



HIGHLIGHTS FRANKFURT 2020

FICTION

NON-FICTION

Deutsche Autoren (Belletristik)


**INA GRÜN:
AGATHE WITTERT MORGENLUFT**

Ein warmherziger Roman über eine Freundschaft zwischen zwei ungleichen Frauen und die Erkenntnis, dass es für einen Neuanfang im Leben nie zu spät ist. Für LeserInnen von Mariana Leky, Lucy Fricke und Dörte Hansen.

Es ist ein ungleiches Paar, das sich hier findet: Marie, 82 (oder 79, je nachdem, wer fragt), befindet sich in einer Art Endlifecrisis und ist sich nicht mehr sicher, dass das Leben noch etwas für sie bereithält. Agathe, 17, ist nach einem schweren Unfall, an dem sie sich die Schuld gibt, ziellos, allein und traumatisiert.

Tastend entwickelt sich eine zarte Freundschaft zwischen der melancholischen Agathe und der handfesten Marie und nimmt dann Fahrt auf, im wahrsten Sinne des Wortes: auf einer rasanten Reise vom Wendland über Berlin bis nach Krakau (aber welches?) – eine Reise zu altem Neuen, zu gekitteten und frisch geschmiedeten Lieben und zu Herausforderungen, die sich besser gemeinsam angehen lassen.

Mit hinreißendem Humor, wunderbarer Balance aus Leichtigkeit und Tiefe und großer Sympathie für ihre Figuren erzählt die Autorin, wie diese ungleichen Frauen sich zusammenraufen, aneinander aufrichten und zurück ins Leben finden.

Ina Grün lebt in Berlin. Unter ihrem richtigen Namen redigiert und übersetzt sie für zahlreiche Verlage. Sie liebt Mokka mit viel Kardamom.

2020

Michael Meller Literary Agency

Ca. 320-350 Seiten

Exposé und Leseprobe


**LOTTE GRÜNEWALD:
DIE TÖCHTER VON GESTÜT FRIESENHAIN**

Auftakt einer Trilogie um drei junge Frauen und die „Friesen“, eine der ältesten Pferderassen Europas, die *Schönheit auf Hufen*, vor dem Hintergrund der Frauenbewegung

Emsland 1895. Die Grafenfamilie von Scheweney züchtet seit Generationen Pferde. Luise (23), begehrte schon früh auf gegen die Bevorzugung ihres Bruders gegenüber den beiden Schwestern. Sie verweigert sich der Suche nach einem standesgemäßen Ehemann und kämpft für das Recht, Tiermedizin studieren zu dürfen. Clara (21), kluge Anpackerin, die das Zeug hätte, das Gestüt selbst zu führen, fügt sich weitaus mehr in die Erwartungen, die in sie gesetzt werden. Marie Paas (21), Tochter des Stallmeisters und verträumte Pferdeflüsterin. Ihr Vater hat dem Grafen seinerzeit das Leben gerettet, weshalb Marie zum Dank zusammen mit den Grafenkindern aufgewachsen ist.

Ein großes Geheimnis umweht die Familie und bedroht das Gestüt. Gelingt es den drei Frauen zusammen, den Hof und ihre große(n) Liebe(n) zu retten?

#2: Das Schicksal von Gestüt Friesenhain
#3: Entscheidung auf Gestüt Friesenhain

Lotte Grünwald ist mit Pferden aufgewachsen. Sie lebt mit vielen Tieren im Grünen zwischen Pferdekoppeln. Die hübsche Friesenstute Jeltje, „beste Freundin“ ihrer eigenen Stute, war Ideengeberin für die Trilogie. Unter ihrem Klarnamen veröffentlicht die Autorin seit vielen Jahren erfolgreich Unterhaltungsromane.

2020

Michael Meller Literary Agency

Ca. 500 Seiten

Exposé und Leseprobe (60 S.)

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**FANNY HANSEN:
JETZT IST SCHLUSS**

Glennon Doyle meets Tommy Jaud – #1 des Frauenpower-Triples
Ihr Leben lang hat Lexie Ehrlich (39) versucht, alles richtig zu machen und nirgendwo anzuecken, aber kurz vor ihrem 40. Geburtstag stellt sie ernüchtert fest, dass sie das nicht besonders weit gebracht hat. Ihre Kinder würden lieber das Telefonbuch von 1997 abschreiben, als freiwillig einen Tag mit ihrer Mutter zu verbringen, Lexies Festanstellung als Redakteurin bei der Frauenzeitschrift *Gloria* steht auf der Kippe – und als sich dann auch noch der Verdacht erhärtet, dass Ehemann Simon (43) sie betrügt, zieht Lexie endgültig die Reißleine und beschließt: JETZT IST SCHLUSS! Schluss mit nett, Schluss mit rücksichtsvoll – Schluss mit „zu gut für diese Welt!“ Mit Hilfe ihrer besten Freundin Karo (41) will Lexie endlich lernen, so richtig auf die Kacke zu hauen und sich zu nehmen, was sie will – doch dabei stößt sie schnell an ihre Grenzen. Denn wie lässt man es eigentlich so richtig krachen, wenn man heimlich noch immer den Müll trennt ...?

Bd 2: JETZT ERST RECHT feat. Karo, Band 3: JETZT ODER NIE feat. Karos Schwester aus Band 2.

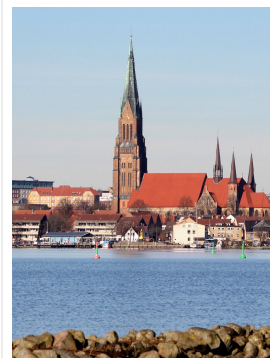
Fanny Hansen ist ein Kind der 80er, mehrfach veröffentlichte Autorin und Familienmensch. Wenn keiner hinsieht, trägt sie am liebsten Jogginghosen und bis vor kurzem hielt sie SPANX noch für einen Stadtteil von New York. Dafür ist sie ungeschlagen im Pfannkuchen stapeln und geht auch sonst keinem Spaß aus dem Weg.

2020

Michael Meller Literary Agency

Ca. 300 Seiten

Leseprobe (100 S.)


**EVA JENSEN:
TODESLIED**

Ein ungleiches Ermittlerpaar und jede Menge norddeutscher Lokalkolorit – der erste Fall für Greve & Kowalski

Kommissarin Katja Greve von der Kriminalpolizei Schleswig ist frustriert. Seit Wochen ist sie nur mit Bagatelldelikten beschäftigt und zudem muss sie sich mit ihrem neuen Kollegen Daniel Kowalski herumschlagen, einem überaus korrekten und stillen Mann, der mit ihrem Tempo nicht mitkommt, in seinem Auto einen Rosenkranz hängen hat und vor dem Essen betet. Für die unkonventionelle und energiegeladene Ermittlerin eine Qual. Da wird in einer luxuriösen Seniorenresidenz ein Toter gefunden und alle Indizien sprechen für Mord. Doch wer hat ein Interesse an dem vorzeitigen Ableben eines 94-jährigen Opernsängers? Geht es ums Erbe? Oder ist gar ein Todesengel am Werk? Je länger sie ermitteln umso zahlreicher werden die Motive und schon bald offenbaren sich den beiden Ermittlern mehr menschliche Abgründe und Tragödien als ihnen lieb ist...

Eva Jensen ist gebürtige Hamburgerin und hat in einem Dorf in der Nähe von Schleswig eine zweite Heimat gefunden. Dort genießt sie Landschaft und Natur an der Schlei und den Charme der Norddeutschen. Wenn es dort regnet, und das tut es sehr oft, schreibt sie. Eva Jensen ist ein Pseudonym.

