

# Legend Press Rights



2019

Legend Press was founded in 2005 and is focused primarily on publishing literary fiction, crime thrillers, women's fiction, historical and young adult novels.

One of the fastest-growing independent publishers, Legend Press is passionate about championing new and high-profile authors and ensuring the book remains a product of beauty, enjoyment and fulfilment.

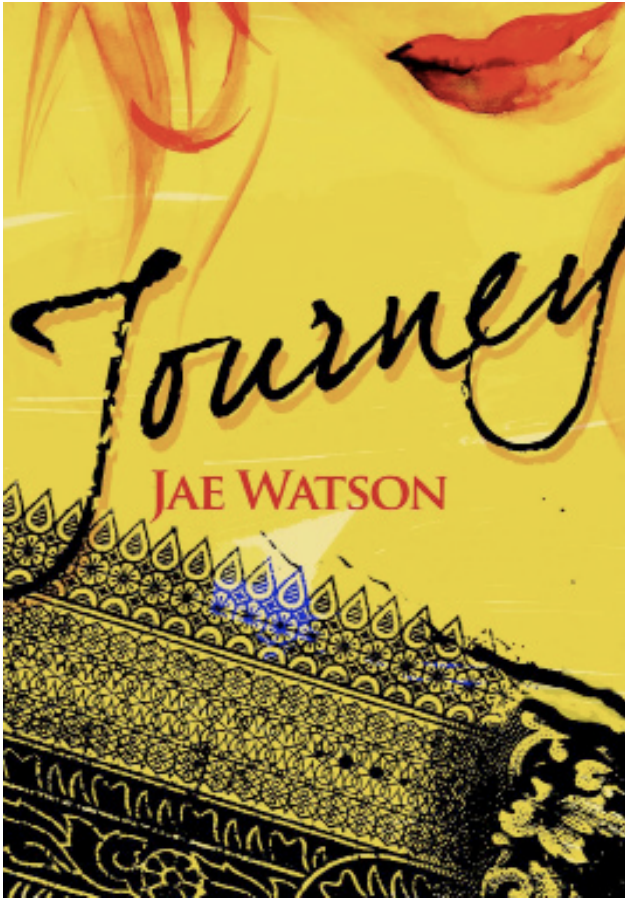
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# JOURNEY

JAE WATSON

1 April 2019



ISBN (Paperback): 9781789550368  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550351  
Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 272 pages  
Format: 198x129mm  
Markets: World  
Translation Rights: Yes  
Cover in design

Following the break-up of her relationship and unsure of her life's direction, Marianne leaves a London still reverberating from the terrorist bombings to travel for a year with the mysterious and beautiful Sara.

However, deep into the heart of chaotic and mystical India, events take a dramatic turn and, in the Holy City of Varanasi, Sara's body is discovered floating in the Ganges. As the investigation ensues, unexpected and shocking revelations cast a new light on Sara and take Marianne on a painful but vital journey to uncover the truth about her friend and also her own life.

Provides a deep exploration of emotions – trust, love, fear – relationships, human psychology, abuse, illness, fate and questions how well we can really know even those closest to us.

**'A fascinating read that kept me intrigued to the end. It is a novel that defies expectation and provides no cosy solutions.'** *Writewords.co.uk*

**'Must be a winner. Books, after all, don't just furnish a room. They fit very neatly into backpacks.'** *N16 Magazine*

**'Ambitious and bold...this is a book which ventures off the beaten track.'** *Roundtable Review*

**'You need to buy this book - it's a great novel, vibrant and colourful with a rich vein of insights, wit and wisdom.'** *Geoff Mather*

## Rich veins of insight, wit and wisdom

### Key Selling Points:

- Contemporary interest and passion for travelling
- Fascinating insight into India – from the landscape, the chaos, the proud people and also into the ritualistic and mystical

