NEW TITLES
JULY – DECEMBER 2016

HEAD OF ZEUS

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Is it time to leave the EU? MEP and award-winning political writer Daniel Hannan argues for a British exit ahead of the coming referendum.

Hannan argues that the EU is past its sell-by date, rendered obsolete by technological advances, shrinking economically and less relevant to our economic needs than ever. He shows that any renegotiation is doomed to fail: the EU can’t reform, can’t be democratic and can’t be divorced from its goal of ever-closer political union. Staying in does not mean staying the same and a vote to leave – far from being the risky choice – is actually the safe one.

Finally Hannan demonstrates that Britain doesn’t have to stay in the EU to remain at the heart of Europe and considers the global role a confident nation freed from EU strictures could play.

DANIEL HANNAN has been Conservative MEP for South East England since 1999. He writes regularly at www.hannan.co.uk and for the Daily Telegraph.

Praise for
How We Invented Freedom & Why it Matters

‘Among the most readable works of political theory I have ever come across.’
ANDREW ROBERTS

‘A magnificent achievement. Hannan’s prose coruscates, and he has a fine eye for anecdotal detail.’
BORIS JOHNSON
A devastatingly frank presentation of what should be in Chilcot’s report.

The invasion of Iraq is so far the most significant event of the 21st century. It has led to the disintegration of the Middle Eastern states established after the First World War. The UK’s role in the war, based on false premises and faulty intelligence, poisoned British politics. John Chilcot’s inquiry into these events has been running for seven years and is only now limping towards publication.

In a masterpiece of investigative reporting, Peter Oborne and David Morrison show how the British establishment colluded in hiding what went wrong, and how it has persisted in its denial of responsibility for the consequences: the rise in Islamist terrorism, a massive refugee crisis and the permanent disorder of Syria, Libya and Iraq.

PETER OBORNE is associate editor of the Spectator and former chief political commentator of the Daily Telegraph. DAVID MORRISON co-wrote A Dangerous Delusion with Peter Oborne.

The final text of Sir John Chilcot’s report will run to two million words.

In a book fifty times less bulky, Peter Oborne and David Morrison have produced a concise summary of what should be in the Chilcot report.

The authors will prove that Tony Blair lied repeatedly to the British people in his determination to stand with America.

He was warned that the threat to Britain and the world would be enhanced by the war, and went ahead regardless. The Middle East has since dissolved into a chaos of warring factions.

The authors will demonstrate that MI6 failed to correct Tony Blair’s false claims about the threat from Saddam Hussein’s Iraq.

Parliament failed in its duty to challenge and test the claims of government ministers; the media failed, by and large, in its duty to question those in power.

Successive inquiries into these events have whitewashed or evaded the central questions.

For anyone who cares about the truth, Oborne and Morrison have written an essential book.
How Allied commandos destroyed the Nazis’ nuclear ambitions in one of the most daring raids of World War II.

It’s 1942 and the Germans are racing to build an atomic bomb. They have the physicists, but they don’t have enough ‘heavy water’ – the essential component of their designs. The Vemork hydroelectric plant in Nazi-occupied Norway is the world’s sole supplier of heavy water, and – under threat of death – its engineers push production into overtime. For the Allies, Vemork must be destroyed.

Based on exhaustive research and never-before-seen diaries and letters, The Winter Fortress is the compulsively readable story of a group of young men who survived the cold of a Norwegian winter, evaded the clutches of the Gestapo, and saved the world from destruction.

NEAL BASCOMB is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Perfect Mile* and *Hunting Eichmann: Chasing Down the World’s Most Notorious Nazi*.
A beautifully illustrated history of Britain’s best-known and most mysterious landmark.

Francis Pryor draws on the latest archaeological research to tell the 1500-year story of the birth, growth and decline of an iconic ancient site. The construction of Stonehenge from 3000 BC coincided with a time of change in prehistoric Britain: populations were growing, farming was becoming more intensive, the landscape was being developed by roads, rivers and settlements. The ritual site of Stonehenge, and other sites like it, was a source of stability for our Neolithic and early Bronze Age forebears in an age of transformation.

This beautifully illustrated book is part of The Landmark Library, which celebrates the turning points of human history.

FRANCIS PRYOR is one of Britain’s most distinguished archaeologists, and the excavator of Flag Fen. He is the author of Britain BC, Britain AD and Seahenge.

Praise for Francis Pryor’s Britain BC: Life in Britain and Ireland Before the Romans:

‘Francis Pryor is a modern field archaeologist with a reputation second to none. He has written a book as successful and exciting as its ambition is huge... lucid and engaging.’ Alan Garner, The Times

‘Written with pace and passion... immensely readable.’ Tom Holland, Daily Telegraph

‘Pryor leaps about the country at a cracking pace, his big personality making sure we never get bored by the scant and rarefied scraps that are his stock-in-trade.’ Observer

‘Beautifully written, exciting and extremely good... an essential read.’ British Archaeology

Praise for Britain AD:

‘Francis Pryor has given us a remarkable, imaginative and persuasive account of those other Britons... its enthusiastic and confident approach deserves to be very influential.’ TLS

‘Controversial, deceptively clever and a damn good read.’ BBC History Magazine

Praise for Seahenge:

‘A magnificent book... a vivid story, superbly told. It gives a wonderfully clear explanation of how archaeology works.’ Magnus Magnusson
A gripping reconstruction of a brutal Victorian murder.

In April 1871, a constable walking a beat near Greenwich found a girl dying in the mud – her face cruelly slashed and her brains protruding from her skull.

The girl was Jane Maria Clouson, a maid for the respectable Pook family and she was pregnant at the time of her death. When the blood-spattered clothes of the 20-year-old Edmund Pook, father of the dead girl’s unborn child, were discovered, the matter seemed open and shut. Yet there followed a remarkable legal odyssey full of unexpected twists as the police struggled to build a case.

Paul Murphy recreates the drama of an extraordinary murder case and conclusively identifies the killer’s true identity.

PAUL THOMAS MURPHY is the author of the much-praised Shooting Victoria.
He earned his PhD from the University of Colorado where he taught interdisciplinary writing on Victorian topics.
She thought she was a wife and mother. Then her husband and children left home. Who is she now? The new bestseller from Amanda Prowse.

Rosie is a happy-go-lucky, devoted wife and mother. But when her husband leaves home and takes the children with him, she must ask the question: what is left in her life?

The answer shocks her, as she comes to realise that she is alone.

Can Rosie find the strength to rebuild her life?

Does she even want to?

AMANDA PROWSE is the author of several novels, including the number one bestsellers What Have I Done? and Perfect Daughter. She lives in Bristol.
Six years after the battle for Rome, the truce between the two emperors has failed and Aurelius Castus is again in the frontline.

The truce between Constantine, emperor in Rome, and Licinius, emperor of the east, has failed and Aurelius Castus is in the frontline once more. He is ordered to take command of the military forces of one of the western provinces now forming the domain of Constantine’s teenage son, Caesar.

But trouble looms on every side, both at home in his difficult marriage and on the battlefield, where he must decide once and for all whose side he is on. Will he back the pro-Christian emperors Constantine and Crispus? or lead an insurrection against them, back to the old gods and the old ways?

IAN ROSS has been researching and writing about the later Roman world and its army for over a decade. Visit his website: www.ianjamesross.com, or find him on twitter: @IanRossAuthor.

Conn Iggulden:
‘Hugely enjoyable. The author winds up tension into an explosion of fast-paced events.’

FOR WINTER NIGHTS:
‘Thoroughly exhilarating and utterly thrilling... A fascinating period in Roman history, which Ian Ross dramatizes very well indeed, not least because of the enormously likeable tour de force caught slap bang in the middle of it – Aurelius Castus.’