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KATHRIN LICHTERS: DER KLANG MEINES HERZENS

Sie suchte nach ihren Wurzeln und fand ihre Flügel... Band 1 des Romance-Zweiteilers vor der wunderschönen Kulisse Neuseelands

Millies Welt bricht in sich zusammen, als sie nach dem Tod ihrer Mutter von all den Geheimnissen um ihre wahre Herkunft erfährt. Ein rätselhafter Brief führt sie schließlich ans andere Ende der Welt - auf die Walker Ranch im wunderschönen Neuseeland. Bei ihrer Ankunft platzt sie jedoch in die Beerdigungszeremonie von Ray Walker herein. Ausgerechnet der Mann, der ihr leiblicher Vater sein soll, und ihr als einziger Antworten hätte geben können. Aus der Not heraus, heuert sie als Ranchhelferin bei Riley Walker an. Den geheimnisvollen Pferdeflüsterer quält nicht nur der Verlust seines Vaters, sondern er kämpft vor allem um den Erhalt des Familienbetriebs. Riley scheint ihre Gefühle als einziger zu verstehen und bringt Millies Herz regelmäßig aus dem Takt. Doch ausgerechnet ihn darf sie nicht lieben, weiß sie doch von einem Geheimnis, das sein Herz für immer brechen könnte.

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Ca. 350-400 Seiten

Exposé und Leseprobe (160 S.)

Kathrin Lichters wurde 1986 in einer Kleinstadt im Rheinland geboren, wo sie gemeinsam mit ihrer Familie noch immer lebt. Hier entstehen ihre Geschichten über die große Liebe, die sie in den unterschiedlichsten Facetten zu Papier bringt. Als Hybridautorin weiß sie sowohl die Vorteile eines Verlags zu schätzen, während sie als Liv Keen auch im Selfpublishing sehr erfolgreich ist.



MIRJAM MÜNTEFERING: MORD UND WISCHMOPP. EIN RUHRPOTTKRIMI #1: Totgeknipst

„Mord mit Aussicht“ meets Rita Falk

Pamela Schlonski arbeitet als Putzfrau in Hattingen, Sprockhövel und Witten am grünen Rande des Ruhrgebiets. Sie hat eine große Klappe, aber auch ein scharfes Auge. Durch ihre Arbeit, bei der sie gewöhnt ist, Dekoteile nach dem Putzen an genau die gleiche Stelle zurück zu stellen, hat sie ein fotografisches Gedächtnis. Zudem versteht sie es, sich quasi unsichtbar zu machen, wenn ihre Auftraggeber zuhause sind. So wird sie von niemandem wirklich wahr- bzw. ernstgenommen, bekommt aber alles mit. Bei ihrer wöchentlichen Arbeit in den Vereinsräumen eines Fotoklubs entdeckt sie den toten Klubvorsitzenden. Die Ermittlungen übernimmt Kommissar Thorsten Vogt, dem Pamela immer wieder Hinweise und wertvolle Beobachtungen zuspielt. Vogt, zunächst genervt von den Einmischungen der vorlauten Putzfrau, muss sich nach und nach eingestehen, dass Pamela maßgeblich zur Aufklärung des Mordes beiträgt.

Am Ende engagiert er sie selbst als Putzhilfe. Auf diese Weise kommen sich die beiden nicht nur über mehrere Bände hinweg näher, sondern Pamela greift auch bei weiteren Fällen tatkräftig ein.

Mirjam Müntefering ist Journalistin und Autorin vieler Romane. Sie lebt mit ihrer Partnerin und ihren Hunden im Ruhrgebiet.

2020

Michael Meller Literary Agency

Ca. 300-350 Seiten

Exposé und Leseprobe (60 S.)



MARIE-HELENE TRIEBE: UNTER STUMMEN STERNEN

Eine schicksalshafte Liebesgeschichte, die Jahrzehnte und Kontinente umspannt – für Fans von Lori Nelson Spielmann und Michelle Marly

„Unter stummen Sternen“ erzählt die Liebesgeschichte von Albert und Marcella, die im Paris der 1920er Jahre ihren Anfang nimmt und in die faszinierende, sich stetig wandelnde Welt des Films entführt. Gegen alle Widerstände hat die farbenblinde Marcella ihre Berufung als Maskenbildnerin gefunden. Am Set in Paris trifft sie Albert, der in der Zeit des Stummfilms der perfekte Schauspieler ist – denn er ist tatsächlich stumm. Die beiden verlieben sich ineinander, beschließen jedoch aufeinander zu warten, bis Marcella ihre Ausbildung abgeschlossen hat. In Stockholm finden sie endlich zueinander und verbringen glückliche Jahre, bis das Aufkommen des Tonfilms ihr Glück zu zerstören droht und Albert von den Dämonen seiner Vergangenheit eingeholt wird. Das Schicksal trennt die Liebenden für eine lange Zeit. Erst, als Farbe den Schwarzweißfilm verdrängt, finden sie in Amerika eine neue Chance für ihre Liebe.

2020

Michael Meller Literary Agency

Ca. 480 Seiten

Exposé und Leseprobe (240 S.)

Marie-Helene Triebe wurde 1992 in Göttingen geboren und liebt Geschichten, die zum Träumen einladen. Sie arbeitet bei einem Animationsfilmstudio, macht Karate und reist gerne in ferne Länder.

Upmarket Commercial Fiction


**VIOLET KUPERSMITH:
BUILD YOUR HOUSE AROUND MY BODY**

A kaleidoscopic debut for fans of David Mitchell's *Cloud Atlas* and Haruki Murakami's *The Wind-Up Bird Chronicle*, and readers of literary magical realism, like the work of Isabel Allende, Salman Rushdie, and Tea Obreht.

1986: The teenage daughter of a wealthy Vietnamese family gets lost in an abandoned rubber plantation while fleeing her angry father and is forever changed by the experience.

2009: Pressed into a dangerous scheme by a former lover, a woman captures a rare two-headed cobra.

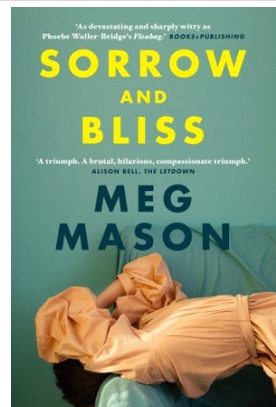
2011: Winnie, a young, unhappy American living in Saigon with her sort-of boyfriend, disappears without a trace.

Over the course of the novel, the fates of these three women will lock together in an exhilarating series of nested narratives. Each new character and timeline brings us one step closer to understanding what binds the three women together, and what happened to Winnie.

Spanning over fifty years and barreling toward an unforgettable conclusion, this is a fever dream about possessed bodies and possessed lands, a time-traveling, heart-pounding, border-crossing marvel of a novel.

Violet Kupersmith is the author of the short story collection *The Frangipani Hotel*. She previously taught English in the Mekong Delta, she has lived in Da Lat and Saigon, Vietnam, and currently resides in the US.

Random House	Summer 21
The Friedrich Agency	
411 pp.	
MS available	


**MEG MASON:
SORROW AND BLISS**

Spiky, sharp, intriguingly dark and tender, *Sorrow and Bliss* is a dazzling, distinctive novel from a boldly talented writer. For fans of Sally Rooney, Taffy Brodesser-Akner and Fleabag.

This novel is about a woman called Martha. She knows there is something wrong with her but she doesn't know what it is. Her husband Patrick thinks she is fine. He says everyone has something, the thing is just to keep going.

Martha told Patrick before they got married that she didn't want to have children. He said he didn't mind either way because he has loved her since he was fourteen and making her happy is all that matters, although he does not seem able to do it.