### Comparison Authors

Audrey Niffenegger, Elizabeth Gilbert and Monica Ali

### The Author:

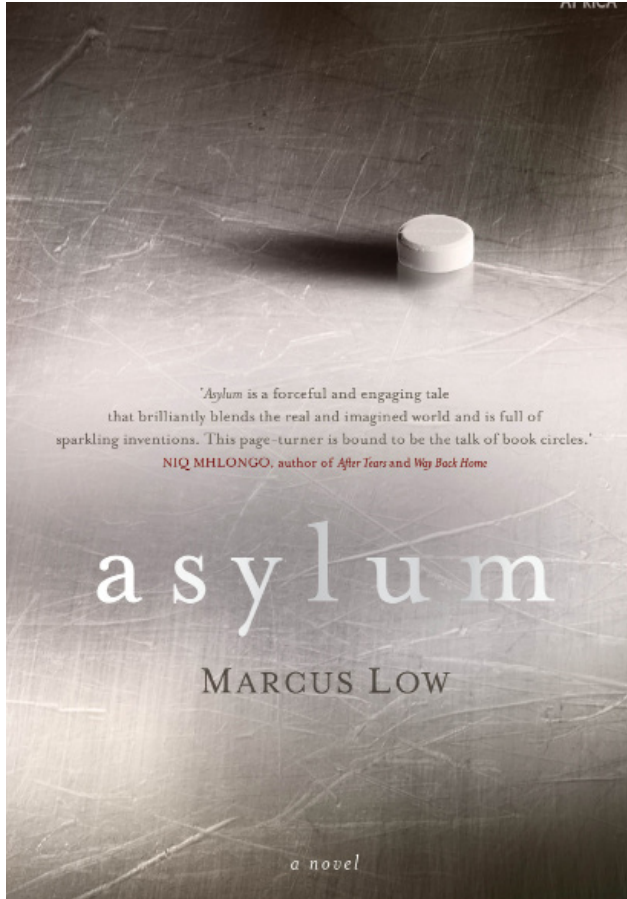
Jae Watson lives in St Albans. While studying Theology at Manchester University she developed an interest in world belief and human psychology. Jae has played saxophone in 'Hoodwink', an all-female indie rock-band, and travelled extensively.



# ASYLUM

MARCUS LOW

15 April 2019



ISBN (Paperback): 9781789550344

ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550337

Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)

Extent: 272 pages

Format: 198x129mm

Markets: World excl. Africa

Translation Rights: Yes

Cover in design -SA cover shown

Barry James is detained in a quarantine facility in the blistering heat of the Great Karoo. Here he exists in two worlds: the unforgiving reality of his incarceration and the lyrical landscapes of his dreams.

He has cut all ties with his previous life, his health is failing, and he has given up all hope. All he has to cling to are the meanderings of his restless mind, the daily round of pills and the journals he reluctantly keeps as testimony to a life once lived.

And then there's an opportunity to escape.

**'The most credible – and therefore the most disturbing – dystopian novel I had ever read'** *Sunday Times (SA)*

**'A searing vision of an all-too-possible world... a profound and wholly original voice.'** *Henrietta Rose-Innes, author of Green Lion and Nineveh*

**'A forceful and engaging tale that brilliantly blends the real and imagined world and is full of sparkling inventions. This page-turner is bound to be the talk of book circles.'** *Niq Mhlongo*

**'Thought-provoking, alluring and sensitively written... a new thrilling talent'** *Cape Times*

## The most credible dystopian novel ever

### Key Selling Points:

- Perfect for fans of post-apocalyptic fiction and classic prison escape thrillers
- Authentic writing, developed through Marcus's experience as a public health expert, specialising in TB and HIV

### Comparison Authors

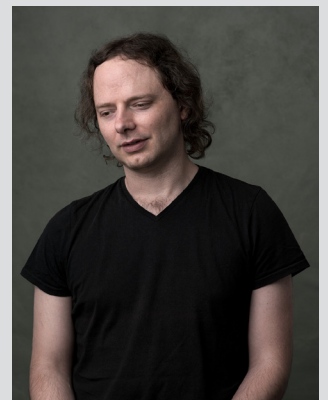
Camus and Solzhenitsyn

### The Author:

Marcus Low is a Cape Town based writer and public health specialist. His novel 'asylum' was in part inspired by the incarceration of patients with drug-resistant forms of TB in SA in 2008.

[marcuslow.com](http://marcuslow.com)

@MarcusLowx







A strange virus is sweeping the globe. Humans have become allergic to one another. Simply standing next to somebody could be a death sentence. A kiss could be fatal.

Angela is a woman trying to get by in this bewildering new world. Though she still lives with her husband and children, they lead separate lives. Confined to their rooms, they communicate via their computers and phones. In some ways, very little has changed.

That is, until she spots a mysterious stranger walking through town without even a face mask for protection. A man, it seems, immune to this disease. A man unlike anyone else she knows. A man it might just be safe to touch...

