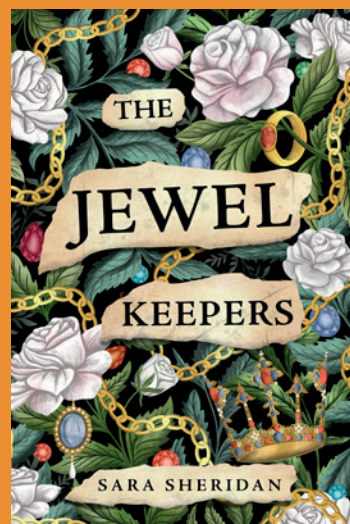
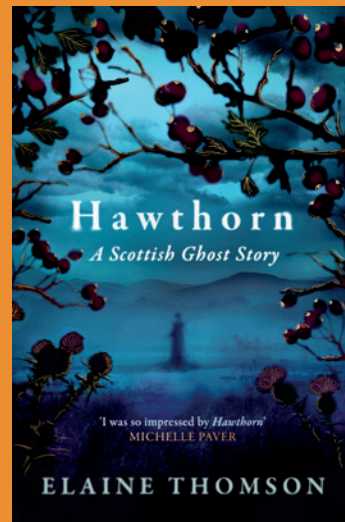
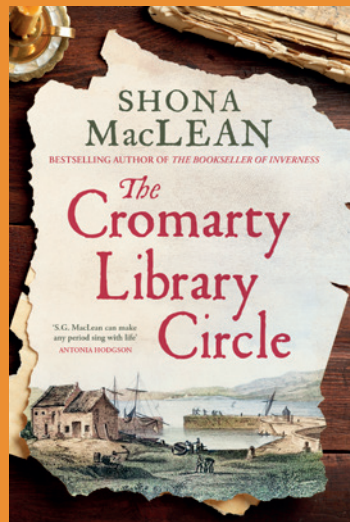




Jenny Brown Associates

RIGHTS CATALOGUE

SPRING 2026



jennybrownassociates.com

Welcome

We have been a literary agency based in Edinburgh since 2002. With the help of scouts and sub-agents, we sell rights to publishers all over the world. We are particularly known for representing writing from Scotland, including literary fiction, crime writing, and narrative non-fiction, and books for children and young adults.

Our bestselling and award-winning authors include crime writers such as Alex Gray (Little,Brown, series sales over 1 million copies) and Alison Belsham (*The Tattoo Thief* sold in 14 languages), non-fiction writers like Shaun Bythell (*Diary of A Bookseller* sold in to 25 languages), Saltire Book of the Year winner Kathleen Jamie, and children's writers and illustrators such as Chris Edge, Jonathan Meres and Alison Murray.

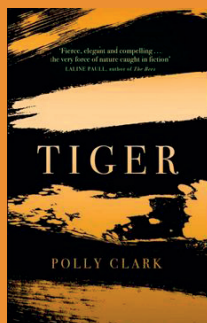
Rights Director: Andrea Joyce – andrea@joyceliterary.com

RECENT HIGHLIGHTS WHERE WE HAVE SOLD WORLD RIGHTS

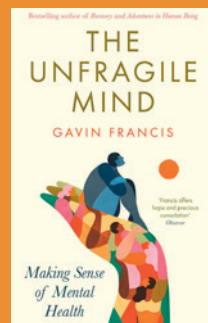
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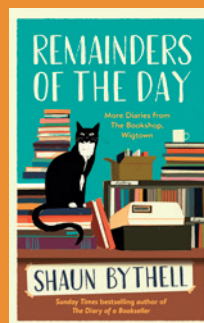
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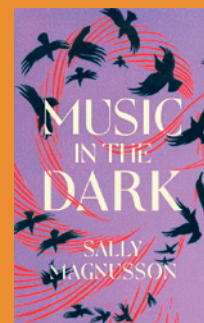
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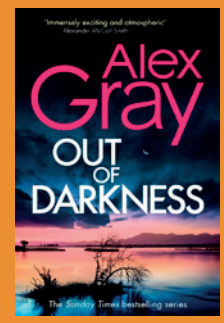
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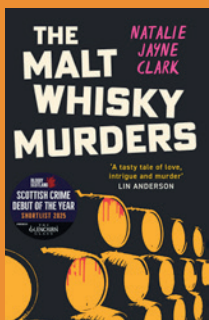
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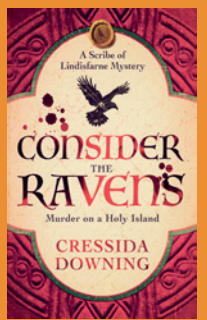
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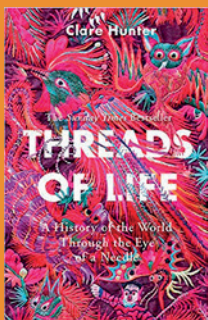
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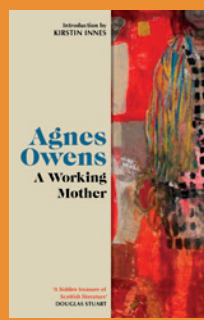
Bedford Square



Sceptre



Granta



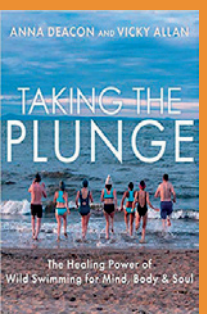
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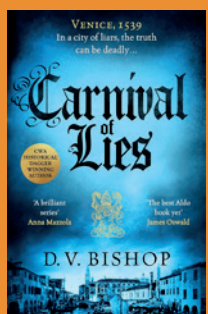
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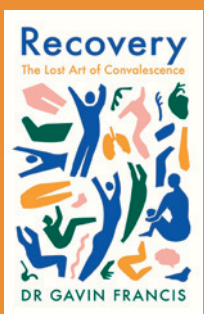
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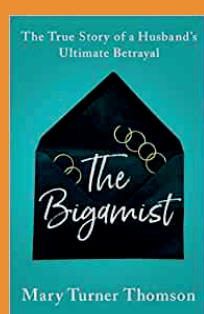
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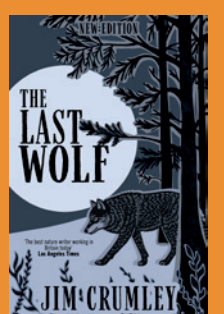
Pan Macmillan



Profile



Little A



Birlinn

The New Bookshop Diaries

Shaun Bythell

Non Fiction

Wonderfully entertaining. – Observer

Utterly compelling and Bythell has a Bennett-like eye for the amusing eccentricities of ordinary people. – Sunday Express

Shaun Bythell's three previous bestselling diaries, plus a companion volume, have sold over 250,000 copies in the UK for Profile Books and translated into 31 territories. In this new three book deal with New Modern, Bythell takes a fresh approach to recording the wry and hilarious account of life in Scotland's biggest second-hand bookshop - and the band of eccentrics and book-obsessives who work there. The Bookshop contains 100,000 books, spread over a mile of shelving, with twisting corridors and roaring fires, and all set in a beautiful town by the edge of the sea.

This first volume covers three years of the world of second-hand bookselling which readers love, the struggles with eccentric customers, plus the addition of snippets from the memoirs of a pioneer (if not a model) bookseller from 250 years ago – and the developing story of Shaun turning from rural bookseller to nervous internationally published author.

