

Profile Books Rights Guide Autumn 2023



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WELLCOME COLLECTION

THE ECONOMIST



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Contents

Highlights

5. *Proof* by Adam Kucharski
6. *Immaculate Forms* by Helen King
7. *Sparta* by Andrew J. Bayliss
8. *The Language Puzzle* by Steven Mithen
9. *The History of Ideas* by David Runciman
10. *Disobedient Bodies* by Emma Dabiri
11. *How to Leave a Narcissist...For Good* by Dr Sarah Davies

History

13. *Embers of the Hands* by Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough
14. *Tracks on the Ocean* by Sara Caputo
15. *Collared* by Chris Pearson
16. *Metamorphoses* by Karolina Watroba
17. *How to Be a Renaissance Woman* by Jill Burke
18. *The Notebook* by Roland Allen
19. *Teddy Boys* by Max Décharné
20. *The House Divided* by Barnaby Rogerson

Science

22. *Mission Off-World* by Adriana Marais
23. *Rumbles* by Elsa Richardson
24. *Is Maths Real?* by Eugenia Cheng
25. *Irresistible* by Joshua Paul Dale

Politics, Economics and Current Affairs

27. *The Unaccountability Machine* by Dan Davies
28. *The Handover* by David Runciman
29. *Possible* by Chris Goodall
30. *The Green Ages* by Annette Kehnel
31. *In the Long Run* by Jonathan White

Business and Management

33. *The Audacity Spectrum* by Alina Addison
34. *Best Story Wins* by Mark Edwards
35. *Influence at Work* by Steve Martin
36. *The Power of Culture* by Laura Hamill
37. *WHY listen to, work with and follow YOU?* by Larry Heugh Robertson

General Non-Fiction

39. *The Secret Life of John le Carré* by Adam Sisman
40. *Amuse Bouche* by Carolyn Boyd
41. *How the Tricolor Got Its Stripes* by Dmytro Dubilet

Humour and Self-Help

43. *Bald* by Stuart Heritage
44. *All You Need is Rhythm and Grit* by Cory Wharton-Malcolm
45. *Soothe* by Nahid de Belgeonne
46. *The Calm Skin Guide* by Jae Rance and Amber Hatch

Fiction

48. *The Underhistory* by Kaaron Warren
49. *Night Swimmers* by Roisin Maguire
50. *Sanderson's Isle* by James Clarke
51. *The Black Orb* by Kim Ewhan

Recent Highlights

53. *Emperor of Rome* by Mary Beard
Invisible Lines by Maxim Samson
54. *Fear* by Robert Peckham
The Book at War by Andrew Pettegree
55. *No Bullsh*t Change* by Chris Hirst
Giving Good Feedback by Margaret Cheng
56. *The Story of the Brain in 10 1/2 Cells* by Richard Wingate
Divided by Annabel Sowemimo
57. *George* by Frieda Hughes
Prostitute Laundry by Charlotte Shane
58. *Bliss & Blunder* by Victoria Gosling
Queen K by Sarah Thomas

Contacts

60. Contact Information

HIGHLIGHTS



World All Languages

March 2025

Hardback

320pp £18.99

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Izzy Everington

Proof

How Truth Emerges

Adam Kucharski

*How do we know what's true? The author of the bestselling *The Rules of Contagion* searches a thousand years of history and science to find out*

In an age where 'truth' and 'proof' are hotly contested, it is a useful exercise to go back to the foundations of these ideas. In *Proof*, bestselling author Adam Kucharski explores the tenets that have been central to establishing modern notions of truth - and how we can use them today. Spanning science, politics, philosophy and economics, this is a book that examines the concept of proof from the Medieval Arabic world to the midst of the covid-19 pandemic.

Drawing from Kucharski's background in mathematics and epidemiology, *Proof* shows how we can make better sense of the world around us - and harness that knowledge to improve our ideas and decision-making.

*Praise for *The Rules of Contagion*:*

'It is hard to imagine a more timely book ... much of the modern world will make more sense having read it.' - *The Times*

'Kucharski [is] fast becoming a key voice of reason in the media circus surrounding the virus ... Here he gives a clear, calm, historical overview of the mathematical ideas at the forefront of our pandemic response, where they came from and how well they stand up when you put them to the test.' - Hannah Fry, *Guardian*

Adam Kucharski is an associate professor at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, working on global outbreaks such as the Ebola epidemic and the Zika virus. He is a TED fellow and winner of the 2016 Rosalind Franklin Award Lecture and the 2012 Wellcome Trust Science Writing Prize. He has written for the *Observer*, *Financial Times*, *Scientific American*, and *New Statesman*. He is the author of *The Perfect Bet: How Science and Maths Are Taking the Luck Out of Gambling* and *The Rules of Contagion*.



World All Languages

September 2024

Hardback

400pp £30

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Izzy Everington

Immaculate Forms

Uncovering the History of Women's Bodies

Helen King

*Journey into the complex history of women's bodies
- through the womb, hymen, clitoris and breasts*

“What is a woman? Why is she not a man?”

Today, we are more aware than ever of the complex relationship between our bodies and our identities. But these are not new questions.

Throughout history, our bodies have been controlled and misunderstood. How was the womb seen as both the most miraculous organ in the body - and as a sewer? Did the clitoris need to be discovered? Is there even such a thing as the hymen? And have breasts always been both maternal and sexual?

How do we tell stories about our bodies? Helen King has been studying the history of the body for forty years, and here she examines the ways in which medicine and religion have played a gatekeeping role over women's organs. Ultimately, she argues that being a woman - and defining a woman - has always been immensely complex and contradictory. What does it mean to live as a body?

Helen King is Professor Emerita of Classical Studies at The Open University. She is a historian of medicine and the body, and has held visiting posts at Gustavus Adolphus College, MN; the Peninsula Medical School; and the universities of Vienna, Texas, Notre Dame and British Columbia. She is also an elected member of the General Synod of the Church of England, where she is vice-chair of the Gender & Sexuality Group. Since her first monograph, *Hippocrates' Woman: Reading the female body in ancient Greece (1988)*, she has published on aspects of gynaecology and obstetrics from classical Greece to the nineteenth century.



Sparta

The Rise and Fall of an Ancient Superpower

Andrew J. Bayliss

From warrior queens and the infamous battle of the 300 to war with Athens, Sparta is a major new history of the world's first superpower



World All Languages

February 2025

Hardback

384pp £20

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

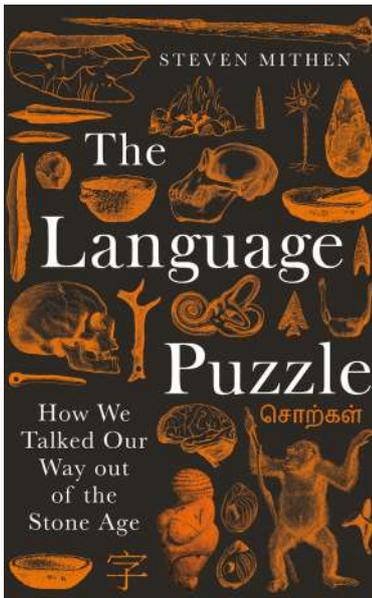
Sparta - its legendary warriors and steadfast resilience are famous throughout the world as a model for toughness, justice and masculinity. The Spartans' reputation as fighters is matched only by their mythic code of honour. Their torch has been carried by footballers and politicians, video games and philosophers alike.

But who really were the Spartans? And what was the driving force behind the rise - and dramatic fall - of Sparta?

Sparta traces the story of Ancient Greece's most iconic city-state, from its humble beginnings as a hamlet in the Peloponnese to its meteoric rise as the foremost military superpower of the Classical world. Andrew Bayliss uncovers the eclectic quirks that set Sparta above its rivals: its famous double monarchy, the harsh methods for raising children as soldiers and the unique role of women in Spartan life.

Sparta was the world's first superpower and its legacy is still shaping popular culture and politics today. This is the story of its rise and fall.

Andrew J. Bayliss is Associate Professor in Greek History at the University of Birmingham. He has taught and studied in Australia, Greece and the UK, and his published works on ancient Greek history include *Oath and State in Ancient Greece* (2012), *The Spartans* (2020) and *The Spartans: A Very Short Introduction* (2022).



World All Languages

Rights sold: Basic Books, US & Canada; China, CSTP

Manuscript Available

March 2024

Hardback

336pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Andrew Franklin

The Language Puzzle

How We Talked Our Way out of the Stone Age

Steven Mithen

A groundbreaking new account of prehistory from one of the most esteemed archaeologists working today

The relationship between language, thought and culture is of concern to anyone with an interest in what it means to be human.

The Language Puzzle explains how the invention of words at 1.6 million years ago began the evolution of human language from the ape-like calls of our earliest ancestors to our capabilities of today, with over 6000 languages in the world and each of us knowing over 50,000 words.

Drawing on the latest discoveries in archaeology, linguistics, psychology, and genetics, Steven Mithen reconstructs the steps by which language evolved; he explains how it transformed the nature of thought and culture, and how we talked our way out of the Stone Age into the world of farming and swiftly into today's Digital Age.

While this radical new work is not shy to reject outdated ideas about language, it builds bridges between disciplines to forge a new synthesis for the evolution of language that will find widespread acceptance as a new standard account for how humanity began.

Steven Mithen is Professor of Early Prehistory at the University of Reading. He previously studied at the Slade School of Fine Art and the Universities of Sheffield, York and Cambridge, before joining the University of Reading. An award-winning archaeologist, Steven Mithen specialises in prehistoric hunter-gatherers and the earliest Neolithic farmers, with long-term field projects in southern Jordan and western Scotland. He is a frequent contributor to the *London Review of Books*, *New York Review of Books*, *New Scientist* and the *Guardian* and has authored over 200 academic articles and books, including *The Singing Neanderthals* and *After the Ice*. He was elected as a Fellow of the British Academy in 2004.



World All Languages

September 2024

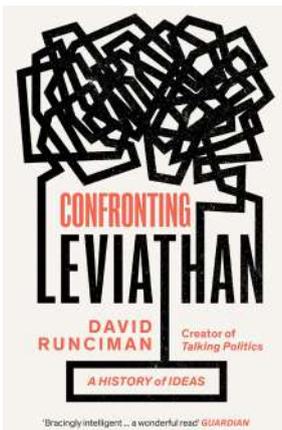
Hardback

288pp £20

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Andrew Franklin

See p.28 for *The Handover*



World excluding US & Canada

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288pp £20

Rights sold: Patakis, Greece;
 Todavia Editora, Brazil; Geul-
 dam Publishing Co, Korea;
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 Hakusui-sha, Japan; Shackleton
 Books, Spain

The History of Ideas

Equality, Justice and Revolution

David Runciman

*A bold new deep dive into the history of ideas,
 from the author of Confronting Leviathan*

In this much-anticipated companion edition to *Confronting Leviathan*, David Runciman unmask modern politics and reveals the great men and women of ideas behind them.

What can Samuel Butler's ideas teach us about the oddity of how we choose to organise our societies? How did Frederick Douglass not only expose the horrors of slavery, but champion a new approach to abolishing it? Why should we tolerate snobbery, betrayal and hypocrisy, as Judith Shklar suggested? And what does Friedrich Nietzsche predict for our future?

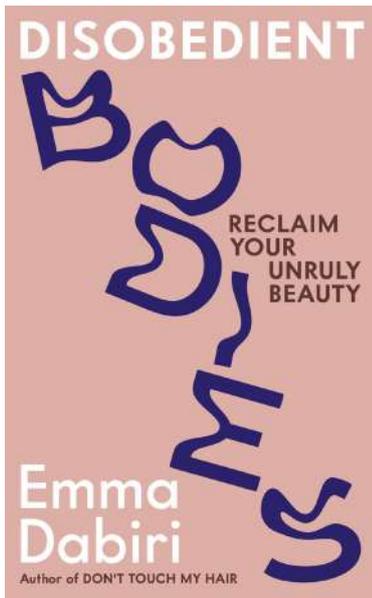
From Rousseau to Rawls, fascism to feminism and pleasure to anarchy, this is a mind-bending tour through the history of ideas which will forever change your view of politics today.

Praise for *Confronting Leviathan*:

'A brilliant introduction for anyone looking to engage with political debates beyond the headlines ... Excellent'
 - Joshua Pugh Ginn, *Herald*

'Exceptional ... [Runciman writes with] wonderful elegance and clarity through which complex ideas are presented... a great guide'

David Runciman is Professor of Politics at Cambridge University and the former Head of the Department of Politics and International Studies. His previous books for Profile include *The Handover*, *Confronting Leviathan*, *Where Power Stops* and *How Democracy Ends*. He writes regularly about politics for the *London Review of Books* and hosted the widely acclaimed weekly podcast *Talking Politics*. His latest podcast is *Past Present Future*.



