Karen McMillan Fiction Catalogue 2019

The Paris of the East
A sweeping novel of love and war

The Paris of the West
A novel of love, war and second chances

Brushstrokes of Memory
A novel of love, loss and second chances

Watching Over Me

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Karen McMillan is the author of fiction, non-fiction and children’s books.

Fiction works include the novels *Brushstrokes of Memory*, *Watching Over Me*, *The Paris of the East*, *The Paris of the West*, and the delightful collection of short stories *Shaggy Dog and Fishy Cat Tales*.

Her non-fiction titles include *Everyday Strength*, *Unbreakable Spirit*, *Love Bytes*, *Unleash Your Inner Seductress*, and *From the Blitz to the Burmese Jungle and Beyond*.

She is also the author of the junior fiction children’s book series, *Elastic Island Adventures*, that have been optioned to be made into movies.

Karen lives in Auckland, New Zealand.

For more information about Karen and her writing visit www.karenm.co.nz.
**Brushstrokes of Memory** is a compelling novel of love, lost memories and rediscovering dreams

On her thirty-second birthday, Rebecca is in high spirits and life could not be better personally and professionally. But in 2013, she wakes in hospital after a head injury and finds out that nearly a decade of her life has been erased from her memory. Now almost forty-two, she can’t remember anything after her thirty-second birthday, a decade fraught with changes she would never have anticipated – illness, infidelity, betrayal, separation and death – and the disintegration of many of her dreams.

But if Rebecca can’t remember anything of nearly ten years, then could this be the chance for her to wipe the slate clean and start again?

A top ten bestseller in New Zealand.
The Paris of the East is a sweeping epic of love and war, courage and survival, sacrifice and loss.

Warsaw, 1939. Four friends picnic on a brilliant summer’s day and celebrate an engagement, aware of the rumbles of war, but hopeful that in any conflict Poland will have the upper hand...

A page-turning story that spans the period of the Second World War, this is a dramatic historical adventure that goes from Warsaw to Lublin, from Bucharest to Paris, from London to the Concentration Camp at Ravensbruck – but always at the heart of this novel is the mesmerising city of Warsaw – ‘The Paris of the East.’

A top ten bestseller in New Zealand.
The Paris of the West is a story of love and loss, betrayal and forgiveness, and having the courage to start over.

San Francisco, 1948. Having survived the Second World War against all odds, Celina and her family arrive on a Liberty Ship into the Bay Area with high hopes for their new lives. But as new immigrants they face many hurdles, and they have to deal somehow with the trauma of war and the grief of losing loved ones. Betrayal and more heartbreak are just around the corner.

A historical read set in the spectacular hilly city of San Francisco, ‘The Paris of the West’ goes from the jazz clubs in the Fillmore District to the sun-kissed vineyards of Sonoma.

A top ten bestseller in New Zealand.
Watching Over Me is a mesmerising novel of love and loss.

What would you do if you lost everything you had ever loved? In this page turning novel of love and loss, set in the late 1990s, Sarah Martin’s idyllic world is shattered when the death of her father sets into motion a series of terrible life-changing events. While fighting to save her father’s bookstore from bankruptcy, Sarah discovers family secrets that tear her and her husband Michael’s lives apart.

Thrilling and compelling, Watching Over Me is an inspirational read that reveals, ultimately, how the power of love can transform lives.
The cat with nine distinct personalities; the pooch who is an undercover agent; the cat who thinks he is a dog...

*Shaggy Dog and Fishy Cat Tales* is a delightful celebration of the unique feline and canine characters that share and enrich our lives.

Always amusing, at other times touching and sometimes downright hilarious, twenty cat and dog antics are told both from the owner’s point of view and the very different viewpoint of the animal concerned. Their stories will bring a smile to pet owners everywhere!
PRAISE

‘Brushstrokes of Memory is a beautifully crafted love story, written from the heart.’ NEXT Magazine

'The three main characters in this story, Rebecca, her best friend Julie and husband Daniel are well drawn...As the story progresses there are many twist and turns in the plot and the tension keeps building. It is certainly a love story with a difference!' grownups.co.nz

‘From the derring-do of Allied fighter pilots to the cunning of the Polish resistance and the everyday bravery of a professor and his daughter, there are heroes of all kinds in this sweeping tale of war-torn Warsaw. At its heart lies a tender love story which offers a glimpse of hope for a better future, and reminds us that humanity and kindness ultimately always prevail.’ NEXT Magazine

'The weaving of truth and imagination blurs the lines of fiction into a compelling and enjoyable read.' Australian Women's Weekly

'admirable characters and well-researched writing.' New Zealand Herald

‘The Paris of the East is a generous and energetic account of an historical period of terrible darkness, and one that revives what is often overlooked.' Coast FM

'I found this book very hard to put down. A tender love story, a story of courage and survival set in extraordinary times.' Booksellers NZ Blog

'This well-researched novel paints a vibrant picture of post-war San Francisco, from the jazz clubs in the Fillmore District to the vineyards of Sonoma. An enjoyable historical read with a touch of romance.' Sweet Living Magazine

‘a romantic page turner with many a heart wrenching and bittersweet moment but also a gradual healing. It is a well-researched read.' grownups.co.nz