In these wry and hilarious diaries, Shaun takes us with him on buying trips to old estates and auction houses, recommends books (both lost classics and new discoveries), introduces us to the thrill of the unexpected find, and evokes the rhythms and charms of small-town life, always with a sharp and sympathetic eye.

Previous international publishers: Ciranda Cultural (Brazil), Ednorog (Bulgaria), Viena Ediciones (Catalan), Imaginist (China), Shanghai Lucidabooks (China), Dybbuk (Czech), Uhinenu (Estonia), Kirapaja (Finland), Autrement (France), Flammarion (France) J'Ai Lu (France), Key Books (Germany), BTB Random House (Germany), Thiele Verlag (Germany), Key Books (Greece), Keter Books (Hebrew), Thomas Rap/Bezige Bij (Holland), Owl Publishing (Iceland), Einaudi (Italy), Vallardi (Italy), Hakusuisha Publishing (Japan), Hara Shobo (Japan), Da Vinci Publishing (Korea), Gursli-Berg (Norway), Insignis (Poland), Pandora (Romania), Azbooka (Russia), Malposo (Spain), Natur Coch Kultur (Sweden), Linking Publishing (Taiwan), Gamme Magie (Thailand), Zenon (Turkey), Nah Format (Ukraine), David R Godine (United States), Melville House (United States), et Cultural & Educational Joint Stock (Vietnam)

Rights held

UK Publisher

Publication date

World, Film & TV

New Modern, Putman

October 2026

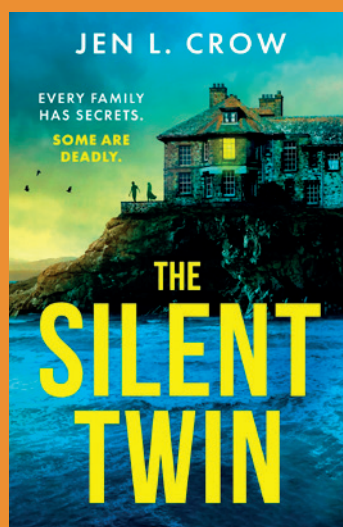


Shaun Bythell is the owner of The Bookshop in Wigtown in South West Scotland, and also one of the organisers of the Wigtown Festival.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com



These novels mark a change in direction for Scottish writer Jen L. Crow. Writing as Jen Mouat, she published a previous novel *The Bookshop of New Beginnings* (HQ) which was sold to Thiele Verlag (Germany), City (France), Leone (Italy) and Marti (Turkey).



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

The Silent Twin

Jen L Crow

Psychological Thriller

Eve returns to the windswept Scottish island of her childhood, drawn back to her mother's secluded artistic retreat by unsettling news – a local boy connected to the family has gone missing.

But the island feels different. Her sister won't speak, her brother is on edge, and retreat's once-thriving group of artists and misfits are quietly packing up and leaving.

As a fierce storm rages across the island, Eve must confront whatever it is her family are hiding – and the darkness that may be lurking far closer than she ever imagined.

Evocative, compulsive, beautifully written – a real page-turner
– Sophie Hannah

Rights held	Translation, Film & TV
UK publisher	HQ
Publication date	February 2026
Rights Sold	France (City Editions & Livre de Poche)

The Psychologist

Who can you trust when you can't trust yourself?

In retreat from the world, psychologist Eilish Culpepper is jolted from her solitude when her old friend Alex knocks on her door. Ten years have passed since the tragic drowning that shattered their lives and left Eilish with haunting amnesia.

When Alex proposes a reunion of their university group at a remote country estate, Eilish reluctantly agrees, hoping to confront her past.

But as a fierce storm traps them in the old house, buried secrets resurface, and shared memories of the enigmatic Genevieve twist into a chilling narrative of betrayal. When another death rocks the group, Eilish is plunged into a nightmare where she questions her own sanity. Could she be a killer, both then and now?

Rights held	Translation, Film & TV
UK Publisher	HQ
Publication date	September 2026

The Burning Fears

Katy Massey

Crime Fiction

The gripping new novel from the winner of the CWA Debut Dagger 2025 for *All Us Sinners*

Leeds 1982. As a city struggles to break free of the past, evil finds a new place to hide.

DS Mick Hunniford, tired and tainted by the botched Yorkshire Ripper serial killer investigation, is yesterday's man, his career hanging by a thread. Maureen, owner of Leeds's leading brothel, struggles to recover from an horrendous attack three years before. When notorious escort Lynda Brown is killed in front of Maureen's eyes, the policeman and the brothel keeper find themselves drawn together once more.

The pair must face a new killer, with new appetites, who dwells among the city's elites. Can they put the past behind them once and for all, or will this investigation prove to be their last?

Rights held World, Film TV, Translation
UK publisher Sphere/Little Brown
Publication date July 2026

All Us Sinners

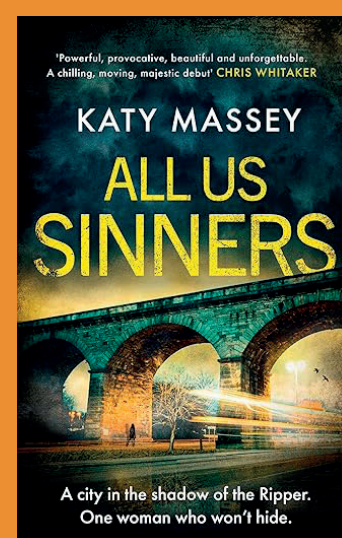
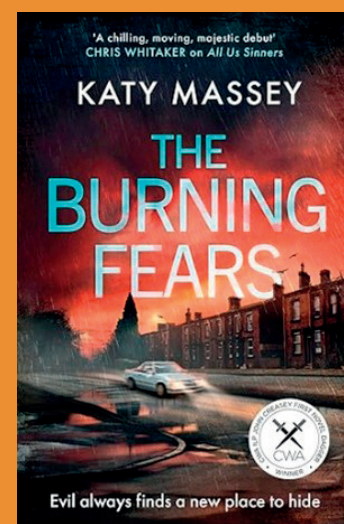
Crime Fiction

Winner of the CWA Debut Dagger 2025.

Leeds, 1977. A chill lies over the city: sex workers are being murdered by a serial killer they are calling the 'Ripper', the streets creeping with fear.

Tough, sharp, but tender, Maureen runs Rio's, a clean, discreet brothel in the city. She's a good boss who takes great care of her workers - especially her best girls, Bev and Anette. The Ripper may be terrifying girls who work the street, but at Rio's the girls seem safer. They are not.

Rights held World
UK publisher Sphere/Little Brown
Publication date Mar 2024/PB June 25



Credit: Jacaranda

Katy Massey is a former journalist, an acclaimed memoirist, novelist and tutor. She has a PhD in Creative Writing from Newcastle University and lives in Brighton with her family.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
 info@jennybrownassociates.com



Fiona McIntosh

Born in the UK, Fiona now divides her time between South Australia & Salisbury UK. The author of more than 50 books across crime, fantasy and historical fiction, Fiona has sold almost two million copies worldwide, and is Australia's 7th bestselling fiction author of all time. Fiona now writes one new crime and one new historical book every year.

In Australia and New Zealand Fiona is published exclusively by Penguin Random House. Bedford Square Publishers have the English language rights to Fiona's crime novels; the Jack Hawksworth series and Nina Crow plus eleven fantasy titles over three series. Storm Publishing has the English Language rights to nine historical novels. JBA controls all other rights including translation, film and TV. Many of her books are optioned for screen/in script development.

