960s Europe, and 1970s America. Traversing continents, this once working-class lad becomes one of twentieth century Europe's literary greats, but what of those left behind, and of those bound to him and is it possible to recreate your own history?

SEAN GREGORY was born in Manchester and teaches creative writing at Leeds Arts University. He is an award-winning playwright. He lives in Hebden Bridge with his wife and two children.

PRAISE

A bold, gripping and audacious debut. What its subject Anthony Burgess would make of it is uncertain, but he'd surely have to acknowledge its literary power and inarguable success as novel.'

Benjamin Myers.

MAGALI DESCLOZEAUX
A CARETAKER'S LODGE
AT SEA

CLIENT: ÉDITIONS DU FAUBOURG
PUBDATE (FRANCE): JANUARY 2021
MATERIAL: FULL FRENCH MANUSCRIPT (176
PP)
RIGHTS SOLD:
RIGHTS HANDLED: WORLD



A wacky exploration of the mysteries of international finance and globalization.

In seventy-seven days, the container ship Ship-Flowers travels from Fos-sur-Mer to Shanghai and back. Ninon Moinot has been doing this loop for two years, ever since she was evicted from her concierge's lodge and her former landlord offered her to move into one of these boxes, in exchange for her pension. But now she wants to cancel her lease and contacts a Parisian lawyer whom she only knows by name, to do so. However, someone else replies to her letter...

MAGALI DESCLOZEAUX is a translator from Italian and a novelist. *Une loge en mer* is her third novel after *Le crapaud* (Plon, 1997, selected for the Goncourt Prize for first novel) and *Un deuil pornographique* (Flammarion, 2003).

To better tell the adventures of Ninon Moinot in *Une loge en mer* she embarked on a container ship in Fos-sur-Mer.

PRAISE

"This novel has a form of poetic candor as well as remarkable originality." Le Monde des livres, Raphaëlle Leyris

"Behind the apparent absurdity of the subject, it is the triumph of globalized opacity that the novelist pinpoints. But beware, this book is not a heavy-handed indictment; not at all. There is poetry in this little novel, and suspense too, an unfettered and ubuesque suspense. Magali Desclozeaux well and truly pulls us into her story, which is intelligently constructed and superbly conducted". Le Matricule des Anges

"A bittersweet fable about the losers of globalization." TV5 Monde

"This is the kind of book that you know from the first pages that you will read again, to laugh, smile or shed a tear, depending on the mood of the day." Études magazine

"You have to be pretty damn clever to make us laugh about being locked up: Magali Desclozeaux succeeds with *Une loge en mer*, a novel as chilling as it is delightful." Causette, Hubert Artus

"Few modern novels choose the epistolary form. The letters written by Ninon Moinot and her unlikely correspondents, flirting gently with the absurd, draw the portrait of a world Magali Desclozeaux has elected to laugh at." L'Humanité, Alain Nicolas

"A tender and caustic epistolary fable." Voici

"A novel of bittersweet poetry." Toute la Culture, Chloé Hubert

"How to write a book on commercial and financial globalization that is both wacky and entertaining? This is the difficult task that writer Magali Desclozeaux has managed to accomplish in this funny epistolary novel. Alternatives économiques, Igor Martinache

ERIC L'HELGOUALC'H THE DISCONNECT

CLIENT: ÉDITIONS DU FAUBOURG

PUB DATE (FRANCE): AUGUST 2020

MATERIAL: FULL FRENCH MANUSCRIPT (304 PP)

RIGHTS SOLD:

RIGHTS HANDLED: WORLD



Born in Lebanon during the war, Elias Naccache made his fortune by selling his first start-up during the internet bubble of the early 2000s. The story begins when he disappears in Syria where he joined Christian volunteers engaged against Daech.

What might have led this little genius of the internet to disconnect to the point of taking up arms? A celebrity magazine entrusts his childhood friend with the task of investigating. The biography of the missing man takes shape before our eyes, with its coherence and its shadowy areas, in a thrilling psychological puzzle.

Who is Elias Naccache really? An immigrant eager for revenge? A potential fascist? A deceived lover? Through his story, the portrait of our time is drawn, between technological mirages, the projection of our self-image and tensions between different communities.

ERIC L'HELGOUALC'H was born in 1980. He worked for a long time in the web and communication before devoting himself to writing

PRAISE

"A fascinating treasure hunt that follows the paradoxical "radicalization in reverse" of someone who is taken for a madman, a fascist, a victim or an evil genius. This very accomplished first novel draws the portrait of a singular man and also that of an entire era." **L'Humanité**

« *La Déconnexion* is an investigation, both psychological and procedural. (...) Éric L'Helgoualc'h distills the story of a man to its essence, without losing sight of the fact that it is an ontological tale." **Le Matricule des Anges**

"An intense and addictive social fresco written in a cinematographic style. This is a thrilling first novel. (...) From the first sentence, the reader is caught, held in suspense, captivated, until the last line" **L'Orient-Le Jour**

"There are books that are purely contemporary and bring together the ingredients of an era. *La Déconnexion* is one of them. (...) It is lively, energetic, hyper documented." **GQ**

EMMANUELLE HEIDSIECK TOO HANDSOME

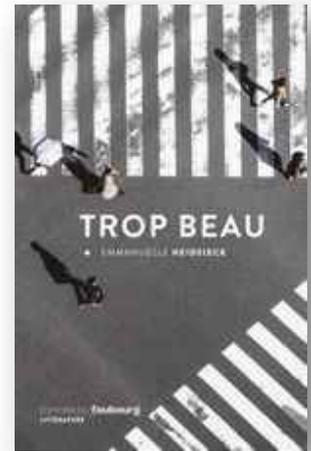
CLIENT: ÉDITIONS DU FAUBOURG

PUB DATE (FRANCE): JANUARY 2020

MATERIAL: FULL FRENCH MANUSCRIPT (120 PP)

RIGHTS SOLD:

RIGHTS HANDLED: WORLD



This story could be called *The Tribulations of Marco Bueli*. Let's face it: three layoffs by the age of 36, when you've graduated from a great engineering school! It must be said that he has a predisposition to annoy, to make people envious, because this man is handsome. Very handsome. But he is tired of smiling, of seducing without even trying – or wanting to – and of ending up the fool. Marco decides to fight back and to go to court for discrimination based on physical appearance. After all, the Americans have shown the way and French legislation allows it. According to him, his beauty has not helped his career, he's suffered from it.

Through sublime Marco Bueli and his determination to obtain redress, this novel ironically depicts the excesses of an anti-discrimination policy that allows, today, everyone to consider himself a victim, with legitimate complaints and a legal cause to defend. Like in her previous novels, Emmanuelle Heidsieck points out here with acuity the dismantling of the French social model in the face of the rise of individualism. Doesn't the competition of complaints between the discriminated of all kinds announce a certain dislocation of society?

EMMANUELLE HEIDSIECK is a novelist who mixes literary fiction with political and social issues. She describes, often in a sardonic way, heroes struggling in a world that is increasingly out of whack. She has published *Notre aimable clientèle* (Denoël, 2005), *Il risque de pleuvoir* (Le Seuil, Fiction & Cie, 2008), *À l'aide ou le rapport W* (Inculte-Laureli, 2013; reissued by Éditions du Faubourg, 2020). She has also published short stories and participated in collective works, in particular *Les Jours heureux*, on the dismantling of the National Council of the Resistance program. She was a member of the board of directors of the Société des Gens de Lettres (SGDL) from 2015 to 2019. Several of her works have been adapted for radio (France Culture), or the theater.

PRAISE

"With biting irony, the author questions how to maintain a cohesive society if everyone feels wronged. In short, an accomplished little book that examines the strains of our collective belonging." **Le Matricule des Anges**

"The journalist and novelist Emmanuelle Heidsieck gives free rein to her taste for satire - tinged with a touch of the absurd - in this novel that pokes fun at a form of victimization at all costs." **Le Monde**

"A joyfully politically incorrect novel (...), a fable that is hardly anticipatory." **Les Inrockuptibles**

"Halfway between a social fable and a poetic essay, this fifth novel by Emmanuelle Heidsieck illustrates the crisis of the French social model in the face of soaring individualism and the drift of American-style victimization." **Les Echos**

"A small book, but with great force. A thoughtful, original, gritty, and even political novel." **L'Express**

"Emmanuelle Heidsieck has written half a dozen novels with social themes. Always brief, original, incisive. Here, there's also a lot of humor. (...) Let's hope that Hollywood won't buy the rights to this gritty novel and give the lead role to Ryan Gosling!" **Le Canard Enchaîné**

"Will Marco Bueli be the first employee to officially fall victim to his beauty? Through this question, Emmanuelle Heidsieck asks many others, in a novel that, like [her previous works], examines the roots of the evil that our society is increasingly falling prey to." **L'Humanité**

ALSO AVAILABLE

HELP OR THE W REPORT

128 pp, 2013, reissued 2020



A retired teacher is arrested by the police in front of his home, handcuffed and taken into custody. The man is accused of having rendered services to his neighbors. Helping people is now an offence punishable by prison and a heavy fine. At the Ministry of the Interior, two very different senior civil servants are writing the report that will serve as the basis for the law.

In this novel of anticipation, Emmanuelle Heidsieck describes a frightening world that could be ours and pens an acerbic report of a society adrift.

"A little gem of black humor and social satire," **Le Monde des livres**

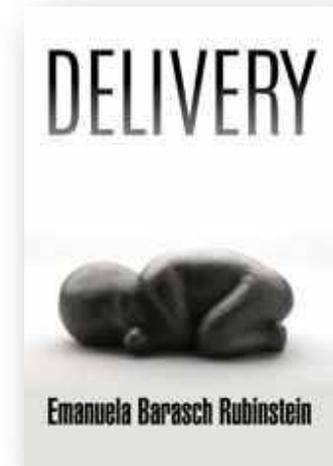
"A sensitive, sharp novel", **Le Canard enchaîné**

"A relentless social critique", **Les Echos**

STILL AVAILABLE

EMANUELA BARASCH- RUBINSTEIN
DELIVERY

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (292 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): JULY 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. HEBREW



When Daphne becomes pregnant, it isn't only her life that changes...

For her husband Amir, for their parents, and for their friends Guy and Abigail, the pregnancy and birth force them all to look at their own lives, at what they want, at their pasts and their futures. Each person has a different perspective of the delivery, and of the complexity of having a child: the difference between men and women, a changing self-perception of parents, conflicts between work and parenthood.

Lives are changed, and the equilibrium each of them has achieved is fundamentally disturbed until, after the delivery, they can find a new balance for the future.

EMANUELA BARASCH-RUBINSTEIN is a writer and a scholar in the Humanities. Her parents fled their homes in Eastern Europe and immigrated to Israel, and Emanuela was born in Jerusalem. Her father was the noted art historian Moshe Barasch. Emanuela studied in the faculty of the Humanities at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her PhD is in Comparative Religion and Literature. She was part of the Comparative Religions graduate program at Tel Aviv University; now she is part of the Nevzlin Center for Jewish Peoplehood Studies at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Herzliya. She is currently living in Tel Aviv.

PRAISE FOR DELIVERY

“Giving birth is almost never depicted in fiction. I don't remember ever reading such a description of a delivery, neither in Hebrew fiction nor in world literature.” **Interview with Alit Karp, literary critic of Haaretz and Makor Rishon**

“The book focuses on daily issues and touches the deepest places... I loved the novel and kept thinking about it long after reading it.” **Lee Yanini, reviewer in the The Israeli Librarian Journal**

“... a very profound novel, polished and complex. It is practically impossible to put it down until the very end. Barasch Rubinstein is an extraordinary writer...” **Review in Chi Tarbut**

PRAISE FOR FIVE SELVES

‘The stories are important in the way they portray the intricate formation of an Israeli identity, and shed new light in the complexity of Israeli life; yet they go beyond this, revealing a profound understanding of wider human – and humanistic – themes and a fresh, significant artistic voice.’

Aharon Appelfeld

“Lean, beautiful writing . . . This anthology is a highly visual, spiritual gem.” —**Publisher’s Weekly**
starred review

“A memorable and singular voice.” **The Mail on Sunday**

“Some writers dwell on flesh and furnishings, others, like Emanuela Barasch-Rubinstein, look deep into interior lives. *Five Selves* is a mindscape masterpiece.” **Jewish Chronicle**

“These stories are brilliant and highly original. They movingly depict the inner lives of the characters, and the impact is as gripping and dramatic as any thriller.” **Miriam Gross**

RONAN HESSION PANENKA

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

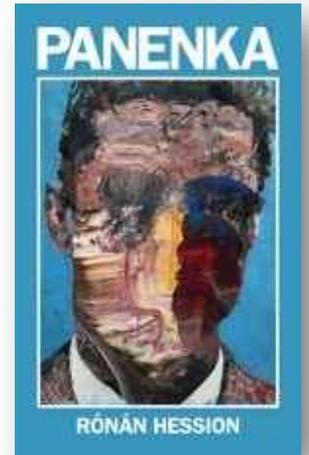
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (240PP)

PUB DATE (UK): MAY 2021

RIGHTS SOLD: SLOVAKIA

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE



**SHORTLISTED FOR THE BOOKS ARE MY BAG AWARD
SHORTLISTED FOR THE IRISH NOVEL OF THE YEAR
AND
IRISH LIBRARIES OF THE YEAR AWARDS.**

"His name was Joseph, but for years they had called him Panenka, a name that was his sadness and his story."

Panenka has spent 25 years living with the disastrous mistakes of his past, which have made him an exile in his hometown and cost him his dearest relationships.

Now aged 50, Panenka begins to rebuild an improvised family life with his estranged daughter and her seven-year-old son. Faced with losing everything, he meets Esther, a woman who has come to live in the town to escape her own disappointments. Together, they find resonance in each other's experiences and learn new ways to let love into their broken lives.

RONAN HESSION, also known as the Dublin-based songwriter Mumblin' Deaf Ro, is the bestselling author of **Leonard and Hungry Paul** (over 40 000 copies sold), shortlisted for several literary prizes incl. the **Irish Book of The Year** and **British Book of The Year**, and the **One Dublin One Book pick of 2021**.