BEN KANE:
‘A thumping good read... Set in a little-known era of the Roman Empire, it throws us headfirst into a chaotic world in which emperors rise and fall, fortunes change and a man does not know who to trust.’

THE BOOKBAG:
‘Aurelius Castus burst onto the historical fiction scene with a series panache rarely seen this early... Ross should train other authors in how to seamlessly combine research with momentum; he makes a fine art of it.’

M.C. SCOTT:
‘Ian Ross blazes into the world of empire and legions. This is up there with Harry Sidebottom and Ben Kane.’

BBC HISTORY:
‘Hugely exciting, the first in a gripping sequence of books about a period often overlooked by novelists.’
A twisty drama of power, rivalry and betrayal, first in a new series of smart women’s fiction set in the glamorous, pressurised world of a London TV station.

Liz Lyon is Head of Features at StoryWorld TV. It’s exhilarating and sometimes glamorous work, but as a single mother with a demanding career, her life is a constant balancing act.

Then simmering tensions erupt at the station, trapping Liz in a game of one-upmanship where she doesn’t know the rules. As the power struggle begins, can Liz keep her cool and keep her job? Does she even want to?

JANE LYTHELL worked as a television producer and commissioning editor before becoming Deputy Director of the BFI and Chief Executive of BAFTA. This is the first title in the StoryWorld series, and is inspired by her own experiences working in the world of television.

‘Fascinating, clever, thrilling... the author’s real skill is to invent memorable original characters.’
DAILY MAIL

‘Told in spare, powerful language... a stellar psychological thriller.’
PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

‘A cleverly-constructed thriller... Just when you think you understand it, the landscape changes completely.’
DAILY EXPRESS

‘A very credible portrait of obsession to the point of madness... a clever, involving first novel.’
LITERARY REVIEW

‘Gripping and readable, but behind the adventure the plot hints at bigger, more complex questions about our society.’
SCOTSMAN
BOOKER-SHORTLISTED
Michael Collins

‘Everywhere you look in Collins’s prose, there is a dazzling image, almost tangible in its force.’
Sunday Telegraph

‘A style so arresting it hijacks the reader’s concentration.’
Independent

‘Readers should be grateful to Collins. He is a stylist, blessed with the gift of having something worth saying well.’
Scotsman

I WRITE TO UNDERSTAND the world. The Keepers of Truth, written while I was a programmer at Microsoft, was an ode to the industrial age of the midwest of America. In The Death of All Things Seen, I could say I have returned to the midwest, seeking answers to the financial crash in the post-industrial age of runaway capital markets. If in the earlier novel I sought the truth, this time I’m less sanguine. And yet, the novel makes a case for hope.

At its heart, though, it’s a road novel. We are most human when we live through a shared experience.

MICHAEL COLLINS

From the Booker-shortlisted Irish author, what happens when the world is forced to face up to the mistakes of the past?

Helen Price, recently diagnosed with cancer, drives into a lake, setting in chain a series of events that culminates in the arrival of a letter with news of a strange legacy. In Chicago, Helen’s son, playwright Norman Price, is facing a major crisis that will engulf everything – his work, his sexuality, his life. Meanwhile, in Canada, Nate Feldman is learning the truth about his father and the figure he knew as the Other Woman – and facing the implications of his unwanted inheritance.

Set in Chicago, in the fallout from the financial meltdown of 2008, this is a deeply moving novel about complex identities and the fragility of humanity.

MICHAEL COLLINS is an award-winning Irish author. His novels The Meat Eaters and The Keeper’s of the Truth were shortlisted for the Booker Prize. He has been awarded the Prix Littéraire Lucien Barrière and the Pushcart Award.
‘Every poet should buy a copy of this book to keep on their bookshelves. And, when the occasion arises, they should throw it at the cynic who may try to ignore or demean them.’

INDEPENDENT

‘Engagingly knockabout... enjoyable stuff.’

SPECTATOR

‘Exhilarating... informed and deeply engaging... difficult to imagine a better introduction to its subject.’

WASHINGTON POST

A lively and accessible account of the lives and works of the great Greek poets by the acclaimed poet and critic Michael Schmidt.

The First Poets brings to life the great Greek poets who gave our poetic tradition its first bearings and whose works have had an enduring influence on our literature and our imagination.

Starting with the legendary Orpheus and the possibly mythical Homer, Schmidt conjures a host of our literary forebears. From Hipponax, ‘the dirty old man of poetry’, to Theocritus, the father of pastoral; from Sappho, who threw herself from a cliff for love, to Hesiod, who claimed a visit from the Muses – the stories in The First Poets masterfully merge fact and conjecture into animated and compelling portraits of our cultural ancestors.

MICHAEL SCHMIDT is the founder of Carcanet Press and the general editor of PN Review. He was also the Writer in Residence at St John’s, Cambridge.
In April 2015, catastrophic earthquakes left Nepal devastated. Over 7,000 people lost their lives and more than twice as many were injured. Hundreds of thousands were made homeless and UNESCO World Heritage sites were destroyed. House of Snow is an anthology compiled to raise money for charities providing relief from the 2015 earthquakes.

House of Snow is the biggest, most comprehensive and most beautiful collection of writing about Nepal in print. It includes over 50 excerpts of fiction and non fiction inspired by the breathtaking landscapes and rich cultural heritage of this fascinating country.

Here are explorers and mountaineers, poets and political journalists, national treasures and international stars such as Michael Palin and Jon Krakauer, Laxmi Prasad Devkota and Manjushree Thapa – all hand-picked by well-known authors and scholars of Nepali literature including Samrat Upadhyay, Michael Hutt, Isabella Tree and Thomas Bell.

THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO, in legend and reality, the Kathmandu Valley was a lake, coursed with serpents. The stories describing it may be a memory passed down over numberless generations, from the unknown people who left stone tools on the shore. The clays of the ancient lakebed were laid down, between sandy and gravelly horizons, and mingled with minerals from the neighbouring hills. The red earth is used by some castes to paint the outside of their houses. ‘Sky-coloured earth’, found in the banks of a few streams, was used by women to wash their hair. Three different types of clay are used in successive coatings, mixed with cow dung and rice husks, to mould copper statues of the gods. Brick- and tile-makers find their clay in their own fields. After the harvest the soil is quarried, packed into moulds and dried before firing. In the next planting season the field can be sown again, and its level will be a metre lower.

Until recently the term “Nepal” applied only to this lush basin of rice fields, 250 square miles, ringed by green hills, with the white peaks of the Himalaya strung across the northern horizon. “A lovelier spot than this the heart of man could scarce desire,” wrote Sir Henry Lawrence, a British official posted there in the 1840s. The moderate climate and rich soils yielded three crops a year and made Kathmandu the greatest cradle of urban civilization in the Himalaya.

– from Kathmandu by Thomas Bell
The magnificent saga of how the white man changed Africa: the pioneers, visionaries and politicians – and their crazy railway.

In 1895, George Whitehouse arrived at the east African post of Mombasa to perform an engineering miracle: the building of the Mombasa-Nairobi-Lake Victoria Railway – a 600-mile route that was largely unmapped and barely explored. The Lunatic Express explores the building of this great railway in an earlier Africa of slave and ivory empires, of tribal monarchs and the vast lands that they ruled.

Wolmar’s Railway Library is a collection of the world’s finest railway books personally selected by award-winning writer Christian Wolmar, Britain’s leading railway expert.

CHARLES MILLER was an author and journalist. His titles include An Entertainment in Imperialism, Battle for the Bundu and The First World War in East Africa.

A vivid, witty and caustic view of the dying days of the golden age of rail, from a British Railways insider.

