



John Murray Press

Autumn Winter 2024

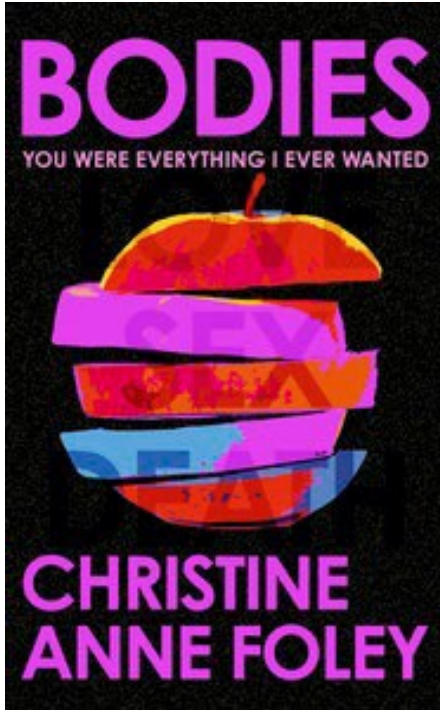
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BODIES

The 'It Girl' Book of the Year

Christine Anne Foley



'A story about sex, death, growing up and making choices about who and how you love' – *Irish Times*

You were everything I ever wanted.

Johnny was my first. I was seventeen and I was only brave enough to talk to him after I'd had three vodkas. He was only brave enough to kiss me when no-one else was around.

Dave was different. We didn't go out or see friends. We were each other's world. Dave was all I needed. We were toxic before it became fashionable.

Kyle was my best friend. And that was the problem. Or at least that's what he said was the problem. Because friends can hook up but they can't date.

Adam was meant to be some harmless fun. I met him in a hotel and he was wearing an Adidas tracksuit. Casual but cute. He was anything but harmless.

And then I met You.
And things went from bad to worse...

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Christine Anne Foley grew up in the beautiful town of Graignamanagh, Co. Kilkenny. She studied English Literature at Trinity College Dublin and completed a Masters in Creative Writing at Oxford University. Her work has appeared in literary journals, *Skirting Around*, *Neurological* and *Sonder* magazine. She currently lives in Dublin where she works part-time in the fashion industry. *Bodies* is her first novel.

Author lives in Dublin.

9781399807203 • £16.99 Demy Hardback • 208pp

ebook: 9781399807227 • £16.99

Audio download: 9781399807234 • £24.99

Demy Trade Paperback: 9781399807210 • £15.99

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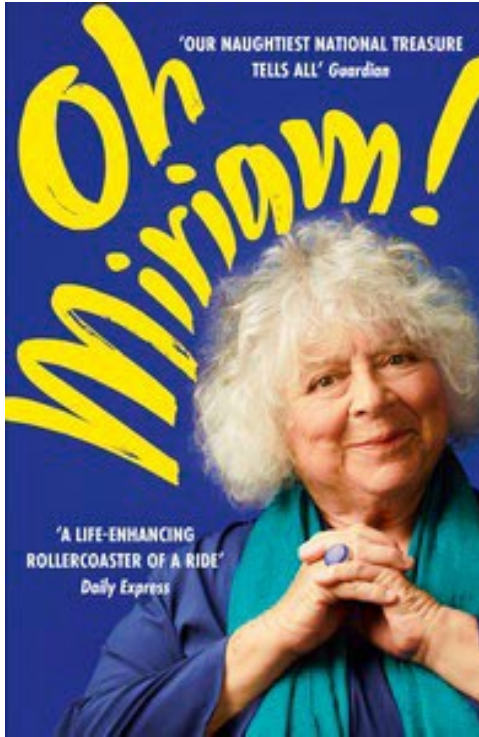
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OH MIRIAM!
Stories from an Extraordinary Life
 Miriam Margolyes



Award-winning actress, bestselling author of *This Much is True*, and Britain's naughtiest national treasure is back, and she's as outrageous as ever.

From declaring my love to Vanessa Redgrave to being fed cockroaches by Steve Buscemi, from turnip-based comedy with *Blackadder* to being farted on by Arnold Schwarzenegger, from Graham Norton's sofa to Alan Cumming's camper van, my life has been (and continues to be) an uproarious adventure.

Oh Miriam! has been such a constant refrain in my life, said in all kinds of tones - laughs, surprised gasps and orgasmic sighs (I'm hoping for all of those from you as you read on!) - that it had to be the title of this book.

My chapters range from 'How to Stay Married' to 'Don't Let the Bastards Get You Down'. Discover how to break the thickest conversational ice; why swearing is actually good for you (though not on the Today programme); the unexpected things I learned at school and what my Spice Girl name would be. Not to mention my Tale of the Unexpected and my very own Vagina Monologue.

Buckle up and join me on another unforgettable adventure, but this time through my heart and head . . .

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in Oxford, England in 1941 & educated at Newnham College, Cambridge, Miriam Margolyes OBE is an award-winning veteran of the stage and screen, and an internationally acclaimed voice-artist and documentarian. Winner of the BAFTA Best Supporting Actress award for *The Age of Innocence*, she received an OBE in 2002 for Services to Drama. *This Much is True*, her long-awaited award-winning autobiography, was in the top ten for over a year. This is her second book.

Author lives in London, UK.

9781399803373 • £10.99 Paperback • 336pp

ebook: 9781399803380 • £25

Audio download: 9781399803342 • £31.99

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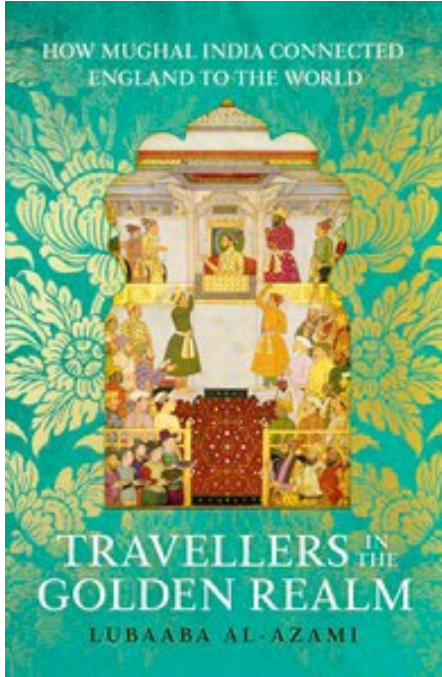
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TRAVELLERS IN THE GOLDEN REALM

How Mughal India Connected England to the World

Lubaaba Al-Azami



‘A compelling, highly readable account of the earliest phase of English presence in India’ NANDINI DAS, author of *Courting India*

When the first English travellers in India encountered an unimaginable superpower, their meetings would change the world. Before the East India Company and before the British Empire, England was a pariah state. Seeking better fortunes, 16th and 17th century merchants, pilgrims and outcasts ventured to the kingdom of the mighty Mughals, attempting to sell coarse woollen broadcloth along the silk roads; playing courtiers in the Mughal palaces in pursuit of love; or simply touring the sub-continent in search of an elephant to ride.

Into this golden realm went Father Thomas Stephens, a Catholic fleeing his home; the merchant Ralph Fitch looking for jewels in the markets of Delhi; and John Mildenhall, an adventurer revelling in the highwire politics of the Mughal elite. It was a land ruled from the palatial towers by women - the formidable Empress Nur Jahan Begim, the enterprising Queen Mother Maryam al-Zamani, and the intrepid Princess Jahanara Begim. Their collision of worlds helped connect East and West, launching a tempestuous period of globalisation spanning from the Chinese opium trade to the slave trade in the Americas. Drawing on rich, original sources, Lubaaba Al-Azami traces the origins of a relationship between two nations – one outsider and one superpower – whose cultures remain inextricably linked to this day.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr Lubaaba Al-Azami is a cultural historian and Lecturer in Shakespeare and Early Modern Literature at the University of Manchester. Lubaaba is also Founding Editor of *Medieval and Early Modern Orients* (MEMOs, memorients.com), a transnational digital platform on premodern encounters between England and the Islamic Worlds.

Author lives in Manchester, UK.

