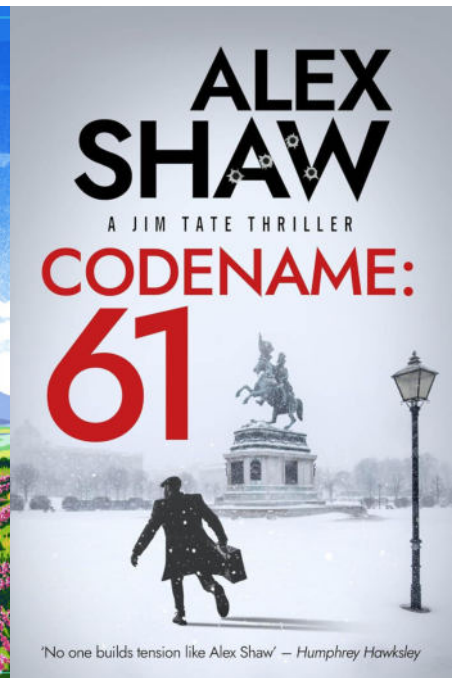


# KATE NASH

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L I T E R A R Y   A G E N C Y

## Rights Guide Autumn 2026



For all rights enquiries, please contact Saskia Leach ([saskia@katenashlit.co.uk](mailto:saskia@katenashlit.co.uk)).

# WELCOME

I am writing this having just seen a photo of THE BLAME advertised on the side of a bus. The television drama series adapted from Charlotte Langley's novel of the same name starts on UK major terrestrial channel ITV next week in a primetime slot. This is no typical police drama, it explores a culture of misogyny within the police.

As well as expecting a lot of interest from international markets in THE BLAME we have superb 'hot' new titles on offer perfectly matched to the continued global rise in escapist genres. From a twisty psychological thriller set in an empty British boarding school (THE MATRON by Sara Downing), to romance in the Alps. Imagine being stuck up a mountain with your gruff ex (FALLING FOR THE ITALIAN DREAM by Leonie Mack). The chance for revenge for a crime committed in WW2 comes out of nowhere in a Cold War spy thriller (CODENAME: 61 by Alex Shaw) and then we travel to the Highlands of Scotland for a cosy romance set around an animal rescue (RESCUE IN THE HIGHLANDS by Lilac Mills) and a rising stakes locked-room thriller at a remote writer's retreat. All the phone lines are down... (THE HIGHLAND RETREAT by Tess Mackey).

International trade publishing is being shaped by multiple trends: growing demand for translated literature and more geographically diverse voices; and the growing influence of TikTok, Instagram, podcasts and online communities on discovery and sales. Audiobooks and digital formats continue to expand, while screen adaptations remain powerful commercial drivers. AI is transforming workflows but intensifying debates over authorship, copyright, trust and ethics. As a UK literary agency representing authors writing in the English language to the world, our outlook has always been global and we have just launched our new brand identity and website to better showcase our authors and our rights offer. You can now go to the website at any time to see our rights highlights: [www.katenashlit.co.uk](http://www.katenashlit.co.uk).

We are extremely proud of our catalogue and the expanse of the author talent we are privileged to represent. We hope you have a fruitful autumn season and find the books you are looking for as well as the ones you didn't know you wanted yet.

Best wishes

*Kate Nash*

Me on the set of THE BLAME.  
In the police interview room!





= hotlist title

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= series available

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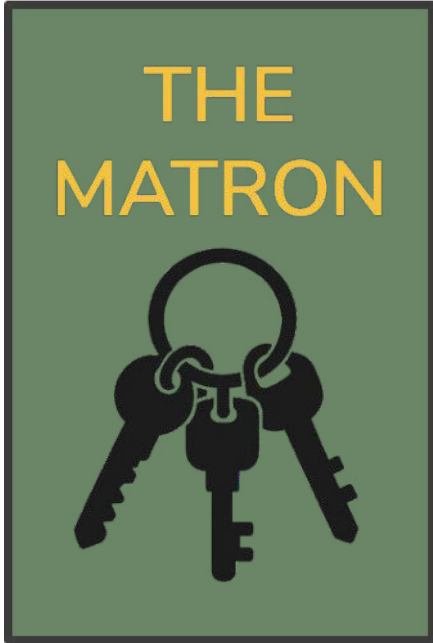
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# THE MATRON

## by Sara Downing



Rights sold: WEL (HarperCollins UK)

A new direction for award-winning romance author Sara Downing.

The School Matron.  
Too perfect, too  
controlled?

The Housemistress.  
Losing her grip?



The Gardener. Always  
there, always  
watching?

The Bursar.  
Just a flirt or asking  
too many questions?

The Sister.  
Loyal sister or playing  
her own game?

Everyone has something to hide. Cara Chillingham has more than most.

For the handful of staff staying behind at an exclusive seaside boarding school over the summer, the empty campus promises peace, privacy and a welcome escape from the pressures of term time. Sunlit grounds. Long, quiet days. Nothing but the distant hum of the gardener's lawnmower.

But someone is about to disturb the silence.

School matron Cara Chillingham has built a new life for herself one of respect, authority and spotless appearances. Now, someone is threatening everything she has worked so hard to protect.

As tensions rise among the isolated staff, old resentments surface and carefully maintained alliances begin to fracture. Everyone is lying. No one can be trusted. And the danger may be closer than anyone realises.

Cara holds the keys to the medicine cabinet. But she may also hold the keys to the secrets that could destroy them all.

But is Cara the person orchestrating the danger, the only one capable of stopping it, or the victim?

A gripping psychological crime thriller of secrets, power, manipulation and murder, with an unreliable narrator and twists you won't see coming.

# RESCUE IN THE HIGHLANDS



by Lilac Mills



Rights sold: WEL (Canelo), Audio (Audible Studios), publishing March 2027

- **Bestselling author.**
- First in a **brand new series** (3 books).
- **Scottish Highlands** Wild Animal Rescue Centre setting.
- **675,000+ author lifetime unit sales.**

Author Rights History: German (MORE by Aufbau Digital); Italian (Newton Compton)

Wildlife photographer Lola spends hours wandering the mountains in search of the perfect shot. Distrustful of people and relationships, coming from a broken home and with her heart shredded by an uncaring ex, she is almost as wild as the animals she photographs. When she stumbles across a newborn fawn with a broken leg, Lola takes it to Lochwood Wildlife Rescue Centre, intending to hand it over and leave. But something (or someone) makes her stay,

Jonas is a fixer and has dedicated his life to nursing animals back to health. Yet when he sees Lola with the fawn, he isn't sure which of the two needs his care the most. But Jonas also has more pressing worries in the form of the centre's dire finances, and he hasn't a hope of fixing those!

Drawn to Jonas's dedication, Lola finds herself doing what she vowed never again to do: fall for a man. Her instinct is to flee and avoid her heart being broken once more. But can she leave Jonas in his hour of need?

# THE HIGHLAND RETREAT



by Tess Mackey



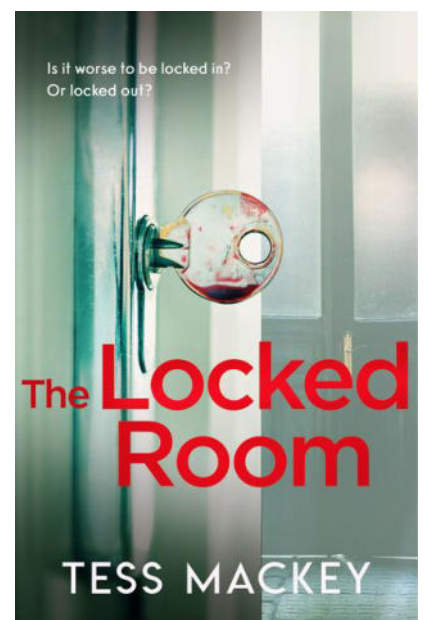
Rights sold: WEL (Avon, HarperCollins), publishing 2026-27

- Sold at **auction** in a **five-figure deal**.
- Perfect for fans of Freida McFadden, Lisa Jewell and Shari Lapena.
- Part of the **BAD PLACES 4-book collection** of twisty and psychological locked room thrillers.
- By the **bestselling author** of YA thriller **YOU WOULDN'T CATCH ME DEAD**.

**She's run as far as she can. But danger is closer than ever...**

At a writing retreat at an isolated Scottish manor, writer Callie hears someone crying out one night. Soon after, the remains of a deer are placed ominously on the writers' doorstep.

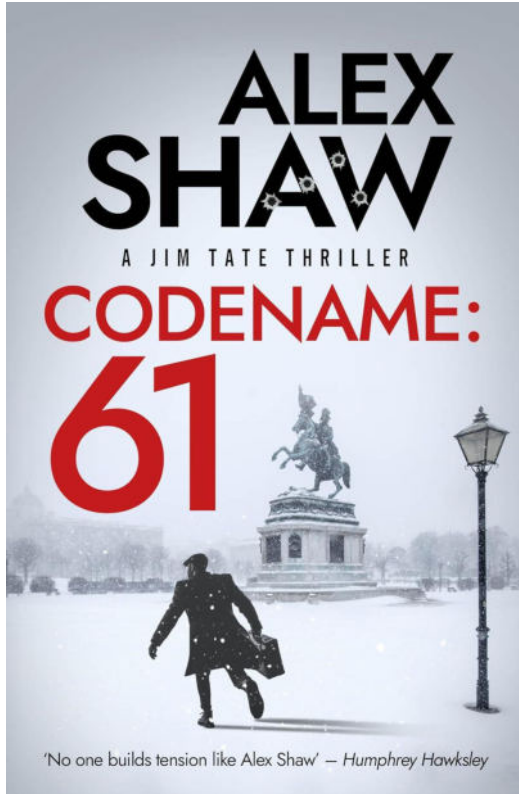
It's not long before the bodies start piling up. And that these so-called accidents are shown to be anything but innocent coincidences...