PRAISE FOR PANENKA

"A timeless and touchingly singular story of regret and redemption " **Waterstones**

"... a tonic for our times... Hession's writing is absolutely beautiful... " **The New European**

"Ronan Hession is not just a fine writer but one of Ireland's most original thinkers on literary matters and the craft of good writing." **The Sunday Times**

"It's as good on the world's most popular sport as *Fever Pitch* was, and former goalie Albert Camus would be proud of this diehard Watford fan. What Hession brings to his work is a songwriter's

sensibility, so his novels feel like a long song as he returns again and again to the damage humans can cause when they can't – or won't – be honest with one another, or themselves. The relationship between the taciturn Panenka and his daughter is one any father can relate to as they dance around their feelings... Fans of his debut have been sweating that this might be the literary version of that difficult second album, but they needn't worry as Hession has struck this one sweetly into the back of the net." **Louder Than War**

"*Panenka* is a subtle masterpiece: the fascinating painting on the cover art could not be more appropriate. With careful, intentional strokes, Hession paints a word-portrait of a man who is neither better nor worse than any of us: he is simply a flawed human being who has made mistakes, who faces obstacles, who tries to live his life in relation to those around him. A good heart beats at the centre of this book, and though *Panenka* is sadder in tone than Hession's first novel, it still has that warm glow of gentle faith in humanity, in the power of connection, in finding a way in the world that makes sense for each one of us. It is a beautiful book, and I loved it." **Helspells**

"Rónán Hession is an exceptional writer. He creates the most beautiful stories with the most gorgeous, yet ordinary, characters and, with a stroke of a pen, captures the reader and immerses them completely into his world. Contemplative and expressive, *Panenka* is quite simply a joy to read, and reread again. A novel with great depth exploring human fragility and vulnerability, *Panenka* is another extraordinary read from an extraordinary writer." **Swirl and Thread**

"*Panenka* is a great novel.

It's a great novel about life and a great novel about people.

But it is also a great novel about football. And Hession is not afraid to admit it." **Niall Bourke**

PRAISE FOR LEONARD AND HUNGRY PAUL

'God, what a voice Ronan has. It is spectacular and already feels like a cult classic. I was absolutely hooked.' - Donal Ryan, Man Booker and Costa listed author.

'It is a beautiful work of art.' Irish Book of The Year winner and Women's Prize short listed – Kit de Waal.

'A gentle masterpiece.' Foyles – Book of The Month

« What book last changed your thinking? »

« Leonard and Hungry Paul by Rónán Hession. It's about the most profound things: kindness, ordinary people. I loved it because it made me think differently about what books can be and what life is like. »

Kit de Waal, Interview in the new Statesman

SHARON DUGGAL

SHOULD WE FALL BEHIND

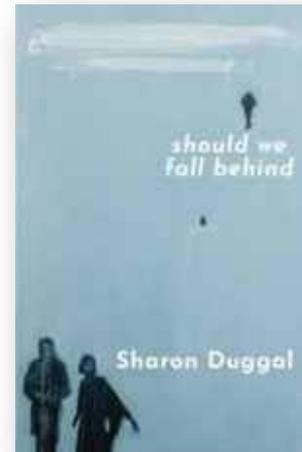
CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (300PP)

PUB DATE (UK): OCTOBER 2020

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH (UK,
NA)



BBC2 Between the Covers book club pick (May 2021)

**On the shortlist of the Royal Society of Literature's Encore Award 2021 celebrating
'outstanding' second novels
one of Prima Magazine's Books of the Year**

Jimmy Noone escapes his difficult life in a small town and finds himself living on the streets of a big city where he meets Betwa, who brings with her a chance of real friendship and a glimpse of new hope. Betwa disappears and Jimmy walks across the sprawling metropolis searching for her.

He arrives on Shifnal Road on the other side of the river where people from all over the world live side by side yet some inhabitants are so isolated they seem to have disappeared altogether. Jimmy becomes the catalyst for their lives colliding.

Journeys to the street and to the city are retraced, so too are stories abundant with lost dreams, unrivalled friendship, profound love and stifling grief, each underpinned with the subtle threads of commonality which intersect them all.

Should We Fall Behind is about the passing of time, and the intricate weaves of joy and suffering, love and loss which shape human life along the way. It is about the people who have somehow become invisible, and how their stories make them visible once more.

SHARON DUGGAL was born in Handsworth, Birmingham and now lives in Hove with her family. Sharon's debut *The Handsworth Times* was chosen as a **City Reads** in 2017 and was **The Morning Star Book of The Year**.

PRAISE FOR SHOULD WE FALL BEHIND

“Intensely humane” **The Guardian**

“Gritty yet tender” **The Yorkshire Times**

“Sharon Duggal affirms that there is such a thing as society, in which there are communities with shared values and interests. She does so with passion and integrity but without tub-thumping, and her generous, humane novel is all the stronger for it.” **The Times Literary Supplement**

Duggal writes about the devastation of vulnerable lives with all the hard-eyed clarity of William Trevor, and as much literary heart as Rohinton Mistry – *SHOULD WE FALL BEHIND* deeply inhabits its world but wears its craft so lightly – it is beautifully observed, suffused with inner-city melancholy and shot through with the hope that can only come from random encounters, the small acts of generosity that help strangers to find affinity with each other even in the worst of times. **Preti Taneja, award-winning author, *We That Are Young***

A marvellous read – A tale of how so many of the ordinary people we encounter are extraordinary, which makes this book more compelling with each page. **Mark Steel, comedian and writer**

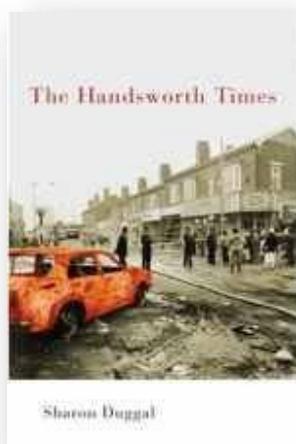
An achingly tender gem which explores the meaning of home and community in its many, complex guises. Compassionate and wise. I adored it. **Laura Wilkinson, author of *Skin Deep***

Profound, powerful and utterly compelling, *Should We Fall Behind* is a novel for our times. **Amy Raphael, author and journalist**

ALSO AVAILABLE

The 2017 Brighton and Hove City Read

The Morning Star’s Book of the Year



Mukesh Agarwal sits alone in the Black Eagle pub, unaware that a riot is brewing or that Billy, his youngest son, is still out on his bike ... A mile away, at home in Church Street, Anila, one of the three Agarwal girls, is reading Smash Hits and listening to Radio One as she sprawls across the bottom bunk, oblivious to the monumental tragedy that is about to hit her family.

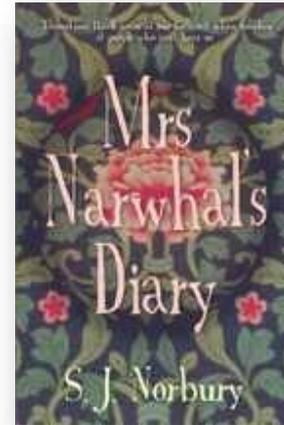
It is 1981 and Handsworth is teetering on the brink of collapse. Factories are closing, unemployment is high, the National Front are marching and the neglected inner cities are ablaze as riots breakout across Thatcher’s fractured Britain. The Agarwals are facing their own nightmares but family, pop music, protest, unexpected friendships and a community that refuses to disappear all contribute to easing their personal pain and that of Handsworth itself.

THE HANDSWORTH TIMES is a story of loss and transition, and pulling together because ultimately, there is such a thing as society.

“Quite simply the most accomplished, complete and startlingly authentic novel I have read this year.” Paul Simon, The Morning Star

S.J. NORBURY
**MRS. NARWHAL'S
DIARY**

CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (320 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): MAY 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



It was Jenni Murray who suggested I keep a diary. She said it was good for mental health, and I must say I did feel much less frazzled after writing everything down yesterday. The frustrations were all still there, but somehow smoothed out – as if by a really good steam iron. So I think I'll carry on with it for now. It's not often you come across a mood enhancer that's both free and non-alcoholic, after all. What's more it's meant I can make use of those empty scrapbooks in the library, which I've been hoping for ages to repurpose.

Mrs Narwhal is overwhelmed. Her husband, Hugh, is unkind and unhappy – working every hour at a job he hates to save the ancestral home he never wanted. Then there's Hugh's sister, Rose, who's spurned her one true love, and ricochets from crisis to crisis, not to mention two small boys to bring up safely in a house that could crumble around their ears at any moment...

When Hugh's pride receives a fatal blow and he walks out, Mrs Narwhal is plunged into a crisis of both heart and home. With help from Rose she sets out to save the house her husband couldn't. But can she save her marriage? And does she really want Hugh back?

Funny, evocative and moving, Mrs Narwhal's Diary is an irresistible story which will enchant and delight its readers.

S J NORBURY lives in Herefordshire with her family. *Mrs Narwhal's Diary* is her first novel.

JANE IONS

DOMESTIC BLISS AND OTHER DISASTERS

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

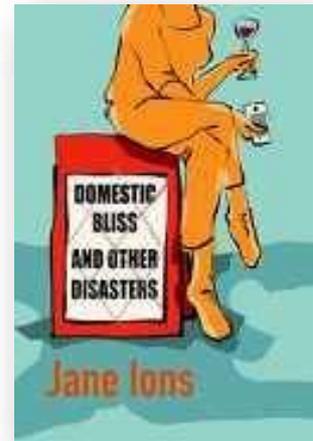
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (250PP)

PUBDATE (UK): MARCH 2021

RIGHTS SOLD:

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE (UK, NA)



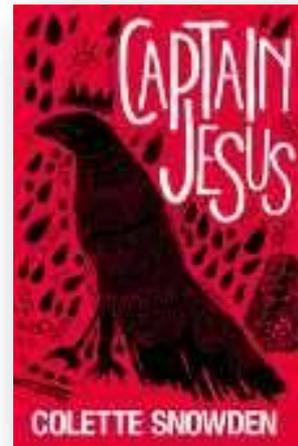
SHORTLISTED FOR THE COMEDY WOMEN IN PRINT PRIZE

How can Sally keep a sense of herself alongside a husband whose political career is poised to take off; a son who can't pay his rent returning home intent on building an extension made wholly from recycling material; a daughter tackling single parenthood? When one of her two best friends leaves to live at the other end of the country to become Granny-Nanny and she realises that she actually doesn't even like her other best friend, Sally has to make a decision. And then she does something really outrageous...

JANE IONS used to write for PUNCH magazine. This is her debut.

COLETTE SNOWDEN
CAPTAIN JESUS

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (250PP)
PUB DATE (UK): JANUARY 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH (UK,
NA)



When three brothers find a dead magpie and peg it to the washing line, the resurrection re-enactment becomes a portent of tragedy to come, and a reminder of past guilt and trauma. In *Captain Jesus* we see a family struggle to cope as loss rips through their lives; through the teenage eyes of their mother, twenty years earlier, we glimpse the events that shape her response. The icons, influences and family histories that define our relationships connect the two narratives as the family gradually heals, thanks to the quietness of love and the natural world.

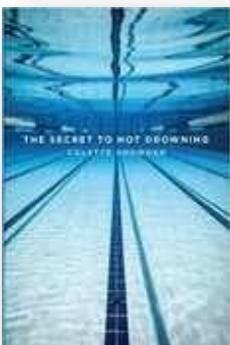
COLETTE SNOWDEN was born and raised in Manchester and read Medieval History in St Andrews and Bordeaux. After spending a year in Bulgaria teaching English, she returned to Manchester and began a career in public relations.

Colette's short story BLUE was broadcast on Radio 4 in 2002 and her first child was born soon afterwards, at which point she stopped writing fiction for several years. She began writing again to enter a *First Three Chapters* competition with Manchester-based writer development organisation, Commonword. She won the competition and completed the novel, which became *The Secret to Not Drowning*.

Colette lives in Manchester with her three children and works as a freelance PR and copywriter.

ALSO AVAILABLE:

The Secret to Not Drowning

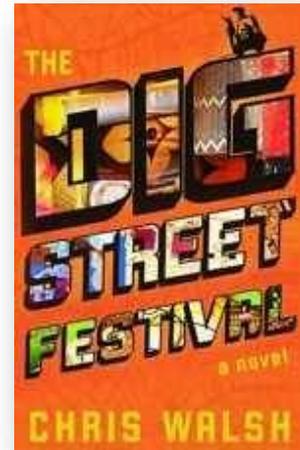


How did the girl who once dreamed of being a Charlie's Angel become such a cowed and submissive woman? Marion's life appears perfectly fine but she is controlled and bullied by her husband, her only respite a once a week trip to the local swimming pool. A chance meeting with an old school-friend develops into a secret relationship. Her friend points out that Marion has a choice: she could leave her abusive and unfaithful husband. But is it too late?

“Written with warmth and humour, (the novel) intelligently unravels the psychology of bullying and manipulation... a page-turner!” National Centre for Writing

CHRIS WALSH
**THE DIG STREET
FESTIVAL**

CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (428 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): MARCH 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



It's 2006 in the fictional East London borough of Leytonstow. The UK's pub smoking ban is about to happen, and thirty-eight-and-a-half year old John Torrington, a mopper and trolley collector at his local DIY store, is secretly in love with the stylish, beautiful, and middle class Lois, a barmaid at his local pub (who has a degree in The History of Art and knows what schadenfreude means). John and his hapless, strange, and down-on-their-luck friends, Gabby Longfeather and Glyn Hopkins, live in Clements Markham House - a semi-derelict Edwardian villa divided into unsanitary bedsits, and (mis)managed by the shrewd, Dickensian businessman, MrKahn.

When Mr Kahn, in a bizarre and possibly criminal fluke, makes him fabulously credit-worthy, John surprises his friends and colleagues alike by announcing he will 'enable humanity to reach the next level' by organising an amazing urban love revolution, aka the Dig Street Festival. But when he discovers dark secrets at the DIY store, and Mr Kahn's ruthless gentrification scheme for Clements Markham House, John's plans take several unexpected and worrisome turns...