World All Languages

Finished Copies Available

October 2023

Trade Paperback

160pp £7.99

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Francesca Barrie

Disobedient Bodies

Reclaim Your Unruly Beauty

Emma Dabiri

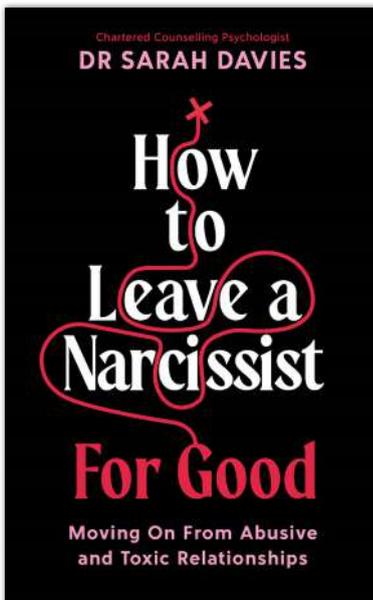
A radical and empowering essay from the bestselling author of What White People Can do Next

What part of your beautiful self were you taught to hate? We spend a lot of time trying to improve our 'defects', according to society's ideals of beauty. But these ideals are often reductive, tyrannical and commercially entangled, imposed upon us by oppressive systems and further strengthened by our conditioned self-loathing.

This book encourages unruliness, exploring the ways in which we can rebel against and subvert the current system. Offering alternative ways of seeing beauty, drawing on other cultures, worldviews, times, and places, as well as looking beyond the capitalist model - to reconnect with our birth right and find the inherent joy in our disobedient bodies.

It accompanies The Cult of Beauty, a major exhibition at Wellcome Collection in autumn 2023.

Emma Dabiri spent over a decade as a teaching fellow in the African department at SOAS. She is a final year Visual Sociology PhD researcher at Goldsmiths and author of the *Sunday Times* bestseller *What White People Can Do Next* and *Don't Touch My Hair*. She has presented several television and radio programmes including BBC Radio 4's critically-acclaimed documentaries 'Journeys into Afro-futurism' and 'Britain's Lost Masterpieces' and the Cannes Silver Lion award winning 'Hair Power' for Channel 4. She is a Contributing Editor at *Elle* and runs the Instagram account, Disobedient Bodies.



World All Languages

Rights sold: El Rasm BI Kalemat, Arabic; Sextante, Brazil; Aripaev, Estonia; Urano, Spain; Old Lion Publishing, Ukraine; China Machine Press, China; Boekerij, The Netherlands; Kobiece, Poland

Finished Copies Available

September 2023

Trade Paperback

320pp £14.99

Imprint: Souvenir Press

Editor: Cindy Chan

How to Leave a Narcissist... For Good

Moving On From Abusive and Toxic Relationships

Dr Sarah Davies

A psychologist's practical guide to understanding and moving on from toxic relationships with narcissists

You cannot change a narcissist.
But you can move on from a toxic relationship with one.

In *How to Leave A Narcissist ... For Good*, psychologist Dr Sarah Davies offers this practical guide to understanding and healing from a relationship with a narcissist. Drawing on her clinical work with individuals, as well as personal experience, she will help you to:

- Understand narcissism and identify narcissistic abuse
- Recognise negative patterns and break the cycle of abuse
- Restore focus to yourself and repair the damage to your self-esteem
- Address any resulting trauma and manage emotional overwhelm or distress
- Learn and develop healthy boundaries and communication skills
- Master self-care and compassion

With case studies and expert guidance on rebuilding self-confidence, developing healthy boundaries and learning emotional regulation skills, mindfulness and grounding techniques, *How to Leave A Narcissist ... For Good* will help you turn your back on narcissists and look forward to future loving relationships.

Dr Sarah Davies is an author, Chartered Counselling Psychologist and Trauma Therapist with a private practice established in Harley Street, London. She has extensive clinical experience in the area of narcissistic abuse, co-dependency and related trauma and PTSD. Dr Davies has contributed to many publications on these subject areas including in *Guardian*, *Daily Mail* and *Cosmopolitan*.

HISTORY



World All Languages

September 2024

Royal Hardback

336pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Cecily Gayford

Embers of the Hands

An Intimate History of the Viking Age

Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough

A new and original history of the Viking Age, told through the objects that defined the lives of the people who lived through it

Imagine a Viking, and a certain image springs to mind: a nameless, faceless warrior, leaping ashore from a longboat, and ready to terrorise the hapless local population of a northern European country.

Yet while such characters define the Viking Age today, they were in the minority. This is the history of the other people who inhabited the medieval Nordic world – not only Norway, Denmark and Sweden, but also Iceland, Greenland, parts of the British Isles, Continental Europe and Russia – a history of a Viking Age filled with real people of different ages, genders and ethnicities, as told through the traces that they left behind, from hairstyles to place names, love-notes to gravestones.

It's also a history of humans on an extraordinarily global stage, spanning the centuries from the edge of the North American continent to the Russian steppes, from the Arctic wastelands to the Byzantine Empire and the Islamic Caliphate.

Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough is a cultural historian, broadcaster and writer based at Durham University, where she is Associate Professor of Medieval History and Literature. A *BBC New Generation Thinker*, she has appeared regularly on radio and television, work which has led to her variously being knighted with a walrus penis bone, bewitched in Sherwood Forest, chased by imaginary zombies through the basement of the *BBC* and dunked in a hole in the ice in a quest for immortality.



World All Languages

August 2024

Royal Hardback

384pp £20

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

Tracks on the Ocean

How Journeys Became Lines

Sara Caputo

A trailblazing history of how the marks left on maps tell the story of the world

Maps do not show the world as it really is - they instead show us how we see it, and they are the product of centuries of trading, exploring and conquering. The lines on a map are even more revealing: as records of individual journeys, they cast a light on the minds of travellers through history, and they can help us understand how the modern world was made.

In *Tracks on the Ocean*, Sara Caputo tells how our journeys around the globe became fixed lines on our maps - from Captain Cook's route across the South Seas to the disorientating power of digital technology to reshape societies. The tracks on the ocean, Caputo shows, mark humanity's impact on the planet, whether in the legacy of violence plotted by Christopher Columbus in the New World or in the clouds of exhaust fumes left by ocean liners.

Weaving human history, cartography, literature and climate science, *Tracks on the Ocean* reveals how, on the path to discovery, we have changed the world.

Dr Sara Caputo is a Senior Research Fellow at Magdalen College, Cambridge. A specialist in seventeenth- and eighteenth- century maritime history, she is the winner of the Prince Consort and Thirwell Prize, as well as the Boydell and Brewer Prize for her research on the Royal Navy. She has been a Visiting Fellow in Germany, California and at the National Maritime Museum in Greenwich. She lives and works in Cambridge. *Tracks on the Ocean* was awarded the Ideas Prize for non-fiction.



World All Languages

November 2024

Royal Hardback

304pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Jon Petre

Collared

The Making of the Modern Dog

Chris Pearson

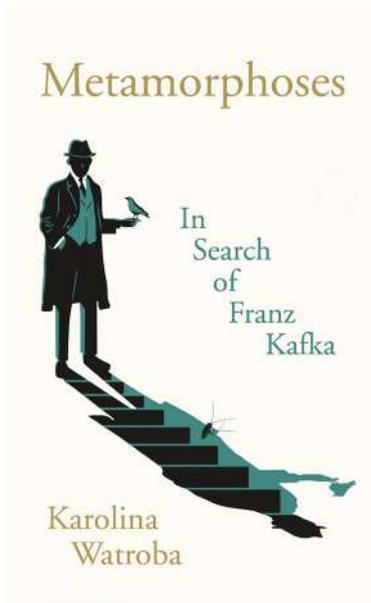
The nose-to-tail story of how we made the modern dog

Dogs are our constant companions: models of loyalty and unconditional love for millions around the world. But these beloved animals are much more than just our pets - and our shared history is far richer and more complex than you may assume.

Here, historian and dog lover Chris Pearson reveals how the shifting fortunes of dogs holds a mirror to our changing society. There are countless ways that dogs aid us - sheepdogs guard flocks and mountain passes, rescue dogs rush into disaster zones and service dogs help us live fuller lives. Yet the modern dog has also been an unwitting accomplice to humanity at its worst, from colonial occupations to the creation of breeds with distorted, uncomfortable features. *Collared* uncovers the curious stories and the long-forgotten roles played by dogs in the making of the modern world, from London to Chennai.

By turns charming, thought-provoking and surprising, *Collared* is the nose-to-tail story of how we made the modern dog.

Chris Pearson is Reader in Twentieth Century History at the University of Liverpool. A specialist in human-animal history, his work has appeared in leading academic journals, and a book, *Dogopolis: How Dogs and Humans Made Modern London, New York and Paris*. He is currently researching the lives of Indian street dogs in a project funded by the Wellcome Trust, and he lives in Chester with his family and his Bedlington-Whippet, Cassie.



Tr

World All Languages

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Manuscript Available

May 2024

Demy Hardback

256pp £18.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Cecily Gayford

Metamorphoses

In Search of Franz Kafka

Karolina Watroba

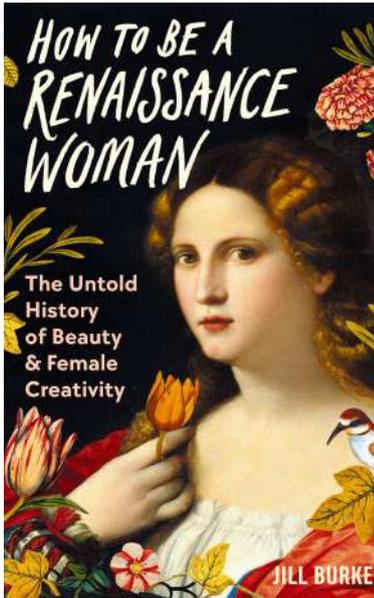
An original, inventive new biography of Franz Kafka - and his readers

In 2024, exactly one hundred years after his death at the age of 40, readers all over the world will reach for the works of Franz Kafka. Many of them will want to learn more about the enigmatic man behind the classic books filled with mysterious courts and monstrous insects. Who, exactly, was Franz Kafka?

Karolina Watroba, the first Germanist ever elected as a Fellow of Oxford's All Souls College, will tell Kafka's story beyond the boundaries of language, time and space, travelling from the Prague of Kafka's birth through the work of contemporary writers in East Asia, whose award-winning novels are in part homages to the great man himself.

Metamorphoses is a non-chronological journey through Kafka's life, drawing together literary scholarship with the responses of his readers through time. It is a both an exploration of Kafka's life and an entirely new way of approaching literary history.

Karolina Watroba is a research fellow at All Souls College, University of Oxford, where she works on modern literature and film across eight European languages and beyond, with a focus on German, English, and Polish.



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World All Languages

Rights sold: Pegasus Books, US & Canada; Critica, Spain; Znak, Poland

Finished Copies Available

August 2023

Demy Hardback

288pp £25

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Francesca Barrie

How to Be a Renaissance Woman

The Untold History of Beauty & Female Creativity

Jill Burke

Beauty, make up, art, power: An alternative history of the Renaissance told by the women behind the paintings

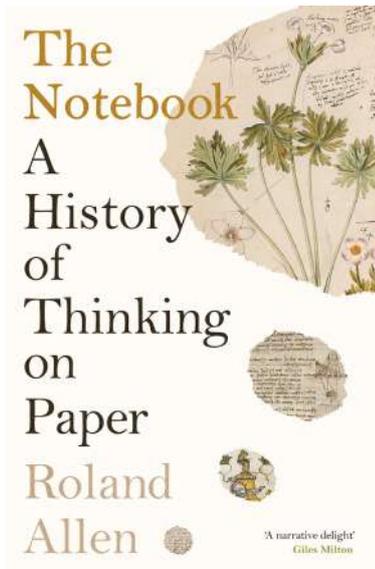
As the Renaissance visual world became populated by female nudes by the likes of Michelangelo and Titian, a vibrant literary scene of beauty tips emerged - fuelling debates about cosmetics and adornment, with answers for worries about everything from podgy upper arms, smelly armpits, droopy breasts, stretch marks and bad breath.

Telling the stories of courtesans, artists, actors and writers rebelling against the strictures of their time, when burgeoning colonialism gave rise to increasingly sinister evaluations of bodies and skin colour, this book puts beauty culture into the frame. It also includes some Renaissance recipes for beauty products to try at home.