9781529371321 • £20 Royal Hardback • 320pp

ebook: 9781529371352 • £20

Audio download: 9781529371369 • £24.99

Royal Trade Paperback: 9781529371338 • £14.99

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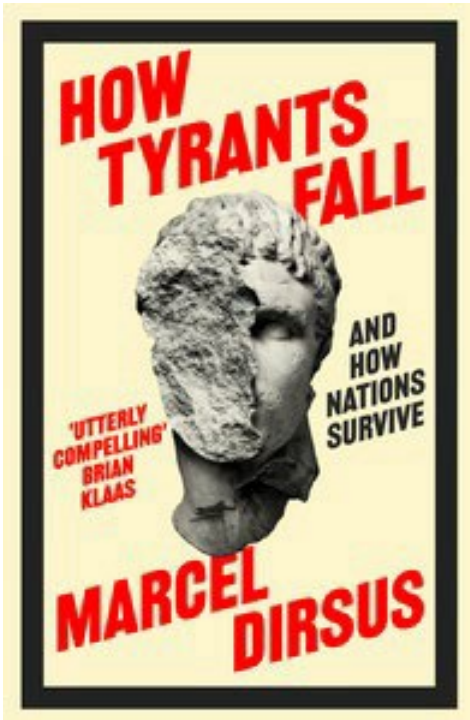
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HOW TYRANTS FALL

Marcel Dirsus



‘Fascinating, sweeping, and jaw-dropping’ BRIAN KLAAS,
author of *Corruptible*

Strongmen are rising. Democracies are faltering. How does tyranny end?

Tyrants project invincibility, but all of them fall. This is because they face critical weaknesses that can form a fatal trap. Whether it's their inner circle turning against them or resentment of elites in the military, the masses alienated by cronyism or revolutionaries plotting in exile, tyrants always have more enemies than friends. And when they fall tyrants don't quietly retire – they face exile, prison or death. What happens in the aftermath can change the fate of a nation.

Meeting with a revolutionary (codename ‘Satan’) who risked Stasi capture to undermine an oppressive regime, an American-Gambian activist who plotted to liberate his homeland on breaks during his construction job and the unapologetic former leader of a Burundian rebel group which carried out a massacre, internationally renowned security expert and political scientist Dr Marcel Dirsus draws on extensive field research and personal interviews with coup leaders, rebels and soldiers to examine the workings and malfunctions of tyrants.

But understanding dictators isn't enough. *How Tyrants Fall* is the gripping, deeply researched blueprint for how to bring them down.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Marcel Dirsus studied at Oxford and worked in the Democratic Republic of Congo during a failed coup in 2013. In addition to writing the politics newsletter The Hundred, Dirsus has advised major foundations and international organisations like NATO and the OECD. You can find him at marceldirsus.com and [@marceldirsus](https://twitter.com/marceldirsus) on X, formerly Twitter.

Author lives in Germany.

9781399809481 • £20 Royal Hardback • 320pp

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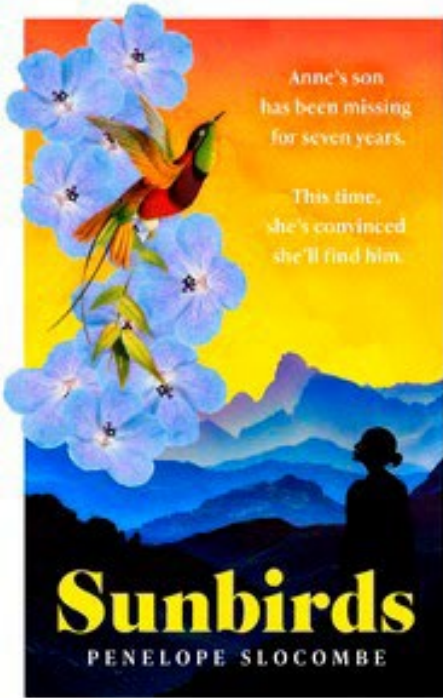
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SUNBIRDS
Penelope Slocombe



One day, seven years ago, Anne's eighteen-year-old son Torran walked out of his hotel in the notorious Himalayan town of Manali – and disappeared.

Some say he had a run in with the local drug lords, others are convinced he joined an ashram or came to harm during a hike. All Anne knows is that she is unable to stop searching – for an answer to what happened, as well as for her son. Dealing with feelings of guilt and her own failings as a mother, she is still in India, haunted by the idea that someone must know something.

Then the first breakthrough in years comes with the unwanted arrival of Anne's niece Esther; Torran may be living in a hippie commune deep in the Himalayan foothills. Putting aside their differences, Esther and Anne set off into the mountains to find him. Along the way there is beauty and joy, forgiveness, and hope, missed opportunities and unconfirmed sightings. Anne begins to think that she'll never find the answers to her questions, but can this final journey at least bring her some sort of peace?

As is so often true in life, sometimes you go searching for one thing but end up finding something completely unexpected altogether.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Penelope Slocombe grew up in a New Age community (not a cult!) on a tiny Hebridean island (famous for featuring in Robert Louis Stevenson's novel Kidnapped) and has always been fascinated by people who choose to drop out of mainstream society to follow their own ideological or spiritual paths – all too often leaving loved ones behind, and not always telling them that they are going. She has lived and travelled extensively in India. She's an English Language teacher currently based in South London, with a Spanish husband and two small children. This is her debut novel.

Author lives in London, UK

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PEGGY

Rebecca Godfrey and
Leslie Jamison



Venice, 1958. Peggy Guggenheim, heiress and now legendary art collector, sits in the sun at her white marble palazzo on the Grand Canal.

She's in a reflective mood, thinking back on her thrilling, tragic, nearly impossible journey from her sheltered, old-fashioned family in New York to here, iconoclast and independent woman.

Rebecca Godfrey's *Peggy* is a blazingly fresh interpretation of a woman who defies every expectation to become an original. The daughter of two Jewish dynasties, Peggy finds her cloistered life turned upside down at fourteen, when her beloved father goes down with the Titanic. His death prompts Peggy to seek a life of passion and personal freedom, and, above all, to believe in the transformative power of art. We follow Peggy as she makes her way through the glamorous but sexist and antisemitic art worlds of New York and Europe and meet the numerous men who love her (and her money), while underestimating her intellect, talent, and vision. Throughout, Peggy must balance her loyalty to her family with her need to break free from their narrow, snobbish way of life and the unexpected restrictions that come with vast fortune.

With intellect and style, Rebecca Godfrey, in her final book-completed by her friend, the acclaimed writer Leslie Jamison-brings to life a woman who helped make the Guggenheim name synonymous with art and genius, recasting her as, in the words of novelist Jenny Offill, 'a feminist icon for our times.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Rebecca Godfrey was an award-winning novelist and journalist. Her first novel, *The Torn Skirt*, was a national bestseller and a finalist for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. *Under The Bridge* received the British Columbia Award for Canadian Nonfiction, and the Arthur Ellis Award for Excellence in Crime Writing. She held an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College, and received fellowships from Yaddo and The MacDowell Colony. She taught writing at Columbia University, and lived with her family in upstate New York. She died in 2022.

9781473605749 • £18.99 Royal Hardback • 320pp

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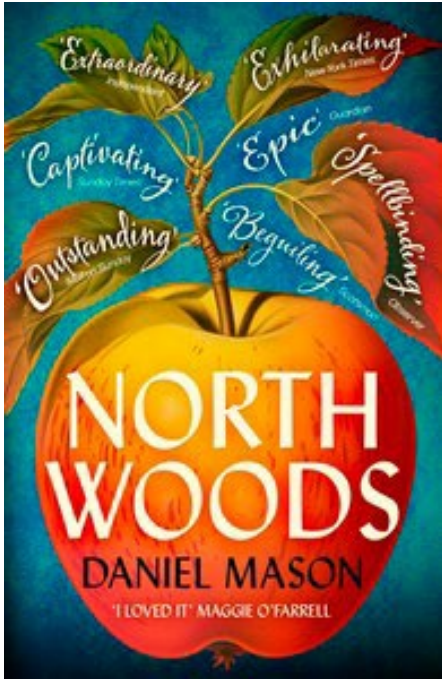
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NORTH WOODS

Daniel Mason



Four centuries. A single house deep in the woods of New England.

A young Puritan couple on the run. An English soldier with a fantastic vision. Inseparable twin sisters. A lovelorn painter and a lusty beetle. A desperate mother and her haunted son. A ruthless con man and a stalking panther. Buried secrets. Madness, dreams and hope.

All are connected. The dark, raucous, beautiful past is very much alive.

Exhilarating, daring and playful, NORTH WOODS will change the way you see the world.