Fiona McIntosh Historical Fiction

The Art Lovers

A sweeping romantic adventure that celebrates the life and work of the famed artist Caravaggio while exploring an intense and passionate love between a teenage girl and a dashing British Spitfire pilot who meet during the great siege of Malta in the early 1940s.

What starts as a crush for an impressionable and ambitious young woman becomes a dream to fight for – and sparks an ambition to last a lifetime, even through years of great hardship and sacrifice.

Rights held	Translation, Film & TV
WEL ex ANZ	Storm Publishers
ANZ publisher	Penguin Random House
Publication date	September 2026

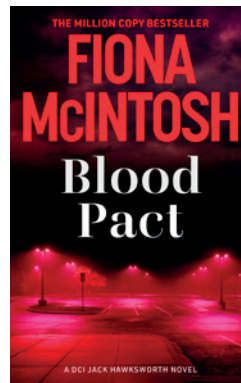
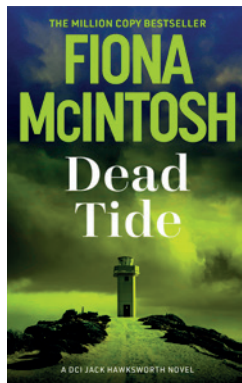
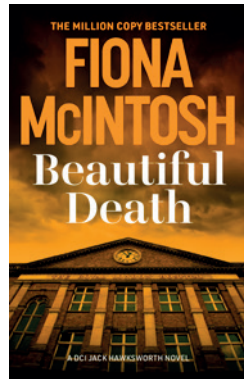


Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

Fiona McIntosh Crime Fiction

DCI Jack Hawksworth – Scotland Yard's finest



Rights held

ANZ publisher

WEL ex ANZ

World ex ANZ, film & TV

Penguin Random House

Bedford Square/No Exit

INTRODUCING... NINA CROW!

The Silencing

An all-new crime series featuring Nina Crow, an ex-undercover cop now working as a private investigator, all the while harbouring past demons of her own. Four Australian women plan a girls' trip to Fiji, but when one of them doesn't make it home alive, it's up to Nina to unearth the truth of a dark and shocking crime.

Rights held

WEL ex ANZ

ANZ publisher

Publication date

WEL ex ANX, film & TV

Bedford Square Publishers/No Exit

Penguin Random House

January 2027

Bedford Square has acquired the next two books in the Jack Hawksworth series for publication in 2028-29.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

Before she turned to historical fiction and crime, Fiona McIntosh began her career in speculative fiction and wrote three fantasy series plus one standalone (11 titles in all) now reissued with stunning new covers and which will be published by Bedford Square Press (WEL ex ANZ) from January 2026 to April 2027.

Fiona McIntosh Fantasy

The Quickening / Trinity / Percheron



The Quickening:

Rights held

World ex ANZ , Film & TV

WEL ex ANZ

Bedford Square

ANZ publisher

Penguin Random House

Publication date

February 2026

Rights Sold

France: Bragelonne

Trinity:

Rights held

World ex ANZ , Film & TV

WEL ex ANZ

Bedford Square

ANZ publisher

Penguin Random House

Publication date

July 2026

Percheron:

Rights held

World ex ANZ , Film & TV

ANZ publisher

Penguin Random House

WEL ex ANZ

Bedford Square

Publication date

April 2027



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

The Cromarty Library Circle

Shona MacLean

Historical Fiction

From the bestselling author of *The Bookseller of Inverness* comes the unforgettable story of a Scottish town on the cusp of change and the group of townspeople whose lives will be irrevocably altered over the course of one tumultuous year.

Shona MacLean's novels are smart, soulful and deeply engrossing. An exceptional, wise and compassionate storyteller, she can make any 'historical period sing with life' – Antonia Hodgson

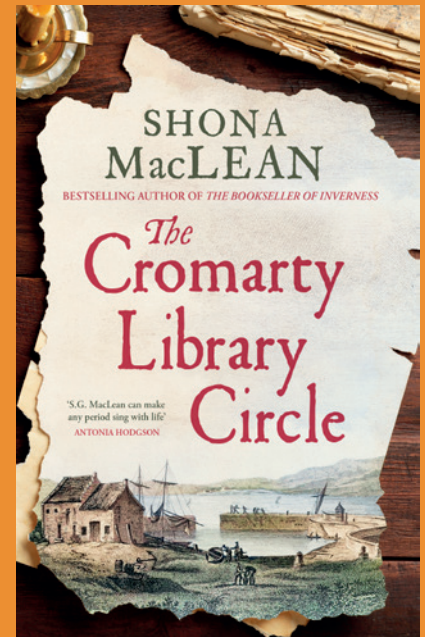
Cromarty, The Black Isle, 1831.

As seagulls shriek and rise on the coastal winds, a circulating library in the bustling port town of Cromarty is meeting for the first time. Ostensibly united by a love of books, the demands of social convention have brought together a disparate group of people. Charlotte Mackenzie, the remote and fragile wife of the local laird, seeks an escape from a loveless marriage; her best friend, Rachel Mackay, a former governess who is ardently in love with her own older husband, the town's minister; the young schoolmaster, John Learmonth, newly arrived from Edinburgh with secrets in tow; and the gentle bank clerk, Ludovic Cameron who dreams of a new life across the ocean, far from his erstwhile schoolmate, the malevolent Farquhar Hossack. When the laird befriends a wounded officer, a chain of events is set into motion that threatens to upset the delicate equilibrium of the community.

Against the backdrop of mass emigrations, an encroaching cholera epidemic, political unrest and the campaign to abolish chattel slavery in the British Caribbean, the people of Cromarty must negotiate their new world and each other, flitting in and out of each other's lives through one extraordinary year.

The Cromarty Library Circle is a richly woven and immersive portrait of connected lives, changing fortunes and the often-unseen forces that shape our destinies.

Rights held Translation, film & TV
UK publisher Quercus
Publication date February 2026

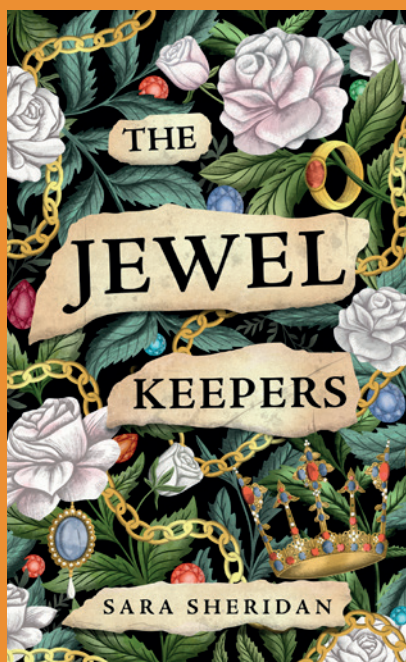


Shona Maclean has a PhD in Scottish History and is the author of two acclaimed 17th century historical crime series, Alexander Seaton and Damian Seeker. *The Cromarty Library Circle* is her 12th novel. Shona lives north of Inverness in Scotland.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com



Sara Sheridan has written more than 20 books including novels, non-fiction, TV tie ins, and ghost writing. Her work has been the First Minister's Summer Pick at the David Hume Institute, shortlisted for the Saltire Prize, the Wilbur Smith Prize and the CWA Dagger in the Library, and she has also won a Scottish Libraries Award. Her novel *The Fair Botanists* was the Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year 2022 and featured in series seven of the Queen's Reading Room. Sara has also written two plays for BBC Radio 4 and has reported from both Tallin and Sharjah for Radio 4's *Our Own Correspondent*.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

The Jewel Keepers

Sara Sheridan

Historical Fiction

Brimful with intrigue, wit and beautifully-crafted historical details. A gem of a book, in every sense – Tracy Borman

Men would kill for this treasure.