It will make you question your ideas about your own body, and ask: why are women often so critical of their appearance? What do we stand to lose, but also to gain, from beauty culture? What is the relationship between looks and power?

‘Lively and intriguing ... You’ll never look at Renaissance portraits in the same way’ -Maggie O’Farrell

Professor Jill Burke is a historian of the body and its visual representation, focusing on Italy and Europe 1400-1700. She is the Principal Investigator of a Royal Society funded project, ‘Renaissance Goo’, at the University of Edinburgh, working with a soft matter scientist to remake Renaissance cosmetic and skincare recipes. It is part of a wider investigation into how people in the Renaissance tried to look good - how they sought to change their bodies, faces and hairstyles to meet beauty ideals.



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World exc. US & Canada

US & Canada: Curtis Brown

Rights sold: SangSangSquare,
Korea

Finished Copies Available

November 2023

Demy Hardback

416pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Mark Ellingham

The Notebook

A History of Thinking on Paper

Roland Allen

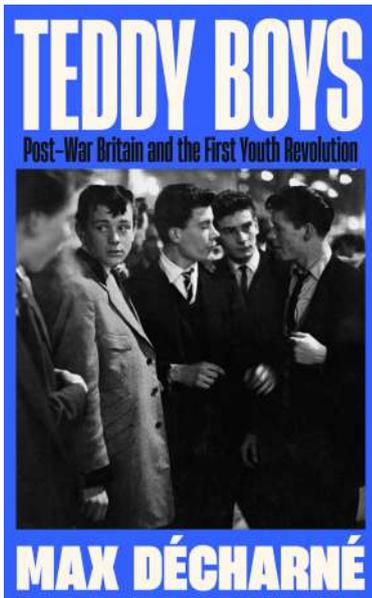
Diaries, sketchbooks, common-places, notebooks, ledgers and ships' logs: how the blank book changed the way we think and helped us change the world

Notebooks are everywhere, yet we rarely notice them and never stop to consider where they came from or how they work. We use them every day to scribble notes, remember dates, and list our chores, but an empty notebook has limitless potential; it gives us the space to reflect on our innermost thoughts, to untangle our knottiest problems, or to draw out ground-breaking new discoveries. Without their notebooks, Isaac Newton, Albert Einstein and Pablo Picasso - and a legion of other writers, artists and scientists - would never have achieved what they did.

Roland Allen follows a trail of ideas, revealing how the notebook came to be our most durable tool for thinking. He shows how the blank book transformed life in Italy - prompting the rise of international banking and the intellectual advances of the Renaissance - before becoming Europe's most versatile information technology. Artists, writers, scientists, and engineers all came to rely on theirs; but so did fishermen, sailors, cooks, and thieves. *The Notebook* tells their stories, celebrating the infinite variety of our notebooks and their uses.

Referring to hundreds of fascinating examples, from 1300 to the present day, and drawing on the knowledge of a host of experts, Allen's stories will ensure that you look at - and use - your humble notebook in a whole new way.

Roland Allen is a publisher and author who lives in Hove. He studied at Manchester University and has worked for years in the book trade; he has written about subjects as diverse as bicycles and bread, kept a diary for decades, and enjoys stationery a little too much.



World All Languages

Manuscript Available

January 2024

Royal Hardback

320pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

Teddy Boys

Post-War Britain and the First Youth Revolution

Max Décharné

The story of Britain's first youth counterculture

With their draped suits, suede creepers and immaculately greased hair, the Teddy Boys defined a new era for a generation of teenagers raised on a diet of drab clothes, Blitz playgrounds and tinned dinners.

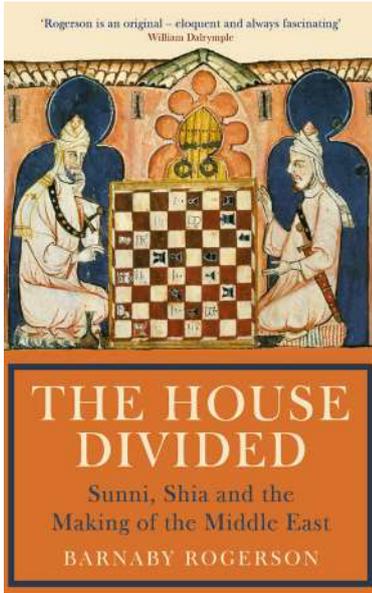
From the Edwardian origins of their fashion to the tabloid fears of delinquency, drunkenness and disorder, the story of the Teds throws a fascinating light on a British society that was still reeling from the Second World War. In the 1950s, working-class teenagers found a way of asserting themselves in how they dressed, spoke and socialised on the street. When people saw Teds, they stepped aside.

Musician and author Max Décharné traces the rise of the Teds and the shockwave they sent through post-war Britain, from the rise of rock 'n' roll to the Notting Hill race riots. Full of fascinating insight, deftly sketching the milieu of Elvis Presley and Derek Bentley, Billy Fury and Oswald Mosley, *Teddy Boys* is the story of Britain's first youth counterculture.

Praise for Max Décharné:

'The strength of Mr. Décharné's account is its zest ... he has an infectious enthusiasm' -Wall Street Journal

Max Décharné was a member of the band Gallon Drunk, and has been with his band The Flaming Stars since 1994. An authority on the 1950s and 1960s counterculture, he is the author of *Vulgar Tongues: An Alternative History of British Slang*, as well as *A Rocket in My Pocket* and *Hardboiled Hollywood*. He lives in London.



World All Languages

Manuscript Available

January 2024

Royal Hardback

480pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Mark Ellingham

The House Divided

Sunni, Shia and the Making of the Middle East

Barnaby Rogerson

A fresh look at the past, present and future of a conflict that lies at the heart of the Middle East

At the heart of the Middle East, with its regional conflicts and proxy wars, is a 1400-year-old schism, between Sunni and Shia. To understand this divide and its modern resonances, we need to revisit its origins, which go back to the death of the Prophet Muhammad in 632, the accidental coup that set aside the claims of his son Ali, and the slaughter of Ali's own son Husayn at Kerbala. These events, known to every Muslim, have created a slender fault line in the Middle East.

The House Divided follows these narratives from the first Sunni and Shia caliphates, through the medieval caliphates and empires of the Arabs, Persians and Ottomans. It shows how a complex range of identities and rivalries – religious, ethnic and national – have shaped the contemporary Middle East, jolted by the seismic shift of the Iranian Revolution of 1979. Rogerson's original approach takes the modern chessboard of nation states and looks at each from its perspective of oil wells, mountains, minorities and particular history. It is vital, he contends, to both understand and empathise with a conflict that matters not only in the Middle East, but to the world at large.

'Rogerson is an original – eloquent and always fascinating' – William Dalrymple

Barnaby Rogerson has been travelling the Islamic world for the last forty years, first as a young man writing guidebooks, then as a journalist, and finally as a writer of histories. He is publisher of the acclaimed travel list, Eland Books. His books include *The Prophet Muhammad: a Biography*, *The Heirs of the Prophet Muhammad* and *The Last Crusaders*.

SCIENCE



World All Languages

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April 2025

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288pp £20

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Izzy Everington

Mission Off-World

Space Voyages into the Unknown

Adriana Marais

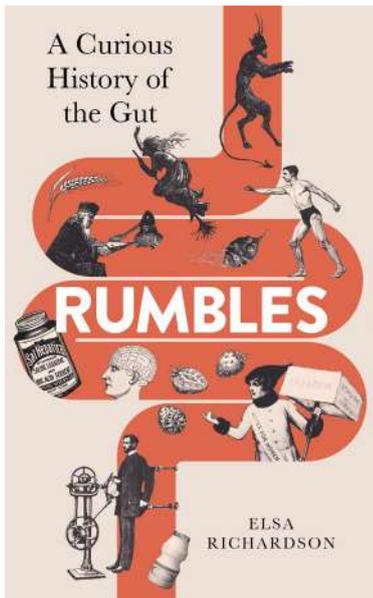
A theoretical physicist's grand tour of how life emerged on earth and how human civilization will begin expanding beyond our home planet

Humanity has always looked up at the night sky and wondered what lies beyond our world. Now, we are on the precipice of stepping out among the stars, not just as lone astronauts or billionaire tech bros, but as a civilization.

Our story is one of curiosity and an innate desire to explore and understand not only the world around us, but the world within us, and the worlds above us, from extremophiles to extraterrestrials, technosignatures to terraforming, DNA to Dyson Spheres.

In this sweeping treatise on exploration, innovation and human ingenuity, theoretical physicist Dr Adriana Marais seeks to answer the questions that stand at the heart of scientific endeavour: What are the building blocks of life and how does life emerge? Are we alone in the universe and if so, why? How did we get here – and where are we going next?

Dr Adriana Marais is an award-winning theoretical physicist and internationally renowned advocate for off-world exploration. Her PhD and postdoctoral work in quantum biology on photosynthesis and the origins of the building blocks of life in space was published in top physics journals including *Physical Review Letters*, and won awards from L'Oreal-UNESCO and the Royal Society of South Africa among others. She was Head of Innovation at SAP Africa between 2017 and 2019, and is currently a Director at the Foundation for Space Development Africa. In 2020, she was among 5 global finalists for Women in Tech's the Most Disruptive Woman in Tech Award.



World All Languages

Manuscript Available

May 2024

Hardback

256pp £18.99

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Izzy Everington

Rumbles

A Curious History of the Gut

Elsa Richardson

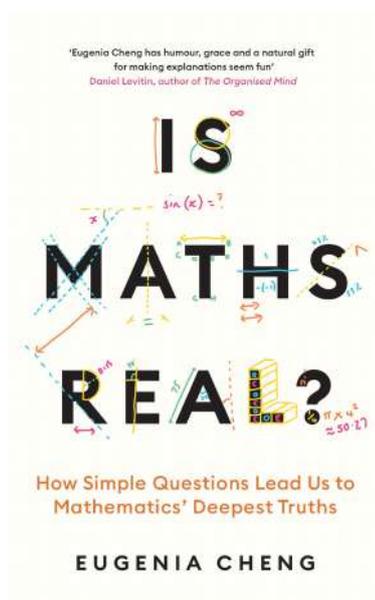
The secret history of the body's most misunderstood organ: the gut

For centuries humans puzzled over the link between the stomach and the workings of the mind. Yet the nature of the gut's supposed influence over cognition, mental wellbeing and the emotions still remains a subject of fierce debate. Are we really ruled by our stomachs?

From the Australian Pintupi aboriginals - who think emotions originate as part of the digestive process - to the invention of the modern working lunch, Elsa Richardson's vibrant social history investigates the ways we have imagined, theorised and probed the mysteries of the gastroenterological system through the centuries - and explores how the gut became so central to our own sense of self.

Engaging, thought-provoking and thoroughly entertaining, this is a book that will change how you think - wherever those thoughts may come from.

Elsa Richardson is an academic at the University of Strathclyde. She holds a Chancellor's Fellowship in the History of Health and Wellbeing at the Centre for the Social History of Health and Healthcare (CSHHH). In addition to lecturing in the history of medicine and her own research, she also curates arts and science events for public institutions, including the Wellcome Collection. In 2018/19 she was named one of the *BBC Radio 3/AHRC* New Generation Thinkers.



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World All Languages

Rights sold: Basic Books, US & Canada; Popular Science, China; Hakuyosha Publishing, Japan; Korean Studies Information Co., Korea; Patakis Publishing, Greece; Taiwan, Faces Publishing

Finished Copies Available

June 2023

Demy Hardback
336pp £16.99
Imprint: Profile Books
Editor: Andrew Franklin

Is Maths Real?

How Simple Questions Lead Us to Mathematics' Deepest Truths

Eugenia Cheng

One of the world's most creative mathematicians offers new ways to look at maths – focusing on questions, not answers

Why does $-(-1) = 1$?

Why do odd and even numbers alternate?

What's the point of algebra?

Is maths even real?

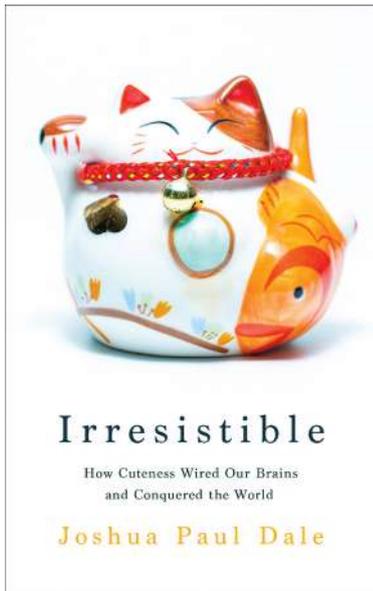
From imaginary numbers to the concept of zero, Eugenia Cheng – mathematician, writer and woman on a mission to rid the world of maths phobia – brings us maths as we've never seen it before, revealing how profound insights can emerge from seemingly unlikely sources.