By the time Martha finds out what is wrong, it doesn't really matter anymore. It is too late to get the only thing she has ever wanted. Or maybe it will turn out that you can stop loving someone and start again from nothing - if you can find something else to want.

The book is set in London and Oxford. It is sad and funny.

Meg Mason began her career at the *Financial Times* and *The Times* of London. She has written humour for *The New Yorker* and Sunday STYLE and is now a regular contributor to *Vogue*, *ELLE*, *Stellar* and *marie claire*. She is also the author of a memoir of motherhood, *Say It Again in a Nice Voice* (2012) and *You Be Mother* (2017). She lives in Sydney with her husband and two daughters.

	09/20
HarperCollins Australia	
352 pp.	
MS available	


**ZIRK VAN DEN BERG:
I WISH, I WISH**

As a mortician at *White Lily Funerals* Seb has embalmed countless corpses, repacked organs in body cavities, and applied make-up to pallid faces for the mourners' last viewing. You have a job to do and you do it; there's no use wishing for something else. And yet, every so often, Seb does wish for some kind of intervention to jolt him from his dreary existence.

One day, when the dying boy and his mother walk into the funeral parlour Seb comes to believe that he has been granted one wish that will come true. But what to wish for? What is the most worthwhile use of his precious gift? What does he want more than anything? Having to make these decisions forces him to examine his life, at a time when the two main pillars of his existence – his work and his marriage – both collapse. Through the crises, he discovers unsuspected abilities in himself. Over the course of a week, Seb learns to stand up for himself, he forms meaningful connections with his previously distant children, finds innovative solutions to problems, a new career path, and even sees the possibility of a new love.

I Wish, I Wish has the timelessness and enchantment of a modern fairytale. Like the Rubik's cube that Gabriel solves on Seb's keyring everything in this novel fits together seamlessly...

Zirk van den Berg has published literary short stories, a short novel *Wydsbeen* and the crime novel *Nobody Dies* (PRH) which was released as a film in 2019. He has also published the novel *Half of One Thing* (PRH) and the historical novel *Parts Unknown*.

The Cuba Press	10/20
High Spot Literary	
180 pp.	
MS available	

Commercial Fiction

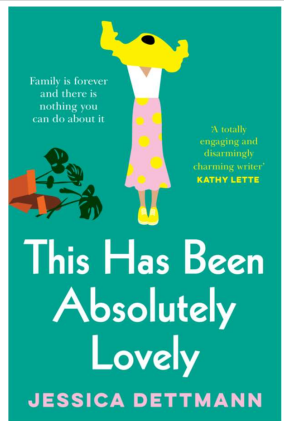

**TABITHA BIRD:
THE EMPORIUM OF IMAGINATION**

A fantastical shop and its magical custodian arrive in the small Queensland town of Boonah to inspire the various townsfolk, and in particular help a young boy who has recently been orphaned. A little bit of magic is about to appear... Earlatidge Hubert Umbray has the nose for it. After all these years of being the custodian who travels with *The Emporium of Imagination*, he would. He's sixty-something years old but... he's dying. This most unusual shop needs a new custodian. When the shop sets up in the Queensland town of Boonah, no one can understand why it only sells retro or antique telephones. They soon discover that the phones would connect them to whomever they are most grieving for. A last chance to speak with a loved one. There are many people in town desperate for this gift. But the store is locked. The new custodian will be the person able to unlock the door and make that first phone call. Enoch Raye is eleven years old and he has just lost his father, in a recent flood. What only Enoch knows is that it wasn't an accident. He is the one responsible. And the last person he'd want to talk with is his father...

A beautiful, uplifting story of magical realism that will make you laugh and make you cry.

Tabitha Bird is a writer and poet who lives and works in the rural township of Boonah, Queensland. By day Tabitha may be found painting, working on her next book or with her husband, three beautiful boys and a Chihuahua.

Viking Australia	03/21
PRH Australia	
400 pp.	
MS available Winter 20/21	


**JESSICA DETTMANN:
THIS HAS BEEN ABSOLUTELY LOVELY**

Family is forever, and there's nothing you can do about it. The charming, hilarious and all-too-relatable new novel from the author of *How to be Second Best*

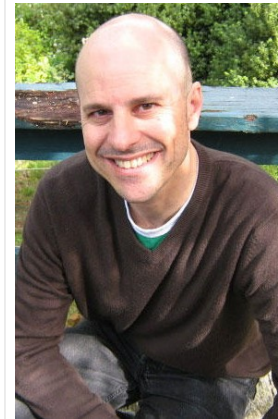
Molly's a millennial home organiser about to have her first baby. Obviously her mum, Annie, will need to help with the childcare. Everyone else's parents are doing it. But Annie's dreams of music stardom have been on hold for thirty years, paused by childbirth then buried under her responsibilities as a mother, wage earner, wife, and only child of ailing parents. Finally, she can taste freedom. As Molly and her siblings gather in the close quarters of the family home over one fraught summer, shocking revelations come to light. Everyone is forced to confront the question of what it means to be a family.

A story about growing up and giving in, of parents and children, of hope and failure, of bravery and defied expectation, and the question of whether it is ever too late to try again.

Jessica Dettmann is a Sydney-based writer and performer. Her blog, *Life With Gusto*, turns a sharp but affectionate eye on modern parenthood. She has performed her work several times at *Giant Dwarf's Story Club*, and has appeared on their podcast. After a decade working as an editor for Random House Australia and HarperCollins publishers she made the transition to writing after two small children rendered her housebound.

	01/21
HarperCollins Australia	
352 pp.	
MS available Winter 20/21	

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**BARRY DIVOLA:
DRIVING STEVIE FRACASSO**

Two estranged brothers, one stolen car, and a road trip from Texas to New York. What could possibly go wrong? For fans of Nick Hornby and David Nicholls.

When burnt-out, disillusioned, newly unemployed and about-to-be-divorced music journo Rick Fracasso is offered a paying gig to drive his ex-rock star brother, Stevie - who he hasn't spoken to in thirty years - to New York for one final gig, he knows it's a bad idea. But he's out of choices.

Three thousand kilometres in two weeks. Thirty years of mistakes, miscommunications and misunderstandings. It's all going to come out.

A glorious music-infused, wry and witty road-trip novel - think *High Fidelity* meets *The Big Lebowski* meets *The Darjeeling Limited* - *Driving Stevie Fracasso* is a smart, funny and wholly endearing novel about how, though we often lose ourselves along the way, we all need to find the road back to rediscovering what gives us joy.

Barry Divola is a journalist, an award-winning author and broadcaster. He is one of Australia's longest-serving and best-known music critics and feature writers. He was a senior writer for *Rolling Stone* (Australia) and the long-time music critic at *Who* magazine. Barry has published eight books - four non-fiction, three children's books and one book of fiction.

	03/21
HarperCollins Australia	
288 pp.	
MS available Winter 20/21	


**TANIA FARRELLY:
THE EIGHTH WONDER**

An exciting new author of romantic historical fiction in the style of Fiona McIntosh and Natasha Lester.

New York, 1897 - Manhattan is in the grip of money fever. It's the richest city in the world and wizards of progress like Edison, Tesla, Vanderbilt, Pulitzer and Twain walk the streets daily.