Funny, original, philosophical, and unexpectedly moving, *The Dig Street Festival* takes a long, hard, satirical look at modern British life, and asks of us all, how can we be better people?

CHRIS WALSH grew up in Middlesbrough and now lives in Kent. He writes both fiction and non-fiction. *The Dig Street Festival* is his first novel.

ANNA CHILVERS

EAST COAST ROAD

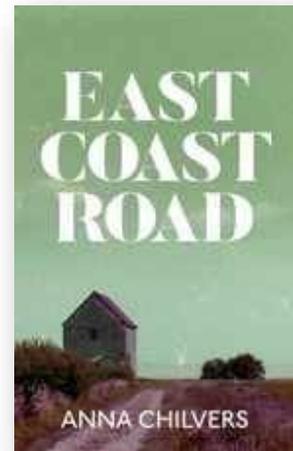
CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (350PP)

PUB DATE (UK): NOVEMBER 2020

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH (UK, NA)



Jen is seeing things that others do not. After a traumatic event, as university gives way to the summer break, she is plagued by dark memories and the only person there for her is her cousin – a cousin that no one else can see. Together they embark on a journey that changes Jen and her world forever.

Haunting, shape-shifting and tense, *East Coast Road* takes the reader on a thrilling quest which challenges our preconceptions. Chilvers is a master storyteller and she guides us through the complexities of devotion, faith, tenderness, grief and desire, all set against the rugged coastal edges of north east England.'

ANNA CHILVERS is a writer, a runner, a long distance walker, a mother, a teacher and a reader. Her first novel, *FALLING THROUGH CLOUDS*, was published by Bluemoose in 2010. She has also published a collection of short stories, *LEGGING IT* (Pennine Prospects, 2012) and her play, *THE ROOM* was performed in the Hebden Bridge Arts Festival 2013. Her second novel *TAINTED LOVE* was published in 2016. She teaches writing for the WEA and works with other groups of young writers and adults.

Anna was Writer in Residence for the Watershed Landscape project and worked on the Stanza Stones project with Simon Armitage, as well as with iMove on Wordstones and Words and Walking. She is particularly interested in the links between writing, walking and the landscape. She is a member of the Elmet Trust and organises the Ted Hughes Festival, The Elmet Poetry Prize and the Ted Hughes Young Poets Award. Anna has worked extensively with bookgroups and has run the 646 Book Club for ten years. She lives in Hebden Bridge with her family and her dog, Bet, and two cats.

JOHN HARVEY
PAX

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (368 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): OCTOBER 2019
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Two artists, separated by centuries...

When artist Stephen Bloodsmith creates a series of images inspired by Rubens' trip to London in 1629, the fundamentals both of his world and of Rubens are challenged. The prints he makes become windows into another time, another world.

Rubens came as envoy of the Spanish court, believing that he could make peace between the war-powers of Europe. To succeed, he must win over King Charles I of England. But will nation cheat nation as men deceive women, women men? While Stephen Bloodsmith must wonder, is there peace in his own home? It seems an intrigue has begun to unravel concerning his wife Robyn – even as he falls in love with his model, Mae. For Rubens too, an intimate secret waits in London, along with a masterpiece by the Prince of Painters.

In the present and in the past new-exposed passions bring heartbreak, strife, and the search for a way to live with pain and conflict. A profound novel about power, desire – and peace.

JOHN HARVEY taught at Cambridge and is the author of five novels and of four studies of colour, clothes, illustration. Unusual in their scope and variety, his novels have tackled: the asset-stripping that has devastated working communities; torture and resistance to a military dictatorship; family break-up in the world of road-haulage and motor-racing; a notorious love-crisis in the art-world of the Victorians.

PRAISE FOR PAX

'Harvey, who is fascinated by the creative process involved in the making of art, finds the perfect subject in Rubens' painting 'Peace and War' and its themes that intrigue and inspire a contemporary artist. The result is a many-layered novel, impressively skilful and deeply absorbing.' **Anita Desai**

'Harvey's profound understanding of the physical processes in the making of art enrich this, his fifth novel... PAX is beautifully written, in language as vivid as the paintings described – and is a gripping read.' **Katherine Mezzacappa, Historical Novel Society, 91**

'At one level, a gripping wartime/espionage thriller... Harvey's sensually pungent, multiple-strand narrative shows how Stephen Bloodsmith's imaginative immersion in the historical Caroline London transforms his Twenty-First Century lived experience.' **Simon Lavery, Tredynas Days**

'This is the story of desire, not just sexual desire but the desire for power. There's art, politics and lots of intrigue. Beautifully written, almost poetic and a marvellous piece of historical fiction (...) an engrossing read for anyone who loves historical fiction.' **Orlando-Books**

ALSO AVAILABLE



THE PLATE SHOP

Winner of the David Higham Prize for Fiction, shortlisted for the Hawthornden Prize and the Yorkshire Post Fiction Prize

Once this pioneering engineering works sold building plant across the world. Now the taken-over factory waits to learn whether it will survive or be scrapped, while Foreman Clyde wages a losing war against the youthful face of change.

'A prose which is accomplished, poetic, incisive.' A.S. BYATT, *Times*

'A powerful style, a strong visual sense and an impressive understanding of men who have to fight to survive.' *Daily Telegraph*

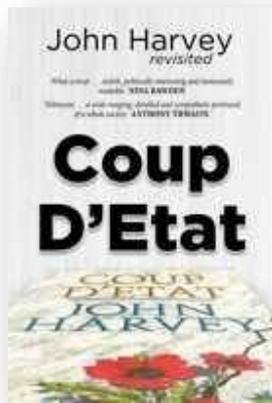
'Not merely unusual but also very good – precise, subtle, authoritative and unexpectedly exciting.'
HERMIONE LEE, *Observer*

'Harvey's theme in his first novel is penetrating, his sense of drama impeccable and his language powerful.'
Time Out

'An admirable first novel... pre-eminently a book for the times... one of the best novels about work that I can remember.'
THOMAS HINDE, *Sunday Telegraph*

'Conveys individual and collective feelings with a ring of authority... the factory is almost a physical experience, like being battered aboard a Jack London whaler in a blind typhoon.'
Guardian

'An impressive first novel... John Harvey has something of Zola's ability to describe physical work so that you can almost hear the beating iron heart of the workshop.'
Listener



COUP D'ÉTAT

Selected by Chris Patten in the Sunday Telegraph as 'the novel which shows the best grasp of political life'.

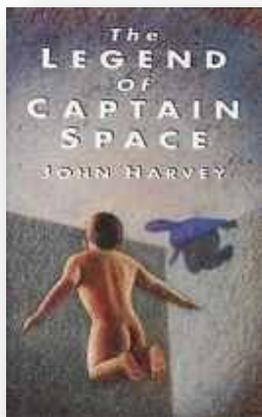
'Many causes are lost in the course of the novel: on the barricades, in the bedroom, on the battlefield, but never in the heart. John Harvey cares very much for his people. He writes with feeling but without sentimentality, in sorrow as well as anger, without the distortion of melodrama. There is great strength in this moving and extremely readable novel, and great hope.' *Times*

'What a treat . . . stylish, politically interesting and immensely readable.'
NINA BAWDEN, *Daily Telegraph*

'Tolstoyan . . . a wide-ranging, detailed and sympathetic portrayal of a whole society.' ANTHONY THWAITE, *Observer*

'Impressive, compelling . . . it is a fine work . . . tense, exciting and significant.' ALLAN MASSIE, *Scotsman*

'Impressive story-telling: a series of individual dramas inlaid beautifully into a grand cycle of history and whirling slowly through the beguiling landscape of Greece. The unerring quality of the writing makes it an enormously compelling book.' *Standard*



THE LEGEND OF CAPTAIN SPACE

'The picture he paints of parenthood is eerie, convincing and, in a perverse way, beautiful.' MAUREEN FREELY, *Independent on Sunday*

'Compelling and enjoyable . . . John Harvey writes with consistent authority. The prose is spare, evocative and effective... In his prose, which is at once stylized, rhythmical and unadorned, Mr Harvey recalls Hemingway; it is a prose which commands attention by its laconic denial of any flourish; a prose which as it were steps modestly back into the limelight.' ALLAN MASSIE, *Scotsman*

'An impeccably spare prose... It is hard to say precisely why this bare narrative is so memorable and haunting. It is partly because of the assurance with which Harvey chooses the details of life we are given. He gives us things in a few lines -- a human body, a crying child, a heavy lorry, so that we are made to see them simultaneously as the characters see them, and from some huge distance, as perfected instances of some terrible mystery of human existence.' A.S. BYATT, *Independent*

'A remarkable and terrifying exploration of the ordinary . . . The prose is charged, street-credible.' *Times Literary Supplement*

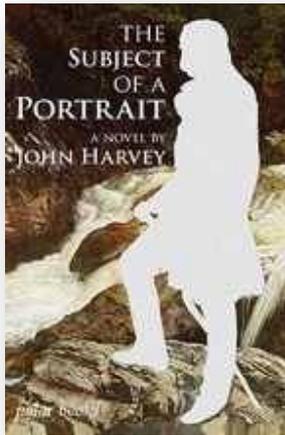
'The pleasure of this tale lies in the quick nifty prose that tells it. Sharp images raise the urban gloom to the heights of poetry... Harvey's deep concern for people at the receiving end of social injustice is so evident that his sad story ends not only hopeful but almost merry.' DAVID HUGHES, *Mail on Sunday*

‘A most accomplished and powerful piece of writing.’ *Guardian*

‘Haunting . . . images, thoughts and dreams leave their mark on the reader . . . a writer of great power.’
Centrepiece

‘Compelling . . . the dialogue and characters have the ring of truth . . . one of the most involving novels I have read.’ *Options*

‘The novel is crisply told, the dialogue is totally believable, and the characters’ distress and pain, along with their ecstasy and their yearning, come across vividly to the reader.’ *Bookseller*



THE SUBJECT OF A PORTRAIT

‘The novel is so alive, so full of movement and momentum.’ ANITA DESAI

‘Captivating . . . a discerning and rather sumptuous study of one of history’s most infamous love triangles.’ *Independent*

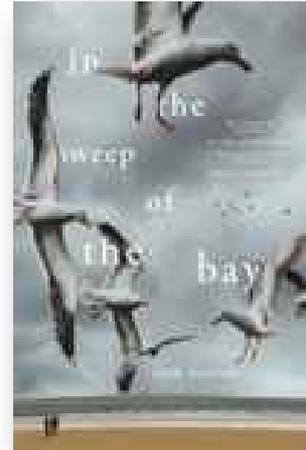
‘A true page-turner . . . it becomes impossible to put down.’ *The PreRaphaelite Society Review*

‘The characters of Millais and Effie are far from romantic stereotypes; their passion is depicted as convincingly as Heathcliff and Cathy’s. But it’s the strangely sympathetic portrayal of the monstrous innocent Ruskin, with his angels and demons in constant conflict, that dominates the narrative and lingers in the memory.’ *Tredynas Days*

‘Powered by lyrical prose of the highest order . . . John Harvey’s evocation of Victorian England and its climate of sexual repression will be hard to match. So too will the subtlety and eye for intimate detail with which he brings alive an aching beautiful love story.’ FARZANA SHAIKH

CATH BARTON
IN THE SWEEP OF THE
BAY

CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (144 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): NOVEMBER 2020
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Marriage, love, and longing, set against the majestic backdrop of Morecambe Bay, the Lakeland Fells, and the faded splendour of the Midland Hotel.

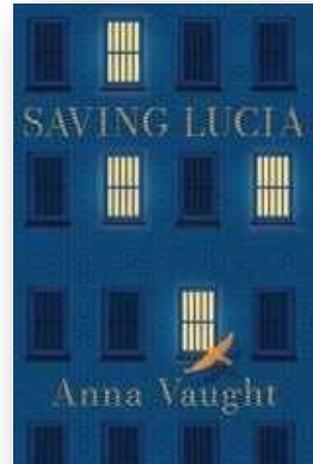
Ted Marshall meets Rene in the dancehalls of Morecambe and they marry during the frail optimism of the 1950s. They adopt the roles expected of man and wife at the time: he the breadwinner at the family ceramics firm, and she the loyal housewife, but as the years go by, they both find themselves wishing for more...

After Ted survives a heart attack, both see it as a new beginning... but can a faded love like theirs ever be rekindled?

CATH BARTON lives in Abergavenny. She won the New Welsh Writing AmeriCymru Prize for the Novella in 2017 for *The Plankton Collector*, which was published in September 2018 by New Welsh Review under their Rarebyte imprint. She also writes short stories and flash fiction and, with her critical writing, is a regular contributor to [Wales Arts Review](http://WalesArtsReview.com).

ANNA VAUGHT
SAVING LUCIA

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSEBOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (200PP)
PUB DATE (UK): APRIL 2020
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH NA



On the Books to Watch Out For in 2020 list of the Irish Times

Violet Gibson, Irish aristocrat and daughter of the first Baron Ashbourne, shot Mussolini in 1926 and spent the rest of her days in an English psychiatric hospital. A fellow “patient” was Lucia Joyce, daughter of James, who acts as our guide through the novel. Blavatsky, Yeats and Joyce himself were all guests at the Gibsons’ Merrion Square mansion; they appear as fleeting visitors in the novel; as Violet reminds us, “those who are confined have the best imaginations”.

Saving Lucia is a novel inspired by some of the most interesting women in the history of psychiatry whose identities have been denuded, shaped by the rhetorics of men, quick to deem these women 'lunatics'. Anna Vaught imaginatively fills in the gaps in these compelling women’s lives with humour and intelligence, giving voice to individuals whose screams and whispers can no longer be heard. *Saving Lucia* takes the reader on an epic journey of the possibilities and freedoms in the power of the imagination, asking the question: 'how do we define madness?'. Vaught explores the history of treatment for mental illness with a keen eye for detail, and an ever keener one for great storytelling. *Saving Lucia* is a book alive with stunning prose, perfect for readers of James Joyce, Shirley Jackson and Hilary Mantel.