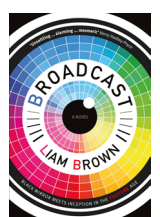
### Praise for Liam's writing:

**'Delivers a brilliant, ice-cold rush of horror as we follow our hero into a nightmare entirely of his own making. Truly a morality tale for our digital age.'** *Daily Mail*

**'The Truman Show meets The Circle in this claustrophobic story about corporate culture and social media.'** *Rabea Saleem, Bookriot*

**'A compulsive read and a clever Ballardian dystopian prophecy.'** *Kerry Hadley*

Other books by the author: *Real Monsters* (2015), *Wild Life* (2016), *Broadcast* (2017)



ISBN (Paperback): 9781789550405  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550399  
Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 308 pages  
Format: 198x129mm  
Markets: World  
Translation rights: Yes  
Cover in design

## Compulsive dystopian novel

### Key Selling Points:

- Previous novel *Broadcast* optioned for film by Annapurna Studios and sold rights in Turkey, Russia and Australia
- Promoted across WHSmith stores
- Taps into the current interest in dystopian novels in light of recent political movements

### Comparison Authors

Charlie Brooker, Dave Eggers and HG Wells

### The Author:

Liam Brown's debut novel *Real Monsters* was published in 2015 and long-listed for the Guardian's Not the Booker prize. He lives in Birmingham with his wife and two children.

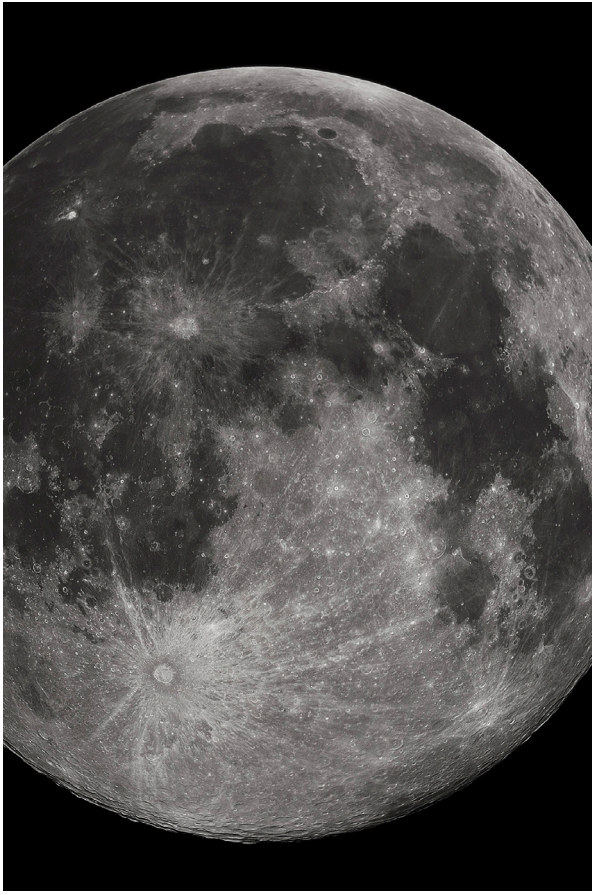
Follow Liam on Twitter  
@LiamBrownWriter



# FARZANEH AND THE MOON

15 May 2019

MATT WILVEN



When N meets Farzaneh he realises that something has been missing. Together they share a summer of blissful romance exploring the boundaries of sex, self and other.

Gradually though, Farzaneh begins to isolate herself. Immediately obsessed, and increasingly embroiled in her mysterious connection with the moon, N is forced to reappraise everything he knows.

The search for meaning and identity violently collide as they explore the limit of intimacy, love and our deepest darkest selves.

Farzaneh and the Moon will appeal to lovers of contemporary literary fiction with vibrant, accessible prose.

Praise for *The Blackbird Singularity*:

**Shortlisted for an Amazon Rising Star Award**

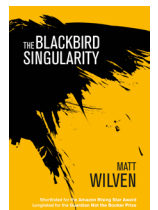
**Longlisted for Guardian Not the Booker prize 2016**

**Selected for WHSmith Fresh Talent 2017**

**'Intense and satisfyingly off-beat'** *Melissa DeCarlo,*  
*author of The Art of Crash Landing*

ISBN (Paperback): 9781789550245  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550238  
Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 272 pages  
Format: 198x129mm  
Markets: World  
Translation rights: Yes  
Cover in design

Other books by the  
author: *The Blackbird*  
*Singularity* (2016)



## Dark and original literary novel

### Key Selling Points:

- Pushes the boundaries of contemporary literary fiction, a dark and original novel about the search for meaning and identity
- Previous novel promoted in WHSmith's Fresh Talent campaign in 2017

### Comparison Authors

Haruki Murikami and Nell Zink

### The Author:

Matt Wilven's novel, *The Blackbird Singularity* was shortlisted for an Amazon Rising Star Award, longlisted for the Guardian's Not the Booker Prize and featured in WHSmith's Fresh Talent campaign (2017).

mattwilven.com  
@mattwilven





# THE ETON AFFAIR

WILLIAM COLES

31 May 2019



Seventeen-year-old schoolboy Kim is an idle drifter at one of Britain's most extraordinary institutions, Eton College – crammed with over a thousand boys and not a girl in sight. His head is full of the Falklands War and a possible army career, until the day he hears his new piano teacher, the beautiful but pained India, playing Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier. Kim's life is destined never to be the same again. An intensely passionate affair develops and he wallows in the wild and unaccustomed thrill of first love.