The McKenzie women will guard it with their lives.

London, 1837. When 25-year-old Araminta McKenzie-Moore is summoned from Richmond to her great aunt's deathbed in Edinburgh, it's the first time she's met her extended family. The McKenzie women, however, have been keeping a close eye on her. For they have a long, secret and dangerous history as Jewel Keepers to the Scottish Crown and they need Araminta to play her part to solve a puzzle which stretches back generations.

But the McKenzies are not alone in this high-stakes treasure hunt though history. They're being pursued. The last of her line, if Araminta succeeds, she will uncover something more valuable than mere jewels - a secret that will change the lives of all women living on this, the cusp of the Queen Victoria's rule.

Featuring real historical events and places amid its fiction, *The Jewel Keepers* is an immersive, evocative story tinged with romance and brimming with intrigue.

Praise for *The Secrets of Blythwood Square*

A gripping novel – Good Housekeeping

Sheridan's spry plot sees secrets discovered, ruinous rumours scotched, happiness regained and friendships founded in a novel that celebrates the search for autonomy – Daily Mail

A novel of feeling and intellect ... a rich and compelling story. – Scotsman

Praise for *The Fair Botanists*

Compelling, fascinating and incisive about its social context. A cracking good read. – Val McDermid

What a beautiful, immersive gem of historical fiction this is!
– Good Housekeeping

Lush, seductive and scandalous, this is a gorgeous read. – Daily Mail

An absolute treat for fans of historical fiction and rich storytelling.
– Red Magazine

Rights held

World, Film & TV

UK publisher

Hodder

Publication date

May 2026

The Silver Thread

Kate Lord Brown

Historical Fiction

A sweeping story of a patient and everlasting love – and the moments that tie people together forever.

Three Cities. Two Women. A Story Of One Hundred Years...

London, 1875. Bel has secured a design job at the newly opened Liberty store, where Japan is all the rage. When Hiro, a fellow designer, travels with her to Tokyo to source silks and inspiration, little does she know it will be the start of an unforgettable love story.

Paris, 1985. Mira, a recently qualified art curator, is hired to catalogue the contents of an apartment which has been closed for decades. As she works through the treasures it reveals, she longs to discover what happened to famed designer Isobel Bright – and why her apartment has been locked for so many years...

Crossing oceans, cultures and timelines, this is an epic and intimate tale of enduring love for fans of Santa Montefiore and Dinah Jeffries.

Rights held World, Film & TV
UK publisher Simon & Schuster
Publication date April 2026



Credit: Lucy Williams Photography

The Golden Hour

Historical Fiction

From decadent Cairo in the 1930s to bohemian Beirut in the 1970s, an epic yet intimate story of great love and lasting friendship...

As Beirut teeters on the brink of war, Polly Fitzgerald has one last story to tell – about her vital and brilliant best friend, Juno, determined to succeed in her ambition to uncover Nefertiti's tomb.



The perfect novel for fans of Santa Montefiore, Lucinda Riley and Victoria Hislop
 – The Times

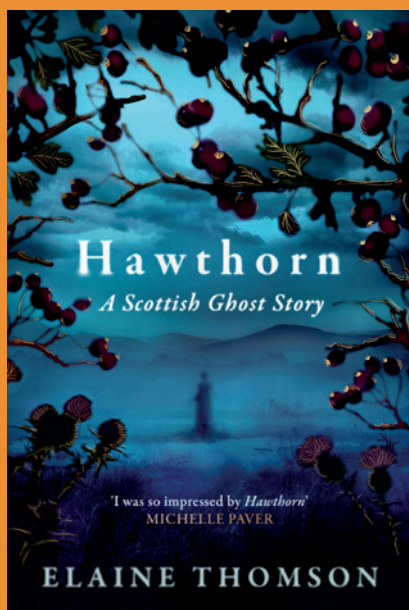
Rights held World, Film & TV
UK publisher Simon & Schuster
Publication date 2025
Rights sold Printz (Sweden)

Kate Lord Brown is a Courtauld graduate who has written many internationally bestselling 20th century historical novels including *The House of Dreams* and *The Perfume Garden*. Her previous novel *The Golden Hour* (Simon & Schuster 2025) was set in pre-war Cairo about a search for Nefertiti's tomb and a passionate affair, with rights sold to Sweden (Printz) and Bulgaria (Prozorets).



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www.jennybrownassociates.com
 info@jennybrownassociates.com



Elaine Thomson was born in Ormskirk, Lancashire. She has a PhD in the history of medicine and works as a university lecturer in Edinburgh. Writing as E S Thomson, she is the author of six historical crime novels featuring apothecary Jem Flockhart, published in the UK by Constable and in N America by Pegasus. Her work has been shortlisted for the Scottish Crime Book of the Year Award, the Scottish Arts Council First Book Award, the Saltire First Book Award, and long-listed for the CWA Historical Dagger Award. She lives in Edinburgh with her two sons.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

Hawthorn

Elaine Thomson

Historical Fiction

The first in a haunting quartet of ghost stories set in the wilds of Scotland, each set at a supernatural turning point in the year – Samhain (hallowe'en), Midsummer, Midwinter and Beltane. Each book stands alone as reading experience.

I was so impressed by 'Hawthorn' – Michelle Paver
The best Scottish ghost story of the 21st century so far. – Herald

Caithness, October 1871.

The Ordnance Survey are charting Scotland's most remote north-easterly county, a bleak landscape of endless moorland and lonely crofts. When a strange vision leads cartographer Robert Sutherland out onto the moor, an accident leaves him inches from death. He is taken to Leask House, to recuperate under the care of Mrs Sinclair and her beautiful daughter Isabel.

At first, Robert thinks the dreadful visions that plague him at Leask House are the result of the laudanum he has been prescribed. But as events take ever stranger and more terrifying turns, Robert begins to wonder whether his presence at Leask House is really a coincidence at all.

Someone - or something - has summoned him here.

And they don't intend for him to leave.

Rights held

Translation, Film & TV

UK Publisher

Sphere

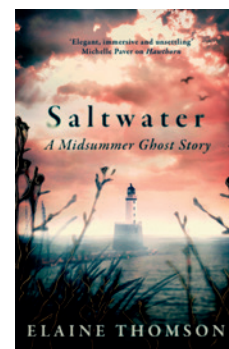
Publication date

September 2025, June 2026, 2027, 2028

Saltwater: a midsummer ghost story

To be published in June

The Isle of Stroma, 1896. Tom Torrance has been sent to oversee the completion of a new lighthouse, which will guide ships through one of the most dangerous stretches of water in the United Kingdom. The construction so far has been plagued by difficulties, giving rise to superstitious whisperings amongst the men, but Tom is a man of sense and science. He will not be cowed by stories of hauntings and bad omens.



Yet Tom is unprepared for the conditions on the island: the isolation and delirium of the endless summer nights. He soon learns that the real dangers on the island have nothing to do with the wild waves. There are some problems that science cannot answer, and some threats so ancient and strange, that nothing can keep them at bay.