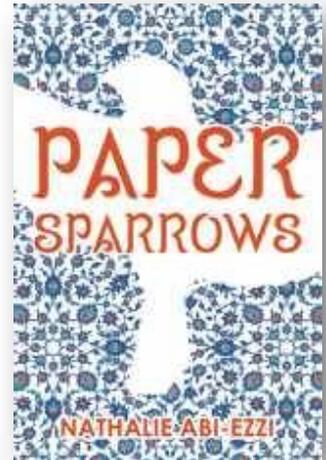
ANNA VAUGHT is an author, editor, reviewer, poet, English teacher, tutor and mentor for young people. Anna resides in Bath with her husband and three children, and has always worked to raise the profile of mental health care. *Saving Lucia* is her third book. Anna is available for publicity, events and features.

PRAISE

“What follows is a trip through the imagination, of what is, was and could have been, as seen through the eyes of these incredible women. It reads like a written daydream, it flits about like Violet’s passerines telling their incredible stories... you’ll fall in love with amazing book and the women within. A book to treasure.” **Orlando Books**

NATHALIE ABI-EZZI
PAPER SPARROWS

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (204 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): APRIL 2020
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



'A beautifully written book about memory, music and the terror of modern warfare. We need these books, full of compassion and anger, that show us the emotional damage of conflict.' **Patrice Lawrence**, *Rose Interrupted*, *Orangeboy*

'There's a sensuous magic to this writing that caught me up and wouldn't let me go. A beautifully written story about the struggle for identity. I loved it.' **Jenny Downham**, *Before I Die*, *You Against Me*, *Furious Thing*

It is the summer of 2006, and nineteen-year-old London music student, Layla, returns home for the holidays to a now peaceful Lebanon. When she arrives, though, she finds that her troubled younger brother has gone missing. "Borrowing" her father's car, she heads to Beirut to search for him, meeting a variety of people along the way. But her quest is cut short when, without warning, Beirut comes under heavy artillery fire. A new war has begun, and now she is trapped in the middle of it.

NATHALIE ABI-EZZI was born in Beirut, and has lived in Lebanon, Austria and the UK. It was while working on her Ph.D in English Literature at King's College London that she realized that she wanted to write her own novels rather than just analyse other people's. So, while working variously as an editor, teacher and tutor, she wrote and published several prize-winning short stories and her first novel, *A Girl Made of Dust* (4th Estate, 2008), which was short-listed for the Desmond Elliot Prize and the Author's Club Best First Novel Award, and was the winner of the LiBeraturpreis in 2011.

PRAISE FOR A GIRL MADE OF DUST

'Captivating. A subtle, pertinent depiction of civilian life in the midst of bewildering conflict.' Catherine Taylor, *The Guardian*.

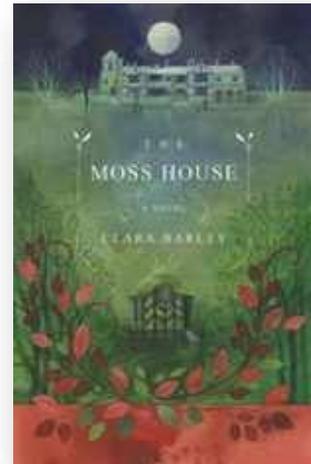
'Beautifully written, lyrical, with vivid, sensual descriptions that are sophisticated yet completely believable.' *Publishers Weekly*.

'A timely evocation of civilian suffering underneath the ubiquities of war... Heart-breaking and profound.' *Sunday Business Post*.

CLARA BARLEY
THE MOSS HOUSE

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (216PP)
PUB DATE (UK): JULY 2019

Based on the true story of Anne Lister
Now a BBC/HBO drama



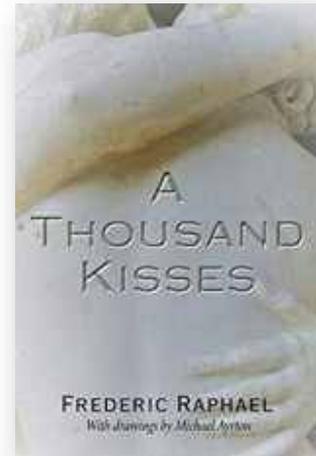
Two hundred years ago, neighbouring Yorkshire landowners Miss Lister and Miss Walker find their lives become entwined in a passionate, forbidden relationship and retreat to the Moss House, their private sanctuary away from an unaccepting world. Their tranquillity does not last long as they are drawn into the turmoil of a changing society and a divided family, testing their love for each other, eventually driving them from their home. The world was not yet ready for the likes of Miss Lister. Landowner, scholar, traveller, mountaineer and non-conformist but in *The Moss House* we discover her lifelong battle to be her true self as she finds Ann Walker and together they try to live life on their own terms.

CLARA BARLEY manages Calderdale's five museums. She is a consultant on the BBC drama *Gentleman Jack* about the life of Anne Lister.

FICTION / HISTORICAL FICTION

FREDERIC RAPHAEL
A THOUSAND KISSES

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (368 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): OCTOBER 2019
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



In an extraordinary tour-de-force Frederic Raphael, the acclaimed novelist, screenwriter and critic, imagines the life of that most passionate and outspoken Roman poet, Gaius Valerius Catullus, the ill-used young lover of Lesbia, his married mistress, the wife of a powerful consul. Catullus meets, charms and clashes with Julius Caesar, Cicero, Publius Clodius and other contenders for fame and fortune in the last, bloody decades of the Roman republic. The narrative of the poet's life and loves, including his affair with a young male contemporary and his view of Caesar and his contemporaries, is intercut with new, sharp translations of his erotic and satirical poems.

Catullus was one of the the greatest Roman lyric poets - who lived fast and died young. Prized by some for his sincerity and chastised by others for crudeness he has influenced generations of writers and thinkers from Ovid, Horace and Virgil to Thornton Wilder and Louis MacNiece.

Crossing the Rubicon, jaundiced divide, decisive dribble, I was on my way past more dried, perhaps still drying, blood and wormy guts than I chose to think about, minded only to make my mark in Rome, armed with a satchel of words.

FREDERIC RAPHAEL became a household name at the beginning of his career when his original screenplay for *Darling*, starring Julie Christie, won an Oscar. *Two for the Road*, starring Audrey Hepburn, soon followed; later he worked with Stanley Kubrick on *Eyes Wide Shut*. For many years, Raphael was a fiction reviewer for the Sunday Times, appearing regularly on BBC radio and television arts programming, creating features and drama series including *The Glittering Prizes*. His first novel was *Obbligato* (1956), which has been followed by works such as *The Limits of Love*, *Lindmann*, *Richard's Things*, and *After the War*.

In all Frederic has published over 40 books of fiction and non-fiction, ranging from philosophy to memoir, and several works on the classical era, translating several works from Greek and Latin, in collaboration with the late Kenneth McLeish. In 1979 they released an edition of the Poems of Catullus.

DIANA CAMBRIDGE

DON'T THINK A SINGLE THOUGHT

CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS

PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (304 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): SEPTEMBER 2019

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



1960s New York, and Emma Bowden seems to have it all – a glamorous Manhattan apartment, a loving husband, and a successful writing career. But while Emma and her husband Jonathan are on vacation at the Hamptons, a child drowns in the sea, and suspicion falls on Emma. As her picture-perfect life spirals out of control, and old wounds resurface, a persistent and monotonous voice in Emma's head threatens to destroy all that she has worked for...

Taut, elegant and mesmerising, *Don't Think a Single Thought* lays bare a marriage, and a woman, and examines the decisions – and mistakes – that shape all of our lives.

DIANA CAMBRIDGE is an award-winning journalist. She has written for many national newspapers and magazines, gives regular writing workshops, and is a Writer-in-Residence at Sherborne, Dorset. She is Agony Aunt to Writing Magazine. She lives in Bath. *Don't Think a Single Thought* is her first novel.

PRAISE FOR *DON'T THINK A SINGLE THOUGHT*

"Immersive, gripping... A well-crafted, slow burn story of a talented woman haunted by the conflicts of emotion and ambition – and by her own imagination" **Jay Merrick, author of Horse Latitudes**

"A chilling page turner set in the playgrounds of the New York rich and famous, where a wealthy doctor's wife is driven to the brink of madness by a horrific childhood memory" **Sharon Churcher, author of New York Confidential**

"This slim, elegant novel is a delight" **Gail Aldwin, author of The String Games**

"Extraordinary, fresh, unique, disturbing. Wow... just wow!" **Rebecca Mascull, author of The Visitors and The Wild Air**

ARIEL KAHN

RAISING SPARKS

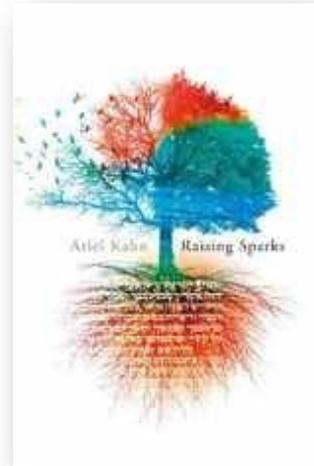
CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (300PP)

PUB DATE (UK): JULY 2018

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH LANGUAGE



An interesting, tender-hearted novel

The Guardian, Not the Booker Prize

Malka grows up in the Old City of Jerusalem in the confines of the Ultra-orthodox Jewish community. Meandering through the narrow streets she finds herself at the door of one of the city's most renowned and reclusive mystics and discovers her father's top rabbinical student, Russian immigrant Moshe studying forbidden Kabbalistic texts. She has a disturbing vision of a tree of prayers growing up inside the house, and the prayers all seem to be talking to her. The prayers become a giant bird, and chase her from the house. Malka has unwittingly uncovered a great mystical gift. Kabbalists believe that since the world was spoken into existence, if they can hear and understand that original Divine language, they can use it themselves, to shape and manipulate reality. Once in a millennia, a kabbalist is born with this ability. It turns out that Malka is one of them. After a disastrous first date with Moshe, Malka flees Jerusalem for Safed where she is drawn into a cult called Mystical Encounters, run by charismatic cult leader Avner Marcus. Avner is unsettled by Malka's authenticity, and she is not allowed to attend classes. Her only friends are former night club singer Shira, and traumatised ex-soldier Evven. Malka sets up her own mystical retreat in the woods, at an abandoned construction site. When she reveals this to Avner, he forces her to take him there and tries to rape her. Malka manages to evade him, and then burns down the cult after manipulating the Modern Hebrew word for Electricity, Chashmal. Malka heads for Tel Aviv, and sleeps rough on the beaches of the mixed Arab-Jewish city of Jaffa. Here she is discovered by legendary Arab chef Rukh Baraka, who is seeking to rekindle his career by training Arab and Israeli street children to create extraordinary food for his new restaurant, the Leviathan. Malka bonds with fellow runaway Mahmoud, who is escaping the wrath of his Imam father at his "deviant" sexuality. Mahmoud reveals the city behind the city, the hidden Palestinian history of which Malka has been ignorant. Moshe has been trying to find Malka and is forced to confront some of his own demons, including the disappearance of his younger sister when she was in his care. Moshe swears that he will not lose another girl he loves.

ARIEL KAHN was born in 1973. Prior to his academic career he was training to be a Rabbi in Jerusalem. He has a PhD in creative writing from Roehampton University, where he is now a Senior

Lecturer. He has degrees in English Literature from Clare College in Cambridge, and an MA in Indian and African literature from SOAS. Ariel was also a driving force in the Arab Israeli Book Club, which he set up together with Palestinian novelist Samir El Youssef. The club was dedicated to building bridges, and creating a space for empathy and shared stories. Ariel won the Bloomsbury New Voices competition and the London Writing Competition and come runner-up in the national Pulp Idol Fiction competition in 2017. *Raising Sparks* is his first novel.

PRAISE

“...a paeon to Israel and to the esoteric teachings of Kabbalah... a delightful foray into the colliding worlds of various Jewish traditions in Israel where the protagonist is forced to reckon with new surroundings and cultures from the old quarter in Jerusalem to the modern settings of Tel Aviv.”

Northern Soul

BRIAN KEANEY

THE ALPHABET OF HEART'S DESIRE

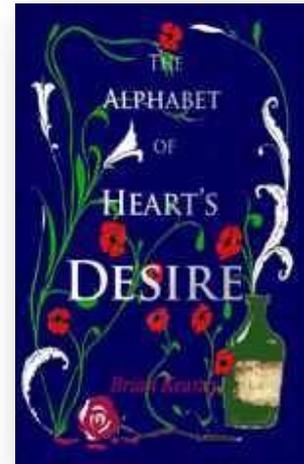
CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (204 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): NOVEMBER 2017

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



A Visitor calls with a gift and a message from the past...

In 1802 Thomas de Quincey, a young man from a comfortable middle-class background who would go on to become one of the most celebrated writers of his day, collapsed on Oxford Street and was discovered by a teenage prostitute who brought him back to her room and nursed him to health. It was the beginning of a relationship that would introduce Thomas to a world just below the surface of London's polite society, where pleasure was a tradeable commodity and opium could seem the only relief from poverty. Yet it is also a world where love might blossom, and goodness survive. The lives of a street girl, an aspiring writer, and a freed slave cross and re-cross the slums of London in this novel about the birth of passion, the burden of addiction, and the consolations of literature.

BRIAN KEANEY is an award-winning author, best known for his young adult and children's fantasy novels *Jacob's Ladder*, *The Hollow People* and *The Magical Detectives*. For a number of years he was Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Goldsmiths College and at the London College Of Fashion and he taught creative writing on the Pembroke College Cambridge summer programme. He has a house in the west of Ireland where he spends as much time as possible. His writing has been translated into twenty languages, and several of his books have now been bought by US Film Companies.

PRAISE

"It is the wit that really draws you in. Despite the grim background and the sometimes horrific detail, the writing is vivid and buoyant, the research and the detail impressive. I was gripped."