'Daniel Mason's latest novel is one of those rare books that truly deserves the description "spellbinding" ' *Observer*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Daniel Mason is a doctor and author of *The Piano Tuner* (2002), *A Far Country* (2007), *The Winter Soldier* (2018), and *A Registry of My Passage Upon the Earth* (2020), which was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. His work has been translated into 28 languages, adapted for opera and the stage, and awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Joyce Carol Oates Prize, the California Book Award, the Northern California Book Award, and a Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts. His short stories and essays have been awarded two Pushcart Prizes, a National Magazine Award and an O. Henry Prize. He is an assistant professor in the Stanford University Department of Psychiatry. He currently lives in Palo Alto, CA.

9781399809306 • £9.99 Paperback • 384pp

ebook: 9781399809313 • £16.99

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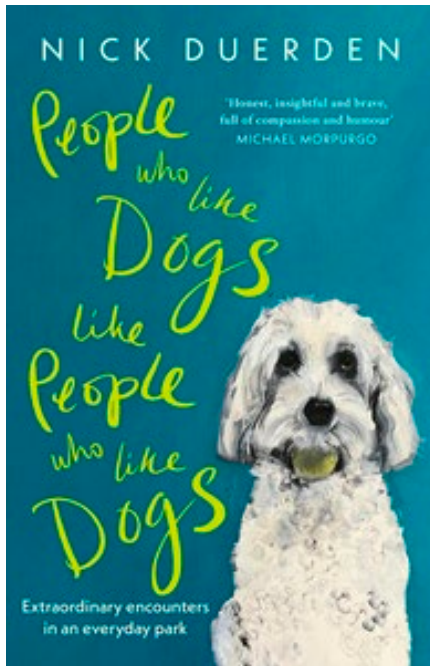
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PEOPLE WHO LIKE DOGS LIKE PEOPLE WHO LIKE DOGS

One small dog, an average park and a world made good again

Nick Duerden



The heart-warming and moving story of love, loss and connection on the daily dog walk.

Ostensibly, Nick Duerden is a cat person, and so the acquisition of a family dog in his late-40s takes him by surprise. The border terrier, Missy, is in part a therapeutic aid – the idea being that she'll get Nick out of the house after a long period of ill health, and back into the wider, sociable world.

Unexpectedly, it works. There can't be many opportunities in midlife to suddenly find yourself connecting with both hopeful young actor types and widowed octogenarians, a verbose existentialist Russian dissident and a stoned martial arts enthusiast, a bulldog with a basketball and a self-proclaimed animal mystic, but this is precisely what Missy, and the daily walk round the park, provides. (Incidentally, she saves marriages, too.)

People Who Like Dogs Like People Who Like Dogs is a book about connection and friendship, love and loss, the vagaries of midlife and the deep solace that comes from an enduring relationship. It's about finding yourself when for too long you've been lost, and how even when, for whatever reason, horizons draw in, there's still plenty of adventure left. You just have to look harder for it. And it's about how the introduction of a small dog into your life can make the world big again.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Nick Duerden is a writer and freelance broadsheet journalist. He has written widely on the arts, family and health, and is the author of two novels, a memoir on fatherhood, and other non-fiction works.

Author lives in London, UK.

9781399818988 • £14.99 **Hardback** • 224pp

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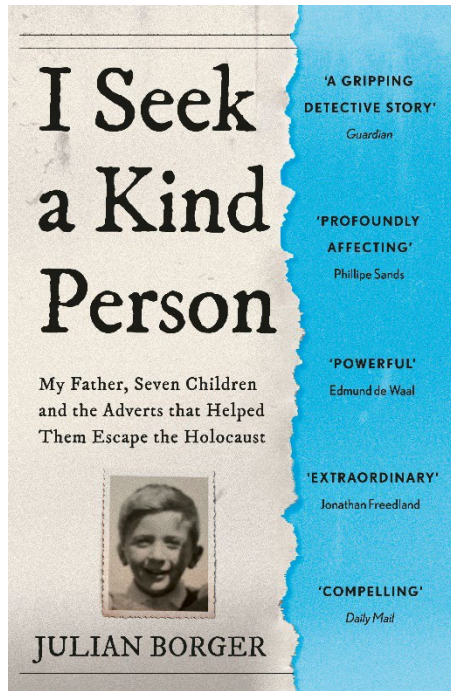
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I SEEK A KIND PERSON

My Father, Seven Children and the Adverts that Helped Them Escape the Holocaust

Julian Borger



‘A moving account of the life changing impact of acts of kindness to strangers in need’ *Martin Sixsmith*

In 1938, before Kindertransport, Jewish parents in Vienna took out adverts in the *Manchester Guardian* asking for people to take in their children – a desperate, last-ditch attempt to save them from the Nazis.

Eighty-three years later, Julian Borger discovers an advert for an ‘intelligent boy, aged 11, Viennese of good family’. It was his father, Robert. Like almost everything about his childhood, Robert had kept this a secret, until he took his own life.

Borger Starting with nothing but the adverts, Borger traces the remarkable stories of his father, the other advertised children and their families. From a Viennese radio shop to the Shanghai ghetto, internment camps and family homes across Britain, forests and concentration camps in Germany, smugglers saving Jewish lives in Holland, an improbable French Resistance cell, and a redemptive story of survival in New York, he unearths the astonishing journeys and legacies of children left in the hands of fate – and at the mercy of other people’s kindness. *I Seek a Kind Person* is a gripping story of grief, inheritance, courage and hope.

‘A gripping addition to the literature on inherited trauma’ *Observer*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Julian Borger is the *Guardian*’s World Affairs Editor. He was part of the *Guardian* team that won the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for public service journalism, for its coverage of the Snowden files on mass surveillance. He was also in the team awarded the 2013 Investigative Reporters and Editors (IRE) medal and the Paul Foot Special Investigation Award in the UK. He won the One World Media Press Award in 2016 for a feature story on the investigation of war crimes in Syria.

Author lives in Washington, USA.

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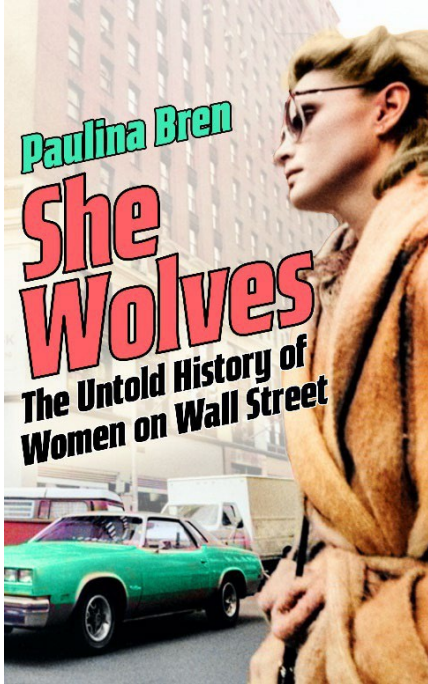
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SHE WOLVES
The Untold History of Women on Wall Street
 Paulina Bren



Introducing the Women of Wall Street . . .

First came the secretaries from Brooklyn and Queens – the 'smart cookies' who learned on the job. Then came the first Harvard Business School grads, who, despite their hard-earned diplomas, were told to settle for less. Eventually came the yuppies of the 1980s in their classic power suits.

In *She Wolves*, award-winning historian Paulina Bren tells the inside story of the first generations of women who fought their way into the bad-boy culture and lavish opulence of the finance world. If the 'wolves' of Wall Street made a show of their ferocity, the she-wolves did so with tough-as-nails persistence. Starting at a time when 'No Ladies' signs hung across the doors of Wall Street's clubs and unapologetic sexism and racism were the norm, Bren chronicles the remarkable women who demanded a seat at the table.

She Wolves is an engaging and enraging look at the collision of women, finance and New York from the go-go years to ground zero.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Paulina Bren is an award-winning writer and historian who teaches at Vassar College. Her recent book, *The Barbizon: The Hotel That Set Women Free*, is a *New York Times* Editor's Choice and has received international press coverage. It has been optioned by HBO for Emilia Clarke (*Game of Thrones*) to produce. In addition, Bren is a well-known scholar of everyday life and communism behind the Iron Curtain, starting with her groundbreaking book, *The Greengrocer and His TV*, which cast the first line in what is now a new field of study.

Author lives in New York.