Rose & Renzo

Carolyn O'Brien

Historical fiction

'Rose and Renzo' is a gorgeous, heady dive into one young woman's artistic, political and romantic awakening – Carolyn Kirby

Absorbing, addictive and all too resonant of now – Rue Baldry

Manchester, 1936.

Fascism looms in Europe, and Oswald Mosley's Blackshirts are on the rise. Meanwhile, aspiring artist Rose is drawn to an unlikely stranger, unaware her future is about to be caught up in the growing storm.

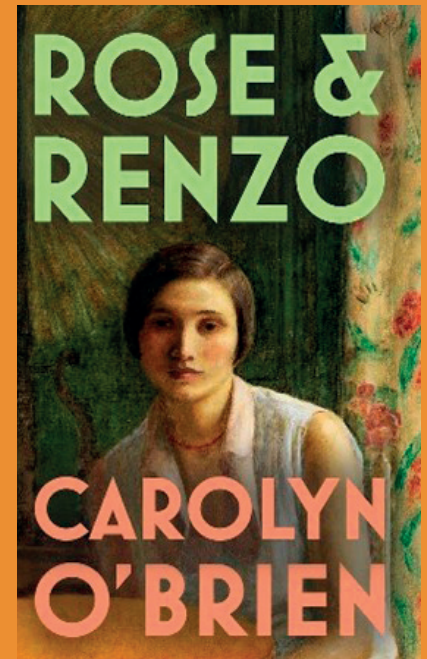
Facing straitened circumstances, following the death of their clergyman father, two very different sisters move from Manchester's leafy suburbs to the deprivation of Ancoats and its vibrant 'Little Italy': creative misfit, Rose and her much older sister, Ivy. Conservative in nature and fearful of Rose's impulsiveness, Ivy seeks to control her, forcing her to postpone her place at the Manchester School of Art and to take a tedious office job.

Frustrated by this new life and desperate to pursue her passion, Rose encounters Renzo, a painter just arrived from Europe. Their instant connection and love of art leads to a swiftly deepening attraction. Yet as their feelings develop, Renzo's past life in Mussolini's Italy remains a mystery. As Blackshirts and anti-fascists clash across the city, freedom-loving Rose is drawn into the fight against fascism, even as she's compelled to face the devastating question: just which side is Renzo on?

Rights held World, Film & TV

UK publisher Northodox

Publication date May 2026



Carolyn O'Brien is an historical fiction author from Manchester whose acclaimed first novel was *The Song of Peterloo* (Legend Press). Passionately interested in working class history Carolyn is also a part-time solicitor.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com



The Translator

Annabelle Marx

Historical Fiction

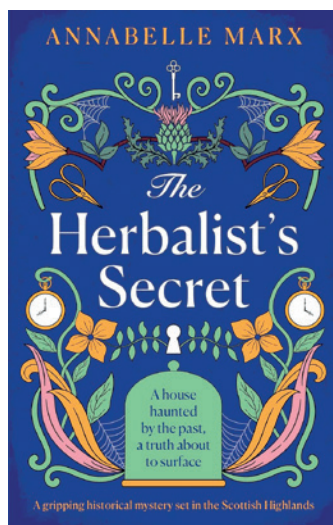
Fifteen years after the woman she loved drowned in the Thames, Edie Adler receives a mysterious package of French novels. Her desperate hunt for answers takes her from Paris to Malta's shores, as she unravels a mystery that will change everything she believed about her vanished love.

An aching beautiful novel that captures both the intensity of a hidden love story and the quiet devastation of lives lived apart – with an extraordinary page-turning mystery at its heart.

Rights held Translation, Film & TV
UK publisher Storm
Publication date October 2026



Annabelle Marx is an Amazon top ten bestselling author. A graduate of the Faber Academy, Annabelle also holds an MA in Creative Writing from Bath Spa University. Her previous novels with Storm include *The Herbalist's Secret* (published in France by Faubourg-Marigny) and *The Rebel of Seventh Avenue*. A trade paperback edition of *The Rebel of Seventh Avenue* will launch in the US in April this year as part of Storm's partnership with Two Rivers.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

White Raven

Maggie Ritchie

Historical Fiction

A skilfully etched romance...A pleasure to read. – Sunday Times

Engaging – Financial Times

It's an impressive novel, employing the conventions of the spy thriller for a thoughtful exploration of the human heart. – Herald

A story of love, courage, resilience – and betrayal, inspired by the role Scottish women played in The Cold War during the 1950s.

Wearied with life as an Edinburgh teacher, artist Rosie recognises Alex Kuznetsov from her previous life as a decoder at Bletchley Park. Alex, a war hero and anti-Soviet intelligence officer, is running a Russian language school to put Britain's brightest young men through intensive training as intelligence operators in the event of a third world war.

During an ardent courtship, Rosie joins the JSSL as an art teacher, but soon finds there is more to her role as Alex gains her confidence and persuades her to take on an undercover espionage mission in a Highland country house. Rosie discovers that the world of spies is full of treachery, manipulation and deceit, and that what started out as a thrilling game can have deadly consequences.

Rights held	World, Film & TV
UK Publisher	Scotland Street
UK Publication Date	November 2025

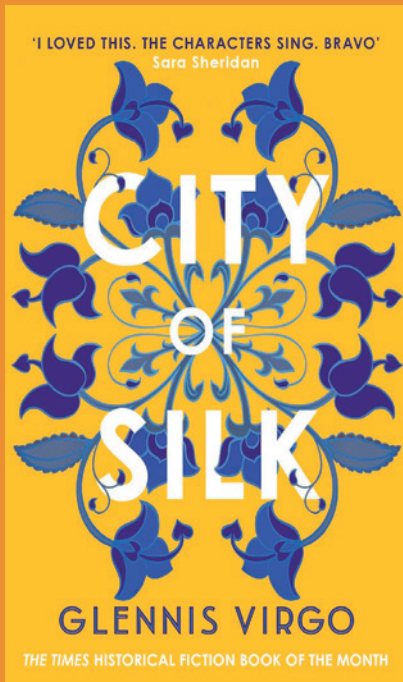


Maggie Ritchie's previous novels have been shortlisted for the Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize and won the Curtis Brown Prize. *Daisy Chain* was published by Two Roads/Hachette in 2022. Maggie is a journalist, and lives in Scotland.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com



Glennis Virgo is a former primary school head who lives in Essex and visits Italy as often as she can. She is working on her second novel set in the 19th century art world.

City of Silk

Glennis Virgo

Historical Fiction

WINNER OF THE INAUGURAL JBA OVER 50 DEBUT AWARD 2023

THE TIMES HISTORICAL FICTION OF THE MONTH (NOVEMBER 24)

I loved this. The characters sing. Bravo! – Sara Sheridan

An enjoyable and immersive debut – The Times

A talented seamstress, a powerful merchant and a fierce battle of wills in sixteenth-century Bologna

Justice in sixteenth-century Bologna is like the fine silk which the city produces: something only the rich and powerful can afford.

Elena Morandi is a supremely talented seamstress, at home among the bolts of fabric and cutting shears of her trade. However, she is determined that her ambition to be a tailor, a profession barred to her as a woman, will not slip through from her fingers like thread from the eye of a needle. With luck and perseverance, Elena gains a fragile foothold in the workshop of a master tailor, but then a man from her past crosses her path.

Antonio della Fontana has every corner of the city in his pocket and, as Elena knows all too well, abused his position of power at the Baraccano orphanage. Driven to fight for justice against a man seemingly above the law, Elena hatches a plan to get retribution for herself, a lost friend and those still prey to Fontana's abuses.