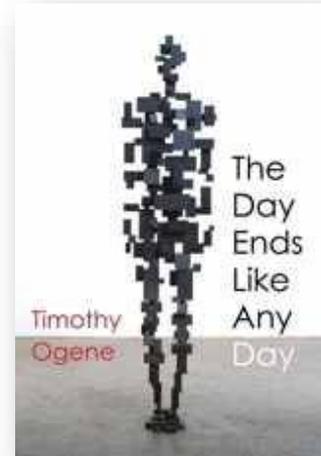
Katharine McMahon, author of *The Rose of Sebastopol*, *The Woman In The Picture*, etc.

"*The Alphabet of Heart's Desire* imagines three utterly different lives, and weaves them through the brutal, vibrant world of early 19th century London to make an atmospheric, shocking and satisfying story."

Emma Darwin, author of *The Mathematics of Love and Alchemy*

TIMOTHY OGENE
**THE DAY ENDS LIKE
ANY DAY**

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (268 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): SEPTEMBER 2017
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



**Winner of the African Literature Association's
Book of the Year Award**

In the slum they call The Blocks, growing up is a strange affair...

Sam, a young Nigerian whose father only speaks to the children once he has taken on enough alcohol, and whose mother won't accept that Sam is different from his siblings, is formed by the people he meets, the gay young man he cannot rescue from his tormentors, the girl whose rapist escapes when the women of the block march to mete out justice on him; and Pa Suku, a strange figure who opens Sam's eyes to books and music, poetry and jazz. Then Sam goes to college and confronts his own sexuality, his own lack of belonging.

The Day Ends Like Any Day is the lyrical, challenging account of the multiple lives of a young Nigerian who refuses to accept that he has been shaped by the traumas of his past.

TIMOTHY OGENE was born in Oyigbo, outside Port Harcourt in southern Nigeria. He has since lived in Liberia, Germany, the US, and the UK. His poems, stories and reviews have appeared in Numero Cinq, Tincture Journal, One Throne Magazine, Poetry Quarterly, Tahoma Literary Review, The Missing Slate, Stirring, Kin Poetry Journal, Mad Swirl, Blue Rock Review, aaduna, Harvard Review. His first collection of poetry, *Descent & Other Poems*, appeared in 2016 from Deerbrook Editions. He holds a first degree in English and History from St. Edward's University, a Master's in World Literatures in English from the University of Oxford, and he is currently working on a Master's in Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia.

PRAISE

“A vibrant coming-of-age tale which looks back to urban Nigerian classics such as Cyprian Ekwensi’s *Lokotown* but also forward to an unfolding picture of African identity that is both global and cosmopolitan.”

Giles Foden, author of *The Last King of Scotland*

“An intense exploration of beauty, friendship, and self-discovery told with compassion. The characters linger with you long after the reading.”

Tendai Huchu, author of *The Hairdresser of Harare* and *The Maestro, The Magistrate, & The Mathematician*

“Timothy Ogene’s stunning debut novel *The Day Ends Like Any Day* is a post-colonial coming of age story set in contemporary Nigeria. With the history of his vast country as a dramatic backdrop, Ogene weaves the tale of a slum boy smitten with a love for books and jazz, who grows up into a despairing world debilitated by oil wealth, squalor, and corruption. By turns mythic, inspiring, sexy, seedy, and deeply sad, this book will astonish and delight.”

Douglas Glover, author of *Elle*, and editor of *Numero Cinq*

EMILY R. AUSTIN
OH, HONEY

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (140 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): JULY 2017
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



“Hello, my name is Esther. I am calling on behalf of Krippler Incorporated, a market research institute. Today we are conducting a survey on feline diabetes. Do you, or any member of your household, own a cat?”

They hang up.

“Hello. My name is Joan. I am calling on behalf of—”

They hang up.

“Hello. My name’s Doreen.”

Jane is a telemarketer. She uses a different name each time, and soon it becomes clear that she is calling the same man again and again. Each call is a new battle between them, with him becoming angrier and more threatening. But Jane isn’t calling him at random; Jane has a purpose; Jane has a past which seems to change each time she tells it. The story is revealed through exchanges like ritual incantations. A sharp, funny and dark novel about identity and connection.

EMILY R. AUSTIN was born in 1989 and grew up in St Thomas, South Western Ontario, Canada, the third of four children. She started her first job when I was fifteen years old, working as a floor porter in a grocery store; she has also worked as a camp counsellor, as a cashier in a coffee shop – and as a telemarketer. After studying English Language and Literature at the University of Western Ontario she obtained an MA in Library and Information Science, working part time in a LGBT library, and now works for the federal government of Canada in Information Management and as a school librarian. *Oh Honey* is her first book.

PRAISE

"A disaffected slacker hides her troubles behind a witty facade. As the story twists and turns in unexpected ways, it moves from amusing to terrifying--a transition that Austin also handles expertly. A well-crafted and engaging novel." --*Kirkus Reviews*

HARRIET PAIGE

MAN WITH A SEAGULL ON HIS HEAD

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

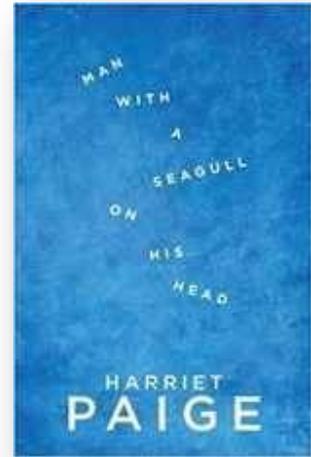
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (216PP)

PUB DATE (UK): MARCH 2017

RIGHTS SOLD: BIBLIOASIS (US), EDIZIONI
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RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH LANGUAGE



There is nothing interesting about Ray Eccles. He knows it himself. On the morning of his fortieth birthday, he goes for a walk because he's just learned of a dormant Second World War explosive offshore, and he's the kind of man who thinks a bomb might be good company. As he gazes at the sea, a woman in the distance suddenly turns to face him—and a dying seagull falls from the sky, knocking him unconscious.

When Ray wakes up, he's inexplicably compelled to paint the woman's image, obsessively and repeatedly: initially on any paper he can find in his house, and thereafter on the walls, using any materials that come to hand, including food and bodily fluids. Discovered by a power couple of Outsider Art, he becomes one of the most celebrated artists of the century, and soon even small-town newspapers are covering his work—which is how Jennifer, the woman on the beach, discovers she's the subject of the paintings that have set the world on fire, leading her to wonder if a man she's never met is the only person who has ever really seen her.

Man with a Seagull on His Head is a novel about the impossibility of ever really knowing anyone, and the electric charge that comes from real if unexpected connection. Beautiful, lyrical, and strangely moving, it heralds a wonderful and original new voice.

HARRIET PAIGE was born in 1979 and grew up in Devon, in the south west of England. She studied English and American Literature at the University of Warwick and returned in 2004 to do an MA in Writing. After completing the program she continued to develop her writing alongside working as an interiors journalist and bringing up her three children. *Man With a Seagull on His Head* is her debut novel.

PRAISE FOR MAN WITH A SEAGULL ON HIS HEAD

“Funny, sharp, engaging and beautifully written...a precious and strange thing. A bona fide gem.” —*The Guardian*

“Every sentence in this book is perfect.” —**Mary Cotton, Newtonville Books (Newton, MA)**

“The power of portraiture animates Harriet Paige’s slim, elegant novel...The holy intensity of Ray’s vision stands out against the countless missed connections, distractions and estrangements that mark a life’s relationships. The book reminds us that a single act of attentiveness—of passionate noticing—can cause beauty to drop unexpectedly into the world.” —*Wall Street Journal*

“Graceful...provides deep introspections about loneliness and death...The novel’s charming, light tone nicely balances its powerful meditations on art and failed expectations.” —*Publishers Weekly*

“Elegiac...emotionally precise...not only pleasing to the eye, but also profoundly engaging to the heart. A gentle fable about the mystery of artistic creativity.” —*Kirkus*

“Paige explores the need for her characters to prove their existence...a new and exciting voice worth watching closely.” —*Library Journal*

“An unusual meditation on art and life...The small moment with the seagull ripples into large impacts across many lives in untidy ways that are nonetheless compelling and honest.” —*Booklist*

“This debut novel—original, eccentric, with all manner of unusual perspectives—is itself an example of outsider art at its idiosyncratic best.” —*Toronto Star*

“Will stay with you just as a puzzling but beautiful dream lingers in your conscious mind.” —*Winnipeg Free Press*

“Quiet, spooky and very good . . . It’s sometimes terribly sad, sometimes hilarious, sometimes absurdist, but always somehow completely believable. Beyond the narrative, the novel is about art, connections and missed chances, the complications of family and the mysterious workings of the human brain.” —*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

“Acutely observed and generously imagined this portrait of an accidental artist is as surprising as it is enthralling. It gripped me from the first page. Its last lines are still with me, shimmering with wise promise.” -- **Maureen Freely**

KATE ARMSTRONG

THE STORYTELLER

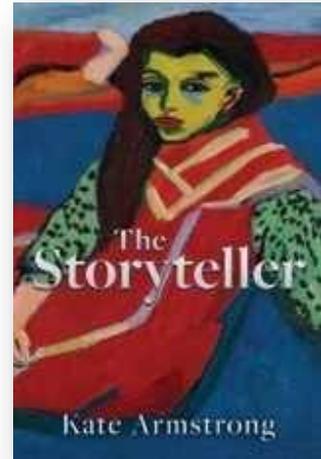
CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (204 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): JUNE 2016

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



We are shaped by our stories.

'Shall we start again?'

A young woman regains consciousness. An elegant old lady degenerates into flailing madness. A beggar counts small change on Westminster Bridge. Hot summer afternoons transform into autumn and winter days and back to summer again.

At first, Iris and Rachel are linked only by their illness, but as they heal they grow closer, and soon they are enmeshed in a relationship neither can escape. When Iris insists on writing Rachel's biography the younger woman is unable to resist; but is her life being reported or created by her self-appointed storyteller?

With a claustrophobic intensity of vision, *The Storyteller* is a challenging, beautifully written novel of disconnect, insanity and reawakening.

KATE ARMSTRONG was born in 1979 and grew up in the North of England. She studied English Literature at Oxford University, first at New College and then at Merton, where she wrote her DPhil on John Donne. She also held a lectureship at St Hugh's. Kate then followed a career in international business, writing her first novel, *The Storyteller*, on trains and flights and in hotel rooms. She is currently working more comfortably on her second.

PRAISE

'A strange, compelling work... A considerable achievement.' **Craig Raine**

"*The Storyteller* is one of those novels that you have to experience to truly understand its complexity and beauty. [...] a beautifully unique novel that delves into an authentic and disturbing experience of mental illness." - **culturevultures.com**

SUSAN PEPPER ROBINS

THERE IS NOTHING STRANGE

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (180 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): JUNE 2016

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Some love falters, some fails, and some love finds a way to survive.

A strange love triangle turns and twists and tangles as three people try to find their way with and through one another. Laura and Jeremy marry, and take their first hopeful – and desperate – steps together; but always there is Henry, bound to them both by love and guilt and a terrible accident years before. The story whirls like the wedding dance, until at last the music stops, and they find the truth beyond the old songs and ‘the chants of night’.

With lyrical prose shot through with acerbic humour, and a hypnotic rhythm, Susan Pepper Robbins creates a story both disturbing and beautiful.

SUSAN PEPPER ROBINS lives in rural Virginia where she grew up. Her first novel was published when she was fifty (*One Way Home*, Random House, 1993). Her fiction has won prizes (the Deep South Prize, the Virginia Prize) and has been published in many journals. Her collection of stories *Nothing But The Weather* was published in 2014. She teaches writing at Hampden-Sydney College.

PRAISE

“Susan Pepper Robbins blends dark humor reminiscent of Flannery O’Connor with prose that calls Virginia Woolf to mind, tautly beautiful lines and images echoing each other from page to page.”

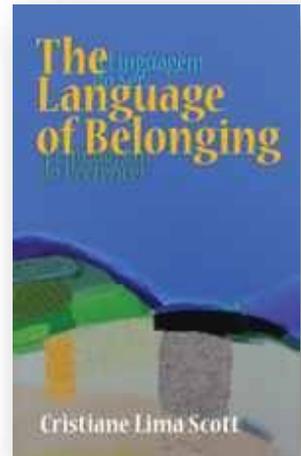
Michael Knight, author of *Divining Rod* and *The Typist*

There Is Nothing Strange is a dance that waltzes the room around you but never lets you slip. It's a tapestry of voice, insight and wisdom --, a beautiful story told beautifully." **Tom Franklin, author of *Crooked Letter*, *Crooked Letter* and *The Tilted World***

Susan Pepper Robbins manages to weave tragic events with dark comedy and a heartfelt joy in characters. In "There Is Nothing Strange "everything is actually quite strange but in the way *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is strange. This tight, page turner kept me reading because I had to see where this would all end. **Mary Morris, author of *The Jazz Palace***

CRISTIANE LIMA SCOTT
**THE LANGUAGE OF
BELONGING**

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (300 PP)
PUBDATE (UK): MAY 2016
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



When Cecilia is hired by Mrs. Woodard, she doesn't expect to find a new life and her own past.

Brazilian immigrant to the USA Cecilia is hired by the wealthy seventy-eight-year-old Elena Woodard to be her fulltime caregiver. Elena gives her journal with her history and her most intimate secrets to Cecilia to translate into English. Inspired by the older woman's story of her life in Brazil, Cecilia tells how she fled Brazil with her mother, crosses the border from Mexico into the United States, and their struggles to survive in the new country as illegal immigrants. When Elena dies, a new future is created for Cecilia.

A novel about sacrifice, friendship, love, and the yearning to belong.

CRISTIANE LIMA SCOTT has been writing fiction since she discovered it as a way to explore real life when she was 15 years old. *The Language of Belonging* is her second novel. Her first book, *Todos os Rios se Dirigem Para o Mar*, was published in Portuguese only.

Cristiane was born in the northeast of Brazil. At 13, she started to work as a pre-school teacher in her village's public school. The experiences she had with her students and their families during the following 13 years inspired her to create characters such as "Elena" and "Cecilia's Mother." At 18, she was accepted at the Universidade Estadual de Alagoas as a Portuguese, Literature, and English student. At 26, she went to the United States and still resides in New England with her family.