How do we learn maths: from rules in a textbook? From logic and deduction? Not quite. For Cheng, we learn it from human curiosity – most importantly, from asking questions. Many people are discouraged from asking these questions in school, thinking they're too simple to be taken seriously – but often, they lead us to the most wondrous mathematical revelations. Far from finding our own preconceived limits, Cheng urges us to step beyond them, and question whether they even existed in the first place.

Written with intelligence and passion, *Is Maths Real?* is a celebration of the true, curious spirit of the discipline.

'Discover what it feels like to be a real mathematician ... This is a human pursuit, depicted here from the inside.'
-Simon Ings, *Telegraph*

Eugenia Cheng is Scientist in Residence at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Honorary Visiting Fellow of Pure Mathematics at City, University of London. A Cambridge graduate, she previously taught at the Universities of Cambridge, Chicago and Nice. She is also a concert pianist, fluent in French, and the author of several Profile bestsellers, including *How to Bake Pi* and *x+y*. Her books are translated into fifteen languages.



World All Languages

Rights sold: Taiwan, As If Publishing; China, CSTP

Finished Copies Available

November 2023

Demy Hardback

286pp £16.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

Irresistible

How Cuteness Wired our Brains and Conquered the World

Joshua Paul Dale

The psychology and biology behind what we find cute, and how cuteness has shaped cultures around the world

Why are some things cute, and others not? What happens to our brains when we see something cute? And how did cuteness go global, from Edwardian children's books to Disney?

Cuteness is an area where culture and biology get tangled up. Seeing a cute animal triggers some of the most powerful psychological instincts we have - the ones that elicit our care and protection - but there is a deeper story behind the broad appeal of Japanese cats and saccharine greetings cards.

Joshua Paul Dale, a pioneer in the burgeoning field of cuteness studies, explains how the cute aesthetic spread around the globe, from pop brands to Lolita fashion, kids' cartoons and the unstoppable rise of Hello Kitty. *Irresistible* delves into the surprisingly ancient origins of Japan's kawaii culture, and uncovers the cross-cultural pollination of the globalised world. If cuteness really does rewire our brains, it can help answer some of the biggest questions we have about our evolutionary history and the mysterious origins of animal domestication.

This is the fascinating cultural history of cuteness, and a revealing look at how our most powerful psychological impulses have remade global style and culture.

Joshua Paul Dale is a Professor in the Department of English Literature and Culture at Chuo University in Tokyo. Since moving to Japan in the 1990s, Dale has pioneered the field of cuteness studies, and is the co-editor of *The Aesthetics and Affects of Cuteness*, and edited 'Cute Studies', a special issue of *The East Asian Journal of Popular Culture*. Dale has been featured as an expert on cuteness by media outlets such as the *New York Times*, *CNN*, *National Geographic*, *Guardian*, *The Cut*, *Refinery29* and *Discover Magazine*.

POLITICS,
ECONOMICS &
CURRENT AFFAIRS



World All Languages

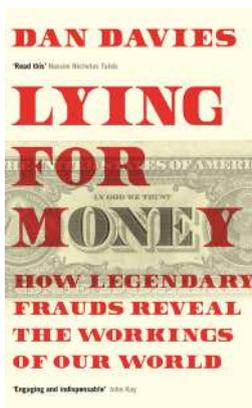
April 2024

Royal Hardback

320pp £20

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey



July 2018

Rights sold: Scribner, US & Canada; El Rasm BI Kalemata, Arabic; Saggiatore, Italy; The Walk, Taiwan

The Unaccountability Machine

Why Big Systems Make Terrible Decisions – and How The World Lost its Mind

Dan Davies

Part-biography, part-political thriller, The Unaccountability Machine is a rousing exposé of how management failures lead organisations to make catastrophic errors

When we avoid taking a decision, what happens to it?

In *The Unaccountability Machine*, Dan Davies examines why markets, institutions and even governments systematically generate outcomes that everyone involved claims not to want. In answering that question he casts new light on the writing of Stafford Beer, a legendary economist who was arguing as far back as the 1950s that we should regard organisations as artificial intelligences, capable of taking decisions that are distinct from the intentions of their members.

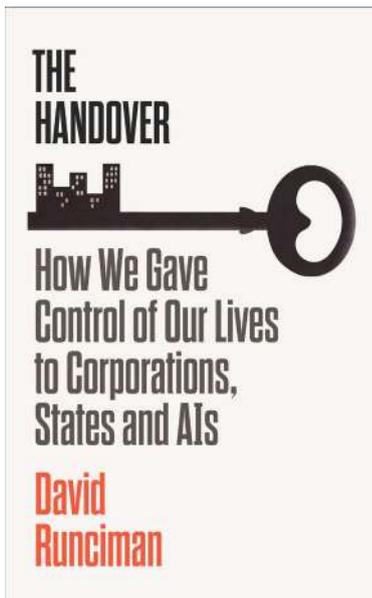
Management cybernetics was Beer's science of applying self-regulation in organisational settings, but it was largely ignored – with the result being the political and economic crises that we see today. With his signature blend of cynicism and journalistic rigour, Davies looks at what's gone wrong, and what might have been, had the world listened to Stafford Beer when it had the chance.

Praise for *Lying for Money*:

'If you want to learn to fend fraud, read this. And if you want to commit fraud ... don't. But if you absolutely must, first read this.'

– Nassim Nicholas Taleb

Dan Davies is a former Bank of England economist and investment bank analyst. As a journalist he has tackled the LIBOR and FX scandals, the collapse of Anglo Irish Bank and the Swiss Nazi gold scandal. He has written for the *Financial Times* and *the New Yorker*, and is the author of *Lying For Money*.



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World All Languages

Rights sold: Liveright/Norton, US & Canada; Mirae N, Korea; Corvina, Hungary; Einaudi, Italy; Denmark, Informations Forlag

Finished Copies Available

September 2023

Royal Hardback
336pp £20
Imprint: Profile Books
Editor: Andrew Franklin

The Handover

How We Gave Control of Our Lives to Corporations, States and AIs

David Runciman

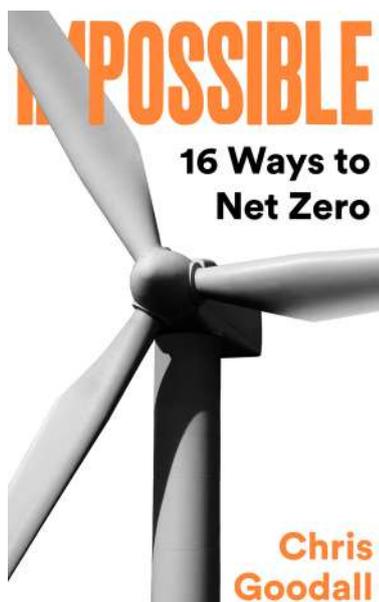
Does it matter if we are ceding power to AI? Especially if we have been there before

‘The Singularity’ is what Silicon Valley calls the idea that, eventually, we will be overrun by machines that are able to take decisions and act for themselves. What no one says is that it happened before.

A few hundred years ago, humans started building the robots that now rule our world. They are called states and corporations: immensely powerful artificial entities, with capacities that go far beyond what any individual can do, and which, unlike us, need never die.

They have made us richer, safer and healthier than would have seemed possible even a few generations ago - and they may yet destroy us. *The Handover* distils over three hundred years of thinking about how to live with artificial agency.

David Runciman is Professor of Politics at Cambridge University and the former Head of the Department of Politics and International Studies. His previous books for Profile include *Confronting Leviathan*, *Where Power Stops* and *How Democracy Ends*. He writes regularly about politics for the *London Review of Books* and hosted the widely acclaimed weekly podcast *Talking Politics*. His latest podcast is *Past Present Future*.



World All Languages

March 2024

Hardback

256pp £16.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Mark Ellingham

Possible

16 Ways to Net Zero

Chris Goodall

A realist's handbook for how we can achieve a carbon neutral future

A carbon neutral future is possible - we have the technology to transform the global economy and guard against the worst effects of climate change. So how do we get to net zero?

In *Possible*, entrepreneur and climate tech consultant Chris Goodall tackles sixteen challenges that we must overcome in making a just transition to carbon neutrality. He explores the technologies that will solve these challenges - from changing how steel, cement and fuel are made to locking carbon in healthy soils, and from supporting renewable energy initiatives to building climate-resilient homes. With case studies and success stories from entrepreneurs across the globe, Goodall illustrates the incredible potential of a Net Zero future - as well as the determination we will need to overcome these problems.

Smart, practical and clear-eyed about the challenges we face, *Possible* is essential reading for business leaders and individuals who are ready to step toward a climate-positive future.

Chris Goodall is a world-leading expert on new and renewable energy technologies. He is the author of multiple books on the climate and future technologies, including *What We Need To Do Now*, *The Switch*, and *Ten Technologies to Fix Energy and Climate*. As well as publishing *Carbon Commentary*, a website and newsletter on energy efficiency and renewables, he is an investor in new low-carbon technologies and a member of the Advisory Board for the Pictet Clean Energy fund in Geneva.



US

World English Language

Translation Rights: Agentur
Nina Sillem

Proposal Available

August 2024

Royal Hardback

352pp £25

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Andrew Franklin

The Green Ages

Medieval Innovations in Sustainability

Annette Kehnel

A fascinating look at the medieval precedents for modern concepts of sustainable living

Communities that operated a barter trade system on the Monte Subiaco in Italy. Sustainable fishing at Lake Constance. Common lands in the UK. Transient grazing among Alpine shepherds in the south of France. Crowdfunding to finance bridges in Avignon.

These are all just some of the sustainability initiatives from the Middle Ages that Annette Kehnel illuminates in her astounding new book, *The Green Ages*. From the mythical-sounding City of Ladies and their garden economy to early microcredit banks, Kehnel uncovers a world at odds with what we think of as the typical medieval existence.

Pre-modern history is full of inspiring examples and concepts that are ripe for rediscovery. And we urgently need them as today's challenges - finite resources, the twilight of consumerism, growing inequality - threaten what we have come to think of as a modern way of living sustainably.

This is a stimulating and revelatory look at a past that has the power to change our future.

Professor Annette Kehnel studied History and Biology at the University of Freiburg, Somerville College, Oxford and LMU in Munich. She received her doctorate from Trinity College, Dublin for her research on Irish convent communities and taught at the TU Dresden, where she received her post-doctorate in 2004. Since 2005 she has held a chair in Medieval History at the University of Mannheim. She has published numerous works on her main topics of research: cultural and economic history and historical anthropology.

In the Long Run

The Future As
A Political Idea

Jonathan
White



US

World English Language

Translation Rights: The Wylie
Agency

Manuscript Available

February 2024

Hardback

224pp £18.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

In the Long Run

The Future as a Political Idea

Jonathan White

*A revealing history of the future as a political idea,
from the Enlightenment to the current climate crisis*

Democracy is future-oriented and self-correcting: today's problems can be solved, we are told, in tomorrow's elections. But the biggest issues facing the modern world - from climate collapse and pandemics to recession and world war - each apparently bring us to the edge of the irreversible. What happens to democracy when the future seems no longer open?

In this eye-opening history of ideas, Jonathan White investigates how politics has long been directed by shifting visions of the future, from the birth of ideologies in the nineteenth century to Cold War secrecy and the excesses of the neoliberal age.

As an inescapable sense of disaster defines our politics, White argues that a political commitment to the long-term may be the best way to safeguard democracy. Wide in scope and sharply observed, *In the Long Run* is a history of the future that urges us to make tomorrow new again.

Jonathan White is Professor of Politics at the London School of Economics. Based at LSE's European Institute, he has published widely on democracy and the politics of emergency. He has written for the *Guardian* and *New Statesman*, and received the British Academy Brian Barry Prize for Excellence in Political Science.

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT



The Audacity Spectrum

Leading with Courage, Care and Non-Conformity

Alina Addison

The most successful leaders have one thing in common: audacity



World All Languages

August 2024

Hardback

224pp £9.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Louisa Dunnigan

Real leadership begins with us. Only when we learn to accept our own strengths and weaknesses can we effectively inspire others. And yet so many of us feel we must smooth out our real selves in order to fit in.

This book is about finding the audacity to bring your full self to your work and life. A high IQ is no longer a predictor for success; emotional intelligence is even more important. And to that we can add the Audacity Spectrum: the courage to understand and speak your truth, and the care to listen to someone else's.