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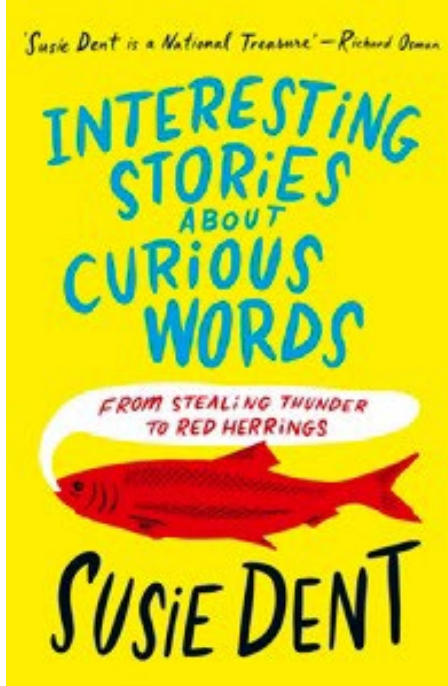
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INTERESTING STORIES ABOUT CURIOUS WORDS

From Stealing Thunder to Red Herrings

Susie Dent



A literary treasure-trove packed with amazing words, jaw-dropping stories and unforgettable etymologies from *Countdown*'s Queen of Dictionary Corner, Susie Dent

Join Susie Dent, lexicographer extraordinaire and Queen of *Countdown*'s Dictionary Corner, on a curious and exceedingly interesting adventure through all the very best RED HERRINGS, COCK AND BULL STORIES and NINE-DAY WONDERS in the English language.

Who was SWEET FANNY ADAMS?

What's the dramatic true story behind STEALING THUNDER?

Why is it CHANCING YOUR ARM when you take a risk?

What do bears have to do with LICKING INTO SHAPE?

Or robbers with PULLING SOMEONE'S LEG?

Why are CIRCLES VICIOUS?

And, what's so bad about a WHITE ELEPHANT?

'Nobody on earth knows more about the English language than Susie Dent' Gyles Brandreth

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Susie Dent is the resident word expert in Dictionary Corner on C4's *Countdown* and *8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown*, and has been on every programme about words: *15 x 15*, *Word of Mouth*, and *More or Less*. Susie also writes regularly for the *Radio Times*, *The Week Junior* and *The i*, and her Word of the Day has attracted over 1,000,000 followers on X, formerly Twitter.

Author lives in Oxford, UK.

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THE WORLD ACCORDING TO CUNK

Philomena Cunk



Romans! Madrigals! The Dark Ages! Revolutions! Trumpets! The Oranges of The First World War! All of this (except trumpets) and more, is covered in this definitive, easy-clean history of all world history so far, written by the twenty-first century's leading historian, philosopher and thinkerer Philomena Cunk.

Focussing on the inventions, art and brainboxes that made the modern world the unbearable place it is today, *The World According To Cunk* is the history book to end all history books: more unputdownable than Andrew Marr's *History Of The World*, less unpickupable than Yuval Noah Harari's *Sapiens*, and noticeably less in ancient greek than Herodotus' *Histories*.

Philomena Cunk says: “About the world, written on the world, and available at all the world's remaining bookshops, *The World According To Cunk* is the definitive history of the world. There will never need be another history book. Unless something major happens. Even then they'll probably just put something up on TikTok about it. A word of warning: please don't buy it if you're expecting anything about trumpets in it. You will only be disappointed.”

‘Truly the intellect for our baffling times’ *The Times* (Cunk on Everything)

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Philomena Cunk is a journalist, historian and hot-taker who has presented TV shows on everything from time and feminism to Shakespeare and Britain, and really should get round to doing a podcast while they're still a thing. She asks the big questions other journalists are, for some reason, afraid to, like “How important are the words in Shakespeare's plays?”, “Why do we cry when it's the onions getting hurt?” and “What is clocks?”

9781399819381 • £16.99 Demy Hardback • 320pp

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Audio download: 9781399819411 • £19.99

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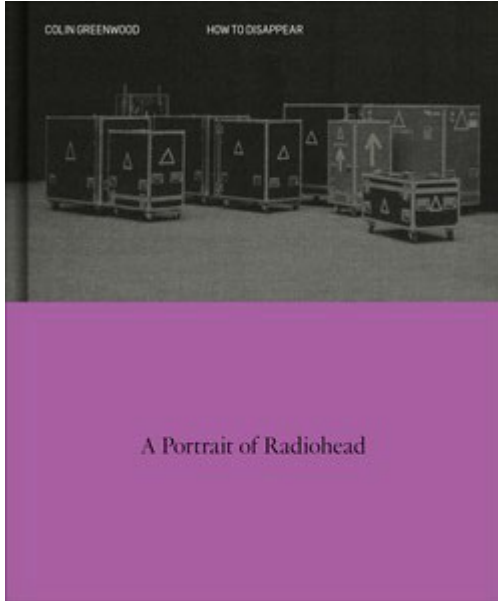
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HOW TO DISAPPEAR

A Portrait of Radiohead

Colin Greenwood



‘For years now, I’ve been taking fugitive snaps of my band, Radiohead. I’ve tried to catch out my friends with my small black Yashica T4 Super. They are so lost in their own moment of performance that they don’t see me with the camera.’ Colin Greenwood

How to Disappear is bassist Colin Greenwood's personal record of Radiohead in photographs. Two decades in the making, he takes us on a journey into the heart of the twenty-first century's most influential band, a maverick collective who have vastly broadened our musical landscape whilst also dominating and distorting it.

On stage, backstage, in the rehearsal room, behind the scenes, on tour, at work and at play, Colin's photographs, and the stories and memories they evoke in the accompanying text, form an intimate portrait of the musical and cultural iconoclasts as they travel through 'our middle years: all the joy and doubt and confidence and uncertainty we would oscillate between'.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Colin Greenwood is from Oxford and has played bass in Radiohead since their formation in 1985. He's also recorded and toured with Tamino, Nick Cave and Warren Ellis, and has written for publications including the *Guardian* and *The Spectator*.

Author lives in London, UK.

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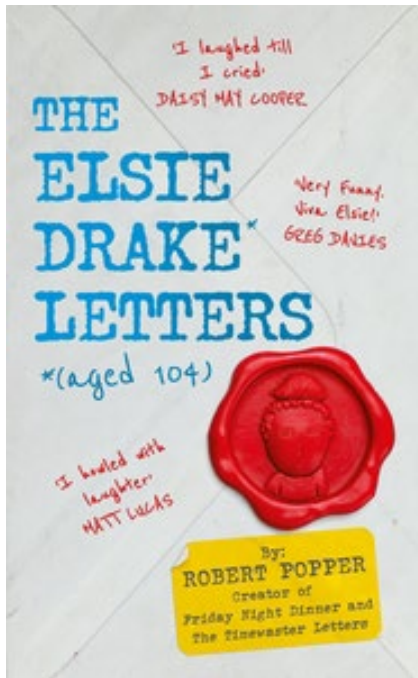
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THE ELSIE DRAKE LETTERS (AGED 104)

Elsie Drake, Robert Popper



‘I laughed till I cried’ DAISY MAY COOPER

‘I howled with laughter’ MATT LUCAS

At 104 years of age, Mrs Elsie Drake, of Granville Gardens, London, is the sixth oldest woman in Britain. But fed up of sitting in her armchair all day, Elsie is now ready for new life adventures.

And so, armed with a computer she can barely operate, Elsie fires off dozens of letters to everyone from the Prime Minister to Greggs Bakeries, to see if they can help.

Whether she’s offering her services as the new Arsenal football mascot dressed as a giant hare, trying to spend a night locked in a cell in Pentonville prison, or simply sending Sainsbury’s a load of meat, no one can escape the clutches of Mrs Elsie Drake.

Gloriously funny and ridiculous silly, *The Elsie Drake Letters* is also a testament to the wonderful kindness and good humour of the British public. Just wait till you read the replies . . .

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Elsie Drake might also be Robert Popper, an award-winning TV writer, producer and bestselling author. He created *Friday Night Dinner*, co-created *Look Around You*, produced *Peep Show*, and has worked on such shows as *Stath Lets Flats*, *The Inbetweeners*, and *South Park*. Under the pseudonym Robin Cooper he wrote the smash-hit *The Timewaster Letters* series. Robert lives with his family in London, which is the capital city of England.

Author lives in London, UK.

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UNCOMMON PEOPLE

A History of Britpop in 20 Songs

Miranda Sawyer



The vivid stories behind 20 key songs of the 90s - 'Parklife' to 'Live Forever', 'Connection' to 'Alright' - and the bands that made them... The definitive Britpop mixtape from award-winning pop-writer Miranda Sawyer.