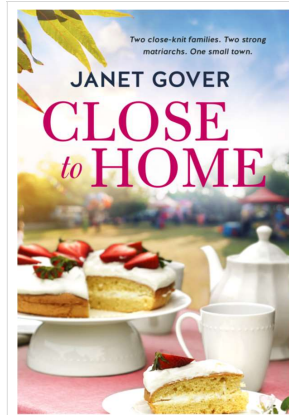
Rose Kingsbury Smith is a well-heeled young woman, expected to play by the strict rules of social etiquette; to marry for familial advantage and forfeit any career aspirations. But she is determined to become an architect, in a field dominated by men. She's well on track to fulfil her ambition when the theft of a family heirloom plunges her family into financial difficulty. Rose finds herself as her family's most tradeable asset, quickly being railroaded into advantageous betrothal to a dashing millionaire, Chet Randall.

Meanwhile, the enigmatic Ethan Salt lives a quiet life with his beloved elephant Daisy, and is devoted to saving animals who've been brutalised by show business. When Ethan hires fledgling architect Rose to design a Winter House for his elephant, he promises himself that their relationship will remain professional, but as their work takes shape, so too does the bond between them. On the verge of their shared success the ghosts of Rose's past re-emerge threatening to destroy everything they've worked for.

Tania Farrelly is a well-awarded advertising strategist who has turned her hand from telling brand stories.

Michael Joseph	07/21
PRH Australia	
368 pp.	
MS available November 20	

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JANET GOVER: CLOSE TO HOME

A delightful small town story of community and family with shades of *Romeo and Juliet* and *The Dressmaker*.

Aunt Alice Dwyer loves her small Australian town. She's rarely left its comforting embrace. She knows everyone in it; in fact, she's related to most of them. All she wants is to keep her family safe and the town running exactly the way it always has. But when an exotic French artist comes to town, her hold begins to weaken...

Lucienne Chevalier, once the toast of Europe, has come to Nyringa after a tragic loss to hang up her sequins and create a place for her circus family to rest between tours. With her is Simon, her grandson, recovering from an injury so damaging he can no longer perform. But Lucienne notices the chemistry between him and the new schoolteacher... All they need is a push.

Both grande dames think they know what's best, but with equal amounts of stubbornness on both sides, peace looks unlikely. Then a relationship between Alice's rebellious great-niece and a teenage acrobat sets the two communities on a collision course...

A story of community and family. Of the love that brings them together ... and the fears that would tear them apart.

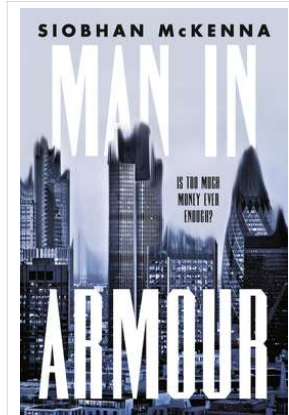
Janet Gover is the author of 13 published books, mostly set in rural Australia after growing up in the Outback. Her stories focus on family and community relationships and strong women taking control over their lives.

02/21

HarperCollins Australia

352 pp.

MS available Winter 20/21



SIOBHAN MCKENNA: MAN IN ARMOUR

How much money is enough? How powerful do you want to be? And what price will it extract from you? An intriguing, powerful and hard-hitting novel set in the world of big money and big deals, written by a leading business insider.

Charles lives in the testosterone-driven, high-powered, brutal world of investment banking. It is a world dominated by deals, bonuses, bravado and savagery. Charles is a master of this world. Each day he shrugs on a metaphorical suit of armour and goes out into a dog-eat-dog world to accumulate power and make money.

But there is a price to pay. He finds himself empty. Always cold. No friends. A family that is falling apart.

Over the course of two days, everything in Charles' life comes into question. His carefully constructed world is starting to splinter - and he's splintering too.

Shocking and at times immensely moving, *Man in Armour* is a compelling story of a man at the end of his tether, written with a sharp-eyed, incisive focus that also carries real emotional - and moral - resonance.

Siobhan McKenna is chairman or director of several companies including *Foxtel*, *Woolworths* and *Illyria*. She has worked in telecommunications, oil and gas, healthcare and government. She was a commissioner, a chairman of NBNCo and a partner of *McKinsey & Company*. She lives in Melbourne with her husband and three teenage sons. *Man in Armour* is her first novel.

08/20

HarperCollins Australia

352 pp.

MS available



RYAN O'CONNELL: JUST BY LOOKING AT HIM

The unnamed narrator of this comic, heartfelt debut is a thirty-something gay TV writer with cerebral palsy. He has a disposable income, a growing alcohol dependence disguised as an appreciation of natural wines, and a loving boyfriend with the perfect penis. Life is good - far better than a gay disabled person has been conditioned to expect - so why is he cheating on Gus, his perfect-penis boyfriend, with a sex worker named River and getting jerked off in steam rooms?

At first he revels in sowing the wild oats he'd never allowed himself to plant in his twenties, but his dalliances begin to reveal the deeper scars of inhabiting a disabled body in a world that simultaneously highlights and erases his existence. Does Gus really see him? Do his friends and colleagues? But the big question is: does he even see himself?

Just by Looking at Him is the story of a man falling down a rabbit hole of sexual obsession in an attempt to be seen as just A Body in a gay world fixated on perfection, who's limping towards self-acceptance one (paid) rim job at a time.

Ryan O'Connell is the Emmy-nominated writer, producer and star of Netflix's critically-acclaimed comedy series, *Special*, which is based on his memoir, *I'm Special: And Other Lies We Tell Ourselves*. He's written for *The New York Times*, for TV, including *Will & Grace*, and Netflix's *The Baby-Sitters*.

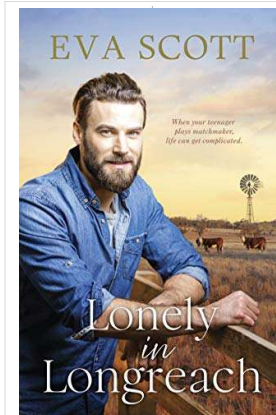
Atria

2022

Neon Literary

189 pp.

MS available



EVA SCOTT: LONELY IN LONGREACH

In the red heart of Queensland, two teenagers playing matchmaker are about to turn more than one life upside-down.

Widower Sam Costello has no time for love. When he's not working on his farm, he's trying to figure out how to connect with his teenage son Levi. Levi is about to finish high school, and he has big plans to move to Sydney for university with his best friend Maddie. If only he didn't feel so guilty about abandoning his dad. Maddie has her own reasons for wanting to go to Sydney and she's not going to let Levi's dad ruin her future happiness. Mr Costello needs a girlfriend and, with her talent for matchmaking, Maddie is the girl to make it happen.

Journalist Sarah Lewis has a good job, a nice boyfriend and a safe life in Sydney. Though sometimes she wonders if life has more to offer than nice and safe. When she starts working on an article about finding love in the outback she finds herself asking whether journalists should become this invested in their research. But there's just something about *Lonely in Longreach*. Could it be that the man behind the dating profile is the key to the passion she has been looking for?

Sleepless in Seattle meets rural Australia in this fresh romantic comedy about optimism, online dating and love at first sight.

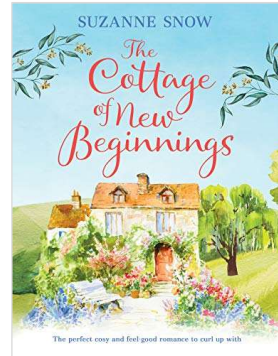
Eva Scott lives on the Sunshine Coast in Queensland with her family and three dogs. When she's not writing, you can find her out on the water kayaking, fishing or swimming. When on dry land, it's all about the shoes and the coffee.

09/20

HarperCollins Australia

384 pp.

MS available



SUZANNE SNOW:
THE COTTAGE OF NEW BEGINNINGS

The perfect cosy and feel-good romance to curl up with.

One crumbling cottage. One broken heart. A chance to start over? When Annie returns to Thorndale, the village where she spent much of her childhood, she's looking for a new start. All she wants to do is fix up the cottage her godmother left her, and fix up her broken heart.