Rights held

Translation, Film & TV

UK publisher

Allison & Busby

Publication date

November 2024

Rights sold

Alpress (Czech), Piemme (Italy), Droemer Knaur (Germany)



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

The Stray Dogs

Ruth Hogan

Contemporary fiction

It's never too late for a fresh start - whether you're on two legs or four...

When burnt-out city vet Leona Lennox moves to the market town of Fiddlers Green determined to set up a dog rescue centre, recently divorced Desmond Leaks takes an instant shine to her and makes a rash promise to get his college band back together for some fundraising gigs.

Although The Wild Boys haven't played together in years, Desmond and his best friend Johnny have no trouble persuading their old drummer to reform as The Stray Dogs. But charismatic front-man Darcus McGuire, the magic ingredient in the original line-up, is harder to track down, and Desmond is strangely reluctant to try.

After a disastrous first gig and objections by the neighbours, the future of the rescue centre looks ever more uncertain. But the residents of Fiddlers Green are not to be underestimated, particularly when the fates of their four-legged friends are at stake.

And meanwhile, the elusive Darcus McGuire might just be ready to make a comeback...

Lost dogs and lost people alike find new beginnings and unexpected routes to happiness in this gorgeously uplifting story filled with Ruth Hogan's trademark wit and warmth.

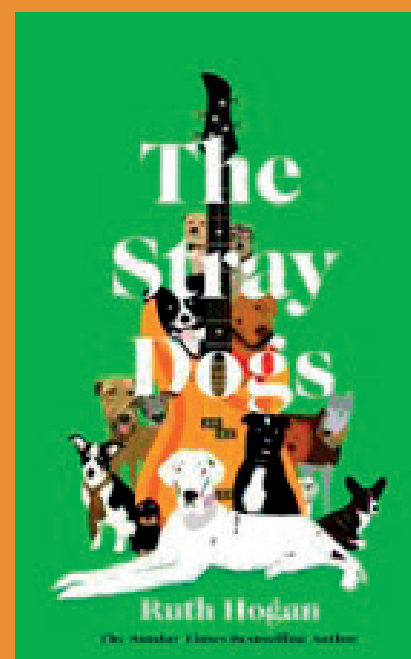
Rights held	World, Film & TV
UK Publisher	Corvus Atlantic
Rights sold	October 2026

The Light a Candle Society

Because everyone's life is worth celebrating.

George McGlory, a recently widowed, semi-retired librarian with a love of colourful shirts and pub quizzes witnesses a Public Health Funeral with just one council worker in attendance. George vows to find a way of making sure that everyone's life is celebrated, especially those who die alone and unmourned.

Rights held	World, Film & TV
UK Publisher	Corvus Atlantic
UK Publication Date	March 2026
Rights sold	Goldmann (Germany)



Ruth Hogan has written six novels including *The Keeper of Lost Things*, been published widely internationally and has sold over two million copies world wide. Her previous novel, *The Light a Candle Society* (Corvus 2025) was a bestseller. A passionate supporter of rescue dogs and rescued people Ruth lives near Bedford with her (rescue) dogs and her husband.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

Ruth Hogan Backlist

The Keeper of Lost Things

Sunday Times Bestseller. Richard & Judy Reader's Award

Touching, funny and romantic – Daily Mail

Rights held World, film & TV **Publication date** August 2017

UK publisher Two Roads

Rights sold North America (Morrow), Albania (Living Publishing House), Brazil (Verus), Bulgaria (Obsidian), China (Simplified) Beijing Xiron), Croatia (Mozail Knija), Czech republic (Host), Denmark (Politiken), Estonia (Eesti Raimat), Finland (Bazar), France (Actes sud), Germany (Ullstein), Hungary (General Press), Israel (Am Oved), Italy (Rizzoli), Kuwait (Takween), Latvia (Zvaigzne), Lithuania (Balto), Netherlands (HarperHolland), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Poland (Literackie), Portugal (Presenca), Romania (Rao Distributie), Ukraine (Hemiro), Serbia (Vulkan), South Korea (Redbox), Spain (Duomo), Sweden (Lind), Taiwan (Crown), Turkey (Nemesis), Vietnam (Mintbooks)

The Wisdom of Sally Red Shoes

Warm and wise – Guardian

Rights held World, film & TV **Publication date** September 2018

UK publisher Two Roads

Rights sold North America (Morrow), Denmark (Politikens), Finland (Bazar), France (Actes Sud), Germany (Ullstein), Hungary (General Press), Lithuania (Balto), Norway (Cappelen Damm), Turkey (Nemesis)

Queenie Malone's Paradise Hotel

Winner of the Romantic Novelists' Association Award 2020

Picked for World Book Night 2020 - A Prima Book of the Year

Beautifully written – astute and funny – Daily Express

Rights held World, film & TV **Publication date** June 2019

UK publisher Two Roads

Rights sold North America (Morrow), Denmark (Politikens), Finland (Bazar), Latvia (Zvaigzne), Romania (Rao)

Madame Burova

The 'Queen of Uplit' returns brilliantly to form with this gloriously good-natured novel
– Daily Mail

Rights held World, film & TV **Publication date** March 2022

UK publisher Two Roads

Rights sold North America (Morrow), Denmark (Politikens), Finland (Bazar)

The Phoenix Ballroom

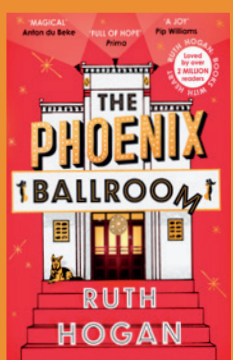
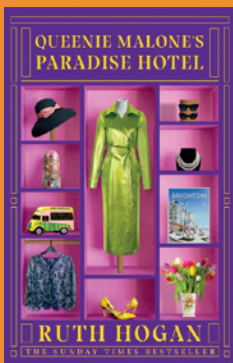
Will enthrall and delight everyone who reads it – Mike Gayle

Every page is a joy – Pip Williams

Rights held World, film & TV **Publication date** 2024

UK publisher Corvus Atlantic

Rights sold Morrow (North America), Verus (Brazil), Goldmann (Germany)



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

The Shapeshifter's Daughter

Sally Magnusson

Contemporary Fiction

A BBC RADIO 2 BOOK CLUB PICK 2025

One of the most imaginative and ambitious books I have read all year – Scotsman

Magical in every sense – Saga Magazine

A heart-rending opus on love, death and change – Herald

A powerful reimagining of the Norse myth of Hel of the underworld

Nothing, on earth or below it, freezes faster than the worthless heart.

Before she was a hideous monster, the queen of the underworld was simply Hel. But cast as a girl out of lofty Asgard, realm of the gods, by Odin the Allfather, Hel's fate as the terrible goddess of death is sealed. Half beauty, half crone, she has reigned for aeons in the starless darkness of Niflheim, grimly welcoming the most pitiful of death's travellers to her ice-locked prison. Until one day a memory shifts, and she is forced to seek out the sun in Midgard, where humans have made their home.

Faced with a terminal cancer diagnosis, Helen Firth makes the impulsive decision to return to Orkney after forty years to make peace with her past. Under the wintering solstice sun, she reconnects with the ungainly but affable Thorfinn Coffin, who helps her address the real reason she has returned to the islands: to die.

As Helen draws closer to death and ever closer to Thorfinn, Hel in turn is intrigued by Helen. She, too, has a past to confront and a lesson to learn: that perhaps who she thinks she is isn't who she is really meant to be.