Twenty-five years on, Kim recalls that heady summer and how their fledgling relationship was so brutally snuffed out – finished off by his enemies, by the constraints of Eton, and by his own withering jealousy. The Eton Affair is the bittersweet story of a life-changing love.

**'A triumph.'** *Alexander McCall Smith*

**'My own piano teacher was called Mr Bagston and frankly I don't think any power on earth could have persuaded us to create a scene of the kind Coles so movingly describes!'** *Boris Johnson*

**' Outstanding... A wonderful story of first love.'** *Sunday Express*

**'Charming, moving, uplifting'** *The Wall Street Journal.*

ISBN (Paperback): 9781789550429

ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550412

Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)

Extent: 308 pages

Format: 198x129mm

Markets: World

Translation rights: Yes

(Cover in design)

Other books by the author: Lord Lucan (2009), Dave Cameron's Schooldays (2010), Spare Heir (2015)



## Uplifting Story of first love

### Key Selling Points:

- Film rights acquired, US rights sold to Soho Press.
- Proactive journalist author
- Commercial story of first love set in the world famous Eton College.

### Comparison Authors

David Nichols, Jojo Moyes

### The Author:

William Coles has been a journalist for 30 years and has worked for a number of papers including The Sun, The Express, The Mail and The Wall Street Journal.

wcoles.com

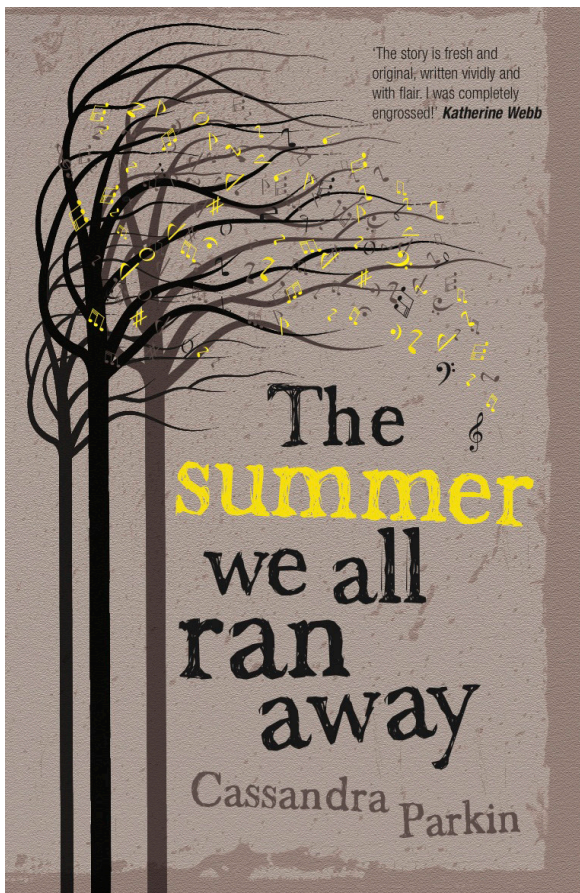
@WilliamColes1



# THE SUMMER WE ALL RAN AWAY

1 July 2019

CASSANDRA PARKIN



Nineteen year old Davey finds himself drunk, beaten and alone. He is rescued by the oddly-assorted inhabitants of an abandoned and beautiful house in the West Country, whose only condition for letting him join them is that he ask them no questions.

Nearly forty years ago in that same house, burned-out rock star Jack Laker writes a ground-breaking comeback album, and abandons the girl who saved his life to embark on a doomed and passionate romance with a young actress. Set on his own destructive path, alcohol fuelled parties lead to deceit, debauchery and even murder.

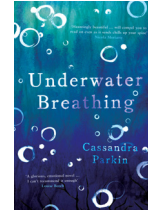
As Davey and his fellow housemate Miss try to reconstruct the pieces of the past and uncover the secrets of the house's inhabitants, both past and present, it becomes clear that the five strangers have all been drawn there by the events of that long-ago summer.

**Shortlisted for an Amazon Rising Star Award**

**'Fresh and original, written vividly and with flair. I was completely engrossed!' Katherine Webb**

**'Beautiful... A fascinating tale of the meeting of lost souls... Read it.' Jen Campbell**

ISBN (Paperback): 9781789550443  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550436  
Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 308 pages  
Format: 198x129mm  
Markets: World  
Translation rights: Yes  
Cover in design



Other books by the author: The Beach Hut (201 ), Lily's House (2016), The Winter's Child (201 ), Underwater Breathing (2018)

Enchanting and original read

## Key Selling Points:

- Shortlisted for Amazon Rising Star Award
- Popular female fiction author
- Author with established backlist

## Comparison Authors

David Nichols and Jojo Moyes

## The Author:

Cassandra Parkin grew up in Hull, and now lives in East Yorkshire. Her short story collection, New World Fairy Tales (Salt Publishing, 2011), won the 2011 Scott Prize for Short Stories.