# CODENAME 61

by Alex Shaw



Rights sold: WEL (Boldwood), published 9 August 2026, with **3 more books contracted in this series**

- The chance for revenge for a crime committed in WW2 comes out of nowhere in the first of Alex Shaw's new action packed Jim Tate Cold War thrillers.
- Alex Shaw is the **internationally bestselling author** of the Wolf Six (**rights available**), Aidan Snow, Jack Tate, and Sophie Racine thriller series. TOTAL BLACKOUT, the first Jack Tate thriller, was **shortlisted for the Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize** in 2021.

**The war ended in 1945, but for some, the killing never stopped.**

## 1940

A bomb drops destroying everything London railwayman Jim Tate holds dear. Fuelled by a desperate desire for vengeance, Tate passes selection for the elite Special Operations Executive (SOE), transforming into a deadly, German-speaking commando tasked with wreaking havoc in Nazi-occupied France.

## 1961

Tate has traded the shadowy world of espionage for a quiet civilian life as a railway engineer in Kenya. But his hard-won peace is shattered when fellow SOE operative, Adrian Snow – 'Cloak' to his 'Dagger' – arrives out of the dust with news that will drag Tate back to one chilling day in 1942.

Targeted by assassins and forced to operate outside the law, Tate and Snow must resurrect their old partnership to stop a madman, in a lethal game of cat-and-mouse that takes them from the sun-scorched plains of Kenya to the frosty streets of Vienna.

# FALLING FOR THE ITALIAN DREAM

by Leonie Mack



Rights sold: WEL (Boldwood)

- A **4-book series** from a **bestselling author** living in Germany.
- Author lifetime unit sales: **307,000+**.
- Perfect for fans of Sarah Morgan and Portia MacIntosh.

When a destination wedding agency merges with an adventure travel company to create unique weddings for adrenaline seekers, a wedding planner gets stuck on an Italian mountain with the gruff mountaineer ex-boyfriend who rejected her 29th February marriage proposal years ago...

Author Rights History: IN ITALY FOR LOVE (Danish, Forlaget Zara; German, MairDumont); ITALY EVER AFTER (Polish, Dressler Group; Hungarian, Alexandra Kiado; Czech, NAKLADATELSTVÍ KAZDA; Slovenian, GIKS; Italian, Newton Compton; German, MairDumont); TWENTY ONE NIGHTS IN PARIS (Czech, NAKLADATELSTVÍ KAZDA).



# TUESDAYS ARE FOR OVERSHARING

## by Bella Osborne



Rights sold: WEL (Transworld, PRH)

- **Bestselling and award-winning author.**
- **850,000+ author lifetime unit sales.**
- A warm, funny and uplifting novel about unexpected love, found family and the Tuesday club that changes everything.
- Perfect for fans of Phillipa Ashley and Jill Mansell.

Author Rights History: THE LIBRARY (German, Rowohlt & Argon Verlag; Italian, Newton Compton), THE GIRLS (Hebrew, Tchelet Books); COMING HOME TO OTTERCOMBE BAY (German, MIRA Taschenbuch); ESCAPE TO WILLOW COTTAGE (German, MIRA Taschenbuch); IT STARTED AT SUNSET COTTAGE (Swedish, Finnish & Norwegian, HarperCollins Nordic)

**Sometimes the people we least want to talk to are the ones who help us heal.**

Louisa Hall has a whole new life...and emotional baggage she definitely didn't ask for.

After inheriting her brother's house in a pretty village, all Louisa wants is to lie low. Avoid people. Keep her feelings under lock and key. And absolutely not crash into an annoyingly handsome nurse. Or ducks. (Long story.)

Then her lonely neighbour drags her to the Cosy Café's Tuesday club, a place for tea, cakes and hard conversations.

Louisa would rather hide than share her secrets, yet she finds herself drawn to these odd strangers. But when the struggling café faces closure and long-buried truths begin to surface, Louisa must decide how much longer she can continue to stay on the sidelines.

Sometimes healing starts with oversharing.

# THE SECOND CHANCE BOOKSHOP

## by Helen Watts



Rights sold: WEL (Embla, Bonnier Books)

- Sold in a **four-way auction**.
- **CILIP Carnegie Medal-nominated author**.
- Worried they're hurtling towards a barren land signalling the end of fertility and sexuality, four friends rediscover themselves through 'The Menopause Book Club'.
- Perfect for fans of Faith Hogan, Milly Johnson and Marian Keyes.
- The Menopause Book Club go on holiday to Skiathos...coming 2027!

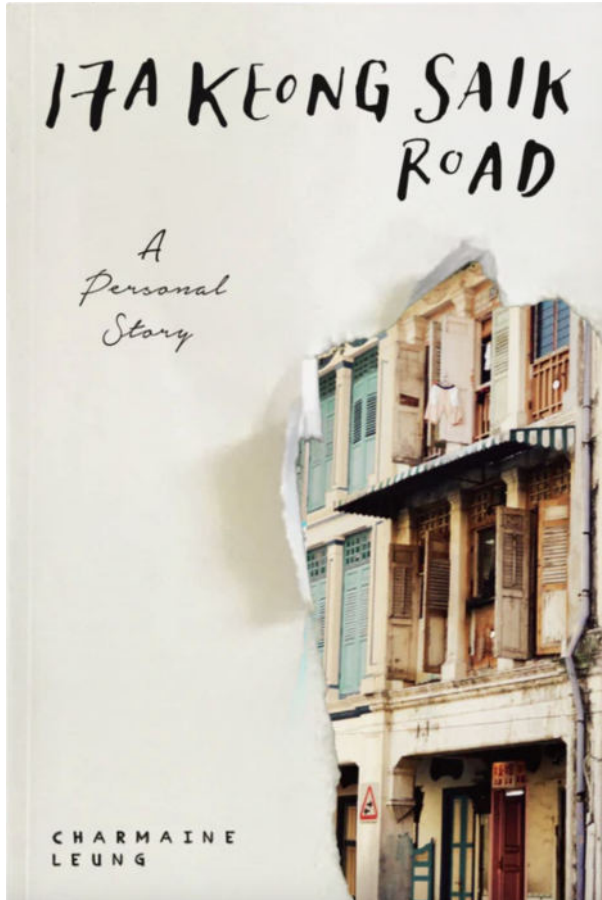
Warm, light and funny, THE SECOND CHANCE BOOKSHOP is a book club novel about community, friendship and ageing, set in an idyllic small town in the Cotswolds.

After a failed relationship with her boss, Imogen has given men the middle finger and followed her dream of opening her own bookshop. She starts The Menopause Book Club to make friends, share reading recommendations and menopause woes with people who 'get it' over a gossip and many a glass of wine. This reunites her with childhood friends Jo, Geri and Kimberley, who are respectively confronted with loveless marriage, a mother with deteriorating Alzheimer's, and a revolutionised approach to romance.

Following four friends all supposedly older and wiser than when they first met in their school days, in this warm but poignant uplit, all four lead characters are going through the menopause or perimenopause. Each of their symptoms and feelings towards this differ, but they find comfort in the commonalities between their experiences also.

# 17A KEONG SAIK ROAD

## by Charmaine Leung



Rights sold: Singapore/Malaysia/Indonesia  
English Language & World Chinese (Ethos Books)

- This lyrical memoir follows three generations of women tied to a Singapore brothel, charting a legacy of displacement, maternal inheritance and resilience.
- Offers a rare perspective on Chinese and Southeast Asian women's histories and experiences.
- While distinct in voice and form, it will resonate with readers of Jung Chang's *Wild Swans* and *Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee.
- A scarce story, told with emotional honesty. Deserves a wide international readership.

In readers' own words:

"It's not every day that you can read the story of a girl who grew up in a brothel, and can articulate and comprehend the emotional difficulties of her and those around her with such emotional intelligence. This is tagged as a "personal story" but of course it is also one that speaks a lot about the changing social landscape of the times the women in her family lived through, and the gender politics is something that stood out very strongly too," - Goodreads reader.

"This is a story about intergenerational trauma between a mother and daughter, set against the backdrop of Asian values such as filial piety. But it's so much more than that, it's such a beautiful tribute to the strong women who raised her," - Goodreads reader.

"The clean clear writing style never veers towards salaciousness or invites pity despite the subject matter," - Goodreads reader.