Gerard Fiennes became a railwayman by accident, joining the L.N.E.R as a Traffic Apprentice in 1928. Over the next four decades he worked himself up to the top of the management tree. When he got there, he knew the service was ripe for a revolution and he believed he was the man to lead it. I Tried to Run a Railway is the book that got Fiennes sacked from British Railways as he reveals what happens when non-railwaymen tried to run the railway.

Wolmar’s Railway Library is a collection of the world’s finest railway books personally selected by award-winning writer Christian Wolmar, Britain’s leading railway expert.

GERARD FIENNES was a railway manager, publisher and author. Fiennes spent 40 years working on the railways and wrote extensively on them.
Cixin Liu’s epic, award-winning trilogy concludes with Death’s End.

Half a century after the Doomsday Battle, the uneasy balance of Dark Forest Deterrence keeps the Trisolaran invaders at bay. Earth enjoys unprecedented prosperity due to the infusion of Trisolaran knowledge. With human science advancing and the Trisolarans adopting Earth culture, it seems that the two civilizations can co-exist peacefully as equals without the terrible threat of mutually assured annihilation. But peace has also made humanity complacent.

Cheng Xin, an aerospace engineer from the 21st century, awakens from hibernation in this new age. She brings knowledge of a long-forgotten program dating from the start of the Trisolar Crisis, and her presence may upset the delicate balance between two worlds. Will humanity reach for the stars or die in its cradle?

CIXIN LIU is China’s number one science fiction writer. Prior to becoming a writer, he worked as an engineer in a power plant in Yangquan.

The final instalment in the 2015 Hugo Award winning trilogy from China’s #1 bestselling SF author

One of Mark Zuckerberg’s 12 picks for A Year of Books
One of four novels on Barack Obama’s winter reading list

‘A breakthrough book… a unique blend of scientific and philosophical speculation, politics and history, conspiracy theory and cosmology, where kings and emperors from both western and Chinese history mingle in a dreamlike game world, while cops and physicists deal with global conspiracies, murders, and alien invasions in the real world.’

GEORGE R.R. MARTIN
A gripping story of love, death and danger in Nazi-occupied France from the bestselling author of The Throwaway Children.

When Adelaide Anson-Gravetty finds out her father is not the man who raised her, she is both shocked and intrigued. Determined to find out more about her new family, she travels to the convent of Our Lady of Mercy in France to meet her aunt, the Reverend Mother.

But when France falls to the German army, Adelaide and the nuns are soon in the thick of a war that threatens both their beliefs and their lives. Collaborating with the Resistance, sheltering Jewish orphans, defying the rulings of Vichy France: these are dangerous activities in dangerous times.

DINEY COSTELOE is the bestselling author of The Throwaway Children, The Girl with No Name, The Lost Soldier and The Runaway Family. She divides her time between Somerset and West Cork.

9 September 1937

ADELAIDE ANSON-GRAVETTY DRIFTED awake with the feeling that today something special was going to happen. And then she remembered. Today she was twenty-one. Today she was an adult and could decide things for herself. Today was the beginning of the rest of her life. Today, though she didn’t yet know it, her life was going to be turned upside down.
Dublin 1899. Lawyer Joseph Radcliffe and his black American comrade Benjamin Pierce were ‘Buffalo Soldiers’ in the Civil War and the Indian Wars; now Radcliffe defends the toughest cases in a troubled city. But in South Africa a war rages between the British and the Boers and, after an argument with his father, Joseph’s son Edward runs away to join the Irish forces there.

When Edward is captured and held as a spy, Radcliffe and Pierce – a black man in a white man’s war – set off to find him and bring him home. In the harsh South African terrain, the old soldiers find their survival skills tested to the hilt in this epic tale of heroism and treachery, love and loyalty.

DAVID GILMAN enjoyed many careers, including firefighter, paratrooper and photographer, before turning to writing full time.

An epic historical adventure set during the South African Boer War from the bestselling author of Master of War.
From million-copy-bestseller Eric Van Lustbader, a new series featuring
Red Rover, the blackest of Black Ops teams.

Red Rover is finished – betrayed on a mission to capture and interrogate a
mysterious Saudi deep in the Arabian desert. One of the team was killed, the
remaining two barely escaped alive. Now, the unit has been shut down and Greg
Whitman and Felix Orteño are left adrift, wondering what went wrong. Into
their midst comes Charlize Daou, a brilliant, wildly talented arms expert, who
becomes the reason – and supplies the means – to resurrect their mission.

Together, they secretly set out to find the Saudi, and take first step into the heart
of a vast, ancient conspiracy that could forever rearrange the balance of power
across the globe.

ERIC VAN LUSTBADER is the author of twenty-five international bestsellers,
including the three most recent Jason Bourne novels. www.ericvanlustbader.com
SEPTEMBER, AND THE DONEGAL countryside already turned to autumn. The summer just past had been warm and wet, and the hedgerows and verges had become heavy with growth. But the grasses were fading and bleaching with the season: and now, late in the afternoon, they were bowed and dripping with a day’s rain. In the ditch, a stream gurgled on its way downhill towards the lough. The rain had lately stopped and the sky was clearing from the west: a pale, clean blue and the air cool and fresh.

And there was Christine Casey, aged eight, cycling home slowly from school. There was no hurry this evening. Dinner would be a little later than usual: her mum had a meeting to go to in town.

So Christine was cycling slowly.

Patrick Jackson saw all this. He watched the scene unfold from behind closed eyelids. Today, a weakening autumn sun was shining through the window onto his bed, onto the sky-blue counterpane, onto hard, white walls, onto his loose skin and prominent cheekbones. It shone onto the translucent skin on his eyelids, and turned his vision into a screen, a wash of dusty pink. But in his mind the scene was harshly lit and immediate: and he was following the girl along the lane that was dim and dripping and shaggy with a summer’s growth.

NEIL HEGARTY was born in Derry and studied English at Trinity College Dublin. He wrote the authorised biography of David Frost and The Story of Ireland.
THE FINAL INSTALMENT OF

CHRONICLES OF
THE LONG WAR

‘Here, story is king. Deftly sidesteps fantasy cliche and thrusts you towards the next instalment.’ SFX

‘The tale of a world ruled by evil sorceresses is bloody, swearful and utterly compelling. Wonderfully throat-grabbing. If you only read one fantasy series this year, A.J. Smith is definitely your go-to guy.’ THE BOOKBAG

‘The pantheon of otherworldly beings is striking, and there’s a Lovecraftian touch, too. Sieges, catapults, battles, longwords, beheadings aplenty, profanity and bloody mayhem. Brilliant.’ SFFWORLD

‘Ambitious, engrossing and positively action-packed. What a world it is! There are the rebellious Freeland of Ranen, the pseudo-civilised sprawl of Ro below, and across the Kirin Ridge, bleak, mysterious Karesia. I’d heartily recommend this.’ TOR.COM

‘Tremendous. A defined, intense story, the world and plot are wide-ranging, with a large cast, in which no character is safe... A great triumph.’ PARMENION BOOKS

All that was dead will rise. All that now lives will fall.
The final, epic battle for the Lands of Ro.

The dead god is waking. His power-mad priestess has deployed a mass of men and beasts onto the plains of Ro Weir. Faced with this black swarm, the last remnants of a nation crumbles and falls. This is the final battle for the mortal lands of Ro.

Far to the north, the ice men of Rowanoco muster their Exemplars against the witch’s assassins. In the blistering southern deserts, a squire with no master walks unscathed through a poisoned city. And, in the halls beyond the world, a thrice-born man dares to tread the path of Giants...