A powerful reimagining of the Norse myth of Hel, *The Shapeshifter's Daughter* celebrates the joy of reclaiming our stories.

Praise for *The Sealwoman's Gift*:

Remarkable – Sarah Perry

Extraordinarily Immersive – Guardian

Epic – Zoe Ball Book Club

A really, really good read – BBC R2 Book Club

Lyrical – Stylist

The Sealwoman's Gift was published in Italian (Nero Pozzi), Serbian (Vulkan Izdavastvo), Icelandic (Tindur').

Rights held World, Film & TV

UK publisher John Murray

Publication date November 2025

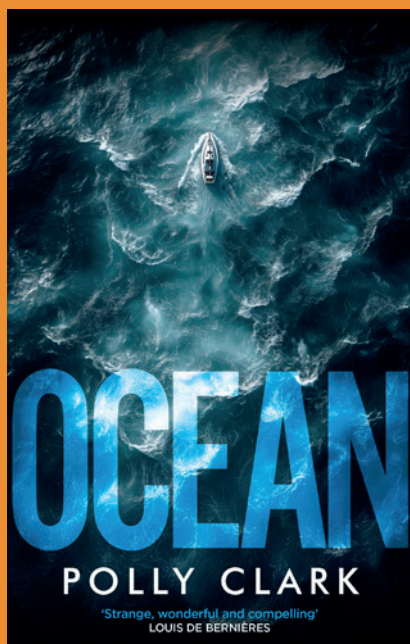


Sally Magnusson is a Scottish writer and broadcaster. Her memoir of her mother's dementia, *Where Memories Go*, won her the Glenfiddich Spirit of Scotland Award for Writing in 2014 as well as being shortlisted for the Saltire Literary Book of the Year award. She is the author of three previous historical novels: *The Sealwoman's Gift*, *The Ninth Child* and *Music in the Dark*.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com



Polly Clark's first two novels received critical acclaim: *Larchfield* won the Mslexia novel prize and *Tiger*, an epic novel about a dynasty of Siberian tigers, was shortlisted for Scottish Novel of the Year. Her fiction has received praise from authors such as Margaret Atwood, Richard Ford, Laline Paull, Alexander McCall Smith and Louis de Bernières and been translated into Italian, French, German, Spanish and Bulgarian. She is also an award-winning poet and author of four collections of poetry. She lives in London and the west of Scotland.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

Ocean

Polly Clark

Fiction

A masterful novel of a family trauma, a failing marriage and an epic journey to recover all that has been lost

Caught in a terrorist explosion on the London Underground, Helen is pregnant and lost, until a stranger leads her to safety. Obsessed with finding the man who saved her life then vanished, she embarks on a search that threatens to tear her family apart.

Desperate to save their relationship, her husband Frank proposes a radical solution: selling their possessions and sailing the Atlantic with their son, Nicholas, and foster child, Sindi. But this will be no ordinary voyage: the boat that Frank finds for the journey is the Innisfree, on which he and Helen met and fell in love years before.

At first, their escape from society brings the promise of a new life. But as they struggle to survive treacherous seas and encounters with unpredictable ocean creatures, the boat that once brought them together becomes a crucible of passion and conflict.

In a turbulent, sometimes darkly comic tale which renders human frailties into startlingly poetic prose, the award-winning author of *Larchfield* explores love, loss, resilience and freedom of spirit in her unique, emotionally uncompromising voice.

A ferociously intense portrait of a mind, marriage and family in extreme turbulence. Startling and dramatic, it made me very glad to be on terra firma – Amanda Craig

Visceral, lyrical...speaks to any woman who has ever loved and feared to lose – Jane Campbell

Praise for *Larchfield*

Gripping – Margaret Atwood

Magnificent – Alexander McCall Smith

Praise for *Tiger*

A passionate, remarkable and uplifting novel – Liz Jensen, *Guardian*

Electrifying – *Bookseller*

Rights held

Translation, Film & TV

UK Publisher

Eye Books

Publication date

June 2025

Rights sold

Eisele (Germany), Atlantide (Italy)

The Castle of Stories

Matt Cain

Fiction

Modern Family meets The Durrells in this life-affirming, poignant and evocative novel set against the idyllic beauty of the Tuscan countryside.

Stories don't always unfold the way you expect them to...

When 45-year-old Adam inherits a rundown farmhouse and castle in Tuscany from a great uncle he didn't know existed, he quits his job in Manchester to renovate the property. He's thrilled his boyfriend of two years, newly divorced and out-of-the-closet Theo, is joining him. But Theo's ex-wife says she can't take their children for the summer, so they come too. As the temperature rises, so does the tension. The kids are hostile to Adam, immune to the beauty of the rural location – and scared of the resident lizards.

As Adam explores the crumbling walls of the castle and sorts through his uncle's possessions, he discovers some dark family secrets. But could they finally allow him to break free from the pain of the past, start building a new family and open up a life of queer joy?

The Castle of Stories is a moving, heartwarming and uplifting novel about modern family in all its forms, what it means to love, and the importance of understanding your own story.

Praise for *The Secret Life of Albert Entwistle*

Wonderful, an utter treat. – Kate Mosse

A rollicking love story – Ian McKellen

Praise for *One Love*

Matt Cain is one of the most entertaining and illuminating writers out there – Bryony Gordon

Lovely, funny, kind and truthful . . . I was expecting a simple will-they-won't-they, but it's wiser than that . . . challenging who we are, and why, and how we can change – Russell T Davies

Rights held

UK Publisher

Publication date

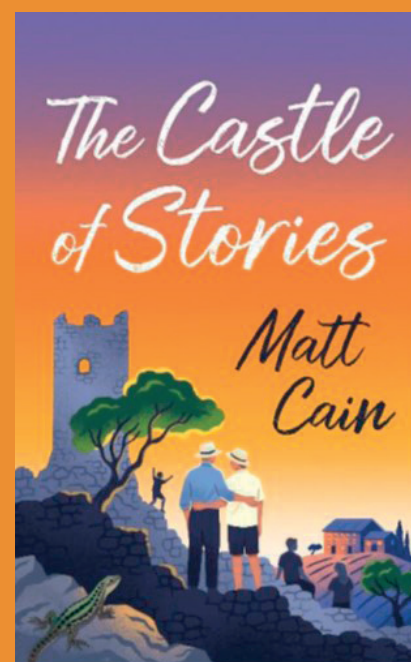
Rights sold

Translation

Pansy

June 2026

Kensington (North America)



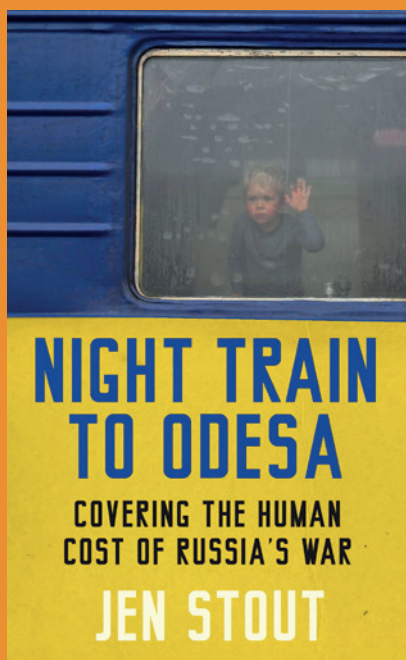
Matt Cain is a writer, broadcaster and leading commentator on LGBTQ+ issues and regularly features on national media. He's a patron of LGBTQ+ History Month, has received an honorary doctorate from Bolton University, addressed the Cambridge Union, and in 2025 was awarded an MBE for services to LGBTQ+ culture.