When Miranda Sawyer interviewed Liam Gallagher in 1994, his gag wishing Damon Albarn would die of AIDS became front-page news all over the world. This fascinating pop history, exploring the moment British music suddenly meant everything, explains why. Picking out twenty key songs, delving into the surprising stories behind them and their unlikely creators, *Uncommon People* takes us back to when Jarvis Cocker became a national hero, films like *Trainspotting* were international hits, rave became what everybody did - and it felt like the revolution was happening.

Initially a mocking tabloid nickname, Britpop became an unexpected musical movement created by squatters, activists, students and kids barely out of school and their songs have proved timeless. Exploring the era's most definitive anthems - Oasis, Blur, Pulp, Manic Street Preachers, Suede, Chemical Brothers, Massive Attack, Garbage, Supergrass, Radiohead, Underworld, PJ Harvey, The Prodigy and more - Miranda Sawyer transports us back to the beating heart of the nineties, to relive the mad exhilaration of what it was like to hear these songs for the very first time - and what it was like to make them. Based on amazing new interviews with the leading figures, this book offers a backstage pass to all the most interesting bits of Britpop's Greatest Hits. Forget New Labour, forget earnest theories about trends, this book is all about the music, the people and being *right there, right now*.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Miranda Sawyer has written about pop culture for the *Observer* ever since they hired her to explain why Kurt Cobain's death was such a big deal in 1993. She has since interviewed everyone from Liam Gallagher to Irvine Welsh. She has also written for *the Face*, *Select*, and *Smash Hits* and won several awards. *The Culture Show's* Music Correspondent since 2007 and a regular on Radio 4, she has made documentaries about the Spice Girls and even co-presented Big Mouth with Tony Parsons in 1996.

Author lives in London, UK.

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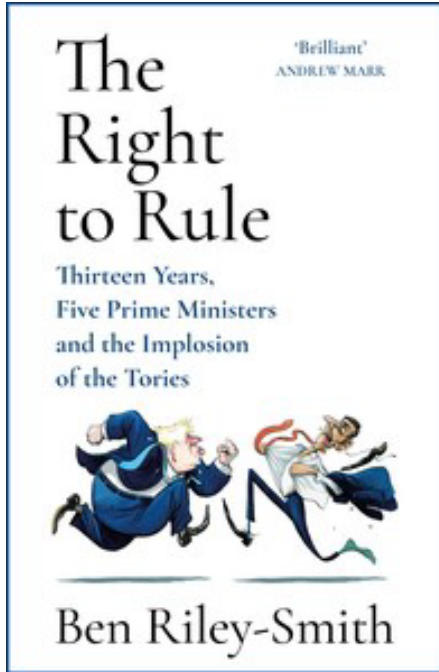
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THE RIGHT TO RULE
Thirteen Years, Five Prime Ministers and the Implosion of the Tories
 Ben Riley-Smith



FULLY UPDATED WITH A NEW CHAPTER ON THE ELECTION

The explosive full story of the past dozen years of Tory rule, from coalition to self-destruction.

From the ashes of a financial crisis, to a break from the EU, to a global pandemic, governments – and ideologies – have changed dramatically, whilst the Tories remained in power. Merciless rebellions and the swift ousting of leaders enabled this, but now, the same ruthlessness may have ultimately brought about their downfall.

Witty, hair-raising and brilliantly sourced, *The Right to Rule* links stories of betrayal in Cameron’s coalition, the travails of May, the sagas of Johnson, the Truss implosion and the Sunak patch-up job.

Through his unique access and unmissable inside stories, Ben Riley-Smith’s thrilling account is essential for anyone wondering how Britain got into this state.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ben Riley-Smith is the *Daily Telegraph's* Political Editor. He has spent a decade at the paper covering politics in the Scottish Parliament, Westminster and Washington, DC. He has interviewed the last five prime ministers and covered the elections and referendums that have shaped recent British politics first hand. He has been shortlisted twice for political journalism at the British Journalism Awards.

Author lives in London, UK.

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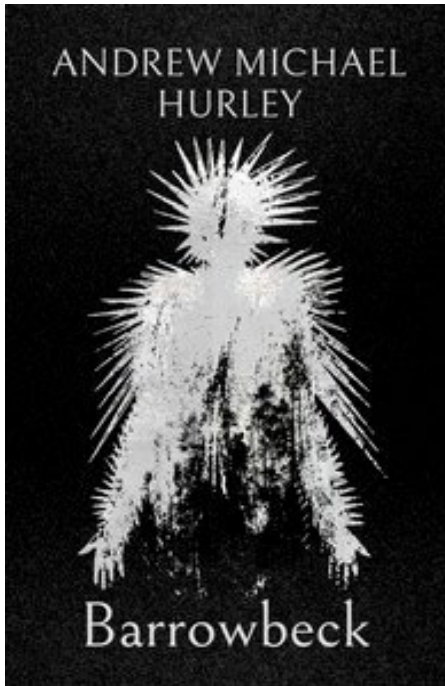
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BARROWBECK

Andrew Michael Hurley



A chilling collection of twelve linked stories, from the master of folk-horror.

In a remote and seemingly cursed village on the Yorkshire Lancashire border, the inhabitants of Barrowbeck wrestle with life, death and a landscape that is wild and mercurial.

Friends gather to support a widower whose wife has died in mysterious circumstances; an elderly teacher is unnerved by one of his pupils; a childless couple must make an agonising decision; sisters welcome a lodger into their home.

Set over the course of a year, these gothic stories are riven with psychological trauma, unsettling events and encroaching darkness.

Prepare to listen to the voices in the valley.

Praise for Andrew Michael Hurley: ‘A tour de force of physiological fantasia.’ *Sunday Times*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Andrew Michael Hurley is based in Lancashire. His first novel, *The Loney*, was originally published by Tartarus Press as a 300-copy limited edition, before being republished by John Murray. It went on to sell in twenty languages, win the Costa Best First Novel Award and the Book of the Year at the British Book Industry Awards. *Devil's Day*, his second novel, was picked as a Book of the Year in five newspapers, and won the Encore Award.

Author lives in Lancashire, UK.

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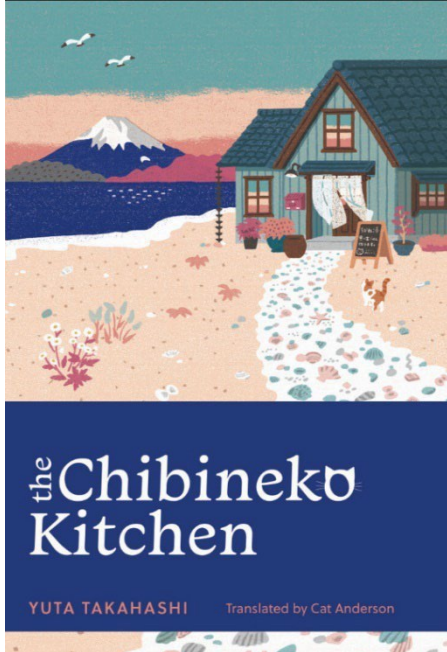
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Proofs available on request.

THE CHIBINEKO KITCHEN

Yuta Takahashi

Translated by Catriona Anderson



Steam rises from the bowls of simmered fat greenling, rice and miso soup on the table in front of Kotoko.

She has taken the train from Tokyo to reach the Chibineko Kitchen, a restaurant perched by the sea in Chiba Prefecture. Still reeling from the sudden death of her brother, she has heard that the food served there can reunite you with a loved one for one last time. Hardly daring to believe it can be true, she sits down to the *kagezen*, the remembrance meal, and takes a bite. Then the gulls fall silent and the air grows hazy . . .

Heart-warming and soul-nourishing, *The Chibineko Kitchen* is about finding what matters most in life.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Yuta Takahashi (1972-) was born in Chiba Prefecture, Japan, where the novel is set. He is the celebrated author of several series spanning historical and contemporary fiction..

Author lives in Japan.