# MY MOTHER'S LIES

by Heather Burnside

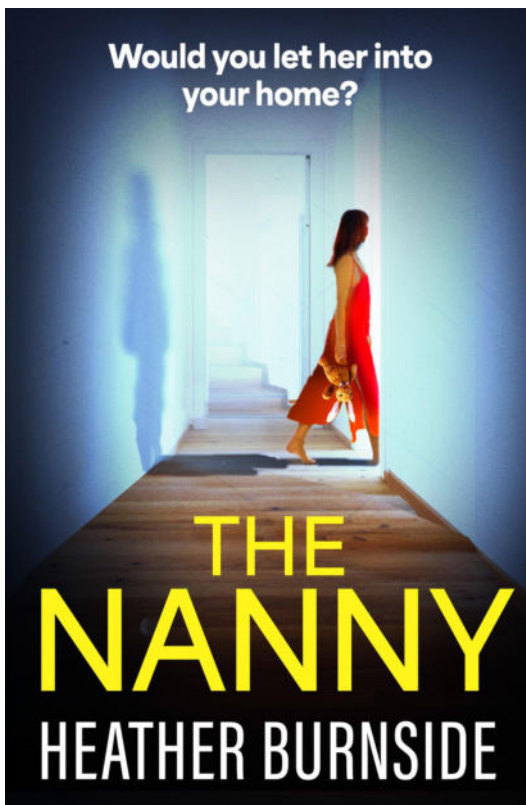
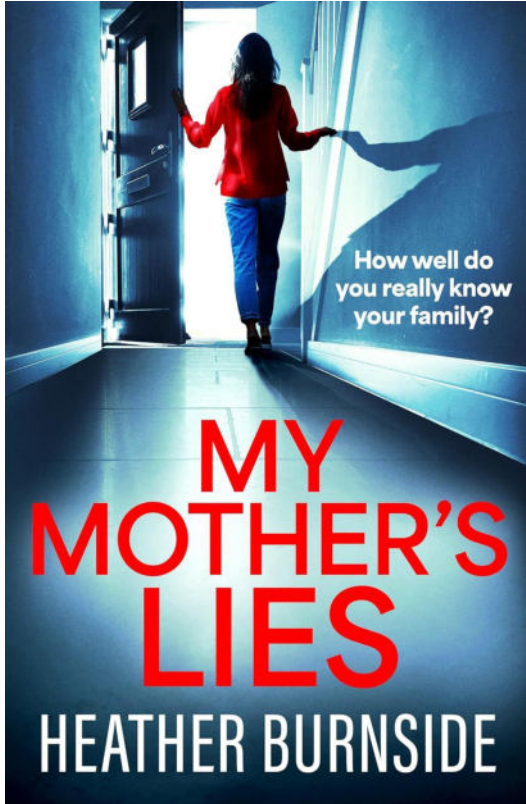
Rights sold: WEL (Pellerin Books), publishing January 2027

- **350,000+ copy bestselling author.**
- For fans of T.M. Logan, Louise Candlish and JP Delaney.

**How well do you really know your family? A domestic psychological suspense for fans of Rona Halsall and Valerie Keogh.**

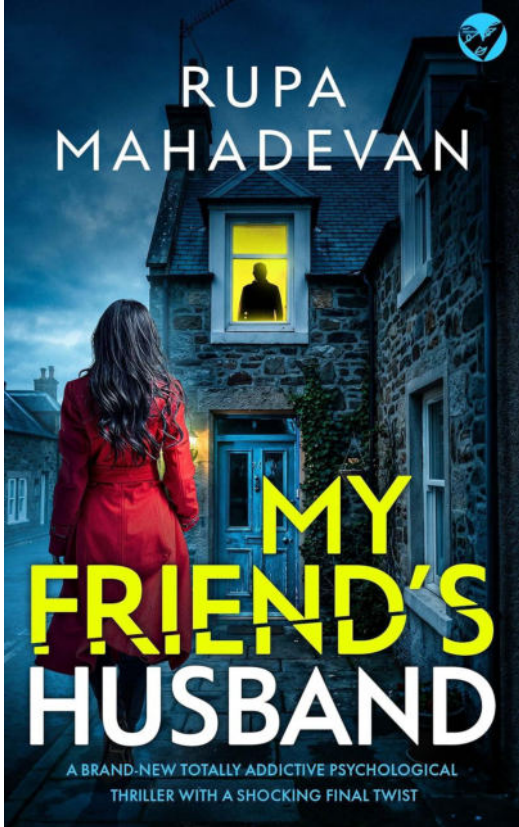
When Jane's mother, Brenda, makes a tearful confession that her late husband saved her from a dark and dangerous past, before vanishing without a trace, Jane throws herself into the search, tracking down her mother's old friends and relatives. Brenda can barely walk without her frame. She doesn't drive. So where has she gone?

The more Jane digs, the more secrets she uncovers. Could Brenda's hidden past be somehow connected to her disappearance? And are the people closest to Jane really the ones she can trust?



# MY FRIEND'S HUSBAND

by Rupa Mahadevan



Rights sold: WEL (Joffe Books)

- **Award-winning author**, winner of the Joffe Books Prize with NINE DOLLS.
- **Scottish setting.**
- **Perfect for fans of Freida McFadden, Claire Douglas and Shari Lapena.**

Author Rights History: Greek (Anubis)

Clara's best friend Roshni is missing. And the police think Clara did it. But Roshni's perfect husband is lying...

*Set in a quiet Edinburgh suburb and centred around a window cleaner's obsession.*

I've spent most of my life getting things wrong. Bad choices. Bad luck. Bad timing.

Roshni was my fresh start. She gave me a job. A room. A second chance. Now she's gone.

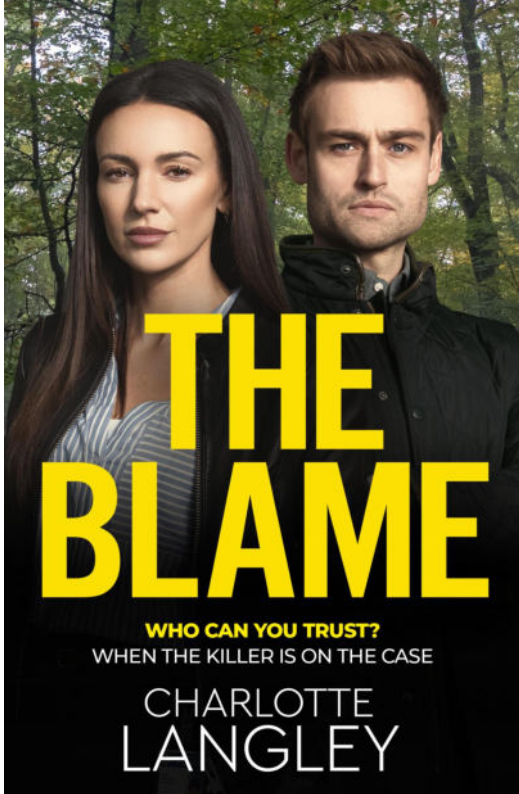
The day she vanished, she managed one desperate emergency services call: "Someone's taken me. I'm in the boot of a car. Please -". Then the line went dead.

I was the last person to see her alive. Now the police are closing in. But they're looking at the wrong suspect.

Because Steve, the devoted, devastated husband, isn't who he claims to be...

# THE BLAME

by Charlotte Langley



Rights sold: WEL (Bedford Square), Czech (Dobrovsky)

- A major primetime ITV series starring Michelle Keegan and Douglas Booth, from the producers of *Happy Valley*, airing on UK television Sept-Oct 2026 and streamed on ITVX with distribution to international streamers expected.
- This gripping debut psychological crime thriller explores a culture of misogyny in the police.
- Perfect for fans of Cara Hunter, Tana French and Jane Harper.

**Two detectives begin a love affair, only for one of them to become the prime suspect in a chilling murder.**

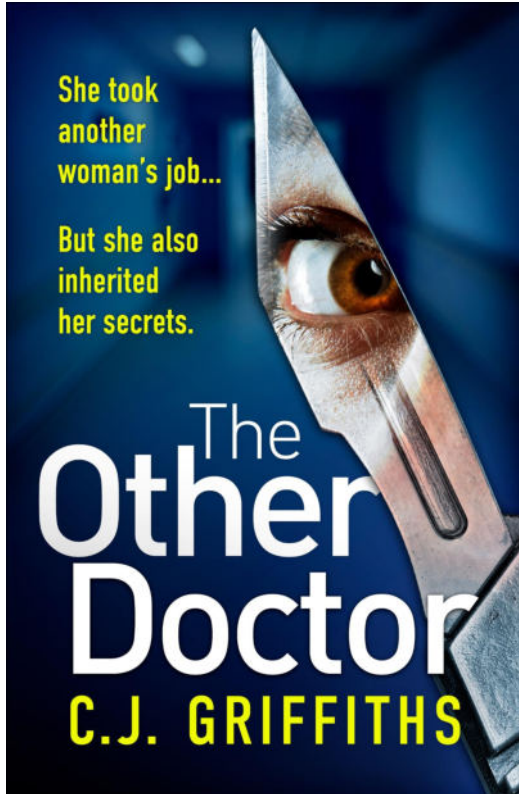
Detective Erin Crane is assigned to the investigation into sixteen year old Sophie Madson's murder along with her partner, detective Tom Radley. Over the years they've formed a close professional bond built on mutual trust and a shared contempt for the unscrupulous head of the anti-corruption team, Walker.

This case will prove a bigger test of their relationship than either of them could ever have imagined...

THE BLAME is now the first in a series with book 2, THE INTRUSION, available and Book 3 is being written.

# THE OTHER DOCTOR

by C.J. Griffiths



Rights sold: WEL (Bedford Square)

- Chris Griffiths is a **first response paramedic, anaesthetic practitioner and resuscitation officer.**
- A twisted psychological fiction about power and ethics in this **medical crime thriller.**
- Author's first novel **MALE, UNKNOWN** was **shortlisted for the CWA Debut Dagger Award.**
- For fans of Jack Jordan, Tess Gerritsen, and Alice Feeney.

An agency doctor finds herself caught in a web of lies around a medical cold case, a high-level hospital cover-up and a claustrophobic domestic triangle.