When she clashes with local hero, Jon, Annie can't help but wonder if coming back to Thorndale was a mistake. The village has clearly changed and the last thing she needs is more drama. But avoiding the distractingly handsome Jon is proving impossible, especially when Thorndale seems to be conspiring to throw them together... Annie is looking for a fresh start with zero romance – but what if the only way to learn to trust again is to take a risk on love?

A heartwarming village love story for fans of Julie Houston, Victoria Walters and Trisha Ashley.

Coming soon: Book #2 in February 21, Book #3 in August 2021

Suzanne Snow writes contemporary, romantic and uplifting fiction with a strong sense of setting and community connecting the lives of her characters. When she's not writing or spending time with her family, she can usually be found in a garden or looking to the landscape around her for inspiration.

Canelo Escape	09/20
Susan Yearwood Agency	
250 pp.	
MS available	



SASHA WASLEY:
SPRING CLEAN FOR THE PEACH QUEEN

One tanked career, one badly timed glamour shoot and one dead boyfriend later, thirty-year-old Lottie Bentz is finally going home.

In the orchard town where she grew up, Lottie tries to purify and declutter her life, Kondo-style. She gets rid of her phone, clears out her old stuff, and swears off make-up, mirrors and lying. But home has its own problems, and Lottie's staunchly feminist mother is furious about Lottie's photos appearing in a men's magazine.

When kindly old Mrs Brooker offers Lottie a place to stay, she finds herself earning her keep in a clapped-out caravan on the family farm, teaching the old woman about the Kondo method. But after Angus, the taciturn heir to the Brooker orchards, makes it clear that Lottie is not welcome, she begins to uncover secrets and half truths about the dotty Mrs Brooker, Angus's failed marriage and his dead father.

And even though Angus has a life-threatening bee-sting allergy, he refuses to wear a veil when tending his bees. Why is he so bent on self-destruction? As Lottie continues to cleanse her life, can she rediscover some joy while helping those around her do the same?

Sasha Wasley was born and raised in Perth, Western Australia. She completed a PhD in feminist literature in 2006, and went on to work as a copywriter on topics ranging from mine safety to sex therapy. Her debut novel was published in 2015. A lover of animals, Sasha spends her free time pottering in the garden with her flock of backyard chickens.

	03/21
Pantera Press	
350 pp.	
MS available	



JO WATSON:
YOU, ME, FOREVER

It all started with a faulty elevator - and a love letter...

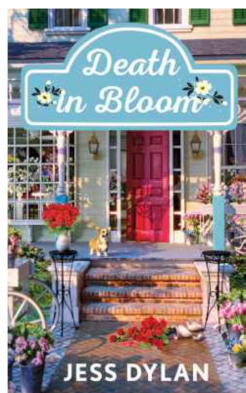
Writer Becca Thorne needs an idea - fast! She might have a huge bestseller to her name but, with the deadline for book two approaching, Becca knows she's in danger of losing the career she cares so much about. But Fate has other plans for her when she almost plummets to her death with two strangers in a faulty elevator. Although Becca emerges in one piece, her precious vintage handbag doesn't, and that's when she realises that inspiration has been with her all along. Hidden inside the bag's now-torn lining is a set of beautiful love letters.

It might not be her story, yet Becca can't seem to get the romantic words out of her head and feels compelled to discover who wrote the letters. But there's more waiting for Becca than the tale of a romance from long ago - it might be the chance to live her own love story and follow the path Fate has always intended her to...

Jo Watson is an award-winning writer whose romantic comedies were originally published on Wattpad. Her first novel *Burning Moon* won a 2014 *Watty Award* for being one of the site's most downloaded titles and has now had over 7 million reads. Jo is an Adidas addict and a Depeche Mode devotee. She lives in South Africa with her family.

Headline Eternal	02/20
Louise Fury / Bent Agency	
400 pp.	
MS available	

Mystery / Thriller


**JESS DYLAN:
DEATH IN BLOOM**

Death in Bloom is the first in a new cozy mystery series surrounding the Flower House in the Appalachian Mountains.

Twenty-eight-year-old Sierra Ravenswood is a new part-time employee of the shop, planning to stay only until she gets resettled in her hometown after a failed attempt at making it big as a singer in Nashville.

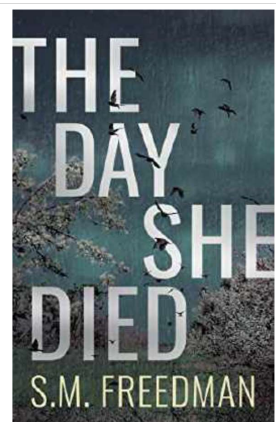
Sierra firmly believes in being optimistic and positive about life, just like she's optimistic she won't have to work at the Flower House forever. But things take a decidedly negative turn when a customer drops dead in the middle of her new bouquet-arranging workshop at the store. The police say he was poisoned by the snack table, and everyone at the workshop, including Sierra, is on the suspect list. To make matters worse, her boss has gone AWOL and left the store to her for the cost of one dollar, leaving Sierra in charge of both his store and his high-energy Corgi puppy, Gus.

Sierra feels responsible for the crime happening at her event. She's determined to figure out whodunit, before anyone else in town meets an untimely reason for needing funeral flowers.

Also available: 2 more in the Flower House Mystery series

Jess Dylan is an environmental attorney by day and author by night. As *Jennifer David Hesse*, she has written the *Wiccan Wheel Cozy Mysteries* series with Kensington Publishing. The sixth and final book in the WWM series released September 2019.

Macmillan/St. Martin's	05/21
BookEnds Literary	
320 pp.	
MS available	


**S.M. FREEDMAN:
THE DAY SHE DIES**

After a traumatic head injury, Eve questions every memory and motive in this mind-bending psychological thriller.

Eve Gold's birthdays are killers, and her twenty-seventh birthday proves to be no different. But for the up-and-coming Vancouver artist, facing death isn't the real shock — it's what comes after.

Recovering from a near-fatal accident, Eve is determined to return to the life she's always wanted: a successful artistic career, marriage to the man who once broke her heart, and another chance at motherhood. But brain damage leaves her forgetful, confused, and tortured by repressed memories of a deeply troubled childhood, where her innocence was stolen one lie — and one suspicious death — at a time.

As the dark, twisted pages unfold, Eve must choose between clinging to the lies that helped her survive her childhood and unearthing the secrets she buried long ago.

S.M. Freedman is the author of *The Faithful* and *Impact Winter*. She studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and worked as a private investigator on the not-so-mean streets of Vancouver, where she lives with her husband and two children.

Dundurn	04/21
BookEnds Literary	
288 pp.	
MS available	


**GIN JONES:
SIX CLOVES UNDER**

App developer Mabel Skinner is about to discover something rotten on her late aunt's garlic farm—and it's not the compost heap...

Mabel doesn't know a stinkin' thing about garlic farming. She knows how to develop an app and how to code. But when her aunt, Peggy Skinner, dies suddenly, Mabel inherits her Stinkin' Stuff Farm in western Massachusetts. She arrives during peak harvest time—with three days to bring in the entire crop before rain can destroy it.

But Mabel has an even bigger problem: she suspects her aunt's "accidental death" was murder. As she digs for both garlic and clues, Mabel must contend with a mysterious crop thief, a rival garlic grower her aunt was suing, and a farmer who was after Aunt Peggy's green-thumb secret. It's up to Mabel to crack the code on a killer, before she joins the garlic bulbs six cloves under...