9781399817615 • £10.99 Paperback • 208pp

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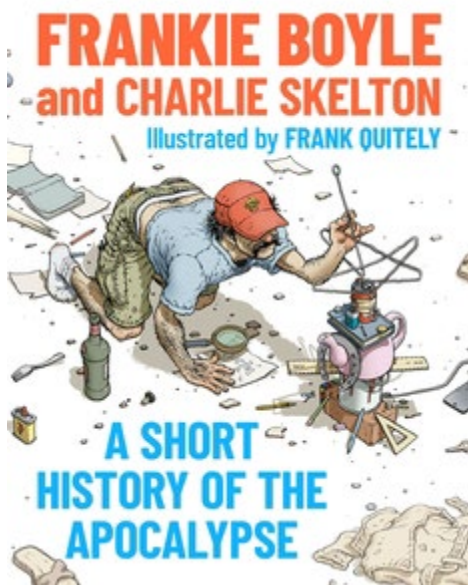
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A SHORT HISTORY OF THE APOCALYPSE

Frankie Boyle & Charlie Skelton



A Short History of the Apocalypse imagines a grotesque and bizarre future where society has collapsed and it is everyone for themselves. Well, maybe not so bizarre then . . .

Covering subjects from gangs and government to bunkers and cannibalism, *A Short History of the Apocalypse* is a journey into our impending and doomed future.

Guided by Alonso Lamp, a traveller in time, who has returned from the late 21st Century to impart to our cursed age his hard-earned wisdom and survival tips to give us some future perspective, Frankie Boyle and Charlie Skelton's sketching of the end times is full of dark humour and the macabre.

Featuring exclusive illustrations by legendary comic book artist Frank Quitely, *A Short History of the Apocalypse* is your guide to overcoming this hellscape.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR(S):

Frankie Boyle is one of the UK's premier comedians and writers and is the author of three bestselling non-fiction books including *My Shit Life So Far*, and *Work! Consume! Die!* Boyle is also known for his shows *New World Order* (BBC2), *Tramadol Nights* (Ch4), *Frankie Boyle's Tour of Scotland* (BBC2), and his best selling DVD's and Netflix Special. Frankie also regularly contributes articles for the broadsheet press. He has topped the podcast charts with the first three volumes of his eight volume Promethiad sequence.

Charlie Skelton is a comedy writer and journalist, who was Script Editor of Frankie Boyle's *New World Order*. Mostly he writes jokes for TV shows, but sometimes writes for the *Guardian*, covering the elite Bilderberg Conference since 2009. Back in 2003 he co-wrote a book with Victoria Coren-Mitchell, *Once More, With Feeling*, a book about making a pornographic film in Amsterdam. More recently he organised two academic conferences on Comedy and AI, and is preparing for the apocalypse by raising chickens and growing olives. This year he produced 53 litres of olive oil and killed five roosters.

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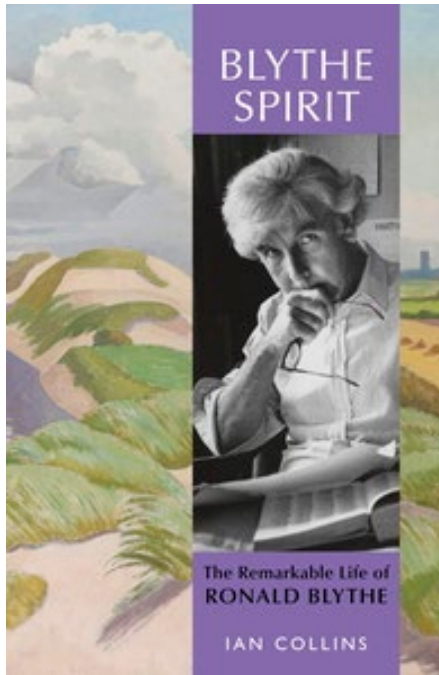
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BLYTHE SPIRIT

Ian Collins



A revealing, intimate biography of England's greatest writers.

Ronald Blythe, author of the modern classic *Akenfield*, spent his entire life - over one hundred years - living in and around Suffolk. He was known for his confessional prose style and sensitive, thought-provoking observations on nature, religion, literature and the rural community, although his writing revealed little about his personal life.

In this revealing biography, Ian Collins draws on unparalleled access to letters and writings, as well as several decades of friendship, to depict in this illuminating biography the 'real Ronnie'. From his hidden childhood in Acton, growing up in poverty and educating himself through library books, to his ill-fated time serving in the military, to his sexuality and faith, this book is a celebration of a beloved writer and a fascinating portrait of a complex man.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Ian Collins is an independent art writer and curator. He has written numerous biographies and monographs, including groundbreaking studies of John Craxton, James Dodds, Rose Hilton, Joan Leigh Fermor, John McLean and Guy Taplin. His three-volume history of East Anglian art, and many features for the *Eastern Daily Press*, led to the 2013 *Masterpieces: Art and East Anglia* exhibition and a record audience for the Sainsbury Centre in Norwich. He has also worked with the Aldeburgh Festival, British Museum, Yale Center for British Art in New Haven, Benaki Museum in Athens and A.G. Leventis Gallery in Nicosia.

Author lives in England and Greece.

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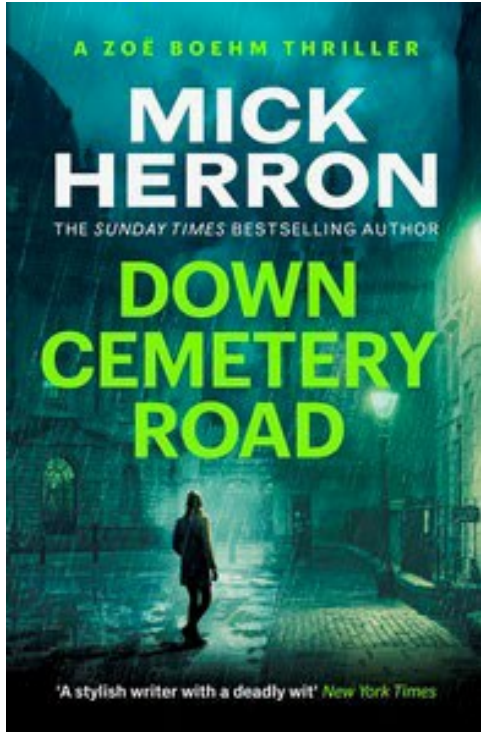
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BASKERVILLE

DOWN CEMETERY ROAD

Zoë Boehm Thrillers 1

Mick Herron



Soon to be a major TV series starring Emma Thompson and Ruth Wilson

It's an evening like any other when an explosion rips through the leafy Oxford suburb Sarah Tucker calls home.

In the aftermath, a house now stands devastated, with two adults dead and a young girl missing.

With the police more interested in keeping the neighbours from rubber-necking than in searching for the missing child, Sarah become obsessed with finding her.

She enlists the help of Zoë Boehm's investigation agency, but Sarah and Zoë's search reveals more secrets than answers, taking them from Oxford's cobbled streets to the rugged outer reaches of the British Isles. As Zoë and Sarah draw closer to the truth, they are caught in a web of conspiracy and come up against government forces, cold-blooded mercenaries and vengeful loners.

Down Cemetery Road is Mick Herron's debut novel and the first book in the Zoë Boehm series, now reissued in hardback to celebrate twenty-one years since its original publication.

'The finest writer of espionage fiction.' *Daily Express*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mick Herron is the #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of the Slough House thrillers, which have won the Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year award, two CWA Daggers, been published in twenty-five languages, and are the basis of a major TV series starring Gary Oldman as Jackson Lamb. He is also the author of the Zoë Boehm series, and the standalone novels *Reconstruction* and *This is What Happened*. Mick was born in Newcastle upon Tyne, and now lives in Oxford.

Author lives in Oxford, UK.

9781399819220 • £22 Royal Hardback • 416pp

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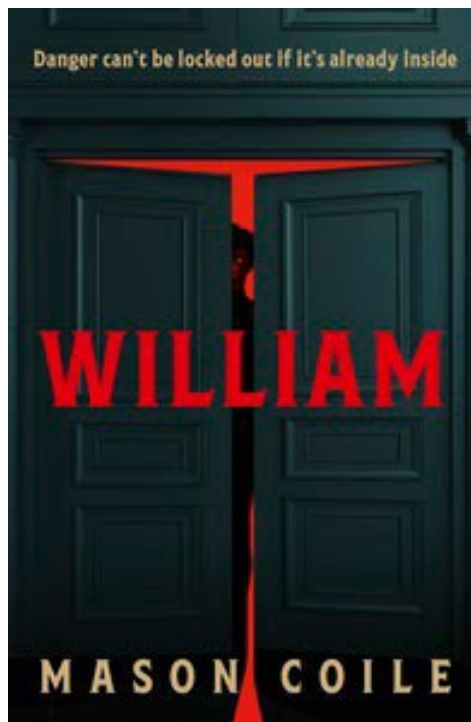
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WILLIAM

Maison Coile



An up-all-night slice of Halloween horror, perfect for fans of Stephen King, *Black Mirror*, and *Frankenstein*

Henry, a brilliant but reclusive engineer, has achieved the crowning discovery of his career: he's created an artificially intelligent consciousness. He names the half-formed robot William.