Drawing on her experience - as a corporate leader, practising Emotional Intelligence expert, executive coach and mother to a son on the autism spectrum - as well as on deep research, Alina Addison lays out the eight core aspects of leadership in which we can all find more audacity. Filled with practical tools and unique insight, this book will help readers tap into what it is that sets them apart, how to inspire others and dare to create the lives and careers they truly want.

Alina Addison is the Founder of Adaptaa, an Executive Coaching and Leadership Development company. She is an accredited Emotional Intelligence coach with over twenty years of business and leadership experience. Previously, she was a Managing Director and Head of Trading at Rothschild. She is on the board of several charities and manages a hotel that she built in Transylvania in 2004.



Tr

World excl. US & Canada

Rights sold: Pegasus Books, US & Canada

Manuscript Available

June 2024

Trade Paperback

240pp £10.99

Imprint: Economist Edge

Editor: Clare Grist Taylor

Best Story Wins

Storytelling for business success

Mark Edwards

How to harness the power of storytelling in your communications at work

Whether you're standing up in front of a crowd at a conference or chatting with a colleague on Zoom, storytelling is the most effective way to get your point across. It works in 90 second Superbowl TV spots, it works in 10 second social media formats, and it works in that email you have to fire off in 5 seconds flat.

Why? The short answer is that people don't make decisions based on logic. They make decisions based on emotions. To persuade, influence and inspire, you need to make an emotional connection. And storytelling is the best way of doing that.

Journalist-turned-business coach Mark Edwards has developed his own methodology - SUPERB - for telling compelling stories at work. From the classic Hero's Journey to why we all need to Save a Cat, *Best Story Wins* shows how storytelling will make better communicators of us all.

Mark Edwards is a corporate speech writing coach who has helped his clients win over \$10 billion's worth of new businesses pitches as a pitch doctor in the media, marketing and advertising industries. He began his career as a business journalist 25 years ago; for over two decades his writing appeared on a weekly basis in the *Sunday Times*. He is the co-author of *Belonging: the key to transforming and maintaining diversity, inclusion and equality at work* and the author of *The Tao of Bowie: 10 lessons from David Bowie's life to help you live yours*.



World excl. US & Canada

Rights sold: Pegasus Books, US & Canada

September 2024

Trade Paperback

240pp £10.99

Imprint: Economist Edge

Editor: Clare Grist Taylor

Influence at Work

Steve Martin

From internationally bestselling author, Steve Martin: a new guide to influence at work

Every day we face the challenge of influencing and persuading people at work - whether our boss or our peers; team members, clients or customers.

That can be easier said than done. We might like to think that appeals and requests based on the best evidence and backed up by the right economic arguments win the day, but the reality is often very different.

To prevail, we need to recognise what really matters: understanding and navigating the rules of influence.

Influence at Work will show you what these rules are and how to effectively deploy them to command attention; connect with others; win over the sceptics; sway the undecided and motivate people to act.

The result is a new guide to an age-old subject: what influence is, why it matters, and how to use it wisely and ethically.

Steve Martin co-authored the bestselling *Yes! 50 Secrets from the Science of Persuasion*, which has been published in 28 languages.

Steve Martin is Faculty Director of Behavioural Science at Columbia Business School and co-author of several international bestsellers, including *Yes! 50 Secrets from the Science of Persuasion* - a *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal* and *Business Week* bestseller - and *Messengers: Who We Listen To, Who We Don't and Why*. He is also Chair of the Global Association of Applied Behavioural Scientists.



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World excl. US & Canada

Rights sold: Pegasus Books, US & Canada

October 2024Trade Paperback
240pp £10.99Imprint: Economist Edge
Editor: Clare Grist Taylor

The Power of Culture

Laura Hamill

Why organisations need to be proactive about their culture - and how they can achieve that

All organisations have a culture, whether they acknowledge it or not, and whether it's serving them well or otherwise.

Get it right, and culture can be a positive force for good. Get it wrong, and culture can be a negative, becoming toxic and undermining performance and reputations.

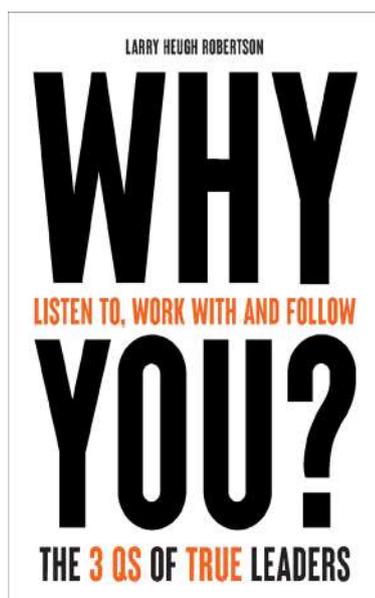
In short, culture matters.

It can, though, be a tricky thing to understand and master.

The Power of Culture tackles this head-on, exploring what culture is and why it matters; how it needs to be aligned with strategy and values, and how to understand it, change it and make it a reality.

Told through real stories and examples and using the author's Intentional Culture Circle as a guide, this book helps everyone at work to be more aware of culture and how to find opportunities to make it work better.

Laura Hamill is an organisational psychologist, ex-Microsoft director and Limeade co-founder and now a consultant advising companies on their cultures. She is also the owner of Paris Phoenix Group, a consulting firm specialising in driving impactful research and outcomes, and host of the *Happy at Work* podcast. She lives in Washington with her family.



World All Languages

Finished Copies Available

November 2023

Trade Paperback

288pp £11.99

Imprint: Profile Editions

Editor: Peter Jones

WHY listen to, work with and follow YOU?

The 3 Qualities of True Leaders

Larry Heugh Robertson

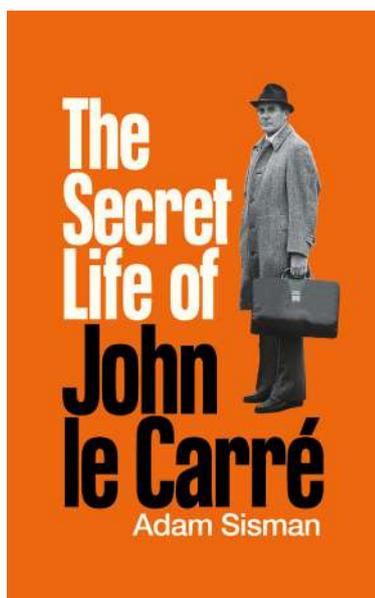
How to be a better leader and a better you

People around the world crave more meaning, greater engagement and better leadership in every aspect of their lives. And those who aspire to lead are searching for straightforward and practical solutions to deliver this in their own unique way. This book provides the answers.

Through a series of thirty short narratives or scenarios, Larry Robertson shows how current or aspiring senior executives can draw on their own personal strengths to formulate their leadership style. The scenarios are based on one of the book's three key themes of Authenticity, Empathy and Intent. The narratives cover the fundamental aspects of leadership and are adaptable to any walk of life. Bullet points provide a recap on each narrative and give the reader a 21-90-day challenge to help them change their behaviour towards the habits for success.

Larry Robertson founded Australian leadership and communication consultancy Robertson Burns in 1993. A Brit who settled in Australia after an early career as an Army officer and in advertising, he has been working with executives from some of the world's largest organisations, including Boston Consulting, Fujitsu, Goldman Sachs, HSBC, PwC and Qantas.

GENERAL
NON-FICTION



Tr

World All Languages

Rights sold: HarperCollins, US & Canada; Italy, Mondadori

Finished Copies Available

October 2023

Hardback

208pp £16.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

The Secret Life of John le Carré

Adam Sisman

The extraordinary secret life of a great novelist, which his biographer could not publish while le Carré was alive

Secrecy came naturally to John le Carré, and there were some secrets that he fought fiercely to keep. Nowhere was this more true than in his private life, which Adam Sisman discovered as le Carré's biographer. The novelist conducted a string of affairs throughout his marriage, handled with typical spycraft: cover stories, cut-outs and dead letter boxes. These clandestine operations brought an element of danger to his life, but they meant deceiving those closest to him. Small wonder that betrayal became a running theme in his work.

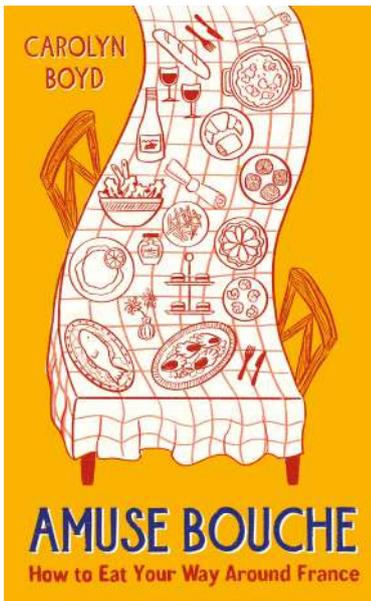
The Secret Life of John le Carré reveals a hitherto hidden perspective on the life and work of the spy-turned-author and a fascinating meditation on the relationship between biographer and subject.

'A completely fascinating and revelatory book, written with great sagacity, candour and judiciousness'
William Boyd

Praise for *John le Carré: The Biography* :

'Smiley himself could not have done a better job'
The Times

Adam Sisman is the author of *Boswell's Presumptuous Task*, winner of the US National Book Critics Circle Award for Biography, and the biographer of John le Carré, A. J. P. Taylor and Hugh Trevor-Roper. Among his other works are two volumes of letters by Patrick Leigh Fermor. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and an Honorary Professor at the University of St Andrews.



World All Languages

June 2024

Hardback

320pp £18.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Jon Petre

Amuse Bouche

How to Eat Your Way Around France

Carolyn Boyd

A charming and fascinating guide to French cuisine by an award-winning food writer

What makes a real salade niçoise?

What type of cheese is officially France's stinkiest?

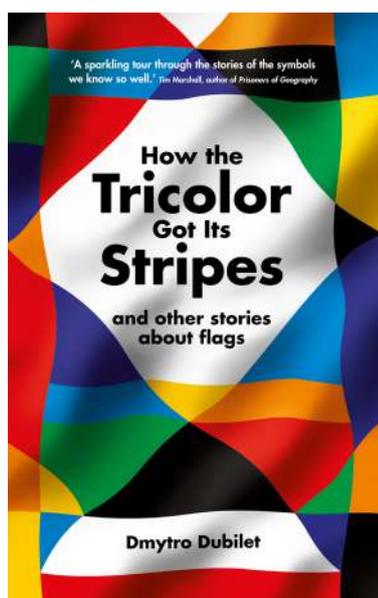
Why does the sandy carrot have such a superior flavour?

And who exactly are the Brotherhood of the Artichoke?

Leading expert on French food and culture Carolyn Boyd shares the stories behind the country's most fascinating foods and ingredients. Spanning every region of France and divided into 200 separate vignettes, each entry blends history and travel, personal anecdote and recipes.

Amuse Bouche is a book to be devoured: a beautifully illustrated, joyous celebration of French food, and a charming, practical guide to inspire your own travels - whether you're a proud Francophile or don't know your *ficelle* from your *flûte*.

Carolyn Boyd is an award-winning British travel and food writer who specialises in France, writing for a wide variety of publications including *The Times*, *Guardian*, *National Geographic Traveller*, and *BBC Good Food*. She is the author of *From the Source: France* (Lonely Planet, 2017), a collection of chef interviews and recipes from every corner of the country. Carolyn is also Communications Manager of the Roux Scholarship, the world's most prestigious chef competition.



**World All Languages
excl. Ukranian & Russian**

Finished Copies Available

Rights sold: UTET, Italy;
Domain Publishing Company,
Taiwan; Will Books, Korea

October 2023

Demy Hardback
256pp £18.99
Imprint: Profile Editions
Editor: Peter Jones

How the Tricolor Got Its Stripes

And other stories about flags

Dmytro Dubilet

An entertaining and anecdotal illustrated history of flags

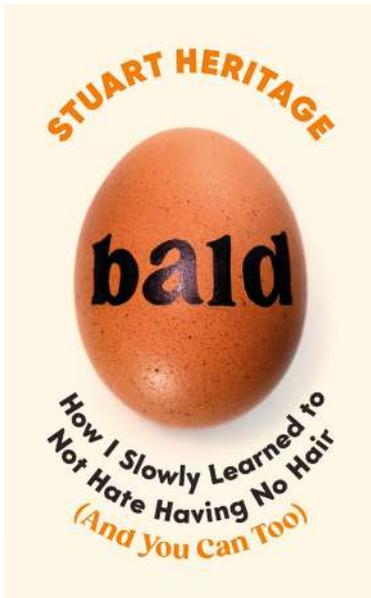
This captivating history of flags explains their origins and hidden meanings, taking a chatty but always entertaining path through this universal subject.