Also available: 1 more in the Garlic Farm Mystery series

Gin Jones is a retired lawyer who specialized in ghost-writing for other lawyers. She prefers to write her own books, though, since she doesn't have to worry that her sense of humour might get her thrown into jail for contempt of court. In her spare time, Gin makes quilts, grows garlic, and advocates for patients with rare disorders.

Kensington Lyrical Press	04/20
BookEnds Literary	
230 pp.	
MS available	

$$Life = \int_{birth}^{death} \frac{happiness}{time} \Delta time$$

**JAMES KENNEDY:
THE DEATH EQUATION**

A speculative thriller set in a near future where scientists have started to perfect the accuracy needed to launch the death-prediction industry.

Our unnamed hero, a former physics wunderkind who works for the most prestigious company in the deathprediction business, has a particular talent for understanding *thanatons*, or the "death particles" that scientists use to make their forecasts. Most impressively: he has never made a wrong prediction. But over the years the technology has become widely and cheaply available—and less accurate, though customers don't really seem to care.

On the day we meet our hero, he botches a prediction session, loses out on a much-needed commission, and gets into a car accident. Shaken by this near-death experience, he decides to do the unthinkable: forecast his own death day, which predictors never do. The only problem is: apparently he died 23 minutes ago. The only person who can confirm this prediction is the woman he loved and lost.

As he travels across the country to see her, our hero is forced to confront his own past, including the terrifying technology that made him so successful, and a darker truth: if the *thanatons* are wrong, the world as he knows it might be heading toward its own final moments.

	08/21
Quirk Books	
336 pp.	
MS available Spring 2021	



CLAY MCLEOD CHAPMAN: WHISPER DOWN THE LANE

A true crime-inspired psychological horror novel about a boy whose lies about his elementary school teachers contributed to the Satanic Panic of the 80s, forcing him to hide his identity until someone recreates his past lies at his own child's school.

Richard doesn't have a past. For him, there is only the present: a new marriage to Tamara, a first chance at fatherhood to her son Elijah and a quiet but pleasant life as an art teacher at Elijah's elementary school. Then the body of a rabbit, ritualistically murdered, appears on the school playground with a birthday card for Richard tucked beneath it. Richard is shocked; he doesn't have a birthday... but Sean does.

Sean is a six-year-old boy in 1980s Virginia. His father has just walked out and his mother is juggling multiple jobs on food stamps. Meanwhile cult leaders, serial killers, and stranger danger is on the rise, with moral crusaders and televangelists stoking the fires of panic. In this pressure cooker environment, Sean's school sends a note to parents alerting them that a teacher is under investigation. Sean likes Mr. Woodhouse, but when his mother asks if the bruises caused by the school bully were really caused by Mr. Woodhouse, a few small lies spiral into a terrible tragedy.

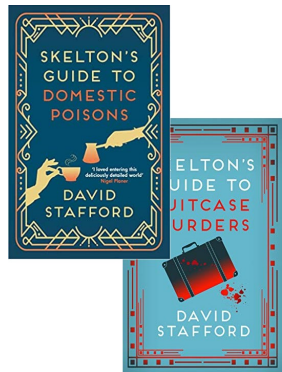
Now, thirty years later, those lies are coming back to haunt Richard, because someone knows who he really is – and they're out for revenge. Inspired by the McMartin preschool trial and the Satanic Panic of the '80s, the critically praised author of *The Remaking* delivers a nuanced portrait of parenthood and mass hysteria.

08/21

Quirk Books

336 pp.

MS available Winter 2020



DAVID STAFFORD: SKELTON'S GUIDE #1 TO DOMESTIC POISONS

Arthur Skelton has gone from unassuming Yorkshire barrister to front-page sensation, having won the case of the century. But January 1929 brings another high-pro file case. Mary Dutton is accused of murdering her husband. Between practising his autograph and pose for hordes of journalists and fans alike, Skelton agrees to defend her, despite many considering the case to be unwinnable.

With a looming general election and an army of flappers set to cast their inaugural votes, both sides of the political divide are vying for their support by trying to turn the case to their advantage.

SKELTON'S GUIDE #2 TO SUITCASE MURDERS

A woman's dismembered corpse is discovered in a quarry, and police quickly link the victim back to their chief suspect: her husband, Dr. Ibrahim Aziz. His wife had been planning to leave him, so his guilt isn't in doubt as far as local law enforcement is concerned. Barrister Arthur Skelton is asked to represent the accused, and though all believe the case to be hopeless, Skelton soon suspects there may be more to the victim's death.

Aided by his loyal clerk Edgar and his roaming cousins, Alan and Norah, Skelton soon finds himself embroiled in an investigation not only concerning this world but the one beyond.

David Stafford is a writer, broadcaster and occasional musician. The *Skelton's Guides* are his first novels.

09/20
04/21

Allison & Busby

352 pp.

MS #1 available

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Deutsche Autoren (Sachbuch)



OLIVER DIERSSSEN: MEIN FREMDES KIND

Wie wir Kinder großziehen, die ganz anders sind als wir selbst

Die Themen Bindung, Nähe und Bedürfnisorientierung bestimmen die Debatte um die Kindererziehung. Doch trotz bester Absichten haben nicht alle Eltern ausreichende Fähigkeiten, intensive Nähe und Bindung zu ihren Kindern aufzubauen und auszuhalten. Macht- und Regelkämpfe, wechselseitige Vorwürfe, Enttäuschung und Schuldgefühle bestimmen den Alltag in diesen Familien. Nicht nur Kinder leiden darunter. Gerade Eltern mit übergroßen Ansprüchen und Nähewünschen an ihre Kinder erleben diese "Fremdheit", den zwischenmenschlichen Abstand, oft als Zurückweisung und schmerzhaftes Enttäuschung.

Oliver Dierssen untersucht den Entfremdungsprozess zwischen Eltern und Kindern. Er stellt dar, warum wir uns unseren Kindern durchaus fremd fühlen dürfen, warum Abstand heilsam ist und übergroße Nähe und v.a. zu starke Identifizierung mit unseren Kindern auch schädigend sein kann. Er zeigt einen Weg auf, wie wir unsere Kinder mehr mit Abstand betrachten und den Respekt vor dem Anders-Sein in den Mittelpunkt unserer Beziehungen setzen. Er hebt den Wert von wertschätzender und offener Neugier auf "fremde Kinder" hervor.

Dr. med. Oliver Dierssen, geb. 1980, ist als niedergelassener Facharzt für Kinder- und Jugendpsychiatrie bei Hannover tätig.

2020

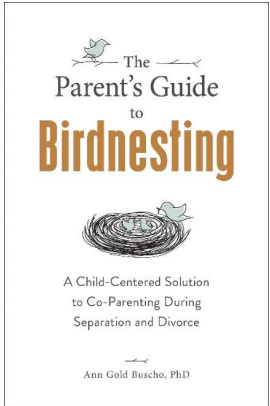
Michael Meller Literary Agency

Ca. 150 Seiten

Exposé und Leseprobe (30 S.)

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Non-Fiction

	
	09/20
Adams Media	
256 pp.	
MS available	


ANN GOLD BUSCHO: THE PARENT'S GUIDE TO BIRDNESTING

Take coparenting to the next level and provide a stable environment for your children as you and your spouse begin tackling your separation or divorce.

For parents who are separating and want to put their children first, birdnesting could be the interim custody solution you've been looking for. Instead of the children splitting their time being shuttled between mom and dad's separate homes, birdnesting allows the children to stay in the "nest" and instead, requires mom and dad to swap, allowing each parent to stay elsewhere when not with the children.

Birdnesting takes work and commitment but with Dr. Ann Gold Buscho's guidance, you'll learn everything you need to know about this revolutionary method. In *The Parent's Guide to Birdnesting*, you will discover the pros and cons, the financial and interpersonal considerations, and if it's the right decision for you and your family.