PRAISE

The Language of Belonging takes us across hard borders. I won't ever forget the redemptive and unlikely friendship between these two women. That's what an amazing writer can do: you never forget, and thus: you are changed. Magical.

Tom Paine, author of *The Pearl of Kuwait*, *Scar Vegas* and *A Boy's Book of Nervous Breakdowns*

The novel's depiction of the challenges and extreme injustices faced by illegal immigrants in the United States... is extremely timely. *The Language of Belonging* also highlights the value of empowering women as a means of empowering impoverished communities, the complexity of philanthropy, and the

challenges of solving systemic problems—corruption, poverty, abuse—while remaining sensitive to a community’s cultural context.

Katie Quirk, author of *A Girl Called Problem*

SARAYU SRIVATSA
IF YOU LOOK FOR ME, I
AM NOT HERE

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (300PP)
PUB DATE (UK): JANUARY 2016
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE

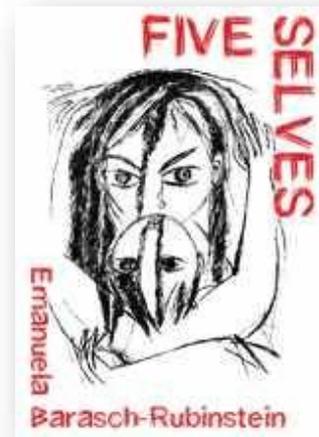


When Mallika loses her longed-for daughter at birth, it is not the only loss in the family: the surviving twin - a boy - loses the love of his mother. He grows up needing to be the daughter his mother wants, the son his scientist father accepts, and more, with the guilt of being the one who survived. In a recently independent India, haunted by its colonial past and striving to find its identity, he struggles to find his own self. Sarayu Srivatsa has created a moving family portrait, richly-coloured by the vibrant culture and landscape of India, where history, religion and gender collide in a family scarred by the past and struggling with the present.

Trained as an architect and city planner, **SARAYU SRIVATSA** was the editor of *Indian Architect and Builder Review*. Her book, *Where the Streets Lead* (1997), won the JIIA Award. In 2002 she won the Picador-Outlook non-fiction writing award. Her first novel, *The Last Pretence*, was longlisted for the Man Asian Award in 2008. *When You Look for Me I am Not Here* was longlisted for the Guardian Not the Booker Prize list.

EMANUELA BARASCH - RUBINSTEIN
FIVE SELVES

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (204 PP)
PUBDATE (UK): FEBRUARY 2015
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Five splendid novellas explore Israeli identity and self-awareness.

Five stories that explore identity and selfhood through one dominating aspect: from the death of a father to an irrational fear of dogs; from a rigid concept of what is right to the evolution of identity across the generations; and a final presentation of the essence of living and dying. With haunting, Kafkaesque prose, Emanuela Barasch-Rubinstein creates a series of profound, internal narratives. Originally written in Hebrew, these stories have been translated into English by the author.

EMANUELA BARASCH-RUBINSTEIN is a writer and a scholar in the Humanities. Her parents fled their homes in Eastern Europe and immigrated to Israel, and Emanuela was born in Jerusalem. Her father was the noted art historian Moshe Barasch. Emanuela studied in the faculty of the Humanities at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Her PhD is in Comparative Religion and Literature. She was part of the Comparative Religions graduate program at Tel Aviv University; now she is part of the Nevzlin Center for Jewish Peoplehood Studies at the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) in Herzliya. She is currently living in Tel Aviv.

PRAISE

“The stories are important in the way they portray the intricate formation of an Israeli identity, and shed new light in the complexity of Israeli life; yet they go beyond this, revealing a profound understanding of wider human – and humanistic – themes and a fresh, significant artistic voice.”

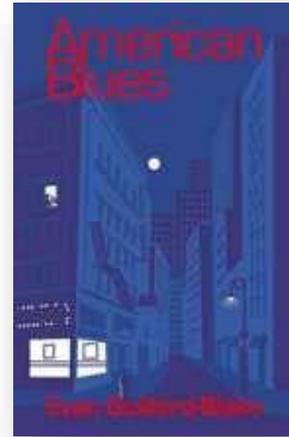
Aharon Appelfeld

“Lean, beautiful writing . . . This anthology is a highly visual, spiritual gem.” — **Publisher’s Weekly**
starred review

“A memorable and singular voice.” **The Mail on Sunday**

EVAN GUILFORD - BLAKE
AMERICAN BLUES

CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (236 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): OCTOBER 2014
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



The Blues are rooted in the American mind and soul. Each era has its own, and each is both the same and different, just like the people who know them, and play them, and live them. Here are five powerful stories exploring that mind and soul as they've evolved over the last seventy years.

Sonny's Blues - A dying musician makes through his last days, through fragments of the past and present, always with the music playing.

Tio's Blues - Two social misfits and the violence resulting from their trust and need for love.

Nighthawks - Four nighthawks confront each other in a racially charged story set in the late-night diner.

Animation - The comic, poignant story of a man in search of the meaning of his life – and of life itself. And a job.

The Easy Lovin' Blues - A young woman connects two triangular relationships, one between her mother and her mother's manipulative, young would-be lover; the other between an aging trumpet player and his lover, a dominating and disturbed blues singer.

EVAN GUILFORD-BLAKE writes fiction, plays, poetry and creative non-fiction for adults and children. His stories have appeared in numerous journals and anthologies; they have won 17 competitions and received two Pushcart Prize nominations. *Noir(ish)*, his first novel, is available from Penguin. About 40 of his plays have been produced; thirty are published, and he's won more than 40 playwriting contests. He and his wife live in the southeastern US.

PRAISE FOR AMERICAN BLUES

"*American Blues* is a terrific collection. Evan Guilford-Blake has the rare gift of capturing the reader's imagination with the very first lines of these stories, and the characters leap off the page with all their

griefs and small triumphs. The settings are gritty and grubby, yet Guilford-Blake has infused them with a tenderness that is irresistible. You'll finish the book wanting more."

Lynne Sharon Schwartz, National Book Award nominee and author of *Disturbances in the Field* and *The Writing on the Wall*

"The characters in *American Blues* live in a world of bad choices and no choices. Whether a mentally disabled man explores his awakening sexuality or a middle-aged woman reaches for her diminishing youth, each faces forces beyond their control, even when the force comes from within. Evan Guilford-Blake shows us a hard world, yes, but also the tender spots within it and thereby leads us into a place where we might see our shared humanity."

Neil Ellis Orts, Writer and Performer, Author, *Cary and John*

"American Blues" ebbs & flows like a classic LP, with a series of 5 short stories offering a soul stirring mix of passion, pain, pleasure, yearning and discord reminiscent of jazz & blue ballads by Coleman Hawkins, Lester Young, Clifford Brown, Monk, Bird, Miles, Mingus and others. Separate stories, each set in different decades, explore moody aspects of the American zeitgeist heard & felt throughout smoke filled clubs and well-lit diners. Evan Guilford-Blake masterfully weaves a melancholy suite, which pops and crackles with the warmth of old vinyl recordings replete with hope, sorrow, life, laughter, death, love, loneliness & longing.

J. Scott Fugate, "The Jazz Evangelist"

I may not have found the classic blues I was looking for in New Orleans, but it resides in every page of *American Blues*. All of the stories are decidedly downbeat, with a gritty, noir flavor fitting the era in which each occurs. The author is at his best when using his poetic skills to describe the inner lives of his characters, such as Jimmy, the counterman in *Nighthawks* or Naurean in *The Easy Lovin' Blues*... the reader reads them with a sense of foreboding, waiting for the final disaster to occur. Despite the unremitting moodiness of each piece, I found that the fine writing kept me reading. And after all, moodiness is what the blues is all about.

Casey Dorman

"*American Blues* is a compellingly readable evocation of a hard, unforgiving world fitfully illuminated not only by art, but also by small acts of solidarity and kindness."

Chris Parker, London Jazz

SOCRATES ADAMS

A MODERN FAMILY

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

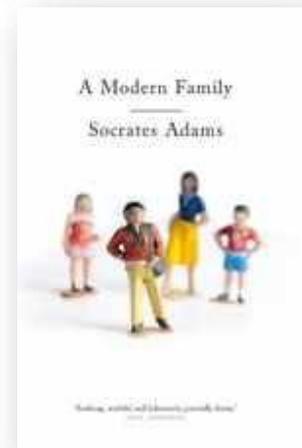
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (160PP)

PUB DATE (UK): JULY 2013

RIGHTS SOLD: EDITIONS PREMIER DEGRÉ
(FRENCH)

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH (UK,
NA)



Television's most popular car show presenter lives his life in the shadow of his career and his persona. He has the perfect job. He doesn't have the perfect family. His wife retches in the bathrooms of exclusive restaurants; his daughter's obsession with a friend is consuming her; his son lives a double life selling pornography by day and gaming on-line all night. The presenter views his family from the outside and watches as they slowly disintegrate in front of him, unable to control anything that is not scripted.

Socrates Adams perfectly mirrors what magazines sell to their readers in a bleak, satirical look at what modern families might think they want to be.

SOCRATES JAMES is a novelist and a film maker who lives in Falmouth, Cornwall. His first novel, *Everything's Fine*, was published in 2012 by Transmission Print. It was nominated for The Guardian First Book Award and was published in Spain and the US. He's currently working on a new novel.

As part of the film-making collective Metal Man, he co-wrote, co-directed and starred in WIZARD'S WAY, a feature film which won the London Comedy Film Festival (LoCo) Discovery Feature award in 2014. The remake rights for the movie were bought by Electric Dynamite, Hollywood actor Jack Black's production company, and a TV pilot is being developed by Comedy Central, based on the film.

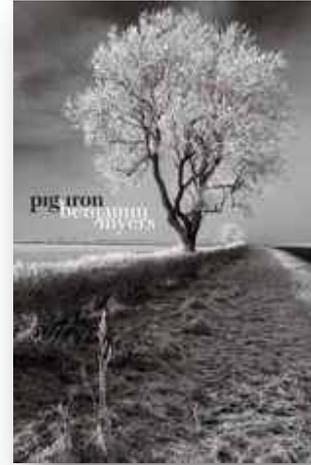
Their second film, JOURNEY TO THE CENTRE OF THE MOON, is currently in pre-production.

PRAISE FOR A MODERN FAMILY

"*A Modern Family* is filled with wry observation, ruthless satire and, underneath it all, a real warmth. It is scathing, truthful and hilariously, painfully funny." -- Award-winning author Jenn Ashworth

BENJAMIN MYERS
PIG IRON

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (300PP)
PUB DATE (UK): MAY 2012
RIGHTS SOLD: BLOOMSBURY (PAPERBACK)
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE



WINNER OF THE GORDON BURN PRIZE
RUNNER-UP THE GUARDIAN'S NOT THE BOOKER PRIZE
A 3:AM MAGAZINE NOVEL OF THE YEAR.

John-John wants to escape his past. But the legacy of brutality left by his bare-knuckle boxer father, self-styled King of the Gypsies, Mac Wisdom, looms large over his life. John-John's new job as an ice cream van man, should offer freedom, but instead pulls him into the dark underbelly of life in a northern town where his family name is mud.

As John-John attempts to trade prejudice, parole officers and local gangs for "the green cathedral" – the rural landscape that provides solace for him – the story of Mac's rise and spectacularly bloody fall unravels.

PIG IRON is the story of a traveller who hasn't travelled; a young man fighting for his very survival.

BENJAMIN MYERS is an author and journalist. His novels include *The Offing* (2019), *The Gallows Pole* (2017), *Beastings* (2014), *Pig Iron* (2012) and *Richard* (2010). He lives in the Upper Calder Valley, Yorkshire, UK.

PRAISE

"*Pig Iron* is an important book because it tells a story that has shaped all contemporary Western humans, but is routinely, inexplicably overlooked – the great move from agricultural life to industrial life." – **Judge Deborah Orr, the Gordon Burn Prize 2013**

“One of my best reads this year...it’s a deeply rural story, a book full of passion for the English countryside and centred on the conflict between the travelling and the settled community. – **Melvin Burgess**

Myers’s poetic vernacular brims with that quality most sadly lost in the Thatcher years – humanity. **Cathi Unsworth in The Guardian**

This is yet another singular portrait of an outsider from Myers. And delivered through authentic characterisation, a monstrously compelling plot, and frequent humour – a rare combination of such successfully crafted elements – *Pig Iron* deserves to find itself on many a reading list, if not the National Curriculum.

Declan Tan for 3:AM Magazine

Benjamin Myers’s influences are clear — David Peace’s northern brutalism is evident and there are suggestions of Salinger and Golding but *Pig Iron*’s savage vision is his alone. *Pig Iron* is an utterly compelling book because the twin desolations of blighted sink estate culture and the emotional alienation of the main character are evoked unrelentingly and the grim conclusion is almost inevitable.

Steve Ely for Morning Star

“What a staggeringly powerful book. It held me page by page, totally took me over. If I had to opt for a single word to encompass the experience of reading the book, I’d settle for ‘ferocious’. How come this book didn’t win all the literary prizes that year?” – **Dominic Cooper, author of The Dead Of Winter and Sunrise.**

“Original and urgent, exciting and uncompromising” – **Loud & Quiet, Books of the Year**

“Never has an author caught the sense of dread, denial and defeat in the downward spiral so thoroughly and accurately as this since Hubert Selby Jr.’s masterwork *Requiem For A Dream*. Myers’ blend of low-life settings and high art conceptions, coupled with a sharp knowledge of North-East regional dialectical inflections and the region’s mapping, are a wonderful throwback to Joyce.” – **Louder Than War**

JUDY BIRKBECK

BEHIND THE MASK IS NOTHING

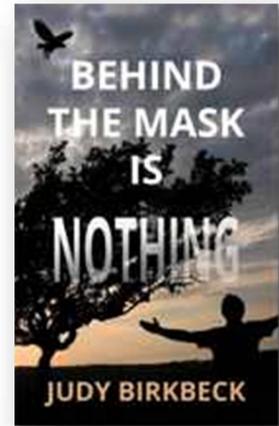
CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (342 PP)

PUBDATE (UK): MAY 2017

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



How could anyone get drawn into a cult without realising?