But there's something strange about William.

It's not that his skin feels like balloon rubber and is the colour of curdled milk, nor is it his thick gurgling laugh or the way his tongue curls towards his crooked top teeth. It is the way he looks at Henry's wife, Lily.

Henry created William but he is starting to lose control of him. As William's fixation with Lily grows and threatens to bring harm to their house, Henry has no choice but to destroy William.

But William isn't gone. Filled with jealousy for humanity, for its capacity to love and create life, William starts to haunt the house.

He lurks behind each locked door. You can hear him muttering in the eaves of the attic. He is whispering in Henry's head. And he will be the one to take control . . .

William is a new kind of ghost story, where the haunting is not from another world, but from inside your home. Inside your head . . .

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Mason Coile is a pseudonym of Andrew Pyper, the award-winning author of ten novels, including *The Demonologist*, which won the International Thriller Writers Award, and *Lost Girls*, which was a *New York Times* bestseller and Notable Book of the Year. Both Coile and Pyper live in Toronto.

Author lives in Toronto, Canada.

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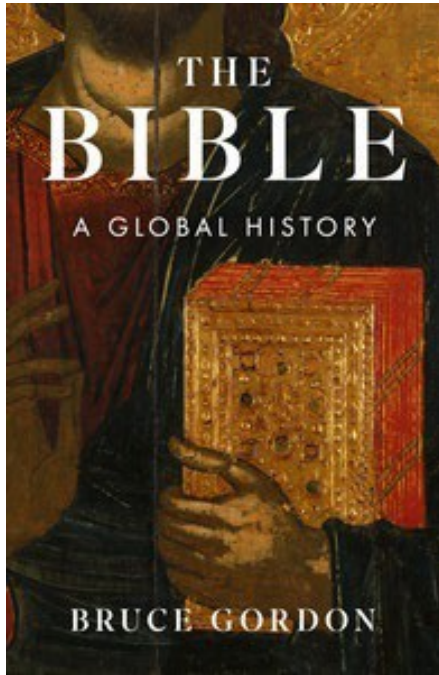
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BASIC BOOKS

THE BIBLE: A GLOBAL HISTORY

Bruce Gordon



The remarkable story of the most influential book in human history.

The Bible is the world's best-known text. Yet, it is a book that never was – its original form does not exist and likely never did. What we have is the inheritance of generation after generation of Christians who have sought to hear God speak. Available in over 3,000 languages and taking innumerable forms, each version is a revelation, evolving as a reflection of its own culture and moment.

Bruce Gordon traces the Bible's astounding journey from its emergence as a codex in the second century, to the Reformation of the Middle Ages, to the spectacular growth of Christianity in the Global South today. It has been a tool for violence and oppression, weaponised in the name of colonialism, and it has expressed hopes for freedom in the struggle for liberation. Found in desert monasteries and Chinese house churches, in Byzantine cathedrals and Guatemalan villages, it has been a book in motion from its very beginnings, a product of more than two thousand years of wandering, restlessness and change.

Breathtakingly global in scope, *The Bible* is a sweeping history of this sacred book told through the stories of its diverse human encounters in search of the divine – revealing not a static text but a living, dynamic cultural force.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Bruce Gordon is the Titus Street Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Yale Divinity School. He taught at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland where he was professor of modern history and deputy director of the St. Andrews Reformation Studies Institute. He has received honorary degrees from the University of Zurich, Switzerland, and the University of King's College, Canada. He is the author of *John Calvin's Institutes of the Christian Religion*, *Calvin*, a biography of the Genevan reformer, and *The Swiss Reformation*.

Author lives in USA.

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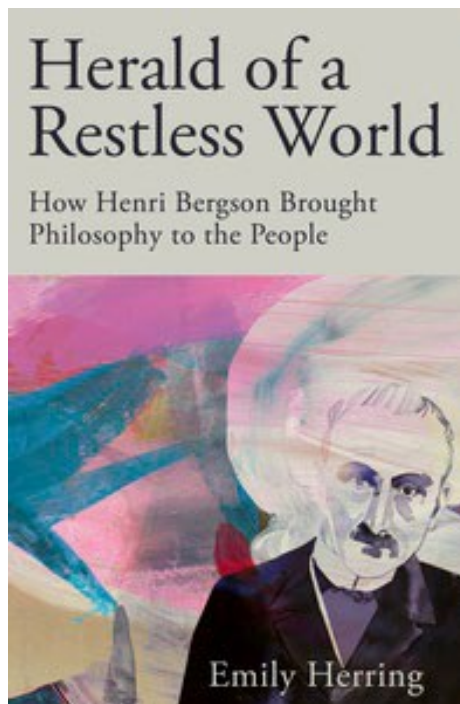
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HERALD OF A RESTLESS WORLD

How Henri Bergson Brought Philosophy to the People

Emily Herring



Henri Bergson, the French philosopher who defined individual creativity, transformed twentieth-century thought.

At the dawn of the twentieth century, Henri Bergson became the most famous philosopher on earth. Where prior thinkers sketched out a predictable universe, he asserted the transformative power of consciousness and creativity. An international celebrity, he made headlines around the world debating luminaries like Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein about free will and time. The vision of creative evolution and freedom he presented was so disruptive that the *New York Times* branded him “the most dangerous man in the world.”

In the first English-language biography of Bergson, Emily Herring traces how his celebration of the time-bending uniqueness of individual experience struck a chord with those shaken by modern technological and social change. Bergson captivated a society in flux like no other. Long after he faded from public view, his insights into memory, time, joy and creativity continue to shape our perceptions to this day. *Herald of a Restless World* is an electrifying portrait of a singular intellect.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emily Herring is a writer based in Paris. She studied philosophy at the Sorbonne and received her PhD in the history and philosophy of science from the University of Leeds. Her work has appeared in the *TLS* and *Aeon*.

Author lives in Paris, France.

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INTENT TO DESTROY

Russia's Two-Hundred-Year Quest to Dominate Ukraine

Eugene Finkel



A history of Russian violence waged against Ukraine across the centuries.

Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 shocked the world. And yet this attack was in fact the latest episode in a centuries-long Russian campaign. In *Intent to Destroy*, leading scholar of genocide and Eastern Europe Eugene Finkel uncovers the deep roots of the Russo-Ukrainian War. Ever since the rise of Russian nationalism in the nineteenth century, the domination of this key borderland has become a cornerstone of Russian and Soviet policy. Using genocidal tactics — killings, deportations, starvation and cultural destruction — against ethnic Ukrainians and minorities including Tatars, Jews and Poles, Russia's long-standing policy has aimed to obliterate Ukrainian identity. This eradication has consistently been a part of the Kremlin playbook and leads inexorably to the violence we see today.

Told with the astonishing power of Finkel's connection to this living history, and the authority of two decades of research, *Intent to Destroy* casts today's war in its broadest historical context, illuminating as never before Europe's bloodiest conflict since World War II.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Eugene Finkel is Kenneth H. Keller Associate Professor of International Affairs at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. The author or coauthor of three previous books, his writing has appeared in the *Washington Post*, *The Spectator* and *Foreign Affairs*. He was born in Lviv, Ukraine, and lives in Bologna, Italy.

Author lives in Italy.

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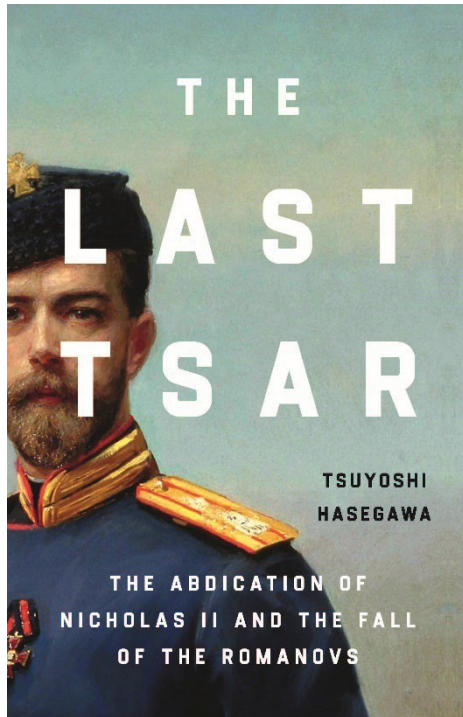
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THE LAST TSAR

The Abdication of Nicholas II and the Fall of the Romanovs

Tsuyoshi Hasegawa



The definitive story behind the self-destruction of the autocratic Romanov dynasty, by the world's foremost expert.