Ann Gold Buscho, PhD, is a licensed clinical psychologist who specializes in family issues and issues related to divorce, parenting, parenting planning, and coparenting counseling. She has professional and personal experience in nesting, coparenting, stepparenting, and single-parenting issues.


	
	09/20
Hamish Hamilton	
PRH Australia	
MS available November 20	

DANIELLE CELLERMAJER: SUMMERTIME: REFLECTIONS ON A FRACTURED FUTURE

For readers of Rachel Carson, Mary Oliver and Henry David Thoreau.

Written in the shadow of the natural disasters at the end of 2019, philosopher Danielle Cellermaier's collection of essays is a howl in the forest. She turns her gaze to our relationship with the planet's living beings. In the midst of the death and grief of animals, humans and trees, Cellermaier asks us to look around us – really look around us – to become present to the animals and all living creatures and plants who are suffering the loss of our shared home. In this beautifully written and heart-wrenching book, an elegy for a country's soul, the lyrical and profound come together to understand the intertwining of all living and dying inhabitants of our fragile planet. Danielle brings a philosopher's eye as someone who has faced the bushfires and seen first-hand the devastation they have wrought.

An academic at the University of Sydney, **Danielle Cellermaier** has written two previous books for Cambridge and has contributed to other books with Bloomsbury, Stanford and Routledge. She has also written for *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Guardian* and *The Conversation*.

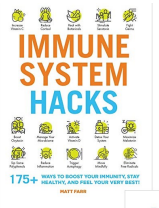
	
	09/20
Straus Literary	
Proposal; MS summer '21	

SARAH DIGREGORIO: TAKING CARE: AN ESSENTIAL HISTORY OF THE NURSE

A sweeping narrative look at the ways nurses have impacted society and science, encompassing dynamics of gender, race and class, as well as nurses' insights on the interplay of health and community and the future of care.

The book will be very international, as it traces the story of nursing, from ancient Egypt to the French and German monasteries of the middle ages, the Crimean War, the World Wars, the 1918 Influenza and the current global pandemic. It's hard to think of a profession more beloved and more relevant to the history of medicine in society as well as to the future of our health.

Sarah DiGregorio is a freelance journalist who writes for various publications, including the *Wall Street Journal*, *Martha Stewart Living*, *Food & Wine*, and *Saveur*. In 2010, she was nominated for a James Beard Award and an award from the International Association of Culinary Professionals (IACP). Her work has been included in the Best American Food Writing yearly anthologies three times. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her daughter and her husband.

	
	12/20
Adams Media	
256 pp. / 224 pp.	
MS available	

MATT FARR: IMMUNE-SYSTEM HACKS

Optimize your health and beat the common cold every season.

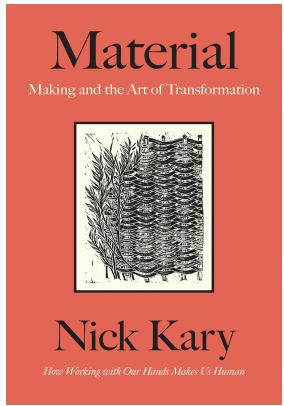
From taking a day off of work to stay in bed to having to run out to the store for last minute medicine that you were sure you had, no one enjoys being sick. But what if there were quick and easy ways to boost your immune system?

In *Immune System Hacks* discover over 175 practical steps you can use right away to boost your immune system and stay healthy throughout the year. These expert tips have everything you ever need to know about living your best, healthiest life.

AJA FROST: WORK-FROM-HOME HACKS

Be as productive as possible at work while never leaving your home with these 500 easy-to-follow hacks that will instantly improve your work-from-home experience.

As many have discovered during the Covid-19 pandemic, working from home certainly has its perks. From the easy (non)commute to your computer to the extra time you can spend with your family and pets, many are continuing to enjoy the work-from-home lifestyle. But it also comes with its challenges. How do you avoid distractions around your home? How can you remain as productive as you are in the office? With over 500 quick and easy solutions you'll find yourself staying more productive, organized, and happier than ever.



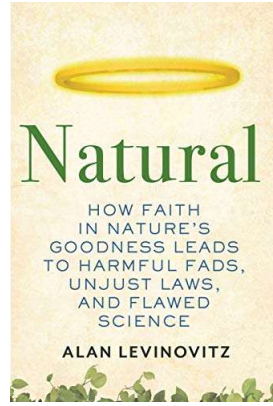
**NICK KARY:
MATERIAL**

A master craftsperson explores the ways in which working with our hands reveals the essence of both our humanity and our relationship with the natural, material world

In our present age of computer-assisted design, mass production and machine precision, the traditional skills of the maker or craftsperson are hard to find. Yet the desire for well-made and beautiful objects from the hands (and mind) of a skilled artisan is just as present today as it ever has been. Whether they work with wood, metal, clay or something else, traditional makers are living links to the rich vein of knowledge and skills that defines our common human heritage. More than this, many of us harbour a deep and secret yearning to produce something – to build or shape, to imagine and create our own objects that are imbued not only with beauty and functionality, but with a story and, a spirit drawn from us.

Nick Kary understands this yearning. For nearly four decades he has worked on commission to make fine, distinctive furniture from wood, most of it sourced near his home, in South West England. In *Material*, Kary takes readers along with him to visit some of the places where modern artisans are preserving, and in some cases passing on, the old craft skills. His vivid descriptions and eye for detail make this book a rich and delightful read, and the natural and cultural history he imparts along the way provides an important context for understanding our own past and the roots of our industrial society.

	09/20
Chelsea Green	
288 pp.	
MS available	



**ALAN LEVINOVITZ:
NATURAL**

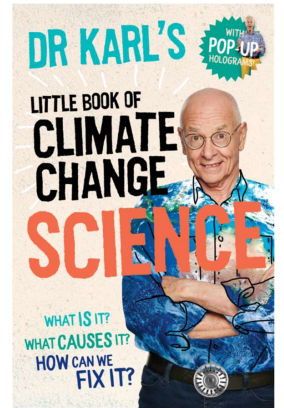
Illuminates the far-reaching harms of believing that natural means “good,” from misinformation about health choices to justifications for sexism, racism, and flawed economic policies.

People love what's natural: it's the best way to eat, the best way to parent, even the best way to act—naturally, just as nature intended. Yet Nature (with a capital N) and natural goodness are not objective or scientific. In this groundbreaking book, Alan Levinovitz demonstrates that these beliefs are actually religious and highlights the many dangers of substituting simple myths for complicated realities. It may not seem like a problem when it comes to paying a premium for organic food. But what about condemnations of “unnatural” sexual activity? The guilt that attends not having a “natural” birth? Economic deregulation justified by the inherent goodness of “natural” markets?

In *Natural*, Levinovitz takes the reader from Peruvian rainforests to Yellowstone Park, from a “natural” bodybuilding competition to a “natural” cancer clinic. The result is a new perspective that shatters faith in Nature's goodness and points to a better alternative. We can love nature without worshipping it, and we can work toward a better world with humility and dialogue rather than taboos and zealotry.

Alan Levinovitz is associate professor of religious studies at James Madison University. His writing has appeared in academic journals, *Wired*, *Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, *Aeon*, *Vox*, and *Slate*.