Matt's bestselling novels include *The Madonna Of Bolton*, *The Secret Life of Albert Entwistle* and *One Love*. *The Castle of Stories* is set in the Italian property that has become his second home. Born in Bury and brought up in Bolton, Matt's main home is in London with his husband Harry and their dog, Teddy.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com



Jen Stout is a journalist, writer, and radio producer from Scotland, frequently working in Ukraine. Originally from Shetland she has lived in Germany and Russia. Her empathetic and vivid coverage on the deportations in Kharkiv region was shortlisted for an Amnesty Media Award.



Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com
info@jennybrownassociates.com

Night Train to Odesa:

Covering the Human Cost of Russia's War

Jen Stout

Narrative Non-Fiction

A BBC RADIO 4 BOOK OF THE WEEK.

WINNER OF THE SALTIRE SOCIETY FIRST BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD.

WINNER OF THE HIGHLAND BOOK PRIZE.

SHORTLISTED FOR THE RSL ONDAATJE AWARD 2025.

SHORTLISTED FOR THE SHERBORNE PRIZE FOR TRAVEL WRITING

When Russian tanks rolled into Ukraine, millions of lives changed in an instant.

Millions of people were suddenly on the move. In this great flow of people was a reporter from the north of Scotland. Jen Stout left Moscow abruptly, ending up on a border post in southeast Romania, from where she began to cover the human cost of Russian aggression. Her first-hand, vivid reporting brought the war home to readers in Scotland as she reported from front lines and cities across Ukraine. Stories from the night trains, birthday parties, military hospitals and bunkers: stories from the ground, from a writer with a deep sense of empathy, always seeking to understand the bigger picture, the big questions of identity, history, hopes and fears in this war in Europe.

Night Train to Odesa begins in Russia and continues to focus on people, relationships and individuals in Ukraine. It is the account of a young female reporter with no institutional backup or security. Both in language and themes, it is accessible and highly readable.

A luminous love letter to an embattled nation, as it resists the Kremlin's imperial takeover. Volodymyr Zelenskyy does not appear. Its heroes are regular Ukrainians. Stout writes about them with an extraordinary and heartfelt empathy, as they do their best to live amid bombs and to survive – Luke Harding, Observer

Evocative, compassionate and extraordinary... from the battlefield, hospitals, underground shelters, and in cars and on trains, Stout transports the reader into a world few will ever see – Matt Johnson, LoveReading

There is something timeless about this remarkable piece of reporting ... an on-the-ground account of tremendous eloquence, vividness, and humanity – Radio Times

Night Train to Odesa not only paints a nuanced picture of Ukrainian society at a pivotal moment in the country's history but also offers a realistic portrayal of the demands of on the ground wartime reporting – Kyiv Independent

Rights held

Translation, Film & TV

UK publisher

Polygon/Birlinn (World English)

Publication date

May 2024

SUB-AGENTS



JBA Rights Director: Andrea Joyce – andrea@joyceliterary.com

Jenny Brown Associates

BRAZIL & PORTUGAL:

Villas-Boas & Moss, Rio De Janeiro, Brazil

Website: www.vbmlitag.com

Contact: Luciana Villas-Boas (luciana@lvbco.com.br)

BULGARIA, ROMANIA and SERBIA:

Andrew Nurnberg Associates

Contact: Mira Droumeva (mira@anas-bg.com)

CHINA:

Andrew Nurnberg Associates, Beijing, China

Website: www.nurnberg.com.cn

Contact: Jackie Huang (jhuang@nurnberg.com.cn)

CZECH REPUBLIC, SLOVAKIA & SLOVENIA:

Andrew Nurnberg Associates, Prague, Czech Rep.

Website: www.andrewnurnberg.cz

Contact: Lucie Poláková (polakova@nurnberg.cz)

FRANCE:

Agence Michelle Lapautre, Paris, France

Website: www.agencelapautre.com

Contact: Catherine Lapautre
(catherine@lapautre.com)

GERMANY:

Literarische Agentur Kossack

Website: www.mp-litagency.com

Contact: Antje Hartmann
(antje.hartmann@mp-litagency.com)

GREECE:

Ersilia Literary Agency

Website: www.ersilialit.com

Contact: Evangelia Avloniti (info@ersilialit.com)

HUNGARY & CROATIA:

Andrew Nurnberg Associates, Budapest, Hungary

Website: www.nurnberg.hu

Contact: Judit Hermann (rights@nurnberg.hu)

ITALY:

Piergiorgio Nicolazzini Literary Agency, Milan, Italy

Website: www.pnla.it

Contact: Maura Solinas (maura.solinas@pnla.it)

JAPAN:

Japan Uni, Tokyo, Japan

Website: www.japanuni.co.jp/en/

Contact: Miko Yamanouchi
(miko.yamanouchi@gmail.com)

KOREA:

Eric Yang Agency, Seoul, Korea

Website: www.ericyangagency.co.kr

Contact: Sue Yang (sueyang@eyagency.co.kr)

NETHERLANDS / SCANDINAVIA:

Maydo Kooy Literary Agency, Warnsveld, Netherlands

Website: www.kooyagency.nl/en

Contact: Maydo van Marwijk Kooy.
(maydo@kooyagency.nl)

POLAND:

Macadamia Literary Agency

Website: www.macadamialit.com

Contact: Kamila Kanafa (kamila@macadamialit.com)

SPAIN:

MB Agencia Literaria, Barcelona, Spain

Website: www.mbagencialiteraria.es

Contact: Txell Torrent (txell@mbagencialiteraria.es)

TAIWAN:

Andrew Nurnberg Associates, Taipei, Taiwan

Website: www.andrewnurnbergassociates.com

Contact: Whitney Hsu (whsu@nurnberg.com.tw)

TURKEY:

Kalem Agency, Istanbul, Turkey

Website: www.kalemagency.com

Contact: Merve Diler (rights7@kalemagency.com)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADA:

Contact: Andrea Joyce

(andrea@joyceliterary.com)

LATVIA, LITHUANIA, ESTONIA, UKRAINE, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA, KAZAKHSTAN, UZBEKISTAN, KYRGYZSTAN, TURKMENISTAN:

EEARA

Website: www.eearagency.com

Contact: Tatjana Zoldnere (zoldnere@eearagency.com)

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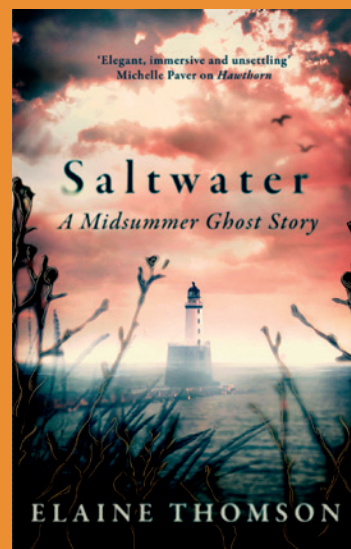
Contact: Emily Hayward Whitlock at The Artists Partnership (emily@theartistspartnership.co.uk)

Jenny Brown Associates

www.jennybrownassociates.com | info@jennybrownassociates.com



Jenny Brown Associates



info@jennybrownassociates.com

www.jennybrownassociates.com