This is one shift she should have turned down...

Jess McBride is a locum doctor whose life turned upside down ten years previously when she was blamed for an event which resulted in a patient death. After accepting an ongoing assignment to cover the work of paediatric consultant Zoe Furniss, she is attacked on shift by a man expecting her to be Zoe.

Jess and Zoe speak and the two form a bond over their shared pasts. But Jess can sense that Zoe isn't telling the whole truth ...

**Chris Griffiths** has worked on writers' shadow scheme with BBC's Casualty, and his writing is based on his lived experience in his 25+ year career with the NHS.

# MURDER LIVE ON AIR

## by Lorna Morrow



Rights sold: ANZ (Allen & Unwin), publishing August 2027

- A closed set (literally) thriller.
- Author is a television director & producer (*Dancing with the Stars*, *The Masked Singer*).
- Rural outback **Australian setting**.
- **UK/Comm, US/Can and translation rights available.**
- **First in an interconnected series** of TV-based locked room thrillers.
- Perfect for fans of Clare Mackintosh.

### Lights, camera, murder.

In your daily episode of panel show *Unfiltered*, it's not uncommon for tensions to run high. Panellists disagree, guests throw unexpected curveballs, all the while the director fights to maintain control of her presenters, guests and gallery.

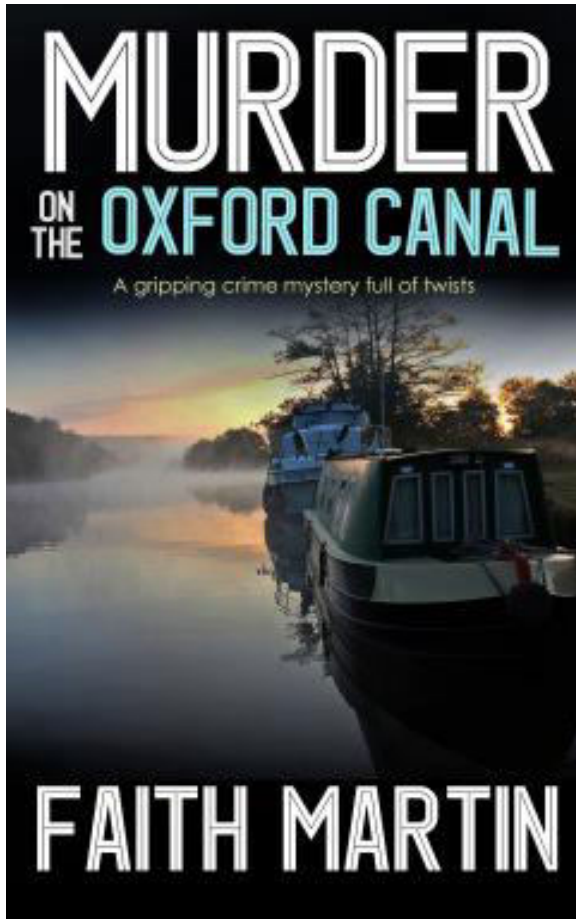
But things go murderously off script in *Unfiltered's* 10th anniversary special when a particularly heated debate ends with their most controversial celebrity panellist slumped dead in their chair. A return to their roots (and old studio) for this special episode has stirred up buried memories and emotions for more than one, but who would be brazen enough to kill in such plain sight?

Has one of the panellists finally snapped? Has a member of production resorted to murder in a desperate attempt to seize back control? Or has an audience member arrived to the record with murderous intentions?



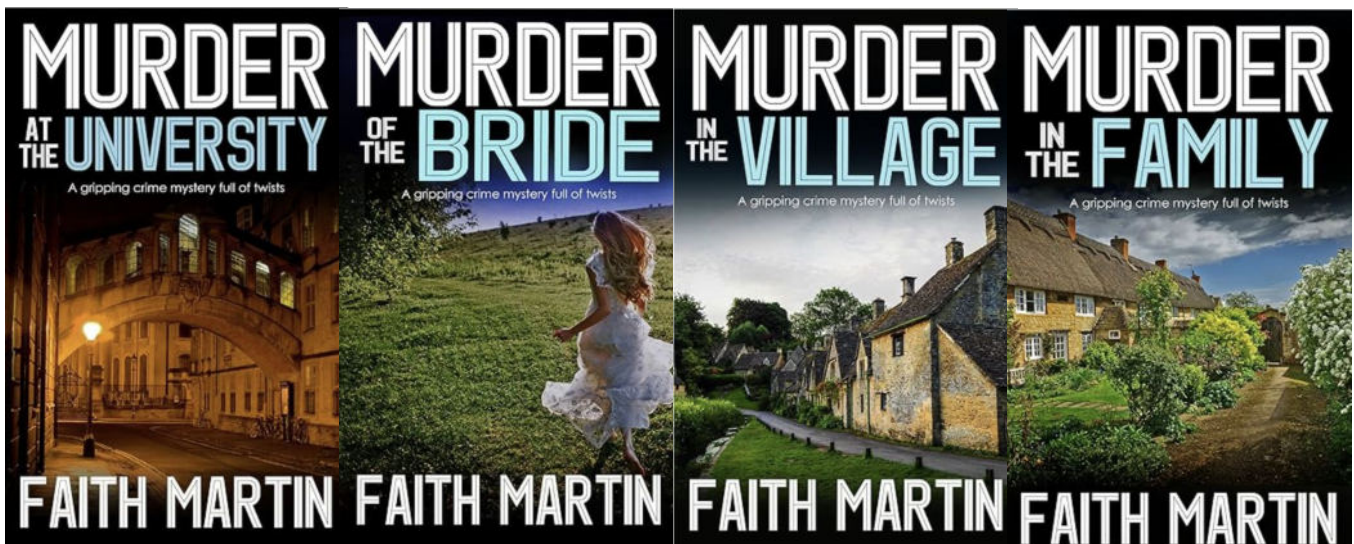
# The DI Hillary Greene Series

## by Faith Martin



Rights sold: WEL (Joffe Books), German (Winterfeld Verlag), Dutch (Wonderland), Polish (Dressler Dublin), Danish (Gyldendal Astra), Slovenian (Desk d.o.o.), Russian (Kariera Press). Previously optioned for television (Play Media, Canada).

- **23 book series.**
- **Over 3 million copies sold.**
- One of the world's favourite detectives, DI Hillary Greene lives on a canal boat in Oxfordshire and solves tricky murder cases.
- Faith Martin was listed as one of the **top ten most read authors of the last decade by Amazon Kindle**, with **over 1 billion page reads.**
- Gripping crime mysteries full of well-observed characters.
- Perfect for fans of Agatha Christie, Colin Dexter or Ruth Rendell.



# The Miss Merrill & Aunt Violet Mysteries

## by Anita Davison



Rights sold: WEL (Boldwood), Italian (Mondadori), Russian (Sindbad)

- **6 book complete series.**
- **Over 185,000 unit sales** of the series so far (Book 1 54,000 units; Book 2 23,000; Book 3 15,000; Book 4 21,000).
- **London-set Golden Age mystery series**, perfect for fans of Agatha Christie, T E Kinsey and Helena Dixon.
- From the author of the Flora Maguire mysteries.

“A lovely mystery evocative of the period from a talented writer,” - Helena Dixon.

### MURDER IN THE BOOKSHOP

Working in the dusty bookshop that her Aunt Violet mysteriously inherited, Hannah Merrill is accustomed to finding twists in every tale. But discovering her beloved best friend Lily-Anne, with a paper knife through her heart, in the middle of the bookshop, is *not* a plotline she saw coming...



# WOLF SIX by Alex Shaw



Rights sold: WEL (Boldwood Books). **8 book series.**

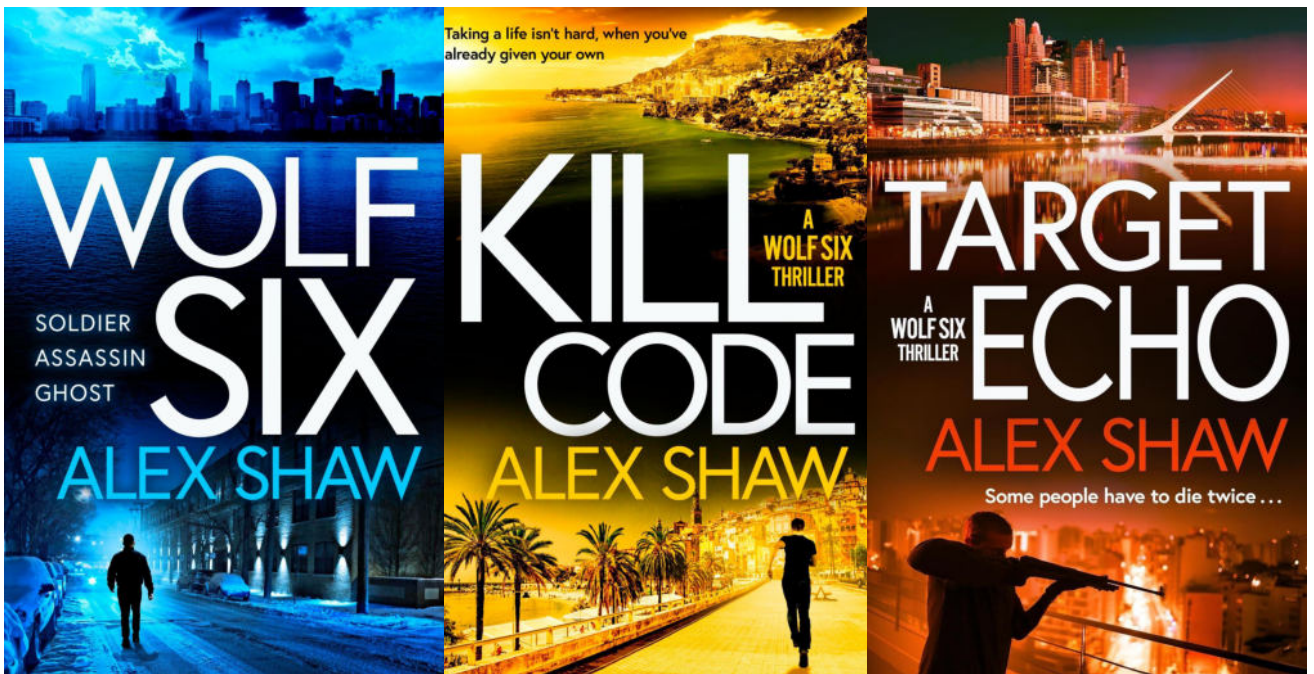
- Features a Ukrainian ex-special forces elite who now works as an assassin but only kills those who harm others, including his former employers.
- **WOLF SIX has sold 45,000 units and has over 2,800 ratings on Amazon.co.uk.**
- Three books so far in this ongoing series.