Stef does. An overworked teacher, she questions her husband's fidelity, but is drawn into a community on a remote Exmoor estate run by the couples' counsellor. Meanwhile, her grandmother, who is writing her memoir about the Hitler Youth girls in Berlin with a mixture of guilt and nostalgia, looks on helplessly as Stef descends ever further.

A disturbing novel about the abuse of power - and the acceptance of this abuse.

JUDY BIRKBECK studied German and French at Reading University, and gained an MA in Creative Writing from Exeter University. She works as a technical, legal and commercial translator from German, French, Russian and Spanish. Behind The Mask Is Nothing was partly inspired by personal experience of a non-residential cult-like group.

She is currently working on her third novel, about the abuse of power within the family. She has had short stories published in Litro, The Lampeter Review, and elsewhere.

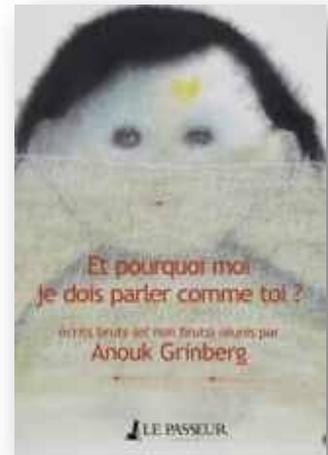
Judy was born and bred in London, and lives in Yorkshire.

POETRY/ARTS

ANOUK GRINBERG AND WHY SHOULD I TALK LIKE YOU?

“BRUT” AND “NON-BRUT” WRITINGS
GATHERED BY ANOUK GRINBERG. PREFACE
BY JEAN-PIERRE SIMEON. POSTFACE BY
SARAH LOMBARDI, DIRECTOR OF
COLLECTION DE L'ART BRUT, LAUSANNE..

CLIENT: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR
PUBLISHER: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR
MATERIAL: FULL MS (256PP)
PUB DATE (F): OCTOBER 2020
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Of Art Brut (Outsider Art), we know the paintings, sculptures and brilliant installations. But “raw” texts remain surprisingly unknown. They are most often letters from men and women whom their family or society had locked up: they spent years in asylums, sometimes their whole lives, without really understanding why. Pushed out of the world, and taken for who they were not, they wrote to their families or to the directors of the institutions so that they would not be forgotten; but none of this was read; the medical services - and the families - considered that these people were not real people at all.

These texts overflow with tenderness, rage, humor and freedom. None of those who express themselves thought they were authors, they knew nothing about art, they wrote out of a hunger for life, to set their spirit free. Through them, we touch the very root of art, art in its raw state.

ANOUK GRINBERG is an actress and painter. This book is a companion to her eponymous show.

JEAN-PIERRE SIMÉON, who holds a degree in modern literature, is the author of some twenty collections of poetry, as well as novels, children’s books and plays for which he has received numerous awards. Former artistic director of the Printemps des poètes festival, he is now associate poet at the Théâtre national populaire.

CAROLYN CARLSON
**ON THE EDGE OF
INFINITY**

A COLLECTION OF POETRY AND
UNPUBLISHED DRAWINGS BY CAROLYN
CARLSON, TRANSLATED AND PRESENTED BY
JEAN-PIERRE SIMÉON.

CLIENT: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR

PUBLISHER: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR

MATERIAL: FULL MS (200 PP) IN FRENCH AND
ENGLISH (bilingual edition)

PUB DATE (F): MARCH 2019

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



"Carolyn Carlson has always been a fundamental, intrinsic and full poet. And, please, let's not convey to this appellation the soft and complacent value that it is too often given. A particular disposition to sensibility, to be a dreamer, a contemplative, a lover of beautiful things, or to be an elegant musician of words, etc.

I don't use the word lightly and it's about something much more serious: a poet is someone who dedicates his life, his whole life, without compromise, to a radical questioning, to the obstinate examination of the reasons and means of existence, without regard for easy moral, ideological, religious answers. It is to devote oneself, at one's own risk, to this added value of meaning that undoes all knowledge and incessantly regenerates life by opening it to its irreducible mystery.

It is in this sense that I say that Carolyn Carlson is first and foremost a poet. It follows that this truth, which is the reality of her life, everything she has done, does or will do, everything she creates to turn appearances upside down and reveal the infinite faces of mystery, all this is poetry, high poetry. No matter the means or materials, the bodies, gestures, sculpted or inhabited space, paper, inks, poems. These are only traces of the passage of poetry, of its visible and therefore shareable forms." Jean-Pierre Siméon

This collection brings together poems and unpublished drawings by Carolyn Carlson and a new edition of *Dialogue with Rothko*.

Born in California, **CAROLYN CARLSON** is a dancer, choreographer, calligrapher and poet. For four decades, her influence and success have been considerable in many European countries. She has created more than a hundred pieces, many of which are major milestones in the history of dance. She is notably the author of *Brins d'herbe* (2011) and *Traces d'encre* (2013).

JEAN-PIERRE SIMÉON, who holds a degree in modern literature, is the author of some twenty collections of poetry, as well as novels, children's books and plays for which he has received numerous awards. Former artistic director of the Printemps des poètes festival, he is now associate poet at the Théâtre national populaire.

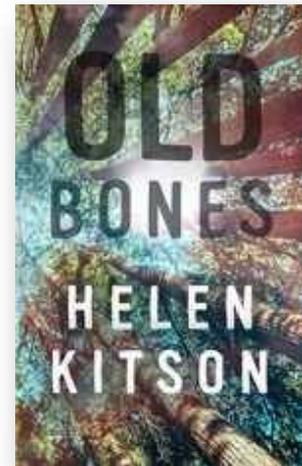
CRIME
THRILLER
SUSPENSE

NEW OR RECENTLY ADDED TO THE
CATALOGUE

STILL AVAILABLE

HELEN KITSON
OLD BONES

CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (336 PP)
PUBDATE(UK): JANUARY 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



*“So much of life is about pretending to be something other than what one is:
prettier, cleverer, less ordinary.”*

Diana and her sister Antonia are house-sharing spinsters who have never got over their respective first loves. Diana owns a gift shop, but rarely works there; and Antonia is unemployed, having lost her teaching job at an all girls’ school following a shocking outburst in the classroom after enduring years of torment. Antonia enjoys her “nice” magazines, Diana is a regular at the local library, and they treat themselves to coffee and cake once a week in the village café.

Naomi lives alone, haunted by the failure of her two marriages. She works in the library, doesn’t get on with her younger colleagues, and rarely cooks herself a proper meal. Secretly she longs for a Boden frock.

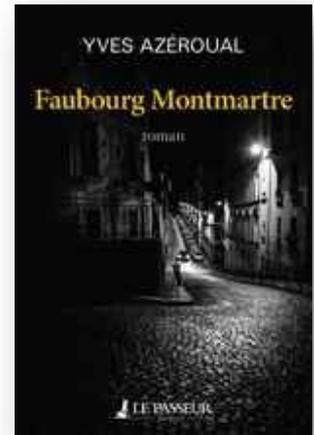
When a body is discovered in the local quarry, all three women’s lives are turned upside down. And when Diana’s old flame Gill turns up unexpectedly, tensions finally spill over and threaten to destroy the outwardly peaceful lives all three women have carefully constructed around themselves.

Helen takes us back to the fictional Shropshire village of Morevale in this, her brilliant second novel which exposes the fragilities and strengths of three remarkably unremarkable elderly women.

HELEN KITSON is an acclaimed poet and lives in Worcester with her husband, two teenaged children and two rescue cats. Her first poetry collection was nominated for the Forward Best First Collection Prize. She has published three other poetry collections and her short fiction has appeared in magazines including *Ambit*, *Feminist Review* and *Stand*. *Old Bones* is her second novel after *The Last Words of Madeleine Anderson*, published in 2019.

YVES AZÉROUAL
FAUBOURG MONTMARTRE

CLIENT: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR
PUBLISHER: LE PASSEUR ÉDITEUR
MATERIAL: FULL MS (392PP)
PUB DATE (UK): APRIL 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Paris in the 60s and 70s is the backdrop for this riveting crime novel in which police investigations, gang wars, family intrigues and licentious love affairs add up to an explosive cocktail.

Faubourg Montmartre is based on a real-life family: the Zemour brothers, nicknamed the "Zs". Five brothers from a Jewish family in Algeria whose criminal careers made headlines in the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

The eldest, Roland, moved to Paris after the war, establishing himself as a pimp before being killed in 1947. His four brother - Theodore, William, Gilbert and Edgard – decide to travel to France in order to avenge his death.

Like their elder brother, they wholeheartedly espouse the trend that wreaks so much havoc among the thug during these years: “flingage”. The "Zs" do not hesitate to spread their gospel with a .45 ACP.

A woman, Catherine L., accompanies their ascent and will support them without qualms until the bitter end.

From Sétif in Northern Algeria to the Parisian neighborhood of Faubourg Montmartre by way of Rome, Tel Aviv, Montreal, Kabul... the "Zs" swindle, pimp, gamble and racketeer their way to the top. They thrive in the world of nightlife, art, and drugs. Of course, they are a nuisance, and they stir up trouble in the milieu run by the kingpins of the Jewish pied-noir community in Paris, the Corsican barons of the gaming circles, the Israeli underworld, and the dreaded Italian mafias.

Inspector Chavin from 36 Quai des Orfèvres, the Paris police headquarters, will devote his entire career to bringing them down.

YVES AZÉROUAL, journalist and documentary filmmaker, has published several works on French politics and Israel. Editor-in-chief and editorial producer of television programs and magazines, he is the co-founder of the news channel i>télévision and the creator of the program "Secrets d'Histoire". He is also the author of *Mufti* (Le Passeur, 2020).

IAN MACPHERSON

SLOOT

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

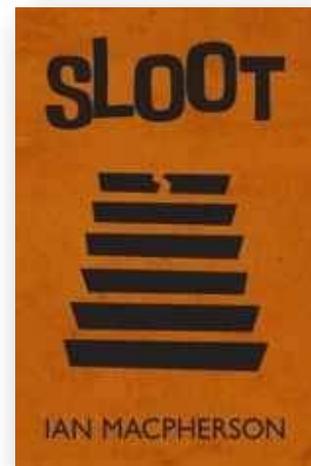
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (240PP)

PUB DATE (UK): OCTOBER 2019

RIGHTS SOLD: ITALIAN

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE



A post-postmodern crime novel set on the clean streets of Dublin's leafiest suburb, *Sloot* has at its heart an accidental detective who'd rather write his own Celtic-screwball-noir than solve the crime, and a narrator who loses the plot. Literally. Sound complicated? Not so. Thanks to a revolutionary structure, *The Inquisitive Bullet*, it's simplicity itself. Detours include proof that psychoanalysis is the oldest profession, validation of the dictum 'For what is comedy but tragedy with loose trousers', and a brief aside on the possibility of an Irishman having multiple birth mothers. While the plot bullet speeds, inquisitively, towards its target - the final full stop.

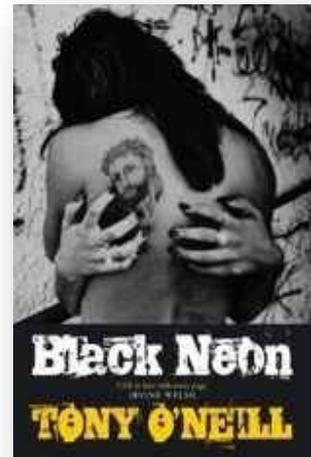
IAN MACPHERSON is a Dublin born writer and performer, winner of the Time Out comedy award. He is the author of several plays, novels and also writes children's books. He lives in Glasgow.

PRAISE

'The comic energy of voice and character is given genuine weight by the sense of mortality that pervades; add a meta magnificence and you get a wonderfully funny novel that shines with life and art.'
The Irish Times

TONY O' NEILL
BLACK NEON

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (350PP)
PUB DATE (UK): OCTOBER 2014
RIGHTS SOLD: FRANCE, GERMANY
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE, FRENCH AND GERMAN



'BLACK NEON is a pitch black classic slice of neo-noir, where black magic, art house cinema, drug-fuelled madness and apocalyptic violence collide with dizzying effect. I fell in love with every page.' -- Irvine Welsh

Lupita and Genesis have just wasted a drug dealer, stolen his stash and hit the open road with a suitcase full of dirty money. Little do they know that their road trip will set them on a collision course with a side of America darker and weirder than any of them have ever known.

In a previous life TONY O'NEILL played keyboards for bands and artists as diverse as Kenickie, Marc Almond and The Brian Jonestown Massacre. After moving to Los Angeles his promising career was derailed by heroin addiction, quickie marriages and crack abuse. While kicking methadone he started writing about his experiences on the periphery of the Hollywood Dream and he has been writing ever since. His autobiographical novel *Digging The Vein* was described by poet John Giorno as "Mining diamonds for the crown of the king of hell," and published in June 2006 by Contemporary Press in the US and Canada, followed by several other novels, short story collections and poems. Tony O'Neill lives in New York where he works a variety of odd jobs and writes.

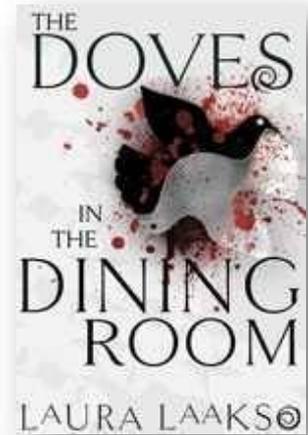
PRAISE

Witty and brutal, this novel is driven at breakneck speed by a very talented Tony O'Neill who knows how to handle contrasts, draw portraits of anti-heroes and write masterful dialogues. From a stylistic point of view, *Black Neon* is certainly O'Neill's most accomplished novel. **Sens critique**

SCIENCE FICTION
FANTASY
SUPERNATURAL

LAURA LAAKSO
**DOVES IN THE DINING
ROOM**

CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS
MATERIAL: FULL MS (154 PP)
PUB DATE (UK): NOVEMBER 2021
RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



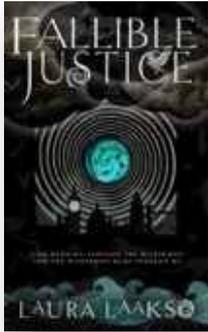
Yannia Wilde arrives in rural Sussex to attend her friend Jessika's aristocratic Mage wedding. When two butchered doves are left in the hotel dining room, Yannia volunteers to take charge of the investigation. More disturbing events follow, leaving Yannia convinced that somebody is trying to sabotage the wedding.