A.J. SMITH spent twelve years devising the chronicles of The Long War. When not living in the Lands of Ro, he works in secondary education.
‘From our dainty gum nuts and towering Uluru to our world-class sharks and Opera House, marauding possums and poets, taking in game-changing inventions such as the dual-flush toilet and zinc cream, you will be amazed at what our sunburnt country has contributed to modern civilization．”

BOOMERANG
The boomerang is a wooden instrument shaped like a boomerang. It is a missile which our wonderful indigenous people have been trying to get rid of for millennia. And without any success, since it has a nasty habit of whizzing back to the aboriginal who has been trying to dispose of it. In its flight it can seriously maim a large grazing marsupial.

I have never disclosed this before, but it is just possible that in the far distant past, one of my ancestors was a member of the indigenous community – perhaps the Mooneewarra tribe. So I like to say, without risk of successful contradiction, that I have a little aborigine in me. In my case, the aboriginal part of me can throw a boomerang but, with my Anglo-Saxon roots, it never ever comes back. It is no surprise, then, that one of my favourite pop tunes is Mr Charlie Drake’s moving ‘My Boomerang Won’t Come Back’ (Google it possums, I haven’t got room for it here.)

Dame Edna Everage, Australia’s most famous export, tells the history of her homeland in 100 objects.

It is very rare that we see the emergence of a completely original idea in the world of books. Dame Edna Everage’s masterly history of Australian civilization is one such idea, and, possums, you will never think of historical writing in the same way again. From barbies to bex powders, bogans to feral koalas, thongs to ugggs and goon to Nellie Melba, this is the most important book of Australian history you will read this year.

DAME EDNA EVERAGE is the megastar housewife, talk show host, investigative journalist, social anthropologist, chanteuse, satirist, spin doctor – and author. One of the world’s most distinguished thinkers and cultural personalities, Dame Edna has inspired generations of Australian artists and icons, from Germaine Greer and Peter Carey to Kylie Minogue and Shane Warne.

SEPTEMBER 2016
Non Fiction/Humour • 165x185 mm • 224 pages
E 9781784975593 • HB 9781784975609 £16.99
Rights: World, All Languages
A gloriously informative celebration of birds from a bestselling author.

What can birds tell us about life? How do they achieve the miracle of flight? Why do they sing? Whether musing on the usefulness of feathers, the drama of raptors, or the infidelities of geese, Simon Barnes illuminates with wit, wisdom and wonder the extraordinary natural history of birds.

From the mocking-birds of the Galápagos who guided Charles Darwin towards his evolutionary theory, to changing patterns of migration that alert us to the reality of climate change, Simon Barnes explores both the intrinsic wonder of what it is to be a feathered creature and the myriad ways in which birds help us understand the world.

SIMON BARNES is the multi-award-winning former chief sportswriter for The Times. He is also a novelist, nature writer and horseman, and the author of over 20 books, including the bestselling How to be a Bad Birdwatcher.

PRAISE FOR SIMON BARNES

‘One of the most compulsively readable, astoundingly compendious and endlessly thrilling natural histories ever written... This is a book that I will treasure for ever.’
Stephen Fry

‘Barnes has a wonderful knowledge of wildlife and a gift for bringing his enthusiasm to life – He has a deft turn of phrase and a lyrical style.’
Rosie Boycott

‘Most of us can see, but not everyone looks. Most of us can hear, but not everyone listens. This book will help you do both. And, above all, it will tell you how to enjoy.’ Bill Oddie

‘I can think of few nature writers who have worked harder to acquaint us with the unloved, the neglected and completely unknown.’
Mark Cocker, The Spectator

‘Reading Barnes’s prose is a bit like peeling a rather elegant onion, as he gradually reveals secrets about his life through the medium of the natural world.’ BBC Wildlife Magazine

‘An epic journey... Dizzying natural history explored in all its marvellous, madcap majesty.’
Daily Express

‘A gem... All day, I’ve been fighting the urge to drop everything so I can devour this eloquent book in one sitting... exquisite.’
Guardian

‘He’ll tune your ears to winter’s lonely voices – robins, wrens, long-tailed tits – before preparing you for the exultant sounds of spring.’
The Times
A major new biography of England’s greatest medieval warrior, the Black Prince.

As a child he was given his own suit of armour; in 1346, aged 16, he helped defeat the French at Crécy; ten years later he captured the king of France at Poitiers. For the chronicler Jean Froissart, he was ‘the flower of all chivalry’; for his medieval biographer the Chandos Herald, he was ‘the embodiment of all valour’.

Edward of Woodstock, heir of Edward III of England, better known as ‘the Black Prince’, was England’s pre-eminent military leader during the first phase of the Hundred Years War. Michael Jones brings to life his dramatic and powerful story to paint a memorable portrait of warfare and society in the tumultuous fourteenth century.

MICHAEL JONES is a writer and battlefield tour guide. He is co-author, with Philippa Gregory and David Baldwin, of The Women of the Cousins’ War and, with Philippa Langley, of The King’s Grave: The Search for Richard III.

‘This noble Prince of whom I speak, from the day of his birth cherished no thought but loyalty, nobleness, valour, and goodness, and was endued with prowess. Of such nobleness was the Prince that he wished all the days of his life to set his whole intent on maintaining justice and right, and therein was he nurtured from his childhood up; from his generous and noble disposition he drew the doctrine of bounty, for gaiety and nobleness were in his heart perfectly from the first beginnings of his life and youth. Now, is it full time that I address myself to carrying forward my matter, how he was so noble, bold, and valiant, so courteous and so sage, and how he loved so well the holy Church with his whole heart, and, above all, the most lofty Trinity; its festival and solemnity he began to celebrate from the first days of his youth and upheld it all his life zealously, without evil thought.’

Chandos Herald, Life of the Black Prince
Nine women; one poet – who was mad, bad and very, very dangerous to know.

The women were Catherine Byron, Lady Caroline Lamb, Annabella Milbanke, Augusta Leigh, Claire Clairmont, Mary Shelley, Teresa Guiccioli, Ada Lovelace and Elizabeth Medora Leigh. The poet was George Gordon, Lord Byron. The most flamboyant of the Romantics, Byron wrote literary bestsellers, was a satirist of genius and embodied the Romantic love of liberty – he also treated women abominably.

By turns scurrilous, moving and shocking, Byron’s Women views the life of one of England’s greatest poets through the prism of nine women whose lives he damaged.

ALEXANDER LARMAN is the author of Blazing Star, a much-praised biography of Byron’s forerunner in scandal and infamy, the 2nd Earl of Rochester. He is also a freelance journalist, who has written for the TLS and the Guardian.
The President of Ireland since 2011, when he was elected by a final tally of almost 57% of the votes, Michael D. Higgins has used his time in office to set out a vision of what he calls ‘an ethical Republic’.

In a series of remarkable and urgent speeches, which are anything but the bland commentaries of a ceremonial head of state, Michael D. Higgins has urged his fellow citizens to consider what makes the good life. He has asked how human rights, an active and empowered citizenry, women’s equality and the right to health and a life free of corrosive anxiety might be achieved. He has highlighted the plight of refugees. And he has criticised the ways in which work is becoming dehumanised.

MICHAEL D. HIGGINS has been a university teacher, a broadcaster, a published poet and a member of both houses of the Irish legislature. He was Minister for Arts, Culture and the Gaeltacht from 1993 to 1997. Born in Limerick, he was educated at University College Galway, where he later taught sociology and political science. He was a Labour TD for Galway for many years.

OUR CITIZENS ARE ANXIOUS for a vision of where we are heading as a society. Too many of them live in an atmosphere of unabated stress, dealing with financial circumstances that curtail their horizon and constrict them to a regime that is one of survival.