**Alex Shaw** is the **internationally-bestselling** author of the Aidan Snow, Jack Tate, Wolf Six and Sophie Racine thriller series. **TOTAL BLACKOUT**, the first Jack Tate thriller, was **shortlisted for the Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize** in 2021.

His new action thriller series **WOLF SIX**, published by Boldwood, features the adventures of a disillusioned assassin Ruslan Akulov (Wolf Six). Akulov is a Ukrainian who was brought up in Russia following the death of his parents, but who turned against Russia after serving in the elite within the elite of its special forces, following service in Syria. He lives by a code of ethics, a 'kill code', which means that he only kills those who harm others. However, those he is hired to kill and enemies from his past have no such code...

Set across Europe, the US and the Middle East, these are epic action thrillers and confirmed crowd pleasers with tense action at their core!

Author Rights History: **COLD BLOOD, COLD BLACK, COLD EAST, COLD KILLS, TOTAL BLACKOUT, TOTAL FALLOUT** (German, Luzifer Verlag).





# The DI Fraser Brodie Series

## by Kerry Watts

Rights sold: WEL (Embla, Bonnier Books)

- **6-book series.**
- A **Scottish** crime thriller series following insomniac detective Fraser Brodie set across the Inner and Outer Hebrides.
- **Book 1 unit sales: 18,000.**

**Anyone who talks will soon be silenced...**

After his twin brother's imprisonment for murder, DI Fraser Brodie has devoted his life to catching the very worst criminals of the Hebrides. When a local mechanic is found dead and mutilated, and more bodies start turning up, Brodie is on the hunt for a serial killer. The investigation isn't easy to crack though and when he discovers the missing link between the victims has connections to his own past, the race is on to find the culprit before more damage is done...



# CHRISTMAS AT HONEYCOMBE BAY

## by Lilac Mills



Rights sold: US/Can (Dell Books, Penguin Random House USA); UK/Comm excluding Canada (Head of Zeus), publishing 29th September 2026

- Sold in a **hotly-contested four-way auction** in a **six-figure deal**.
- Author lifetime unit sales: **675,000+**.
- An uplifting seasonal romance **series** by a **bestselling author**, set on the **Devon coast**.

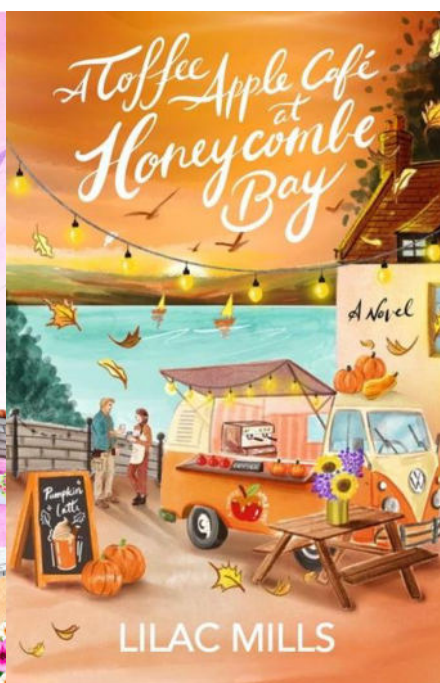
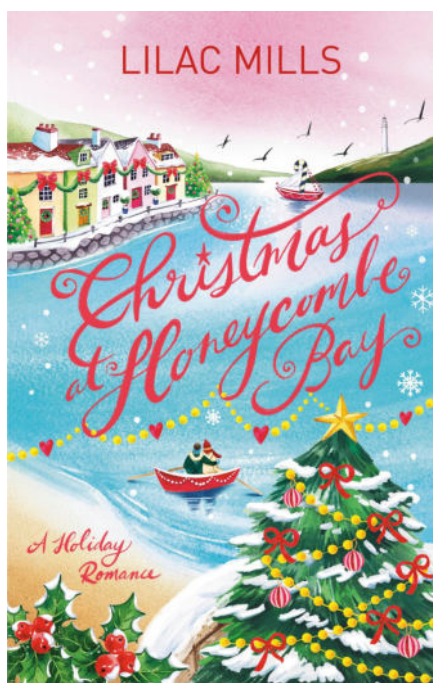
Author Rights History: German (MORE by Aufbau Digital); Italian (Newton Compton)

**A retiree and a widower fall in love and rediscover the joy of Christmas playing Mr and Mrs Claus for a single Mum and her child in a cosy seaside guest house.**

Eloise thinks Christmas is overpriced and overhyped, and without any family to share it with, she feels isolated. Determined to avoid the most magical time of year, she heads to Honeycombe Bay. Surely a seaside village in the middle of winter won't be too festive?

Ever since his wife passed, Bart hasn't felt up to welcoming visitors to his guest house. Faced with another long, lonely winter, and having become more Scrooge than Santa, Bart is dreading Christmas. So when he's contacted by someone who dislikes decking the halls just as much as him, Bart opens his guest house to people who want to escape all things festive.

Christmas isn't easy to ignore though, and when fate forces Bart to give shelter to a mother and child, Eloise finds herself playing Mrs Claus to Bart's Santa. Will they realise that, sometimes, the best way to escape Christmas is to let it into your heart?



# STUCK WITH YOU FOR CHRISTMAS

## by Jen Smith



Rights sold: WEL (Pellerin Books), publishing November 2026.

- **Award-shortlisted author.**
- A heartwarming, steamy festive romance about second chances, starting over and finding love when you least expect it.
- Set in England's most famous Christmas town in Somerset.
- About mid-life characters with real-life problems.
- **Perfect for fans of Sarah Morgan, Heidi Swain and Milly Johnson.**

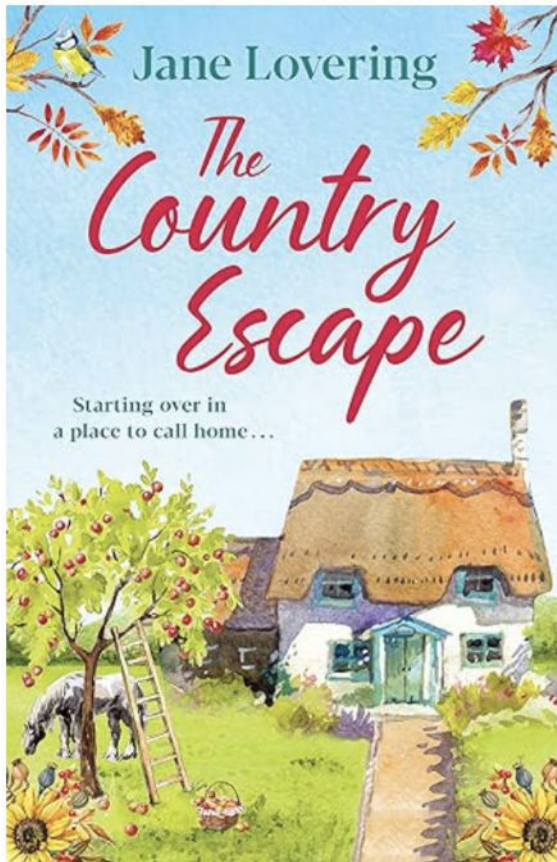
Event planner Natasha needs a distraction this December. Facing her first ever Christmas without her children, when England's most Christmassy town needs saving from a PR disaster, she packs her bags, ready to spend the season working not wallowing - mulled wine strictly optional.

Stained glass window restorer Will is counting the days until Christmas is over. Ever since a terrible tragedy shattered his Christmas five years ago, he wants nothing to do with festive cheer. But his biggest job is restoring a pair of ancient church windows, at the heart of the very celebrations he's spent years avoiding...

Both of them are faking their way through the most wonderful time of the year. Can gingerbread, mistletoe and a little festive magic thaw their frozen hearts? Or will it take a snowstorm to show them it's never too late for a second chance at love?

# Christmas Steepleton Series

## by Jane Lovering



Rights sold: WEL (Boldwood), Italian (Newton Compton)

**For fans of Julie Caplin and Trisha Ashley.**

Leaving London and her ex-husband behind, Katie and her 14 year-old daughter Poppy move to very ramshackle coastal cottage.