[cassandraparkin.wordpress.com](http://cassandraparkin.wordpress.com)

@cassandrajaneuk

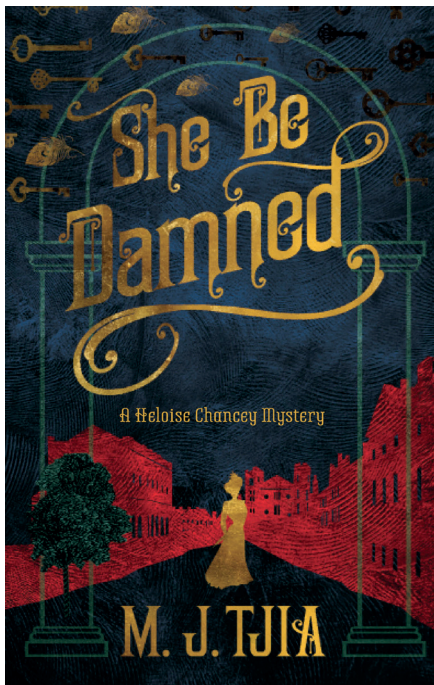




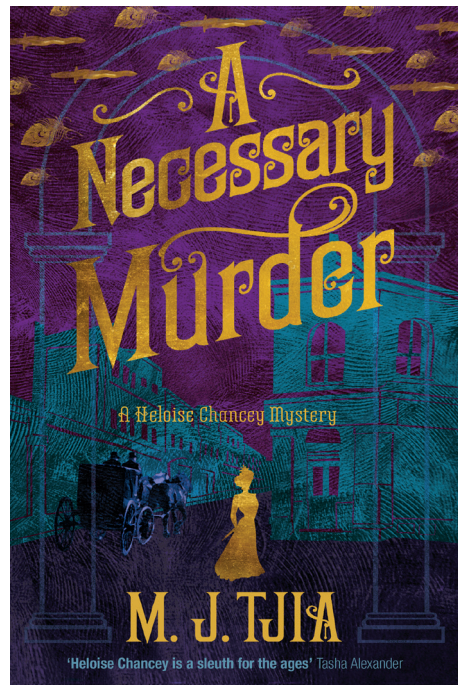
1 OCTOBER 2019

# THE DEATH OF ME

M. J. TJIA



Publication: August 2017  
ISBN (PB): 9781785079313  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781785079306  
Price: £8.99 (Print) £5.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 288 pages  
Format: 198x129mm  
Rights Held: World  
Rights Sold: ANZ



Publication: July 2018  
ISBN (PB): 9781787198791  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781787198784  
Price: £8.99 (Print) £5.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 272 pages ~ 80,000 words  
Format: 198x129mm  
Rights Held: World  
Rights Sold: ANZ



ISBN (PB): 9781789550481  
ISBN (Ebook): 9781789550474  
Price: £8.99 (Print) £4.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 272 pages  
Format: 198x129mm  
Translation rights: Yes  
Cover in design

## Key Selling Points:

- Award-winning Eurasian author interested in portraying racially hybridised characters
- A modern spin on a classic style of mystery writing

## Target Market:

Women, readers of crime, mystery and historical fiction

## Comparison Authors:

Agatha Christie and Val McDermid

## The Author:

M. J. Tjia has a PhD in Creative Writing and Literary Studies (QUT). Her novella *The Fish Girl* won Seizure's Viva la Novella, 2017. She has been shortlisted for the Josephine Ulrick Short Story Prize, Overland's Neilma Sidney Short Story Prize, Fish Short Story Prize, and the Luke Bitmead Bursary and longlisted for CWA dagger awards.