The invitation to view the world as rational, calculating utility maximisers, has inflicted deep injuries on our moral imaginations, on the way we conceive our relations to others, to the future, and to our shared planet.

It is essential that work, in all its facets and in its essence as a shared human activity, be given a central place in the discussion of the values by which we, as a community, wish to live. The question of ‘good work’ within the broader frame of ‘the good life’ is one of the defining issues of our time.

A true republic must be built on principles and policies that recognise the common welfare, and which place the ideas of community and public at the centre, rejecting the limitations of a narrow and individualistic concept of citizenship.

MICHAEL D. HIGGINS
I rise up to acquaint you with the discovery of a late heinous plot, which is in part discovered, and we are in pursuit of the rest. The place where that design was hatched is Flanders, a place fit for such designs of assassination, at the Spanish court there. Two parties are in it, the old malignant, and the leveling party. It is carried on by one Sexby there.

John Thurloe, Cromwell’s spymaster, informs Parliament of Edward Sexby’s and Miles Sindercombe’s plot to assassinate the Lord Protector, 19th January 1657.

A fascinating portrait of life in Britain in 1657, as Cromwell’s Protectorate stuttered towards its inevitable end.

Dismissed as a puritanical aberration in England’s history, the Interregnum is often ignored in favour of the Civil War and the turmoil and flamboyance of the Restoration. But Paul Lay reveals the Protectorate as an era of remarkable intellectual and political ferment, a time when new religious and political ideas were tested and the foundations of modern British democracy were laid.

A Kingdom Without a King also traces the events of a remarkable year, from the Levellers’ Plot to assassinate the Lord Protector to Cromwell’s rejection of the offer of the crown.

PAUL LAY is the editor of History Today. He sits on the advisory boards of the Institute of Historical Research and the History and Policy unit at King’s College London.
Katie Maguire goes undercover in the new gripping and gruesome thriller from number one international bestseller Graham Masterton.

DS Katie Maguire is at a loss. Last year, she and her team destroyed the biggest drug trafficker in Cork. So how is the city’s drug trade at an all-time high? Meanwhile, a spate of violent attacks which leave victims severely disabled has brought confidence in the Garda to an all-time low.

As Katie investigates, she realises that the two cases might be connected. Someone is using brain-damaged victims to smuggle drugs into the country.

And the only way to find out more is to go in undercover...

GRAHAM MASTERTON trained as a newspaper reporter before beginning a career as an author. After twenty-five years writing horror and thrillers, he turned his talent to crimewriting. The first book in the Katie Maguire Series, White Bones, was a top-ten bestseller.

‘One of this country’s most exciting crime novelists… What marks Masterton’s skill is his assured touch for victims confronted by unspeakable violence and DS Maguire herself, who remains compellingly human. If you have not read one, read them all now.’

DAILY MAIL

‘A first-class crime novelist… Written with style and boasting a story that won’t let you stop reading, this is a first-class thriller with some juicy horror touches.’

BOOKLIST

‘Katie Maguire deserves to be recognized as standing toe-to-toe with the best detectives in the genre today. Any fan of mysteries should not hesitate to grab this book.’

IRISH EXAMINER

‘Graham Masterton is a natural storyteller with a unique gift for turning the mundane into the terrifyingly real... this is compulsive reading and Katie Maguire is someone we can all cheer for.’

NEW YORK JOURNAL OF BOOKS
A bittersweet, gorgeously written novel about a young girl with an abusive past growing up in the majestic landscape of South Africa.

Poppy was six years old when she was rescued from her abusive mother and taken to her grandparents’ farm to recover. There, under a wide South African sky, Poppy succumbs to the magic of their garden. Slowly, her memories fade and her wounds begin to heal.

But as Poppy grows up into a strange, fierce and beautiful young woman, her childhood memories start to surface. And then a love affair with a married carpenter across the valley explodes her world. This is a lush, lyrical novel about a young girl’s struggle to come to terms with her past.

MIRANDA SHERRY was seven when she began writing stories. She lives in Johannesburg and is the author of *Black Dog Summer* (Head of Zeus, 2013).
This is an intricate, gripping and clever book, from an author who has been awarded the most significant Chinese-language crime award, the Soji Shimada. *The Borrowed* is the moving story of two men, told through six stories following the conventions of detective fiction. It is also the story of the city of Hong Kong as it journeys from colonial government to Chinese rule. But it is so much more than the sum of its parts. *The Borrowed* shines as a sweeping, ambitious crime drama that offers startling insight into one of the most dazzling cities of the Far East.

A cleverly constructed epic crime novel, told through six different murder cases set over fifty years in the Hong Kong Police Force.

The year is 2013, and Inspector Kwan, one of Hong Kong’s greatest detectives, is dying. His friend and protegé, Detective Lok, has come to Kwan’s hospital bed. Together they must solve one last case: the murder of a local billionaire. What follows is a brilliantly constructed novel of six interconnected stories, each featuring a different murder case solved by Kwan and Lok over the last fifty years. Eventually, in the final story, we witness the case in which Lok, a rookie cop, met Kwan for the first time.

CHAN HO-KEI was raised in Hong Kong. He has won the Mystery Writers of Taiwan Award and his debut novel, *The Man Who Sold the World*, won the 2011 Soji Shimada, the biggest mystery award in the Chinese world. Translator JEREMY TIANG is a playwright and short story writer.

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A brilliant and moving novel set in the world of thirteenth-century Cathar France.

Set in a world made familiar to readers through Kate Mosse’s great bestseller, Labyrinth, this beautiful historical novel is a saga of heroism and heartbreak, as a young Cathar believer loses his aristocratic inheritance and becomes a fugitive from the Inquisition.

During the 12th and 13th centuries, the Cathars in southwest France posed such a threat to Roman Catholicism, that the Inquisition was tasked to destroy every single one of them. Francois de Beaufort will lose the castle which is his inheritance, be horribly maimed in battle, see the woman he loves imprisoned and tortured for her faith. But he vows to fight back, to survive - and to rescue her.

CHRISTOPHER BLAND is a former Chairman of the BBC, BT and the RSC. His first novel, Ashes in the Wind, was published by Head of Zeus in 2014.
The final instalment in the critically-acclaimed Grim Company trilogy.

The Age of Ruin is near complete: in the far North the Nameless stirs beneath the Spine Mountains and demonspawn push ever southwards; from the West the Fade have returned, vowing to purge the realm of humankind; and an ancient weapon, forged in the Godswar, has once again been unleashed to ravage the land.

Weakened by in-fighting, the surviving Magelords are unable – or unwilling – to use their power to defend humanity. The last spark of hope rests with the surviving members of the Grim Company: Davarus Cole, Brodar Kane and Eremul the Halfmage.

LUKE SCULL is the lead designer at game design company Ossian Studios. He lives and works in Warminster. www.lukescull.com

‘Darn good... Luke Scull has a very distinct style and an imagination bursting with intriguing ideas.’

Mark Lawrence

‘If you like your gizzards glistening and your mages mean, this rollicking debut will suit... hugely enjoyable.’

Daily Mail
DCI Hanlon faces the toughest decision of her career as a string of political murders lead to a deadly confrontation.

A controversial, right-wing, German politician is due to speak at the Oxford Union. Following a series of murders linked to a violent anarchist group, the city is on high alert. DCI Hanlon has been partnered with DI Huss to ensure the speech goes smoothly and put an end to the killing.

The murders soon reveal a chilling alliance between the anarchists and European Jihadis. And when Hanlon traces the killer she soon realises that the truth has a terrible price. Is Hanlon willing to meet the cost?

ALEX HOWARD studied Arabic and Islamic History at Oxford, and has worked in adult education. He is the author of *Time To Die*, *Cold Revenge* and *A Hard Woman to Kill*. Find out more at alexhowardcrime.com.