Yannia teams up with the groom, Robbert, a wheelchair-using fan of detective fiction, and Wishearth, her ever-loyal Hearth Spirit, who surprises her by taking an active role in the investigation. But as the clock ticks towards the big day, the sabotage continues and the contradictions mount. The case turns sinister when Yannia herself is targeted, and Wishearth has to act quickly to rescue her.

But can they solve the mystery and save the wedding before somebody loses their life?

LAURA LAAKSO is a Finn who has lived for most of her adult life in England. She is an accountant, dog trainer and author. *Doves in the Dining Room* is a spin-off in her paranormal crime series **Wilde Investigations**.

ALSO AVAILABLE



FALLIBLE JUSTICE
NOVEMBER 2018 – 384 PP.

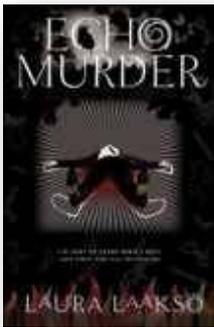
In Old London, where paranormal races co-exist with ordinary humans, criminal verdicts delivered by the all-seeing Heralds of Justice are infallible. After a man is declared guilty of murder and sentenced to death, his daughter turns to private investigator Yannia Wilde to do the impossible and prove the Heralds wrong.

Yannia has escaped a restrictive life in the Wild Folk conclave where she was raised, but her origins mark her as an outsider in the city. Those origins lend her the sensory abilities of all of nature. Yet Yannia is lonely and struggling to adapt to life in the city. The case could be the break she needs. She enlists the help of her only friend, a Bird Shaman named Karrion, and together they

accept the challenge of proving a guilty man innocent.

So begins a breathless race against time and against all conceivable odds. Can Yannia and Karrion save a man who has been judged infallibly guilty?

The first volume in the *Wilde Investigations* series



ECHO MURDER
JUNE 2019 – 352 PP.

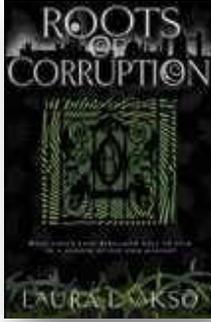
Yannia Wilde returns to the Wild Folk conclave where she grew up, and to the deathbed of her father, the conclave's Elderman. She is soon drawn back into the Wild Folk way of life and into a turbulent relationship with Dearon, to whom she is betrothed.

Back in London, unassuming office worker Tim Wedgebury is surprised when police appear on his doorstep with a story about how he was stabbed in the West End. His body disappeared before the paramedics' eyes. Given that Tim is alive and well, the police chalk the first death up to a Mage prank.

But when Tim “dies” a second time, Detective Inspector Jamie Manning calls Yannia and, torn between returning to the life she has built in Old London and remaining loyal to the conclave and to Dearon, she strikes a compromise with the Elderman that allows her to return temporarily to the city.

There she sets about solving the mystery of Tim's many deaths with the help of her apprentice, Karrion. They come to realise that with every death, more of the echo becomes reality, and Yannia and Karrion find themselves in increasing danger as they try to save Tim. Who is the echo murderer? What sinister game are they playing? And what do they truly want?

The second volume in the *Wilde Investigations* series



ROOTS OF CORRUPTION
MARCH 2020 – 384 PP.

On the night of Samhain, the veil between worlds is at its thinnest, and ancient magic runs wild in Old London.

When Lady Bergamon is attacked in her Ivy Street garden, Wishearth turns to Yannia for help. Who could have the power to harm Lady Bergamon in her own domain? While Yannia searches for the answer, nature herself appears to be killing Mages in Old London. Yannia and Karrion join forces with New Scotland Yard to solve the baffling Mage deaths. But wherever they turn, all the clues point back towards Ivy Street.

Yannia's abilities are put to test as she races to save Lady Bergamon's life, and prevent further murders. But with the lines between friends and enemies blurring, she must decide who to trust and how much she's willing to sacrifice for Old London and its inhabitants...

The third volume in the *Wilde Investigations* series

DOMINIC BROWNLOW

THE NASEBY HORSES

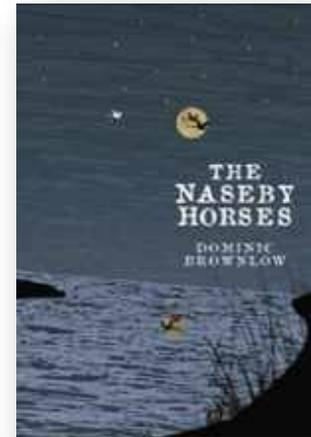
CLIENT: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS

PUBLISHER: LOUISE WALTERS BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (304 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): DECEMBER 2019

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



'I only know Charlotte is not dead. I feel it within me, her heartbeat the echo of my own. She is with me still. She is near. I have to save her, for that is all in life I have ever been required to do.'

Seventeen-year-old Simon's sister Charlotte is missing. The lonely Fenland village the family recently moved to from London is odd, silent, and mysterious. Simon is epileptic and his seizures are increasing in severity, but when he is told of the local curse of the Naseby Horses, he is convinced it has something to do with Charlotte's disappearance. Despite resistance from the villagers, the police, and his own family, Simon is determined to uncover the truth, and save his sister.

Under the oppressive Fenland skies and in the heat of a relentless June, Simon's bond with Charlotte is fierce, all-consuming, and unbreakable; but can he find her? And does she even want to be found?

Drawing on philosophy, science, and the natural world, *The Naseby Horses* is a moving exploration of the bond between a brother and his sister; of love; and of the meaning of life itself.

Dominic Brownlow lives near Peterborough with his two children. He lived in London and worked in the music industry as a manager before setting up his own independent label. He now enjoys life in the Fens and has an office that looks out over water. *The Naseby Horses* is his first novel. It was long listed for the Bath Novel Award 2017.

FRANCIS HAY

THE NIGHT FOGS

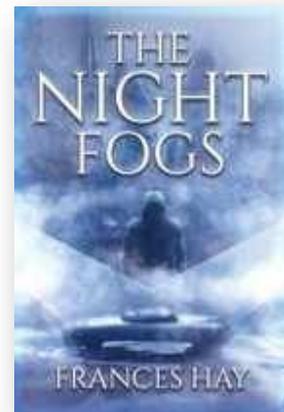
CLIENT: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: HOLLAND HOUSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (260 PP)

PUB DATE (UK): JULY 2018

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD



Divided lands, divided minds, divided loyalties... In the fogs, nothing is clear

After battling with the fogs all night, the last thing El Morgan needed was to find a strange-looking baby lying like a sacrifice on the standing stones in the city park.

The capital of a newly independent Wales is a city under siege, smothered in thick fogs that sweep in at dusk and swirl around all night, disturbing people's minds. El, a clinical psychologist, helps those worst affected by the fogs, while her sister, who's just lost her own baby, cares for the abandoned infant. Meanwhile, Caradoc, an American neuroscientist, seeks a scientific explanation for the fogs while coping with florid hallucinations about his past life as a medieval saint. As the relentless fogs cut the city off from the rest of the world, resources become scarce, paranoia rises and the military argues for a counterattack on England.

The Night Fogs is a sharply topical, funny, satirical, and moving story in the tradition of John Wyndham, Emily St John Mandel, and Liz Jensen, that explores divisions between communities, friends, family members and even parts of ourselves.

FRANCES HAY is an American writer living in Wales. She grew up in Connecticut and then studied in Pennsylvania and North Carolina, completing a PhD in Developmental Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and is now a Professor at Cardiff University. Her short fiction has appeared in *The Lampeter Review*, *damselfly press*, *Persimmon Tree*, and *Café Aphra*. Her story 'A Blind Date' which was written as an exercise on point of view for an online novel-writing course was published in *Secondary Characters and Other Stories*, an anthology of work by writers in the Welsh Short Story Network and was assigned reading for undergraduate students at USW.

FICTION / SPECULATIVE

ADRIAN BARNES

NOD

CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

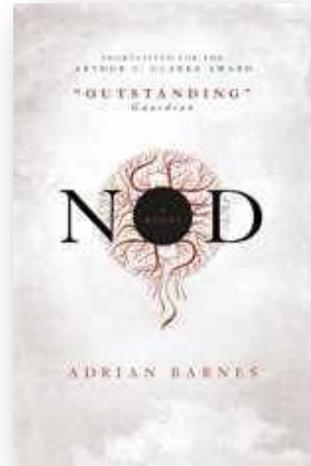
PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (300PP)

PUB DATE (UK): MAY 2012

RIGHTS SOLD: CANADA (ENGLISH),
TURKEY, BULGARIA, GREECE AND
HUNGARY

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD excl. ENGLISH
LANGUAGE



SHORTLISTED FOR THE ARTHUR C. CLARKE AWARD 2013

**“The creepiest book of the year” - Slate
“Outstanding” – The Guardian**

Dawn breaks over Vancouver and no-one in the world has slept the night before, or almost no-one. A few people, perhaps one in ten thousand can still sleep, and they've all shared the same golden dream. A handful of children still sleep as well, but what they're dreaming remains a mystery. After six days of absolute sleep deprivation, psychosis will set in. After four weeks, the body will die. In the interim, panic ensues and a bizarre new world arises.

ADRIAN BARNES was born in Blackpool, England but grew up in Canada, where he taught English at Selkirk College, British Columbia. He passed away in 2018.

PRAISE

“The apocalypse comes in many forms, but none stranger than that of the chronic sleep deprivation that leads to mass psychosis in Adrian Barnes's audacious novel *Nod*. Paul is a misanthropic hack writing a non-fiction book about obscure words when the world is afflicted and the majority of citizens begin to hallucinate solipsistic realities that Paul, as a Sleeper and a wordsmith, can influence. Barnes employs this brilliant idea to explore the nature of perception, redemption, and personal and social catastrophe. Outstanding.” --The Guardian

“Violent, frightening, textured, and dystopian are words that aptly describe the short-lived world that Barnes has created. Barnes' writing is beautiful” - Quest For Sleep

“Barnes’s prose is full of surprising figures and flourishes” - Kenyon

"I loved the premise and enjoyed both the story and Barnes’s rich prose." - Craig DiLouie

“Thought provoking and utterly engrossing, NOD is a science fiction tale of horror unlike any I have read before.” - Count Gore

“The creepiest book of the year” - Slate

“I could see what the new world of Nod looked like, could easily picture the slow collapse of Vancouver and its people thanks to Barnes’ close attention to detail. At times I could even smell the death and decay it so vividly described.” - ProjectFandom

"Debut author Barnes has written a completely original twist on the subject of insomnia. His apocalyptic thriller will appeal to fans of Christopher Galt’s *Biblical* and other dystopian and sf thrillers as well as readers with an interest in mythology" - Library Journal

“I have never read anything quite like this book. It’s the perfect blend of heady existentialism and dystopian nightmare. The grand scope of the many ideas and themes, including anti-establishment, anti-consumerism, and the very nature of good and evil, is balanced out by fast-paced events that play on a micro-level...Nod is horror born of the unflinching and uncompromising detail that dissects what it means to be human.” - Dread Central

"Nod brings a refreshing perspective to the horror/zombie genre." - Pop Kernal

"Graphically violent, but gleaming with gems of sardonic prose and clever phrases, this is a book I would read again just for the writing." - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

ANNA CHILVERS

TAINTED LOVE

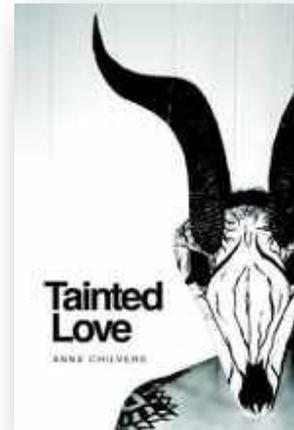
CLIENT: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

PUBLISHER: BLUEMOOSE BOOKS

MATERIAL: FULL MS (350PP)

PUB DATE (UK): APRIL 2016

RIGHTS HELD: WORLD EXCL. ENGLISH (UK, NA)



Secrets and stones have settled in Hawden where everything stays as it is; the past is hidden, or rewritten. Lauren lives with her dad and Mr Lion after her mother left her when she was three months old. Her boyfriend Peter is struggling with his identity. When Meg and her son Richard arrive, both dangerously attractive, and Ali too, angry and on the run from drug dealers, old stories resurface, creating new tensions. After seventeen years Lauren's mother comes back into her life and nothing is quite what it seems anymore, but love, however tainted, can sometimes heal. TAINTED LOVE is a modern gothic tale of how old stories can unravel people's lives.

ANNA CHILVERS is a writer, a runner, a long distance walker, a mother, a teacher and a reader. Her first novel, *FALLING THROUGH CLOUDS*, was published by Bluemoose in 2010. She has also published a collection of short stories, *LEGGING IT* (Pennine Prospects, 2012) and her play, *THE ROOM* was performed in the Hebden Bridge Arts Festival 2013. Her third novel *EAST COAST ROAD* was published in 2020. She teaches writing for the WEA and works with other groups of young writers and adults.

Anna was Writer in Residence for the Watershed Landscape project and worked on the Stanza Stones project with Simon Armitage, as well as with iMove on Wordstones and Words and Walking. She is particularly interested in the links between writing, walking and the landscape. She is a member of the Elmet Trust and organises the Ted Hughes Festival, The Elmet Poetry Prize and the Ted Hughes Young Poets Award. Anna has worked extensively with bookgroups and has run the 646 Book Club for ten years. She lives in Hebden Bridge with her family and her dog, Bet, and two cats.