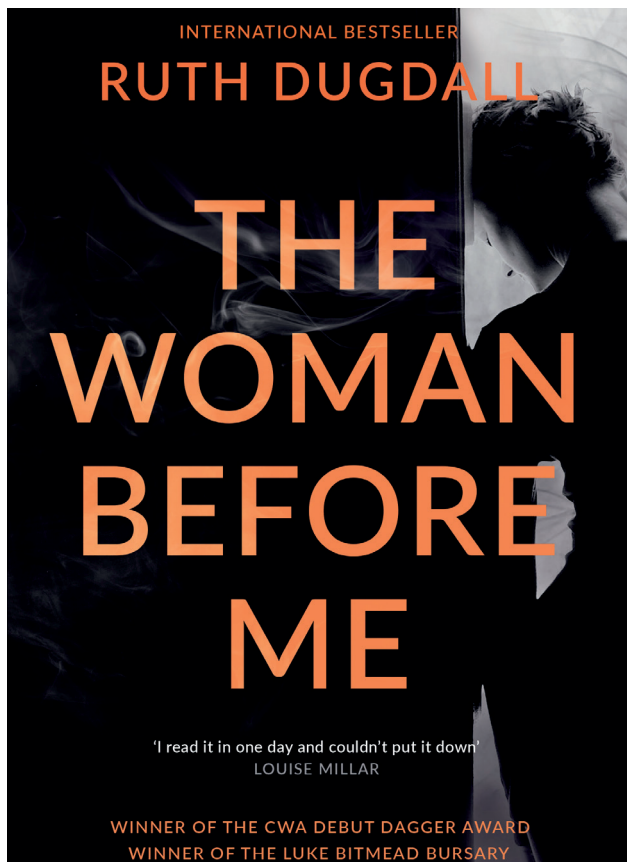
Her work has appeared in *Review of Australian Fiction*, *Rex*, *Peril* and *Shibboleth and Other Stories*. She lives in Brisbane, Australia, with her family.



BEST OF 2018

# THE WOMAN BEFORE ME- MAR 18

RUTH DUGDALL



**This multiple award-winning thriller remains an international bestseller after 8 years in the market and is now being published in a stunning new edition.**

Rose Wilks' life is shattered when her newborn baby Joel is admitted to intensive care. Emma Hatcher has all that Rose lacks. Beauty. A loving husband. A healthy son. Until tragedy strikes and Rose is the only suspect. Now, having spent nearly five years behind bars, Rose is just weeks away from freedom. Her probation officer Cate must decide whether Rose is remorseful for Luke's death, or whether she remains a threat to society.

Where is the line between love and obsession, can justice be served and, if so... by what means?

**'Dark, disturbing and authentic'** *CWA judging panel*

**'Impressive in its unflinching realism... a dark and haunting psychological thriller that possesses both depth and sensitivity.'** *Crime Time*

**'Gripping, original, authentic and, in the final few pages, utterly heartbreaking.'** *Erin Kelly*

**'An absolute tour de force that left me thinking for days'**  
*Alex Marwood*

Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)

Extent: 320 pages

Format: 198x129mm, ~80,000 words

Genre: psychological thriller

**Sales: our #1 bestseller of all time**

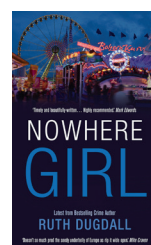
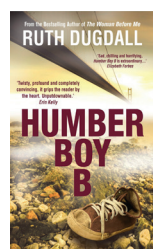
**Rights sold: Germany, USA, ANZ, India, Croatia & Italy**

Other books by the author:

*The Sacrificial Man* (2011)

*Humber Boy B* (2015)

*Nowhere Girl* (2015)



## Key Selling Points:

- Over 50,000 copies sold to date
- Over 300 reviews on Amazon with an average of 4.5 stars
- Winner of the CWA Debut Dagger Award

## Comparison Titles:

S.J. Watson, Gillian Flynn & Sophie Hannah

## The Author:

Ruth Dugdall worked a probation officer for a decade and now uses her knowledge of the criminal justice system to create realistic depictions of prison in her crime/thriller titles.

She is a recipient of the Luke Bitmead bursary for her writing and is now one of Legend Press' foremost crime authors.



# THE GREAT UNEXPECTED- AUG 18

DAN MOONEY



**"If you're going to end it, you better make it big. No slipping off bridges, it's undignified for men of our vintage. Go big or don't bother."**

Joel lives in a nursing home and he's not one bit happy about it. He doesn't like being told when to eat, when to sleep, when to take his pills. In fact, he doesn't like living at all, and he's decided he's going to end his life on his terms.

When he tells retired soap-actor Frank about his dark plan, Frank urges him to go out with a bang. Together, they embark on a mission to find the perfect suicide, and along the way, discover the strength of friendship when you really feel alone.