Harvest Cottage has been unloved for many years, so bringing it back to life is slow and expensive. But even as things are looking up, including her new friendship with Gabriel which might blossom into something more romantic, could the reality of a tough country winter send Katie and Poppy scurrying back to the comforts of town?

Christmas Steepleton is a quirky seaside village in Dorset, England created by **award-winning author** Jane Lovering, playing on the name of real Dorset village Winterbourne Steepleton.

The series of linked standalone **seasonal romance novels** comprises of 3 novels with 3 more to be published in 2027 and 2028 themed around a lighthouse and beach huts.

1. CHRISTMAS SECRETS BY THE SEA
2. A SEAGULL SUMMER
3. THE COUNTRY ESCAPE

**Author's Lifetime Unit Sales:**  
**400,000+**

### Author Prize History:

Contemporary Romantic Novel of the Year: *A Cottage Full of Secrets*;

Fantasy Romantic Novel of the Year: *Living in the Past*;

Romantic Novel of the Year: *Please Don't Stop the Music*.

### Author Rights History:

German (LYX Verlag); Italian (Newton Compton); Norwegian (Cappelen Damm); Lithuanian (Alma Littera); Romanian (Editura Litera)



# CHRISTMAS AT THE LITTLE CORNISH BAKERY



by Jennifer Bibby

Rights sold: WEL (Bonnier Zaffre)

- Feel-good, community seasonal romance series **set in Cornwall (4 books)**.
- **Award-shortlisted author.**
- Perfect for fans of Julie Caplin and Phillippa Ashley.

**A cosy Cornish village. A baker with a broken heart. And the community who piece it back together.**

After a crushing breakup and the loss of her beloved grandmother, Lola escapes to charming Polcarrow to start over and pursue her dream of opening a cafe. But she finds herself drawn into village life and straight into the path of disarmingly attractive vicar Tristan. As sparks fly and Christmas magic fills the air, long-buried secrets surface. Will Lola protect her heart or take a leap of faith for a love that could be written in the stars?



# Dreaming Spires Romantic Mysteries

## by Maxine Barry



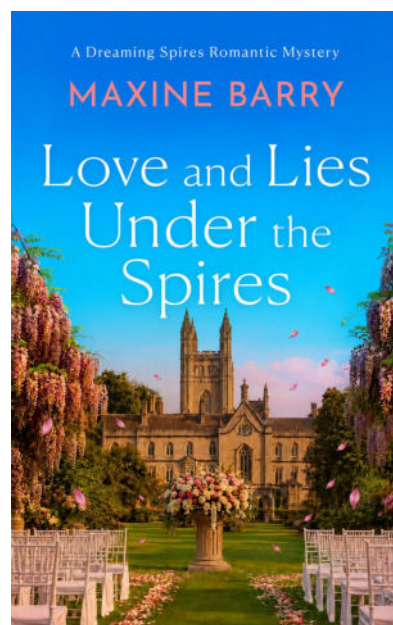
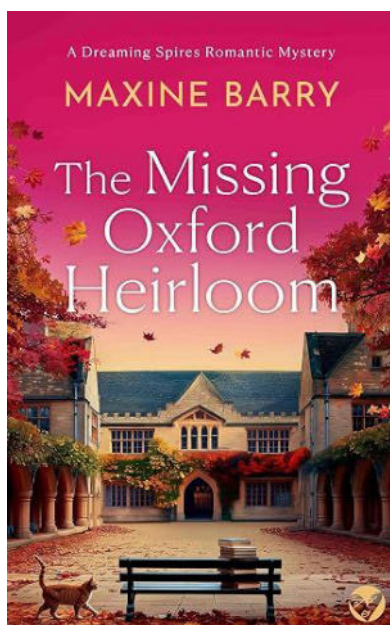
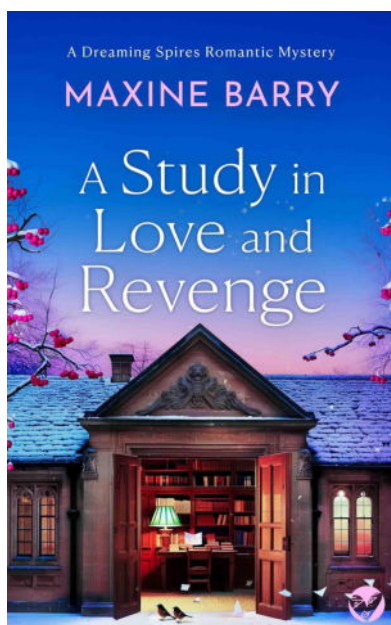
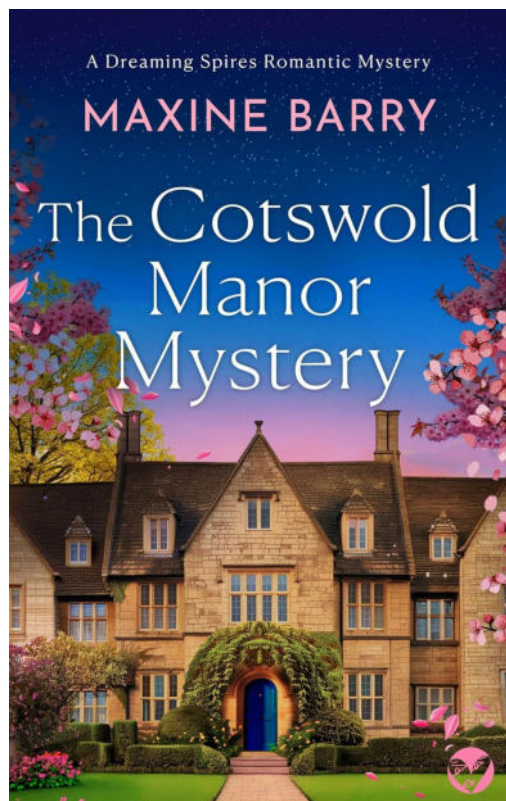
Rights sold: WEL (Joffe Books)

**Multi-million bestselling author** Faith Martin writing as Maxine Barry.

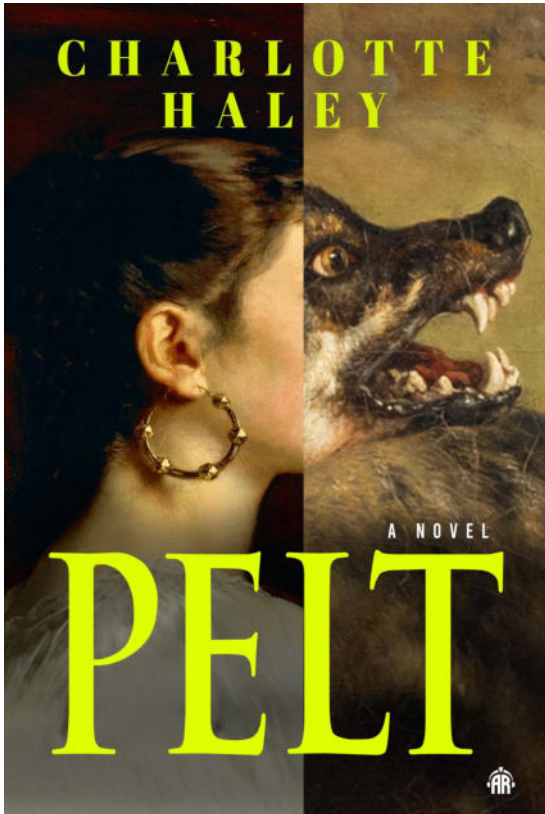
For fans of R.L. Killmore's *Cinnamon Falls Mysteries*, Nora Roberts, Catherine Cowles, Claire Kingsley, Elle Cosimano and *Pretty Little Liars*.

**9 Oxford-set cozy** romantic mystery novels being republished in 2026 as a linked series. Standalones but in the same setting.

- Book 1: THE COTSWOLD MANOR MYSTERY
- Book 2: A STUDY IN LOVE AND REVENGE
- Book 3: THE MISSING OXFORD HEIRLOOM
- Book 4: LOVE AND LIES UNDER THE SPIRES
- Book 5: AN OXFORD SECRET
- Book 6: LOVE AND OTHER FORGERIES
- Book 7: BOOKS, BOATS AND MURDER
- Book 8: SECRETS AT THE WINDRUSH HOTEL
- Book 9: A FIRST DEGREE MURDER



# PELT by Charlotte Haley



Rights sold: WEL (Angry Robot), publishing November 2027

- **Weird girl horror** for fans of Monika Kim and Mona Awad.
- ***Nightbitch* meets *The Blair Witch Project*.**
- Set in the North East of England (Sunderland) and Scotland (Edinburgh).
- WEL rights sold in a **hotly-contested auction.**

**She's so hungry...**

**“In nature, an abundance of prey requires a new predator.”**

Roz is a disillusioned millennial working in a failing costume shop. She has lost all motivation for following her dream and finding her path in life as an artist.