Each chapter starts with a well-known flag - such as the French tricolor, where the white in the centre (the monarchy) is kept in check by the red and blue of the Parisian flag representing the people - and shows how that flag led, for example, to the red, white and green tricolor of Italy - thought in turn to represent the red of struggle, the white of the Alps and the green of Italy's lush vegetation. And then to a host of other tricolors in different parts of the world. Many of the over 200 colour illustrations feature alternative versions of existing flags - the flags that might have been - such as the red Canadian maple leaf between two bands of blue, representing the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

First published in Ukrainian six months before the start of the Ukrainian-Russian War, this entertaining, chatty and very likeable history of flags was written by Ukrainian businessman and ex-cabinet minister Dmytro Dubilet as a lockdown project. It sold 5,000 copies in Ukrainian in its first 2 months.

Dmytro Dubilet is a businessman and politician. Born and raised in Dnipro, Ukraine, he studied at the University of Kyiv and London Business School. In 2017 he co-founded the IT company Fintech Band which then launched the mobile-only Monobank. In 2019 he was appointed Minister of the Cabinet Ministers in the Ukrainian cabinet.

HUMOUR & SELF-HELP



World All Languages

Manuscript Available

April 2024

Hardback

160pp £12.99

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Zara Sehr Ashraf

Bald

How I Slowly Learned to Not Hate Having No Hair (And You Can Too)

Stuart Heritage

A warm and funny guide to life in the club that nobody wants to join

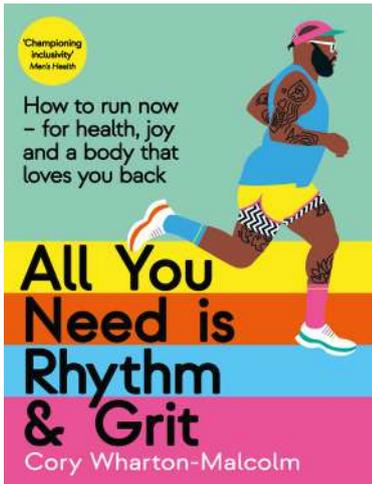
Nobody chooses to be bald. Nobody wants to look into the mirror and be confronted with an absence. Nobody gains any comfort from having a slightly better idea of what their skull looks like.

Stuart Heritage has been bald for two years. But before he accepted the inevitable, he spent a number of years ineptly trying to conceal this fact with an array of expensive treatments and terrible haircuts. Can a man go bald with dignity? Maybe. But can a man go bald with more dignity than Stuart Heritage? Oh good god yes, and this book is his attempt to make that happen for you.

Part-memoir-part-manual, Stuart brings us a self-deprecating, funny and genuinely helpful guide to being bald: what really happens, why it matters and how to feel much less miserable about it.

Stuart Heritage is a writer and columnist for the *Guardian*, and has also written for *Vanity Fair*, *Esquire*, *The Times*, *Men's Health*, *Elle*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Red*, *Marie Claire* and the *NME*. He is also the author of several books, including *Bedtime Stories for Worried Liberals* and *Don't be a Dick, Pete*.

For two years running he was named as one of the 50 most influential emerging figures in the British media by the *Independent*, an honour that has singularly failed to manifest itself into anything even slightly meaningful. He has also written for television and, as you can see, is bald now, so that's fun.



World All Languages

Rights sold: Pegasus, US & Canada

Manuscript Available

January 2024

Trade Paperback

272pp £18.99

Imprint: Souvenir Press

Editor: Cindy Chan

All You Need is Rhythm and Grit

How to run now, for health, joy, and a body that loves you back

Cory Wharton-Malcolm

An infectiously positive and inclusive guide to running, from everyone's favourite Apple Fitness+ and Nike trainer

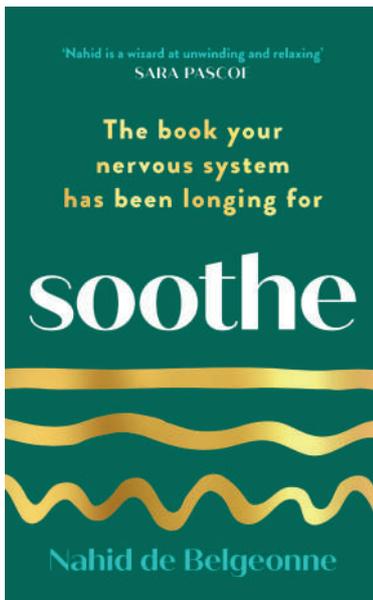
Think running isn't for you? Running coach Cory Wharton-Malcolm challenges this idea head-on with this joyful love letter to running and motivational guide for beginners.

Advocating running as an inclusive and community-focused activity, Cory shows us how to celebrate the incredible mind-body connection by getting our trainers on and starting our running journey from the couch to the end of the road and beyond.

Sharing stories of his own mental and physical health challenges and the way running — both alone and with track buddies — lifted him up, *All You Need is Rhythm and Grit* includes advice on kit, running routes, pacing, good beats and the will to start and keep going.

Cory believes you don't have to be a tall and slim super-human to run and feel good doing it! For anyone who thinks running isn't for them, here is a vibrant and inclusive guide to one of the most egalitarian sports for people of all genders, all bodies, all identities and every class and colour.

Cory Wharton-Malcolm is a running coach, *Runner's World* columnist, founder of West London running crew TrackMafia and Apple Fitness+ trainer who embarks on running adventures all over the world with 'Time To Run'. Previously Nike Run Club's European Head Coach and still the voice of the Nike Run Club app, he has been featured in publications including *Guardian*, *Evening Standard*, *Men's Health* and *Metro*.



World All Languages

Manuscript Available

March 2024

Trade Paperback

256pp £15.99

Imprint: Souvenir Press

Editor: Cindy Chan

Soothe

The book your nervous system has been longing for

Nahid de Belgeonne

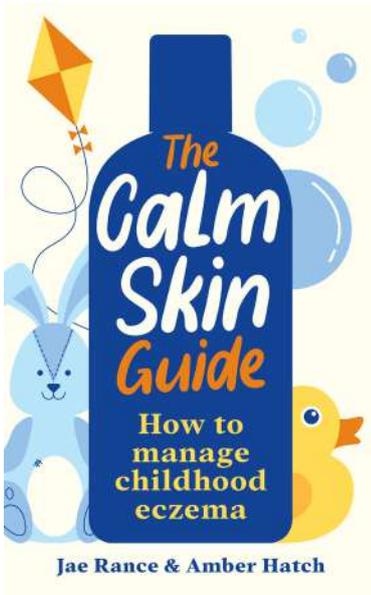
How to use somatic movement, breathwork and touch to release stress from the body and balance your overworked nervous systems

Our increasingly frantic lifestyles make it difficult to slow down and listen to what our bodies are telling us; instead we pay attention only when it is broken, without stopping to ask why. *Soothe* brings you back to balance, explaining the workings of your nervous system and helping you restore calm by physically releasing held stresses. Somatic practitioner Nahid de Belgeonne will teach you:

- A foundational lesson on body sensing, establishing a physical and mental awareness
- Breathwork exercises to maximise your oxygen intake, improving overall body function
- The healing power of touch, and how to use it
- Lessons in combining rest and action using your circadian and ultradian rhythms
- How to nourish your nervous system with food and nature
- The importance of connection with ourselves, others and the ground beneath our feet

Practical and reassuring, *Soothe* will show you how to use breath, movement and touch to release the stress in your body's overworked nervous system.

Nahid de Belgeonne, known as 'the nervous system whisperer', is a Somatic Movement coach, breath and yoga teacher with a passion for sharing the healing benefits of movement. She has been a pivotal part of the London fitness landscape for 15 years, operating the yoga and wellbeing brand Good Vibes and now focuses on private clients with her somatic and restorative system called The Human Method. She has been featured in publications including *The Times*, *Harpers Bazaar*, *Tatler* and *Stylist*.



World All Languages

Manuscript Available

April 2024

Trade Paperback

288pp £14.99

Imprint: Souvenir Press

Editor: Cindy Chan

The Calm Skin Guide

How to manage childhood eczema

Jae Rance and Amber Hatch

A friendly guide to understanding, managing and living with child eczema

Eczema affects 1 in 5 children, and it can be especially upsetting for children under ten who can't understand why their skin is so itchy, sensitive and easily damaged. *The Calm Skin Guide* offers an overview of all the treatment approaches on offer, to equip you with your own management plan for your child. It includes clear guidance on:

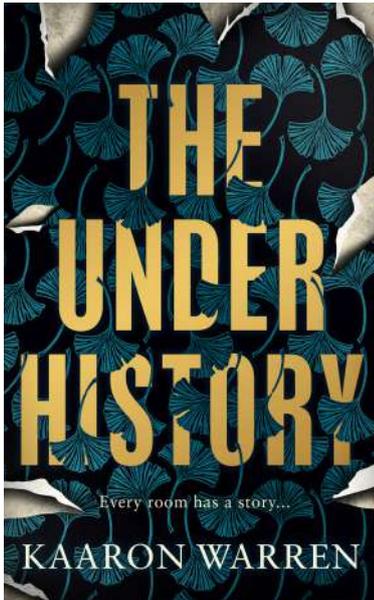
- Eczema and the itch/scratch cycle
- Doctor and pharmacy-based treatments
- Alternative treatments and how to use them
- Identifying triggers in the home like dust, humidity, skincare products, detergents and foods
- The relationship between eczema, asthma and allergies, and how to manage these conditions together
- An emergency flare-up chapter - what to do first

With tips on washing and laundry routines, practical ideas for ensuring comfortable, itch-free sleep, and guidance from GPs and dermatologists, here is friendly, research-based advice to help you keep your child's eczema - and the distress resulting from it - calm, soothed and under control.

Jae Rance is a parent with a long history of eczema in her family. She founded Scratchesleeves, a company that produces child-friendly anti-scratch solutions for kids. She shares tips and advice for parents on the Scratchesleeves blog.

Amber Hatch is a writer, editor and childminder, with a passion for wellbeing and meaningful connection. She is the author of five books, including *The Nappy-Free Baby* and *Mindfulness for Parents*.

FICTION



World All Languages

US Rights via Helen Edwards

Manuscript Available

April 2024

Royal Hardback

384pp £16.99

Imprint: Viper

Editor: Miranda Jewess

The Underhistory

Kaaron Warren

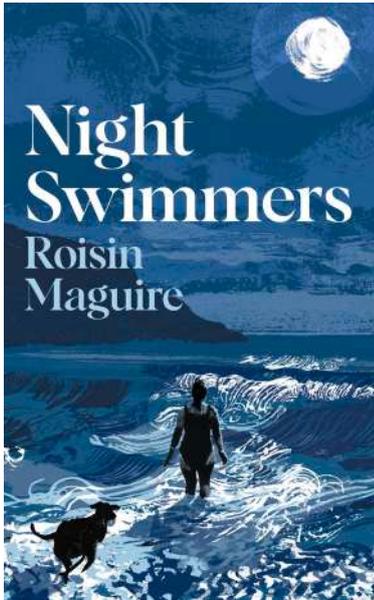
A dark and magnificently inventive upmarket thriller about the lengths a lone woman will go to protect her home, and the family history it hides within its walls

Pera was twelve the day the pilot intentionally crashed his plane into her family's grand home, killing them, their friends and the Australian prime minister. She was the girl who survived the tragedy, a sympathetic oddity, growing stranger by the day. Over the decades she rebuilt the huge and rambling building on the original site, each room telling a piece of the story of her life and that of the many people who died, both before and after the disaster. Her sister, murdered a hundred miles away. The soldier, broken by the war. Death follows Pera, and she welcomes it in as an old friend.

On the day she runs the last haunted house tour of the season, an unexpected group of men arrive. One she recognises, but the others are strangers. But she knows their type all too well. Dangerous men, who will keep an old woman alive only so long as she is useful. But as she begins to show them the house and reveal its secrets, the dangerous men will learn that she is far from helpless. After all, death seems to follow her wherever she goes...

Sinister and lyrical, *The Underhistory* is a haunting tale of loss, self-preservation and the darkness beneath.

Kaaron Warren is the author of the novels *Slights*, *Walking the Tree*, *Mistification* and *The Grief Hole* and the short story collections *Through Splintered Walls*, *The Grinding House*, and *Dead Sea Fruit*. Her short stories have won Australian *Shadows Awards*, *Ditmar Awards* and *Aurealis Awards*. She lives in Canberra, Australia.