SHE WAS STILL FEELING quite calm, tranquil almost, but she could feel herself becoming light-headed. She wondered how much blood she had actually lost. She felt another warm trickle down her body. It seemed to be leaving her body in irregular bursts... She thought of Enver Demirel, her fiancé. She thought of Hanlon; of her fierce attractive face. And she thought of the long road that had led here. To this place. To this death.
The story of one of the best-loved and most widely performed works in the history of music.

In 1741, in just 24 days, the composer George Frideric Handel wrote an oratorio rich in tuneful arias and choruses of robust grandeur. Coolly received in early Georgian London, after Handel’s death Messiah enjoyed an extraordinary surge in popularity: it was performed at festivals across England; other composers rushed to rearrange it; in the modern era it would be commercially recorded on more than 100 occasions.

This beautifully illustrated book is part of The Landmark Library, which celebrates the turning points of human history. Jonathan Keates’s Messiah explores the composition and musical afterlife of Handel’s masterpiece.

JONATHAN KEATES is a distinguished and prize-winning biographer, novelist and travel writer. He is the author of Handel: The Man and his Music.

Praise for Handel: The Man and his Music

‘Readers cannot go wrong if they choose Keates’s account, which is always thoughtful and well-informed, and simmers with an unashamed passion for the music itself.’

Sunday Telegraph

‘An 18th-century mix of pleasure and instruction... As well as having magisterial critical judgements, this is a book rich in dry humour and telling anecdote.’

Spectator

‘The music is the thing and Keates gives it full volume.’

The Times

‘Keates appraises his works with passionate scrutiny, capturing superbly the increasing solitude of Handel’s English years.’

Sunday Times

‘Combines biographical and musicological analysis in a way that will appeal both to the general reader and the aficionado... a brilliantly lucid guide to Handel’s evolving art.’

Independent
Reviews for *Behind The Mask: The Life of Vita Sackville-West*, named by *The Times*, *Independent* and *Observer* as one of the biographies of the year.

* ‘Dennison is a natural storyteller, and his impeccable scholarship never weighs down his lively narrative.’ *Independent*

‘He has brought it off superbly... It studies and reveals this extraordinary woman as well as could possibly be. A fine achievement.’ Susan Hill

‘Detailed and fascinating... Dennison shows true admiration for his latest subject... freshly chronicled here for the first time in more than 30 years.’ *Daily Express*

‘This carefully researched book is intelligently and elegantly written... balanced, oratorical and confident.’ *Spectator*

‘Brilliant... thorough and engaging.’ *Daily Mail*

The fascinating and inspiring story of the life of Beatrix Potter published in her 150th anniversary year.

Beatrix Potter’s animal tales have enchanted and delighted generations of children. Yet how she achieved literary success is just one of the several stories of Beatrix Potter’s remarkable and unexpected life.

Inspired by the 23 ‘tales’, Matthew Dennison takes six quotations from Potter’s stories and uses them to explore her multi-faceted life and character: repressed Victorian daughter; thwarted lover; artistic genius; formidable countrywoman. They chart her remarkable transformation from a young girl with a love of animals and fairy tales into a bestselling author and canny businesswoman.

**MATTHEW DENNISON** is the author of *Behind the Mask: The Life of Vita Sackville-West* and *The Last Princess: The Devoted Life of Queen Victoria’s Daughter*. 

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**OCTOBER 2016**

*Non Fiction/Biography* • 215x140 mm • 304 pages

E 9781784975623 • HB 9781784975630 £20.00

**Rights:** World, All Languages
The story of the assassination squad that changed the course of Irish history.

Ireland, 1919. When Sinn Féin proclaims Dáil Éireann the parliament of the independent Irish Republic, London declares the new assembly to be illegal, and a vicious guerrilla war breaks out between republican and crown forces. Michael Collins, intelligence chief of the Irish Republican Army, creates an elite squad whose role is to assassinate British agents and undercover police. The so-called ‘Twelve Apostles’ will create violent mayhem, culminating in the events of ‘Bloody Sunday’ in November 1920.

Bestselling historian Tim Pat Coogan not only tells the story of Collins’ squad, he also examines the remarkable intelligence network of which it formed a part, and which helped to bring the British government to the negotiating table.

TIM PAT COOGAN is Ireland’s best-known historical writer. His 1990 biography of Michael Collins rekindled interest in Collins and his era.

‘A strongly personal perspective on the Irish century that followed the Rising – charting a flawed history that is marked as much by complacency, corruption and institutional and clerical abuse, as it is by the sacrifices and nation-building achievements of the Republic’s founding fathers.’ Sunday Independent on the 1916: The Mornings After

‘A very fine, provocative and intelligent book.’ Irish Post on The Troubles

‘From the very first sentence, it grips as it horrifies. One would have to be extremely prejudiced to fail to be moved by it.’ Irish Times on On the Blanket

‘A timely and courageous book.’ Sunday Times on Michael Collins
A revelatory portrait of the lives of queens and serving maids, nuns and harlots, widows and chaperones in England’s turbulent sixteenth century.

The Tudor period was an age when the death of women in childbirth and of children in infancy was widespread. Marriage was a legal contract, not a matter for love, and the education of women was minimal at best. Yet the sixteenth century was also dominated by powerful and characterful women in a way that no era of English history had been before.

Elizabeth Norton explores the seven ages of the Tudor woman, from childhood to old age, through the examples of women such as Elizabeth Tudor (Henry VIII’s sister who died in infancy); the wet nurse Cecily Burbage; Elizabeth Boleyn, mother of Anne; and Elizabeth Barton, a peasant girl lauded as a prophetess.

ELIZABETH NORTON is a historian of the queens of England and the Tudor period. She is the author of The Temptation of Elizabeth Tudor.
A unique special edition of Leo Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*, beautifully illustrated with rare colour drawings.

Head of Zeus is issuing a unique edition of *War and Peace*, which will include over 300 colour and black-and-white illustrations. The drawings, by artist Alexander P. Apsit, originally appeared in the commemorative Russian edition of the novel, published in 1912 to celebrate the 100 year anniversary of the Battle of Borodino. These images will appear for the first time alongside the English translation by Louise Maude, which was the translation approved by Tolstoy himself.
The second volume of a rip-roaring, two-part history of England’s longest and bloodiest civil war.

England, 1462. The Yorkist Edward IV is king of England following his bloody victory at the Battle of Towton. His opponent, former Lancastrian king Henry VI, languishes in Scotland, exiled and deranged. But England’s agony is not yet over.

Edward soon alienates his backers by favouring the family of his wife, Elizabeth Woodville. He loses his chief supporter, Warwick ‘the Kingmaker’, with dire consequences. Blood Royal describes successive Lancastrian attempts to overthrow the Yorkists, ending with Richard III’s death at Bosworth in 1485, the accession of Henry VII and the start of the Tudor dynasty.

CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE:


100 of literature’s sexiest stories, selected and introduced by Mariella Frostrup and the Erotic Review.

Strict mistresses, naughty maids, handsome gardeners and disarming strangers; this is the definitive collection of the sexiest short stories in literature. Hand-picked by Mariella Frostrup and the Erotic Review, this gorgeous anthology is the perfect gift... or bedside companion.

From medieval masters to modern minxes, here are prize-winners, bestsellers and rising stars, each of whom prove that when it comes to the bedroom, a little fiction goes a long way.

MARIELLA FROSTRUP is one of the UK’s leading journalists, broadcasters and critics. She presents Open Book on Radio 4 and has judged the Booker Prize. The EROTIC REVIEW is the iconic magazine devoted to two things: great writing and sex.
Powerful drama set in east London. A washed-up boxer takes a troubled youngster under his wing, attracting the attention of the criminal underworld.