When Tsar Nicholas II fell from power in 1917, Imperial Russia faced a series of overlapping crises, from war to social unrest. Though Nicholas's life is often described as tragic, it was not fate that doomed the Romanovs - it was poor leadership and a blinkered faith in autocracy.

Based on a trove of new archival discoveries, *The Last Tsar* narrates how Nicholas's resistance to reform doomed the monarchy. Encompassing the captivating personalities of the era - the bumbling Nicholas, his spiteful wife Alexandra, the family's faith healer Rasputin - it untangles the dramatic struggle by Russia's aristocratic, military, and legislative elite to reform the monarchy. By rejecting compromise, Nicholas undermined his supporters at crucial moments. His blunders cleared the way for all-out civil war and the eventual rise of the Soviet Union.

Definitive and engrossing, *The Last Tsar* uncovers how Nicholas II stumbled into revolution, taking his family, the Romanov dynasty, and the whole Russian Empire down with him.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Tsuyoshi Hasegawa is Professor Emeritus in history at the University of California at Santa Barbara. The award-winning author of many books on Russian history, World War II, and the Cold War, he lives in Santa Barbara, California.

Author lives in California, USA.

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THE MIDLIFE EDIT

A Transformative Self-Help Journey for Women

Gail McNeill



The midlife years are only the beginning - a transformational edit for your very best life.

In 2019, Gail McNeill sold her cherished family home and moved to Portugal with just a few boxes of possessions. Soon after, the Covid pandemic enforced her isolation in a remote part of the world and sparked a cascade of introspection that led her to question every facet of her life, struggling to reconcile past choices with present reality. She started a journey of complete reinvention, from which she emerged physically, emotionally and spiritually transformed.

Now better known to her hundreds of thousands of followers as @fiftysister, Gail shares her story of midlife metamorphosis to guide you step by step along your own path to reinvention. Showing that it's never too late to transform your life, *The Midlife Edit* will show you how to build a cocoon nourished by dietary, lifestyle and spiritual insights from which you can emerge transformed and re-energized, to make the absolute most of your middle years.

Gail shows you how, by prioritizing self-care for just one year, you can unlock the secrets of health span, building strength and confidence for life, nourishing your body and your mind, and allowing you to enter this unique new phase of your life not diminished, but empowered. Let *The Midlife Edit* inspire you to invest in yourself, to imagine the life you truly desire - and to be seen, as you never have been before.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gail McNeill (@FiftySister) is a content creator, writer and wellness warrior whose life story embodies resilience, reinvention and the pursuit of a purposeful existence. She now has nearly one million followers across her various social media platforms, and is one of the most significant 50+ influencers in the health and wellbeing space.

Author lives in Portugal.

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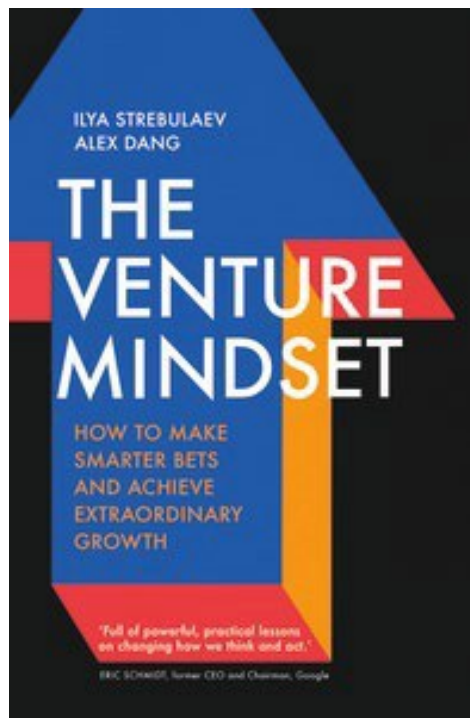
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NICHOLAS
BREALEY

THE VENTURE MINDSET

How to Make Smarter Bets and Achieve Extraordinary Growth

Ilya Strebulaev and Alex Dang



Behind life changing companies like Amazon, Google, Moderna, SpaceX and Zoom are Venture Capital investors.

VCs are known for extraordinary ability to spot emerging trends, identify disruptive startups, attract talent, and bring new industries into being. Ilya Strebulaev, Director of the Venture Capital Initiative at Stanford Business School, has spent the last two decades studying VCs' counterintuitive approaches to decision-making, and the reasons behind the success and failure of corporate innovation efforts. Alex Dang, a senior leader at McKinsey and Amazon, has seen up close the impact VCs' thinking and mechanisms can have on a business' success. Together in *The Venture Mindset*, they present nine distinct principles that can help anyone looking to transform their business and achieve extraordinary results, no matter the industry.

The Venture Mindset is a new mental model where failure is a must, ideas are rejected in their myriads in search of a single winner, due diligence is put on its head, dissent is encouraged, plugs are pulled, and time horizons are extended. This mindset helps leaders to develop a strong pipeline of ideas, make smarter, quicker decisions, and deliver more value at scale. It's a must read for any leader looking to stave off irrelevance and win big in the uncertain world of business today.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR(S):

Ilya Strebulaev is the founder of the Venture Capital Initiative and a Professor of Private Equity and Finance at Stanford University's Graduate School of Business; his research has been widely published in leading academic journals. He frequently leads workshops and executive sessions for senior business and government leaders around the world and has consulted for companies and investors on the venture industry trends and corporate innovation. In 2023 he was named a Top Voice on LinkedIn.

Alex Dang is a CEO, a senior technology executive, and an advisor on innovation and digital strategy. He has two decades of senior leadership as a Partner at McKinsey and Ernst & Young, and as a product leader at Amazon, where he designed and launched numerous new businesses and solutions for millions of customers across ecommerce, supply chain, and AI. He graduated from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

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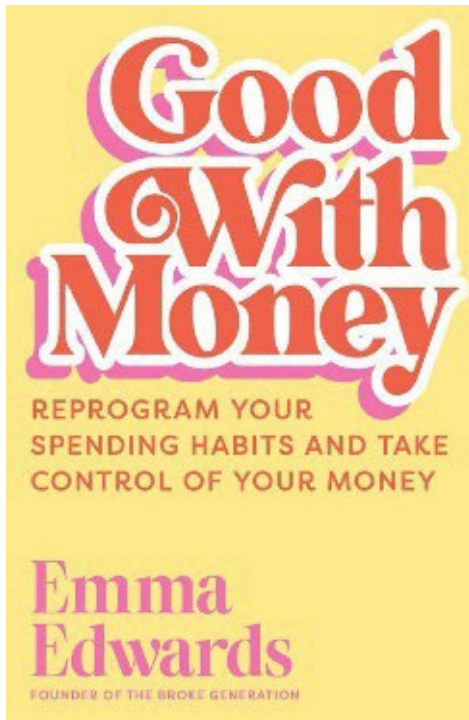
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JOHN
MURRAY ONE

GOOD WITH MONEY

Emma Edwards



A game-changing, practical guide to the psychology behind your spending habits, revealing how to manage your money without missing out on the things you love.

Have you ever avoided looking at your banking app after a big night out? Placed an online order during a late-night doomscroll? Or felt helpless when your new budget simply failed to stick, despite your best intentions?

If that sounds familiar, this is the book for you. Financial behaviour expert Emma Edwards will unpack the reasons you're so emotionally tangled with your money (spoiler: it's not your fault) and teach you to reclaim your decision-making. With a step-by-step guide to creating a money management system that actually works, *Good With Money* will put you back in the driver's seat of your own financial future.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Emma Edwards is the Founder of The Broke Generation, and a copywriter, content creator, podcaster and Certified Financial Behavior Specialist. While working as a copywriter in her twenties, Emma turned her own finances around and began creating content to help others do the same. Passionate about the emotional, psychological and behavioural sides of money, she undertook graduate study in the emerging field of Financial Psychology and Behavioural Finance to continue exploring the complex relationship we have with money, with the aim of helping more people change their money habits from the inside. Emma's flagship podcast, The Broke Generation Podcast, reaches thousands of listeners each month.

Author lives in Australia.

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