World All Languages

US rights via Helen Edwards

Rights sold: DuMont, Germany

Manuscript Available

February 2024

Demy Hardback

304pp £16.99

Imprint: Serpent's Tail

Editor: Luke Brown

Night Swimmers

Roisin Maguire

A funny and moving family story with an unconventional heroine in a quirky coastal community - Olive Kitteridge or The Shipping News on the edge of the Irish Sea

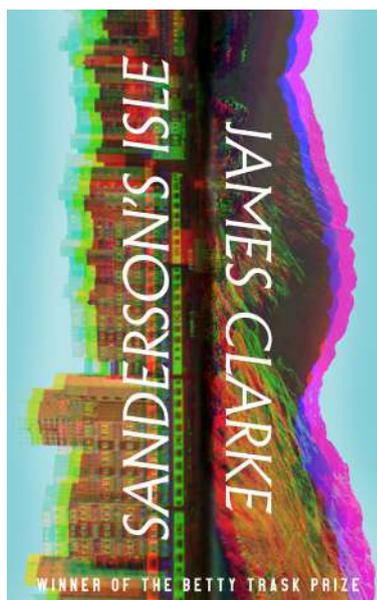
Grace lives alone in Ballycathal, a little town on the sublimely beautiful Antrim Coast of Northern Ireland. She fills her days with sea swimming, fishing, quilting, and baiting the tourists who arrive from the city with more money than sense and who mistakenly think they own the place (something of a sport among the locals.) She hasn't left the town since something awful happened to her in London as a young woman at the end of the 1980s.

One of the irritating tourists in town is Evan, taking an enforced holiday from his family and work in Belfast after breaking down after the death of his daughter in infancy. He has come to try to process his grief and make himself desirable again as a husband, a father and a business partner.

But he hasn't been there for a week before he gets trapped by lockdown. When Grace saves his life after a kayaking accident that may not have been in fact an accident, and Evan's troubled son arrives to stay, all three are brought together in a way that forces a reckoning with their personal traumas and draws them back into society.

This is a moving and funny debut novel set in a quirky coastal community you will be desperate to visit after reading. It will appeal to readers of Elizabeth Strout, Maggie O'Farrell and Alice Munro.

Roisin Maguire lives by the sea in Northern Ireland, and holds an MA in Creative Writing from Queen's University. She has worked as a nightclub bouncer, bus driver and primary school teacher - and is a keen scuba diver and fisherwoman who swims every day of the year in the Irish Sea.



World All Languages

Finished Copies Available

July 2023

Hardback

320pp £16.99

Imprint: Serpent's Tail

Editor: Luke Brown

Sanderson's Isle

James Clarke

A man searches for a stolen child through swinging London and the Lake District in the psychedelic 1960s

Speake comes to London in 1969 to look for his father but finds Sanderson instead, a larger-than-life TV presenter who hosts 'midweek madness' parties where the punch is spiked with acid. There Speake meets Marnie and promises to help her find her adoptive child, who has been taken by her birth mother to live off-grid in a hippy cult in the Lake District.

Forced to lie low after a violent accident, Speake joins Sanderson on a tour of the Lake District, where he's researching his TV series, Sanderson's Isle. Here Sanderson too becomes fascinated by rumours of the cult and decides he must find them. Amid the fierce beauty of the mountains, the cult is forming the kind of community that Speake - a drifter who belongs nowhere - is desperate to find but has been sent to betray.

'Intriguing and unsettling ... [Clarke] has a terrific gift for the uncomfortable and threatening scene as the novel cartwheels its way to a conclusion both spectacular and sordid.' - Alex Clark, *Times Literary Supplement*

'Much literary fiction of recent years has erred towards minimalism: little action, few characters, story replaced by mood, dialogue replaced by thought... *Sanderson's Isle*, is a raucous, Technicolor scream against this trend ... If it feels gratuitous, that's only because of the lethargic narratives we've become used to' - *Sunday Times*

James Clarke was born in Manchester in 1985 and grew up in the Rossendale Valley, Lancashire. His debut novel *The Litten Path* was published by Salt and won the 2019 Betty Trask Prize.



The Black Orb

Kim Ewhan

Translated by Sean Lin Halbert

A piercingly dark, surreal satire on mass panic, disaster response and modern masculinity

US

World English Language

US Rights via Barbara Zitwer
Agency

August 2024

Royal Hardback

384pp £14.99

Imprint: Serpent's Tail

Editor: Leonora Craig Cohen

One evening in downtown Seoul, Jeong-su is smoking a cigarette outside when he sees something impossible: a huge black orb appears out of nowhere and sucks his neighbour inside.

The orb soon begins consuming other people and no one knows how to stop it. Impervious to bullets and tanks, the orb splits and multiplies, chasing the hapless residents of Seoul out into the country and sparking a global crisis with widespread violence and looting. Jeong-su must rely upon his wits as he makes the arduous journey in search of his elderly parents.

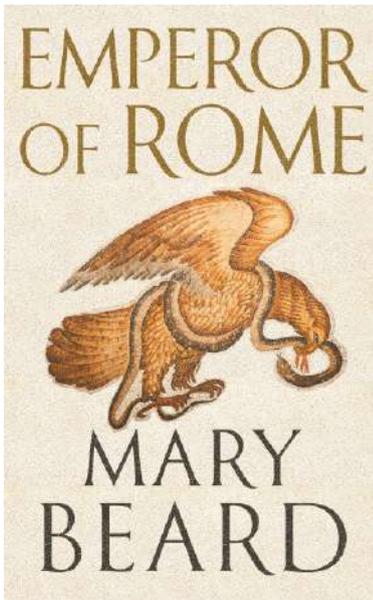
But the strangest phases of this ever-expanding disaster are yet to come and Jeong-su will be forced to question everything he has taken for granted.

Dryly funny, absurd and terrifyingly prescient about the fragility of human civilisation, *The Black Orb* is perfect for fans of Cormac McCarthy, Franz Kafka and *Squid Game*.

Kim Ewhan is the author of twelve novels. His debut *The Ghosts of Evihtezen*, was a finalist for the Korean National Fantasy Award and his other works have won the SF Award and the Young Writers Award. *The Black Orb* won the Multi Award and has been translated into nine languages.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



World All Languages

September 2023

512pp

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Andrew Franklin

Emperor of Rome

Ruling the Ancient Roman World

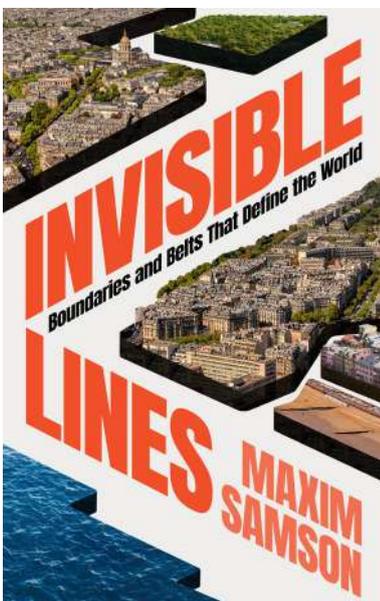
Mary Beard

In her international bestseller *SPQR*, Mary Beard told the thousand-year story of ancient Rome. Now, she shines her spotlight on the emperors who ruled the Roman empire, from Julius Caesar (assassinated 44 BCE) to Alexander Severus (assassinated 235 CE).

‘A sweeping account of the social and political world of the Roman emperors by ‘the world’s most famous classicist’
- *Guardian*

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Mary Beard is Professor Emeritus of Classics at Cambridge, and the classics editor of *The Times Literary Supplement*. She has worldwide academic acclaim. Her previous books include the bestselling, Wolfson Prize-winning *Pompeii*, *Confronting the Classics*, *SPQR* and most recently, *Women & Power* and *Twelve Caesars*. She has made numerous television series and her books have been published in over thirty languages.



World All Languages

Rights sold: House of Anansi, US & CAN; Critica, ES; Will Books KO; Metahmio, GR; Saida de Emergencia, PT; Laterza, IT; Kanki Publishing Inc., JP; Sumo Publishing, Arabic

August 2023

416pp

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Izzy Everington

Invisible Lines

Boundaries and Belts That Define the World

Maxim Samson

A geographer’s exploration of the world’s unseen boundaries - the divisions we make, find or feel

‘An illuminating glimpse of the chain reactions of human and physical geography.’ *Financial Times*

‘A truly original adventure into new ways of exploring what we mean by a sense of place.’ Simon Jenkins

‘A fascinating exploration of the lesser-known and more subtle borders across the earth and the surprising ways in which they shape our lives.’ *i news*

Maxim Samson teaches Geography at DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. He specialises in geographies of religion, globalisation, multiculturalism and urbanisation. In his spare time, Maxim enjoys long-distance running, plant-based cooking, home-brewing, reading maps, maintaining his 2,700+ day Duolingo streak and gradually adding to his kaleidoscopic flag collection. *Invisible Lines* is his first book.



Tr

World All Languages

Translation rights via Aitken Alexander Associates
Rights sold: ACC, Arabic; Paidós Spanish

September 2023

448pp

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

Fear

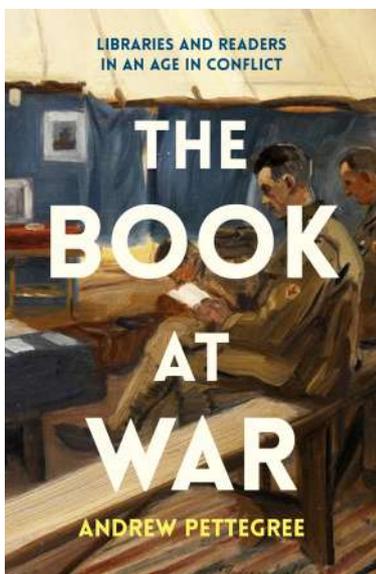
An Alternative History of the World

Robert Peckham

A ground-breaking examination of the societal impact of fear that gives us a thrilling insight on world history

‘Robert Peckham’s deeply informed and lucidly staged anatomy of fear is a remarkable achievement. Peckham shapes a fundamentally transformative account of the sociology of fear - and of fear as a constitutive element of modern sociality itself. A groundbreaking study.’- Mark Seltzer, author of *The Official World*

Robert Peckham is a cultural historian and founder of Open Cube, an organisation that promotes the integration of the arts, science, and technology for health. He was previously Professor of History and MB Lee Endowed Professor in the Humanities and Medicine at the University of Hong Kong. He has held fellowships at Cambridge, Oxford, LSE, and King’s College London, and been a visiting scholar at NYU. A fellow of the Royal Historical Society, he has published in *Foreign Affairs*, *New Statesman*, *Prospect*, *the Guardian*, *the Independent* and the *Times Literary Supplement*. He lives in New York.



Tr US

World All Languages

Rights sold: Orenda, Turkey; Smak Słowa, Poland; Laboratory, Ukraine; Book21 Publishing Group, Korea; Kashiwa Shobo Ltd., Japan

October 2023

480pp

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Cecily Gayford

The Book at War

Libraries and Readers in an Age of Conflict

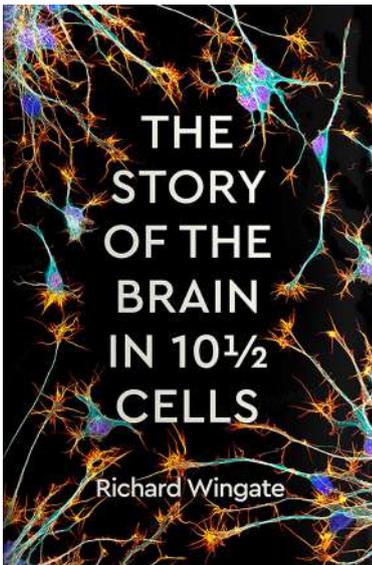
Andrew Pettegree

Propaganda, pulp fiction, spies and censorship: the fascinating and action-packed story of books in wartime

‘Rich, authoritative and highly readable, Andrew Pettegree’s tour de force will appeal to anyone for whom, whatever the circumstances, books are an abiding, indispensable part of life.’
David Kynaston

‘Books create; wars destroy. Yet *The Book at War* shows how inextricably entwined the two have always been. Illuminating.’
- Judith Flanders, author of *A Place for Everything: The Curious History of the Alphabetical Order*

Andrew Pettegree, FBA, is Professor of Modern History at the University of St Andrews. He is the co-author of *The Library: A Fragile History*, and the prize-winning *The Book in the Renaissance* and *The Invention of News*. He is a former Vice-President of the Royal Historical Society and founding director of the *Universal Short Title Catalogue*.