**'I've never quite read anything like it... funny, moving and terrifying all at once.'** Rick O'Shea

**'Dan [...] introduces us to a shocking post-trauma world where everything and nothing makes perfect sense'** Annie West, award-winning illustrator

Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £4.99 (Ebook)

Extent: 304 pages, ~90,000 words

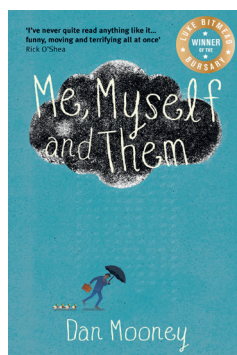
Format: 198x129mm

Genre: dark comedy/psychological fiction

**Rights Sold: US**

Other books by the author:

*Me, Myself and Them* (2017)



## Key Selling Points:

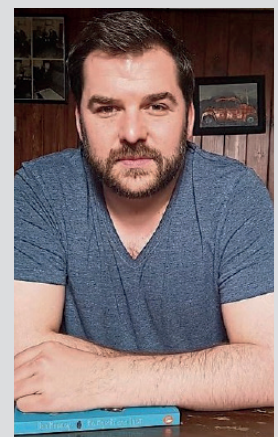
- A highly anticipated second novel from the winner of the Luke Bitmead Bursary 2016
- The US rights to both this title and Dan's first novel - *Me, Myself and Them* - have been sold to HarperCollins
- Featured as a front of shop UK promotion

## Comparison Titles:

*A Man Called Ove* & *The Easy Way Out*

## The Author:

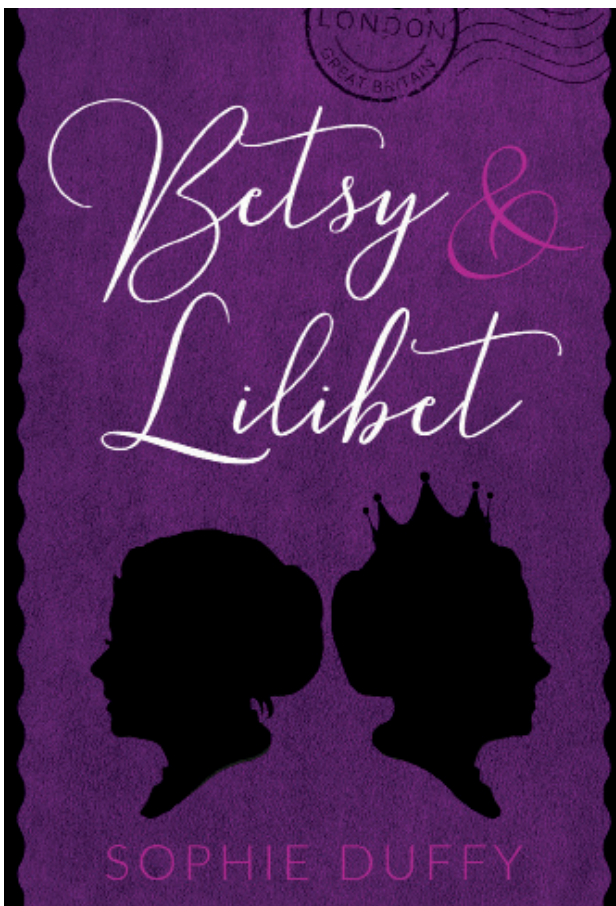
Dan Mooney is a 33-year-old writer, Air Traffic Controller and amateur filmmaker (he's a downright 'interesting man') who lives in Limerick City. His first novel, 'Me, Myself and Them' won him the Luke Bitmead Bursary in 2016, with reviewers striking comparisons to Mark Haddon. His highly anticipated second novel is looking likely to be one of Legend Press' top 10 sellers of 2018.





# BETSY AND LILIBET- OCT 18

SOPHIE DUFFY



**London, 1926. Two baby girls are born just hours and miles apart. One you know as the Queen of England, but what of the other girl- the daughter of an undertaker named in her honour?**

Betsy Sunshine grows up surrounded by death in war-torn London, watching her community grieve for their loved ones whilst dealing with her own teenage troubles... namely her promiscuous sister Margie. As Betsy grows older we see the how the country changes through her eyes, and along the way we discover the birth of a secret that threatens to tear her family apart.

Sophie Duffy dazzles in her latest work of family/historical fiction. A tale which spans generations to explore the life and times of a family at the heart of their community, the story of a stoic young woman who shares a connection with her queenly counterpart in more ways than one...

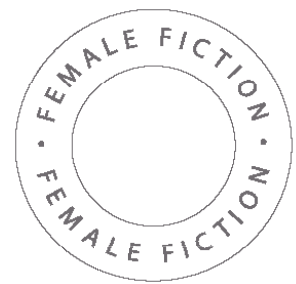
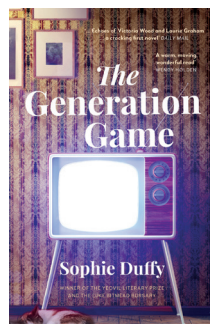
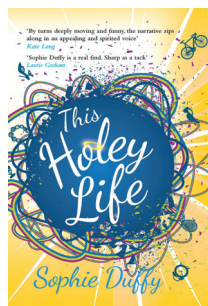
Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £5.99 (Ebook)  
Extent: 288 pages  
Format: 198x129mm, ~85,000 words  
Genre: historical fiction/family saga

## Other books by the author:

*This Holey Life* (2012)

*Brights Stars* (2015)

*The Generation Game* (2018)



## Key Selling Points:

- Winner of The Luke Bitmead Bursary, The Yeovil Literary Prize and shortlisted for the Harry Bowling Prize.