Albert Kemp is a lonely widower, whose only son was killed in the war. Now, in 1953, he is working in a pub under the railway arches. Downstairs is a traditional bar, upstairs is a famous boxing gym. It is here that Albert brings Danny, a fatherless boy who he rescues from gang life on the streets.

But as Danny begins to grow into a champion, the predators start to circle, luring him with glittering promises back into a life of crime in the corrupt world of match fixing. Will Danny listen to his wise old mentor? Or will the prospect of fame and money be too tempting?

DAVID ESSEX has had a career as an actor and singer, spanning four decades. He is the bestselling author of two autobiographies – A Charmed Life and Over the Moon – and a collection of poetry, Travelling Tinker Man and Other Rhymes.

THE INSPIRATION FOR THE book was, I think, strongly influenced by two things. The first, was growing up not long after World War Two in London’s east end. As I child, I remember running through the Dockland streets that were still scarred by the Blitz.

Ocean-going ships were docked, like high rise blocks at the end of partly bombed Victorian terraces. Sailors in foreign clothes with foreign faces mingled with the locals in open street markets. A feeling of togetherness still prevailed and patriotism was strong and deeply embedded. Money was scarce and life was tough for the people of post-war east London. There were few options available to better oneself. Some would turn to crime, others saw local dock work as a salvation, a few turned to the noble art of boxing.

The second seed of inspiration came to me watching brave, old soldiers as they marched with sticks, crutches and in wheelchairs to honour their fallen comrades. Personally, I have always respected my elders and listened to their wisdom. Perhaps in the West we do not show the understanding and respect we should, to those whose glory may well have faded.

I was privileged to travel much of the developing world as the ambassador for Voluntary Services Overseas. I found it refreshing that, in those communities, elders were revered and not dismissed as they seem to be in western society.

The book is set against a backdrop of foggy London, Coronation street parties and clashes with the underworld, and it is influenced by the wonderful working class people of my home.

DAVID ESSEX
Heartbreak and misunderstandings are woven through this story of a woman who can never quite believe her husband loves her.

When Ava manages to seduce the gorgeous Irish singer, Patrick, after a gig in New York, she can’t quite believe her luck. Can it really be true that he loves and wants to marry her? She knows that his first great love, Rose, broke his heart by marrying someone else. When they move back to Ireland and Ava sees Rose, jealousy begins to grip her. Worse is to come, when she intercepts a letter from Rose to Patrick and her anger starts to spiral.

As in Kate Kerrigan’s bestseller, The Dress, past and present, couture and vintage clothes, glamour and everyday heartbreak interweave in a story about love, misunderstanding and redemption.

KATE KERRIGAN lives in County Mayo, Eire. Her novels include Recipes for a Perfect Marriage, Ellis Island and The Dress.

REVIEWS FOR THE DRESS

‘I loved this glamorous, romantic novel, which ping-pongs between Fifties New York and London’s contemporary fashion world... Packed with great characters, gorgeous settings and glorious atmosphere, it’s Angela’s Ashes, meets Jacqueline Susann, by way of Bridget Jones. I was in floods at the end. Irresistible.’
Wendy Holden, The Daily Mail

‘A huge pleasure to read; glamorous and gripping and moving. I just loved it, I couldn’t bear to be away from it and now that I’m finished, I miss it.’
Marian Keyes

‘Despite its darker passages, reading The Dress is a bit like playing with a particularly gorgeous doll’s house — it’s simply a delicious way to pass the time. It’s a perfect page-turner for the summer holiday, so my advice would be don’t leave home without it.’
Irish Independent
When she hears a rumour that he is dead, she knows she must return home and
It’s been five years now, but Yasmine still carries the guilt of leaving him behind.
Yasmine begins to suspect that her brother is still alive. Now she must comb the
streets and uncover the truth – even if the truth could destroy them all.

JOAKIM ZANDER spent ten years living and working in Syria, and now lives in
Lund, Sweden. His first novel, The Swimmer, was published in 28 countries.

Smart, gripping and urgent, the new blockbuster from the
100,000-copy selling author of The Swimmer

‘A thriller with rare ambition and breadth...
With a crackling denouement and strong characters,
it richly deserves its reputation.’ Daily Mail (UK)

‘How can The Swimmer be a first novel? Dazzling...
Keeps us breathless and guessing.’
Joseph Finder (USA)

‘A multi-layered thriller full of style, drive
and immediacy… a powerful conspiracy story.’
Göteborgs-Posten (Sweden)

‘A riveting thriller with a great plot. What more
can you ask for?’ Lokalavisen (Denmark)

‘Intrigue, action and adrenaline mixed to perfection…
one of the great revelations of this year.’
Libreria Reconquista (Spain)

‘An explosive, thrilling dance fuelled by authenticity of
detail and a language completely free from cliché.’
Il Giornale (Italy)

‘A multi-layered, action-packed thriller.’
Dorstener Zeitung (Germany)

‘A wonderfully written and incredibly exciting novel…
A superb thriller.’ Metro (Croatia)
CORNWALL HAS ALWAYS SEEMED a magical place to me where anything can happen. I spent many happy summers there as a child, then rediscovered the area in my early twenties when I landed my first job as a cub reporter in Plymouth. From here, it was a short ferry ride into south-east Cornwall and I covered many stories, harping round the county in my battered Mini. At weekends, a colleague and I would walk for hours along the blowy Rame Head coastline and explore the colourful fishing villages that inspired Tremarnock. Years later, this part of the world is still dear to my heart and I’m drawn back time and again with that same colleague – now my husband!

EMMA BURSTALL

A new couple have arrived in Tremarnock, but will these glamorous strangers fit into village life? Book two in the Cornish Village series.

Tremarnock is a small fishing village, crowded with holidaymakers in the summer, but a sleepy Cornish backwater at other times of the year.

Here Liz has found refuge with her young daughter, Rosie, after her relationship with Rosie’s father came unstuck. Now happily married to village restaurant owner, Robert Hart, all seems set for a quiet autumn and merry Christmas. But strangers have bought the local guest house and seem to have big plans. Why is he so charming and confident, but she so frightened? Are they who they say they are? And what are they really doing with the guest house?

EMMA BURSTALL is the author of Gym and Slimline, Never Close Your Eyes and The Darling Girls. Her first novel set in the delightful Cornish village of Tremarnock was published in 2015 and became a top-10 bestseller.

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EMMA BURSTALL
The story of the composition and revolutionary impact of Beethoven’s Third Symphony, the Eroica.

In 1805, the world of music was set on its ears by a new work from a German composer. Intellectually and emotionally, Beethoven’s Third Symphony was revolutionary music. And the whiff of actual political revolution was woven into the work, for it was originally dedicated to Napoleon Bonaparte, a dangerous hero for a composer dependent on conservative aristocratic patronage.

This beautifully illustrated book is part of The Landmark Library, which celebrates the turning points of human history. James Hamilton-Paterson reconstructs this great moment in Western culture, the shock of the music and its long afterlife.

JAMES HAMILTON-PATERSO N’S novel Gerontius won a Whitbread Prize. His many books include the bestselling Empire of the Clouds, Marked for Death and Music: Stories. A passionate musician, he now lives in Austria.