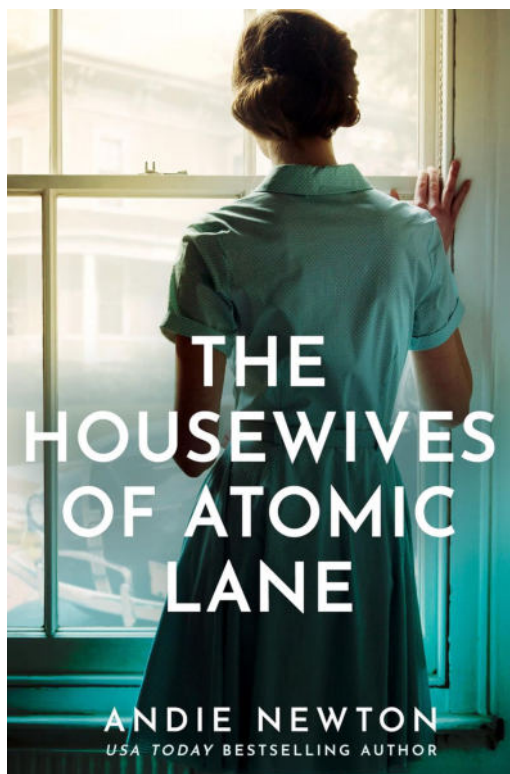
When local filmmaker Maud Barnes comes into the shop looking for a werewolf mask, Roz's dormant passion for SFX makeup and mask-making is awakened, and she embraces the opportunity to get involved with Maud's indie horror film.

However, Roz herself is changing...physically. On the film set, a monstrous presence in the trees seems to be stalking her. It starts to become clear that the mask she has created has woken the beast inside her.

**Charlotte Haley** is a lifelong horror fan, film fanatic, and black belt in Shogun karate. PELT, was recently shortlisted for the Scottish Book Trust's Ignite Fellowship for Emerging Writers 2025. She lives in Edinburgh and works for the Scottish Wildlife Trust.

# THE HOUSEWIVES AT ATOMIC LANE

by Andie Newton



Rights sold: WEL (One More Chapter, HarperCollins)

- A brand new story from the **USA Today bestselling novelist inspired by her own family history.**
- Four housewives. One quiet street. A Cold War secret that could destroy everything.

In a town built around America's most secretive nuclear site, housewife Betty knows the rules: don't ask questions and don't listen too closely.

But when the Beckers move in, Betty and the other wives start to notice things. Headlights in the dark. Whispered voices on the wind. A beautiful new neighbour with too many secrets - and it's not long before suspicion turns into something far more dangerous.

As the women close in on the truth, they must risk their marriages, their freedom and even their lives...

## A CHILD FOR THE REICH



Rights sold: WEL (HarperCollins), French (City Editions), Italian (Newton Compton), Spanish (Newton Compton), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm), Danish (Lindbak + Lindbak), Swedish (Gyldendal Astra)

WEL Sales: 33,000+ (eBook); 13,000+ (paperback)



## THE SECRET PIANIST

Rights sold: WEL (HarperCollins), Norwegian (Cappelen Damm), Danish (Lindbak + Lindbak), French (City Editions)

WEL Sales: 18,000+ (eBook); 5,000+ (paperback)



# The Newspaper Girls Series

## by Lesley Eames

Rights sold: WEL (Transworld, PRH)

- **Multi award-winning author with 4.5/5 average Amazon star rating.**
- A page-turning WW2 historical fiction series guaranteed to warm your heart.
- Perfect for fans of Dilly Court and Rosie Goodwin.

Author Rights History: Swedish and Danish (North Audio Publishing), Arabic (Majarrah)

### Will she find the strength to start again?

When Jenny Gregory leaves wartime London for the quiet town of Allanby Cross, she feels as though her hopes for the future are slipping away. But an unexpected offer to become the editor for the struggling Allanby Cross Gazette gives her a chance to begin again.

Eager to prove herself, Jenny throws her energy into reviving the paper and finding her place in the community. But when mistakes and mishaps begin to threaten her hard work, she starts to suspect someone wants her to fail.

With the support of new friends, Jenny must hold her nerve and uncover the truth before her chance at a fresh start slips through her fingers...





# THE WARTIME BOOKSHOP

by Lesley Eames



Rights sold: WEL (Transworld PRH), Swedish and Danish (North Audio), Arabic (Majarrah)

- **Record eBook pre-orders** for Transworld in the genre.
- Readers love this uplifting saga series: 4.6/5 stars average Amazon rating.
- **Over 132,000 units sold WEL.**
- A nostalgic and heartwarming WWII drama about a community-run bookshop in a small English village.
- **6 book series**, perfect for fans of Donna Douglas and Elaine Everest.

## MEET THE CHARACTERS

**Alice** is nursing an injured hand and a broken heart when she moves to the village of Churchwood at the outbreak of war.

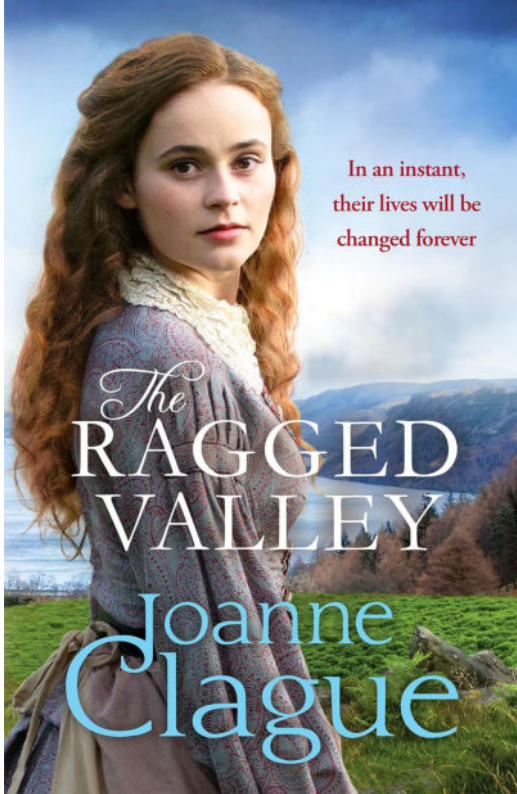
**Kate** lives with her father and brothers on Brimbles Farm, who treat her no better than a servant. Shunned by the village, Kate longs for a friend.

**Naomi** is looked up to for owning the best house in the village. But privately, she carries the hurts of childlessness, a husband who has little time for her.





# The Sheffield Sagas by Joanne Clague



Rights sold: WEL (Canelo)

- Sheffield-set historical saga series (**6 books**).
- **Inspired by the real events** of the Great Sheffield Flood of 1864 and a real life Victorian institution in The House of Help for Friendless Girls.
- Perfect for fans of Dilly Court, Emma Hornby and Elisabeth McNeill.

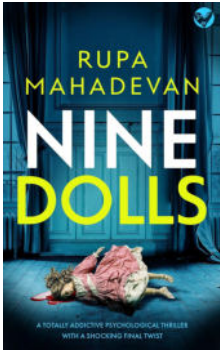
## THE RAGGED VALLEY

From the wreckage, they must piece together new lives for themselves...

Determined not to waste his life toiling for his cruel brother, Silas arrives in town to seek his fortune. Harriet has reconciled herself to a life no better than domestic service. And John Gunson, Chief Engineer at the Sheffield Waterworks Company, has just completed his crowning glory: the Dale Dyke dam. But one stormy night, the unthinkable happens. The dam bursts. A wall of water is unleashed, destroying everything in its path...



# Crime and Thriller



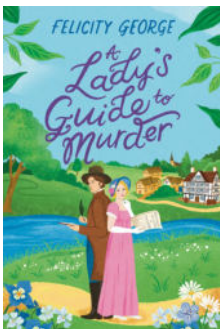
**NINE DOLLS** by Rupa Mahadevan (WEL eBook & paperback, Joffe Books; WEL audio, Audible Studios; Greek, Anubis)

A friends' reunion for the Hindu Festival of Dolls turns deadly when the ritual is broken and the dolls reveal secrets in this award-winning psychological thriller set in rural Scotland.



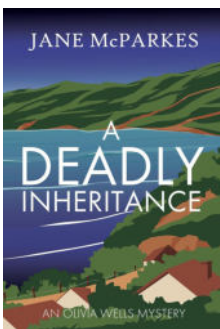
**GOING, GOING, GONE** by Nasheema Lennon (WEL, HarperNorth)

A twisty, domestic psychological thriller. Imani buys the house of her best friend, who disappeared 20 years ago, at auction. But fixer-uppers always come with nasty surprises...



**A LADY'S GUIDE TO MURDER** by Felicity George (WEL, Orion)

This Regency romance/mystery crossover sees a Duchess flee and team up with a journalist to prove her innocent of her husband's murder.



**The Olivia Wells Mysteries** by Jane McParkes (WEL eBook & paperback, Bedford Square; WEL audio, Audible Studios)

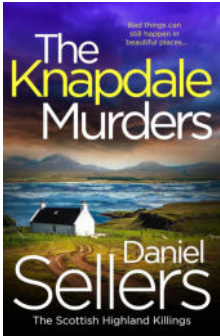
Character-driven Cornish 4-book cozy mystery series set in a beautiful village full of dangerous secrets, featuring an eco-architect amateur sleuth.



**SLEUTH** by Charlotte Langley (WEL, Bedford Square)

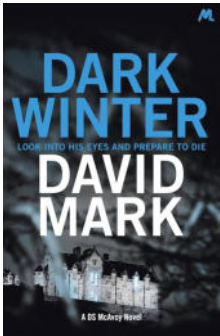
Two women hunting the same killer. One seeks justice. One seeks fame. Both have something to hide. A small-town thriller where a detective and a YouTuber race to expose the truth.

# Crime and Thriller



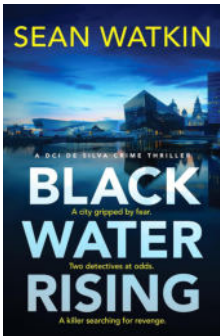
## **The Scottish Highlands Killing series by Daniel Sellers (WEL, Boldwood)**

A brand new crime thriller series by a bestselling author set in the Scottish Highlands.