## Target Market:

For fans of domestic and literary fiction.

## Comparison Authors:

Kate Atkinson & Rosie Thomas



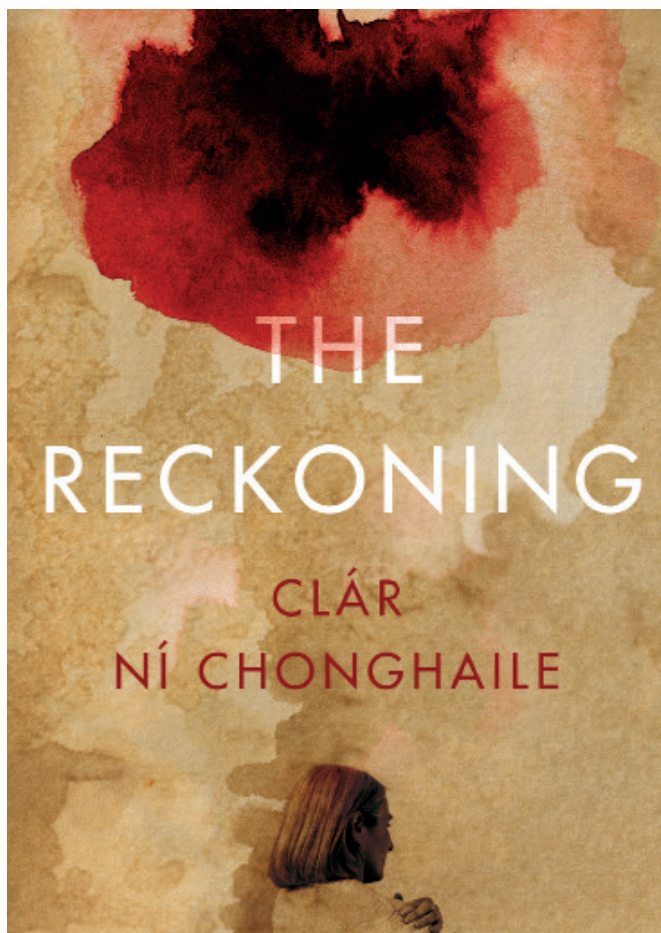
## The Author:

Sophie Duffy is the author of *The Generation Game* (2011), *The Holey Life* (2012) and *Brights Stars* (2015). Her work has won the Yeovil Literary Prize and the Luke Bitmead Bursary, and has been nominated for the Guardian Not the Booker and the Harry Bowling Prize.

She is a writer and creative writing tutor and mentor for CreativeWritingMatters, as well as an administrator for the Exeter Novel Prize and other literary competitions. Follow Sophie at @sophiestenduffy

# THE RECKONING- OCT 18

CLÁR NÍ CHONGHAILE



**'I have a story to tell you, Diane. It is my story and your story and the story of a century that made the world. When we reach the end, you will be the ultimate arbiter of whether it was worth your time. You will also sit in judgement on me.'**

In a cottage in Normandy, Lina Rose is writing to the daughter she abandoned as a baby. Now a successful if enigmatic author, she is determined to trace her family's history through the two wars that shaped her life.

But Lina can no longer bear to carry her secrets alone, and once the truth is out, can she ever be forgiven?

Price: £8.99 (Paperback) £5.99 (Ebook)

Extent: 288 pages

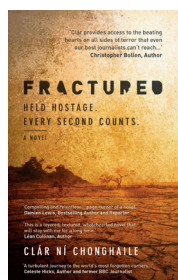
Format: 198x129mm

Genre:

Other books by the author:

*Rain Falls On Everyone* (2017)

*Fractured* (2016)



## Key Selling Points:

- Written by a successful author who gained experience working as a reporter in Kenya and Senegal.

## Target Market:

Fans of literary fiction

## Comparison Media:

*Homeland* & the podcast *Serial*

## The Author:

Clár Ní Chonghaile grew up in An Spidéal, County Galway, but has spent the last 20 years working as a reporter and editor in Spain, France, the Ivory Coast, Senegal and Kenya.

She now lives in St Albans, England, with her husband and two daughters. Her debut novel, *Fractured*, was published by Legend Press in 2016.

Follow Clár on Twitter @clarnic





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