World All Languages

Rights sold: Bollati Boringhieri, Italy; Cheers Publishing, China

May 2023

224pp

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Francesca Barrie

The Story of the Brain in 10 1/2 Cells

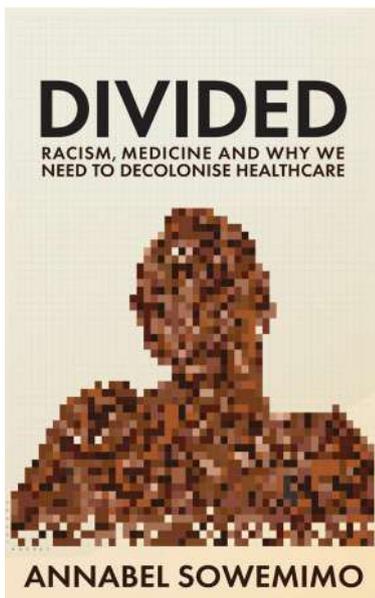
Richard Wingate

Peer into a microscopic world – and fall in love with the beauty of the brain

‘Few books [. . .] convey so succinctly the combination of care, determination, obsessiveness and imagination that scientists in a field such as neuroscience require to make an advance in knowledge . . . exhilarating’ *The Oldie*

‘In elegant, evocative prose, Wingate tells the very human tales of the early explorers of the nervous system, highlighting the joy of discovery and the insights that can be had if you just really look’ Kevin J. Mitchell, *Trinity College Dublin*

Richard Wingate is a world-renowned neuroanatomist and neuroscientist. He is principal investigator at the MRC Centre for Neurodevelopmental Disorders, and Professor of Developmental Neurobiology at King’s College London. He is also editor-in-chief of *brainfacts.org*, the highly popular website that celebrates the wonders of the brain and is supported by The Kavli Foundation, the Gatsby Charitable Foundation, and the Society for Neuroscience.



World All Languages

April 2023

416pp

Imprint: Wellcome Collection

Editor: Francesca Barrie

Divided

Racism, Medicine and Why We Need to Decolonise Healthcare

Annabel Sowemimo

Finalist for the Orwell Prize for Political Writing 2023

A *Financial Times* Best Summer Book of 2023

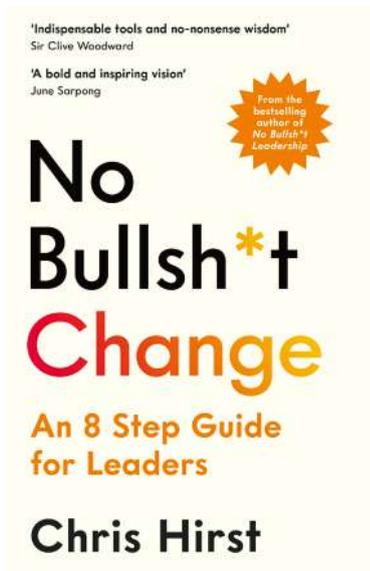
‘Important and ambitious’ *Observer*, Book of the Day

‘An illuminating and powerful intersectional analysis of health inequalities and racism’ *i-D Magazine*

‘Prepare to be blown away’ Chikwe Ihekweazu, Assistant Director General at WHO

Dr Annabel Sowemimo is a doctor, activist and writer. As well as being a Sexual and Reproductive Health registrar in the NHS, she is also the founder of community-based organisation Reproductive Justice Initiative, formed to address the colonial history of sexual and reproductive health. Annabel is also a PhD candidate and Harold Moody Scholar at King’s College London.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



World All Languages

Rights sold: Escolar Editora, Portugal

June 2023

256pp

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Louisa Dunnigan

No Bullsh*t Change

An 8 Step Guide for Leaders

Chris Hirst

*The no-nonsense guide to change: how to lead it and how to lead through it when the world is still spinning. By the award-winning author of No Bullsh*t Leadership*

‘Indispensable’ Sir Clive Woodward

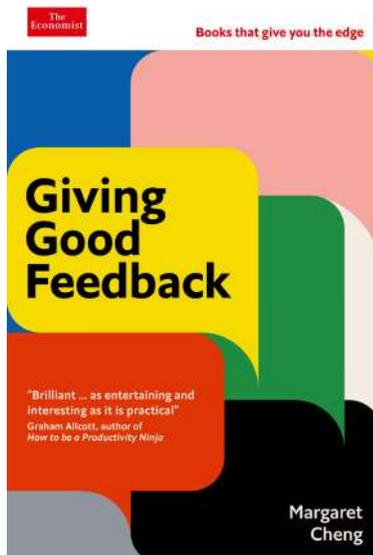
‘An inspiring guide for all leaders’ Justine Roberts, Founder and CEO of Mumsnet

‘Highly recommended’ Jack Parsons, CEO of The Youth Group

‘Easy to follow, useful and a joy to read’ Katie Vanneck-Smith, CEO of Hearst UK

‘Practical and authoritative’ Nicholas Hytner, Artistic Director and Founder The Bridge Theatre

Chris Hirst is a change agent. After more than a decade in CEO positions - including as Global CEO of Havas Creative - he has a proven track record of leading transformation, delivering change, growth and cultures of enduring success. *No Bullsh*t Leadership*, won Best Business Book of the Year 2020: Leadership for the Future.



World All Languages

Rights sold: Pegasus Books, US & Canada

October 2023

256pp

Imprint: Economist Edge

Editor: Clare Grist Taylor

Giving Good Feedback

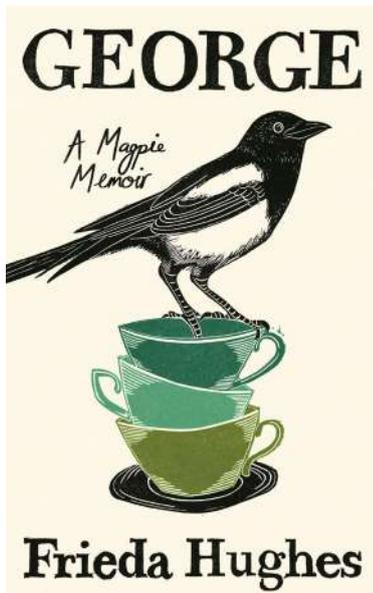
Margaret Cheng

An essential new guide to giving, soliciting and receiving feedback

Margaret Cheng’s six golden rules and Giving Good Feedback Framework offer a clear guide to what feedback is, how we can master the things that get in the way and deploy some simple techniques to make feedback a more routine - and less emotionally charged - part of our routine work communications.

‘Brilliant...as entertaining and interesting as it is practical’ - Graham Allcott, author of *How to be a Productivity Ninja*

Margaret Cheng has 30 years’ experience as a Senior HR Manager, Executive and Career Coach and Director of a social enterprise. She previously wrote on business-related topics for an HR and outplacement consultancy and CIPD magazine and has appeared on Working Lunch. Cheng has also been published by The Wildlife Trust, Bloomsbury Festival, Bloomsbury Radio and Friends on the Shelf.



George

Frieda Hughes

'He was a hectic, unprincipled bird, but it was impossible not to love him' . . . a memoir of love, obsession and feathers

'Quirky, tender, funny, beautifully observed' *Daily Mail*

'Intriguing . . . tremendous . . . accomplished' *Spectator*

'A charming diary of life with a tame magpie – despite George's bad behaviour, it will render covid lovers (like me) green with envy!' Katherine May, author of *Wintering*

Tr

World All Languages

Rights sold: Avid Reader Press, US & Canada; Errata Naturae, Spain; Serenad Yayınevi Ticaret ve Sanayi A., Turkey; Ginkgo, China; Old Lion Publishing, Ukraine

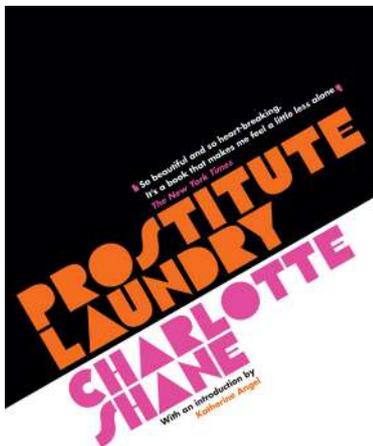
April 2023

272pp

Imprint: Profile Books

Editor: Cecily Gayford

Born in London in 1960, Frieda Hughes is a painter and poet. She has written several children's books, eight collections of poetry, articles for magazines and newspapers, and was the *Times* Poetry columnist. As a painter, Frieda regularly exhibits in London and has a permanent exhibition at her private gallery in Wales, where she resides with 14 owls, two rescue huskies, an ancient Maltese terrier, five chinchillas, a ferret called 'Socks', a Royal python and her collection of motorbikes.



Prostitute Laundry

Charlotte Shane

A taboo-breaking and radically honest account of love, friendship and sex work

'Shane narrates . . . in a kind of gentle, considered past tense that makes each missive read as if it has been very sagely composed by a writer who has lived fifty years since . . . That's exactly what Dickens had a talent for, too' *Guardian*

'Addictive, intimate . . .' *Vice*

'So beautiful and so heartbreaking. It's a book that makes me feel a little less alone' *New York Times Book Review Podcast*

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World All Languages

US rights: TigerBee Press

May 2023

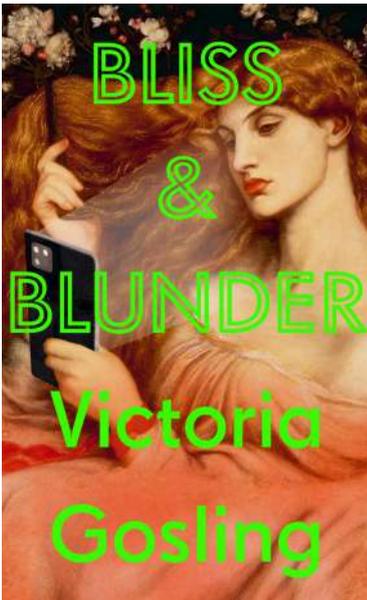
384pp

Imprint: Serpent's Tail

Editor: Leonora Craig Cohen

Charlotte Shane is a nonfiction author and essayist based in the USA. Her writing has appeared in the *New York Times* magazine, *Harper's*, *Bookforum*, the *TLS*, and elsewhere.

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS



World All Languages

US rights via Friedrich Agency

August 2023

368pp

Imprint: Serpent's Tail

Editor: Leonora Craig Cohen

Bliss & Blunder

Victoria Gosling

A breathtakingly fresh retelling of the King Arthur legend for the 21st century

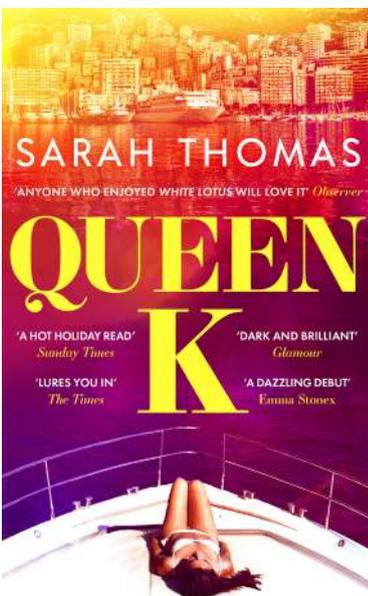
Selected for TLS Summer Books 2023

'Exquisitely written and structurally bold ... a deeply impressive novel' Eva Dolan, author of *This Is How It Ends*

'Whipsmart ... Gosling's prose is ironic, honest and humorous in a postmodern collage of myth and modernity' *Guardian*

'Jaw-droppingly brilliant writing' Marian Keyes

Victoria Gosling grew up in Wiltshire and studied at Manchester University and the University of Amsterdam. Victoria is the founder of The Reader Berlin and The Berlin Writing Prize. She divides her time between Wiltshire and Berlin. Her first novel is *Before the Ruins*.



World All Languages

US & Canada: Paper Literary

February 2023

288pp

Imprint: Serpent's Tail

Editor: Luke Brown

Queen K

Sarah Thomas

The 'dark and brilliant' 2023 debut novel that uncovers the corruption of the Russian super-rich

'A superb debut novel... Anyone who enjoyed *The White Lotus* will love Thomas's scalpel-sharp skewering of the mores and idiocies of the idle rich' *Observer*

'*Queen K* is as compulsive as a Netflix binge, but it also asks timely questions about status and what constitutes a dignified life' Sheena Patel, *Guardian*

'Balzac in Balenciaga... *Queen K* lures you in with escapist, beach-read vibes, then bares its teeth with a devastating portrait of the emotional cost of greed' *Times*

Sarah Thomas worked for years as a private tutor to the super-rich. She lives in London and this is her first novel.

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