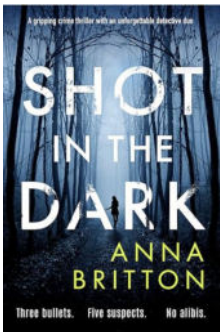
## **The DS McAvoy series by David Mark (WEL, Hodder/Severn House; German Books 1-3, dotbooks)**

A gritty, Northern English-set 14 book ongoing crime series by a Sunday Times bestselling author.



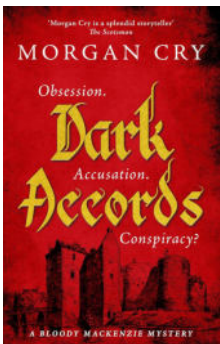
## **The DCI De Silva series by Sean Watkin (WEL, Canelo)**

A sinister app, police corruption and a twenty year-old cold case which links two murders are intertwined in this 3-book Liverpool thriller series.



## **The Martin & Stern series by Anna Britton (WEL, Canelo)**

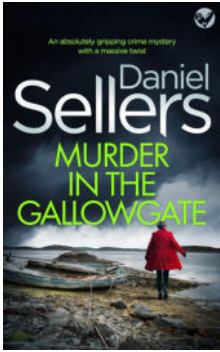
An interactive and immersive 3-book crime thriller series set in the New Forest featuring an unforgettable female detective partnership.



## **DARK ACCORDS by Morgan Cry (WEL, Severn House)**

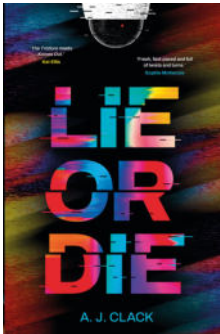
A brand new Scottish historical crime series in which a woman accused of witchcraft strikes a deal with a lawyer renowned for defending disgraced women.

# Crime and Thriller



## **The Detective Lola Harris Mysteries by Daniel Sellers (WEL, Joffe Books)**

A complete 6-book Scottish crime series following a former hairdresser turned detective charged with solving some of the most high stakes crime investigations in gritty Glasgow.



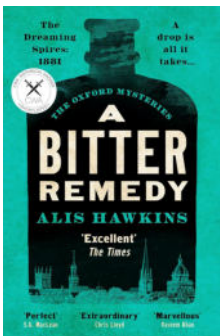
## **LIE OR DIE by A. J. Clack (WEL excluding Canada, Firefly Press; German, Fischer Sauerländer)**

An award-winning YA thriller in which a murder mystery reality TV show turns deadly when the contestants start dying for real. *The Traitors* meets *Squid Game*.



## **HOW TO KILL YOUR BIGGEST FAN by Helen Blair (WEL, Bolinda; German, Bastei Lübbe; Russian, Eksmo)**

A jaded romance author's longtime stalker goes missing in this darkly comic cat and mouse crime novel.



## **The Oxford Mysteries by Alis Hawkins (WEL, Canelo)**

A 3-book ongoing Victorian historical crime series by a 3-time CWA shortlisted author.



## **THE DROWNED GIRL by David Mark (WEL, Pellerin)**

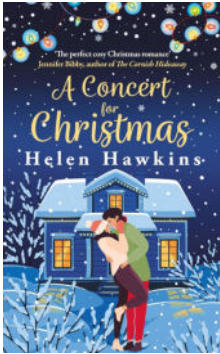
The first novel in an upcoming 4-book crime thriller series featuring ex-con and antihero Moses Crow by a *Sunday Times* bestselling and CWA shortlisted author.

# Romance



## **A LADY'S RISK by Felicity George (WEL, Orion)**

Heartwarming, sexy and unputdownable, this 3-book Regency romance series is perfect for fans of Georgette Heyer and Bridgerton.



## **A CONCERT FOR CHRISTMAS by Helen Hawkins (WEL, Allison & Busby)**

A cozy seasonal romance series set in the Cotswolds by an RNA award-nominated author, perfect for fans of Julie Caplin.



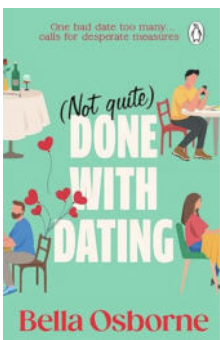
## **IN ITALY FOR LOVE by Leonie Mack (WEL, Boldwood; Danish, Forlaget Zara; German, MairDumont)**

A seasonal, autumnal romance by a bestselling author in which a woman finds herself stranded in rural Italy with no passport and a handsome musician for company.



## **The Chicago Heartbreakers by Ally Wiegand (WEL, Bonnier Books)**

A 3-book series of interconnected baseball and American football tropey sports romances set in Chicago, sold following a hotly-contested four-way auction.



## **(NOT QUITE) DONE WITH DATING by Bella Osborne (WEL, Transworld, PRH)**

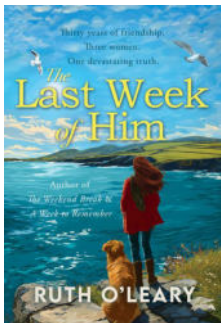
A new direction for this 850k+ copy bestselling, award-winning relatable rom com author in which statistician Nora applies a formula to her love life to see if she's overlooked The One.

# Commercial Fiction



**SOUL HATE** by Hannah Kingsley (WEL, One More Chapter, HarperCollins)

A *Sunday Times* bestselling Romantasy trilogy. In a world where everyone has a soul mate and a soul hate, what if you fall in love with the person you are fated to destroy?



**THE LAST WEEK OF HIM** by Ruth O'Leary (WEL, Poolbeg)

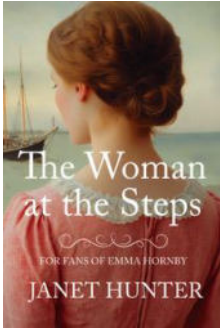
A brand new uplifting female friendship story by an *Irish Times* bestselling author in which three friends return to the west of Ireland for the week-long funeral and memorial of an old friend, where old wounds are reopened and long-buried secrets rise to the surface.



**THE FORTUNES OF OLIVIA RICHMOND** by Louise Davidson (UK/Comm exc Canada, Moonflower; Danish, Lindbak + Lindbak)

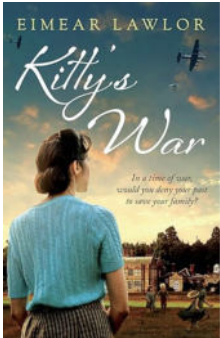
Julia neglected a child in her charge who drowned and is forced to take the only governess job she can, to the strange Olivia who thinks she can speak to the dead. A gothic Victorian chiller.

# Historical Saga



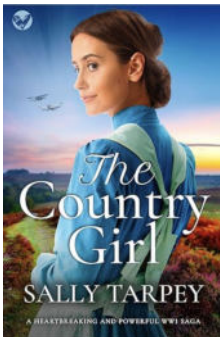
## **THE WOMAN AT THE STEPS by Janet Hunter (WEL, Poolbeg)**

Fans of Dilly Court and Rosie Goodwin will be swept away by this moving historical saga trilogy.



## **KITTY'S WAR by Eimear Lawlor (WEL, Head of Zeus)**

Ireland might be neutral, but Kitty Flynn is caught in her own war. Forced to give up her child at seventeen, she escaped to London but is forced to return to Ireland to nurse her brother and becomes embroiled in the treacherous world of espionage.



## **THE COUNTRY GIRL by Sally Tarpey (WEL, Joffe Books)**

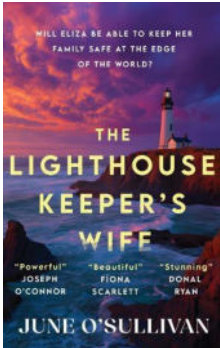
A heartbreaking but uplifting trilogy of sagas set in Hampshire spanning World War One, World War Two and the interwar years.



## **THE GUNNER GIRLS: EVIE'S STORY by Sylvia Broady (WEL, Joffe Books)**

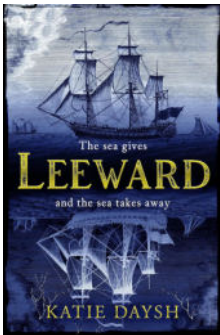
A young woman leaves home to become a gunner girl defending Britain against Luftwaffe attacks in WW2.

# Historical Fiction



## **THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER'S WIFE by June O'Sullivan (WEL, Poolbeg)**

An *Irish Times* bestseller inspired by a true story in which a young lightkeeper's wife struggles to protect her family in an inhospitable landscape at the edge of the known world.



## **The Nightingale & Courtenay Naval Adventures by Katie Daysh (WEL, Canelo)**

A trilogy of 1800s-set naval adventures, the first of which was a Sunday Times Historical Novel of the Year 2023.



## **THE FORGOTTEN LIFE OF CONNIE HARRIS by Carryl Church (WEL, Joffe Books)**

The discovery of an old film reel in an abandoned cinema reopens the mystery of a missing usherette and the fiancé she left behind in this dual timeline historical fiction, under shopping agreement for film/tv.



## **HER SECRET PROMISE by Suzie Hull (WEL, Poolbeg)**

She only wanted to save her child. She never expected to fall in love... A WW2 historical romance by an award-winning author.