THE ‘EROICA’ IS AN epic work in every sense. At a stroke it completely broke the mould of the Viennese classical symphony as perfected by Haydn and Mozart. That form, for all the expressiveness and emotional weight those composers had developed it to bear, was still too restrictive for a composer of Beethoven’s powerful individuality. In its length, expansive ideas and occasional boisterousness his second symphony of 1802 had already shown clear signs of a wayward impatience despite its general sunniness. But nothing prepared the public for the shock of the ‘Eroica’. The first movement alone was longer than many an entire symphony of the day. The reception at its première was mixed; but to Beethoven’s growing band of supporters it was immediately clear that the new symphony was evidence of an extraordinary intellectual and emotional achievement. And although to say so smacks of cliché, the fact is that after those first two brusque E flat chords Western music was never quite the same again.

JAMES HAMILTON-PATERSO N
May We Borrow Your Language?

How English Steals Words From All Over the World

Philip Gooden writes books on the English language and historical crime novels. He is the author of The Story of English and Who’s Whose?

TURKEY (early sixteenth century)

There is a certain irony in the fact that the title of the bird which is a central part of America’s Thanksgiving celebrations is essentially a misnomer. Had those early Massachusetts settlers who chased down the wild turkey been aware of where it really came from they might have come up with a more appropriate name. The first settlers mistakenly identified the turkey as being from the same species as an African bird imported into Europe via the Turkish or Ottoman empire.

QUARK (twentieth century)

In Finnegans Wake, James Joyce included the line, ‘Three quarks for Muster Mark’, in a sequence apparently recreating the cries of sea-birds around the departure of a ship. Joyce’s distorted bird-call seems to be a version of ‘quawk’, and cannot have appeared in print anywhere earlier than 1939 since he made up the word. Jump forward to the mid 1960s and we find the US physicist Murray Gell-Mann postulating the existence of a set of sub-atomic particles to which he gave the name quark, with the explanation that he’d originally plumped for ‘quork’ but changed the spelling by a single letter because he remembered the word from James Joyce’s book.

OK (ninteenth century)

English is the closest that the world has come to possessing a universal language, not in the sense that everyone can speak it – the large majority of the world’s population cannot – but because most people are likely to be familiar with a handful of English expressions, like Coke and Manchester United. The oldest and most truly global term is also the shortest: OK (or O.K. or okay), originating in America in the 19th century. The first citation in the Oxford English Dictionary comes from a Baltimore newspaper in 1839, where o.k. is identified as a shortened version of ‘all correct’ (humorously misspelled as ‘oll korrekt’).

PORK (c. 1300)

The word pork does indeed come from French, and ultimately from the Latin porcus. The sources for ‘pig’, the yet uneaten Saxon animal, are more obscure, but the word is close enough to older Dutch and German forms to suggest that it pitched up in England via a different and more northerly route from the Norman pork. Other pig-related words such as ‘sow’, ‘swine’ and ‘hog’ have definite origins in Old English (OE) or Anglo-Saxon.

A gift book for word buffs to cherish – as moreishly entertaining as it is cerebral stimulating.

The English language that is spoken by some billion people around the world is a linguistic mongrel. Its extensive vocabulary is a lexical mix that is the result of centuries of borrowing from other tongues: from the Celtic languages of pre-Roman Britain to Norman French; from the Vikings’ Old Scandinavian to Persian, Sanskrit, Algonquian and Hawaiian, we have enriched our modern language with words such as tulip, doolally, avocado, moccasin, ketchup and ukulele.

Full of etymological nuggets to intrigue and delight the reader, May We Borrow Your Language? explores the fascinating stories behind the words that English has stolen from other tongues.

PHILIP GOODEN
An historical journey of discovery to the heart of Scandinavian identity.

Scandinavia is the epitome of cool; we fill our homes with Nordic furniture; we envy its affluence, tolerance and healthy lifestyles; we devour its crime fiction; even its strangely attractive melancholia seems to express a rational attitude to life. But how accurate is our idea of Scandinavia? And what are the roots of the qualities we regard as quintessentially Scandinavian?

Robert Ferguson digs through two millennia of history to tell stories of extraordinary events, people and objects – from Old Norse rune stones to the IKEA flatpack; from Henrik Ibsen to Stieg Larsson; and from Greta Garbo to Agnetha Fältskog – that illuminate our understanding of modern Scandinavia, its society, politics, culture and temperament.

The second book in The Dandelion Dynasty, the epic fantasy trilogy by Ken Liu.

Dara is united under the Emperor Ragin, once known as Kuni Garu, the bandit king. There has been peace for six years, but the Dandelion Throne rests on bloody foundations – Kuni’s betrayal of his friend, Mata Zyndu, the Hegemon. The Hegemon’s rule was brutal and unbending – but he died well, creating a legend that haunts the new emperor, no matter what good he strives to do.

Where war once forged unbreakable bonds between Kuni’s inner circle, peace now gnaws at their loyalties. Where ancient wisdoms once held sway, a brilliant scholar promises a philosophical revolution. And from the far north, over the horizon, comes a terrible new threat... The scent of blood is in the water.

KEN LIU’s short stories have won a Nebula, two Hugos, a World Fantasy Award and a Science Fiction & Fantasy Translation Award. He is also the translator of Cixin Liu’s Hugo-winning The Three Body Problem.
The abduction of a child propels Celcius Daly into a 30-year-old quest for justice.

Celcius Daly is investigating the abduction of a boy by a group of travellers already under investigation for smuggling and organised crime. As he digs into the child’s background, he discovers a family secret linked to an unsolved crime during the Troubles – the disappearance of a young woman and her baby. Daly’s investigation shakes loose some harrowing truths about the past treatment of travellers and the present day lawlessness of Northern Ireland’s border country.

Undergoing an internal investigation over his handling of the search for IRA spy Daniel Hegarty, Daly realises that he has much in common with the beleaguered and outcast travellers and soon finds himself entangled in a vigilante mission, discovering just how far a group of outsiders will go to find their own justice.

ANTHONY J. QUINN was born in Northern Ireland’s County Tyrone, where he now works as a journalist and author.

ANTHONY J. QUINN, IRISH CRIMEWRITING’S NEW VOICE

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OTTO PENZLER is the proprietor of the Mysterious Bookshop in New York City, founder of the Mysterious Press, and a two-time Edgar award-winner.

CONTRIBUTORS INCLUDE:

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ADAM LEBOR lives in Budapest and writes for the Economist, the New York Times, Monocle, Newsweek and Daily Beast. He is the author of a number of non fiction books, including the Orwell Prize shortlisted Hitler’s Secret Bankers.

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There is a boy who would like to court her, but Lily is too ashamed of where she lives to encourage him. And always she is haunted by fear for her sickly four-year-old brother, Joe. When tragedy strikes, will the nurses in St Angelus Hospital – otherwise known as the Angels of Lovely Lane – be able to save the day?

NADINE DORRIES is the million copy bestselling author of The Four Streets trilogy. She grew up in Liverpool and trained as a nurse. She has been the MP for Mid-Bedfordshire since 2005 and has three daughters.
Operation Finisterre: a last-ditch Nazi plan to get the allies to the negotiating table.

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GRAHAM HURLEY is the author of the critically acclaimed series of crime novels featuring DI Joe Faraday and DC Paul Winter. He lives in Devon.
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HANNA JAMESON published her first novel, Something You Are, when she was just twenty-one. It was shortlisted for a CWA Dagger.
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JOHN OWEN THEOBALD was born in Eastern Canada. He moved to the UK to study poetry, and in 2009 received a PhD from the University of St Andrews.

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RICHARD POWER (1928–1970) was born in Waterford, south Ireland. He became a civil servant in Dublin, but at weekends and in the evenings wrote his masterpiece, The Hungry Grass, which was published in 1969.

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MARGARET LAURENCE (1926–1987) grew up in the small prairie town of Neepawa, Canada. One of the greatest Canadian writers, her masterwork is the Manawaka sequence: five novels of which The Stone Angel is the first.
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