Beacon Press	04/20
Neon Literary	
264 pp.	
MS available	



**DR. KARL KRUSZELNICKI:
DR KARL'S LITTLE BOOK OF CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE:**

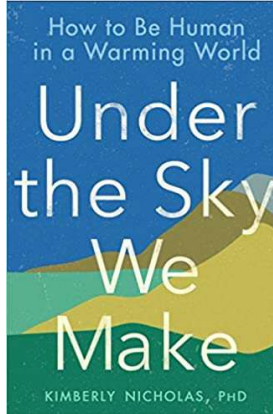
A science guru explains the facts about climate change – and how we can fix it

*Is the planet reeeeeally warming up?
But carbon's natural, isn't it?
How could planes fly without fossil fuels?
What's a pteropod and why should I care?
Kelp? How can it help?*

One of Dr Karl Kruszelnicki's jobs as a science communicator is to answer people's questions about climate change. Now, in this never dull, easy-to-understand guide Dr Karl explains the science of climate change and how we can fix it (we can!). So when your uncle says (again) that it's a load of hooey (or an illuminati conspiracy), you can keep your cool and talk like a boss about why it's getting hotter and what we can do about it.

Dr Karl Kruszelnicki AM just loves science to pieces, and has been spreading the word in print, on TV and radio and online for more than thirty years. In 2019 he was awarded the *UNESCO Kalinga Prize for the Popularisation of Science*, of which previous recipients include Margaret Mead, David Attenborough, Bertrand Russell and David Suzuki.

	03/21
HarperCollins Australia	
144 pp.	
MS available Winter 20/21	



**KIMBERLY NICHOLAS:
UNDER THE SKY WE MAKE**

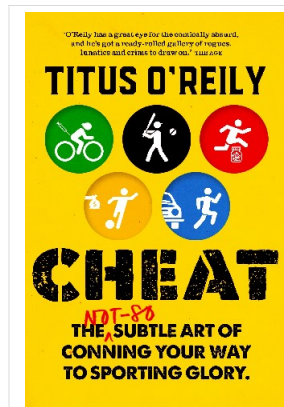
The planet is warming. It's bad. But we can fix it.

After speaking to the world for close to fifteen years about sustainability, climate scientist Dr. Nicholas realized that people were getting the wrong message about the climate crisis. Yes, companies and governments are hugely responsible for the mess we're in. But individuals CAN effect real, significant, and lasting change to solve this problem. Nicholas explores finding purpose in a warming world, combining her expertise and her personal experience in a way that is fresh and deeply urgent: Agonizing over the climate costs of visiting loved ones overseas, how to find low-carbon love on Tinder, and even exploring her complicated family legacy of supermarket turkeys.

Nicholas does for climate science what Michael Pollan did for the food: offering a hopeful, clear-eyed, and somehow hilarious guide to effecting real change. Saving ourselves from climate apocalypse will require radical shifts within each of us. But it can be done. Change requires, Dr. Nicholas argues, belief in our own agency and value, alongside a deep understanding that no one will ever hand us power — we're going to have to seize it for ourselves.

Dr. Kimberly Nicholas is Associate Professor of Sustainability Science at Lund, Sweden's highest-ranked university. Raised on her family's vineyard in Sonoma, California, she studied the effect of climate change on the California wine industry for her PhD at Stanford University.

G.P. Putnam's Sons	03/21
Neon Literary	
288 pp.	
MS available	



Michael Joseph	11/20
PRH Australia	
288 pp.	
MS available	

TITUS O'REILLY: CHEAT

Mastering the not-so-subtle art of cheating in sport

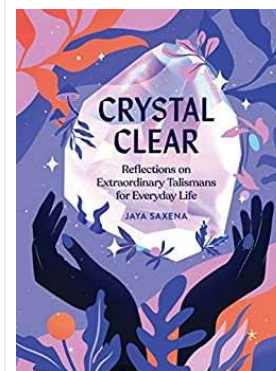
Where there's sport, there's cheating. No sport is immune. Almost as soon as humans started playing sport competitively, they started to cheat.

There's the winner of the New York marathon who was driven in a car part of the way, the male basketballer whose drug test revealed he was pregnant, the Tour De France where many of the riders took the train, the Spanish Paralympic basketball team who faked being intellectually disabled to win gold at the 2000 Paralympics.

As well as sharing an alarming amount of tales involving swapping bodily fluids, Titus takes you through doping, illegal equipment, bribes, playing dirty, faking injuries, wearing disguises, dodgy referees, ball tampering, eye gouging, itching powder, licking an opponent to distract them and sending a dwarf out to bat to shrink the strike zone.

Mastering the not-so-subtle art of cheating is a hilarious trip through the history of cheating in sport, and a handy how-to-guide for the professional athlete in your family.

Titus O'Reilly is a writer, presenter, performer and broadcaster known for capturing the trials and tribulations of being an obsessive sports fan. His commentary and sporting round-ups have attracted over 300k followers on social media.



	12/20
Quirk Books	
224 pp.	
MS available	

JAYA SAXENA: CRYSTAL CLEAR

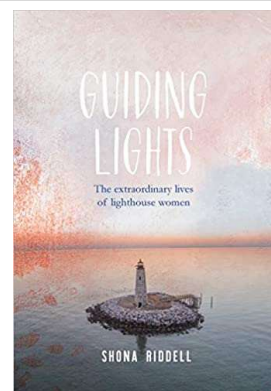
Jaya Saxena explores the multi-faceted meanings and history behind eleven popular crystals in this relatable personal essay collection.

Highly prized for their beauty, crystals can take the shape of jewelry, household objects, and an array of self-care products. But it's the ideas they stand for that draw people to their raw forms. Like astrology, tarot, and modern witchcraft, crystals help practitioners understand themselves and the wider world around them.

In this collection of sharply observed essays, Jaya Saxena reflects on - and challenges - the ideas associated with eleven popular stones, including unconditional love (rose quartz), happiness and success (citrine), balance (amethyst), self-care (black tourmaline), purity (pearl), imposter syndrome (pyrite), toxic positivity (carnelian), change (opals), traditional concepts of marriage (diamonds), presentation versus identity (obsidian), and death (amber).

The result is a deeply personal book with universal appeal, exploring how we assign meaning and power to crystals in order to give meaning and power to our lives.

Jaya Saxena is the co-author of *Basic Witches* and a staff writer at Eater. Her work has appeared in many outlets, including the *New York Times*, *Buzzfeed*, *GQ*, *ELLE*, *Electric Literature*, *Catapult*, *the Daily Dot*, *The Toast*, and many more. She lives in New York City.



	10/20
Exisle Publishing	
264 pp.	
MS available	

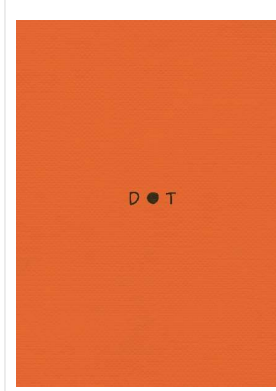
SHONA RIDDELL: GUIDING LIGHTS

Women have a long history of keeping the lights burning, from tending ancient altar flames or bonfires to modern-day lighthouse keeping. Yet most of their stories are little-known.

Guiding Lights includes stories from around the world, such as the dramatic torching of Puysegur Point, one of New Zealand's most inhospitable lighthouses; the two caretakers living alone on Tasmania's wild Maatsuyker Island; the female keeper in charge of Cape Beale on Canada's Vancouver Island (the station receives visits from bears, cougars and wolves); several haunted lighthouses in various US states with tragic tales; the despotic keeper on Clipperton Island, a tiny atoll far off the coast of Mexico; lighthouse accidents and emergencies around the world; and two of the world's most legendary lighthouse women: Ida Lewis (US) and Grace Darling (UK), who risked their lives to save others.

Whatever our perception of lighthouses: are they comforting and romantic beacons symbolising hope and trust, or storm-lashed and forbidding towers with echoes of lonely, mad keepers? Stories of women's courage and dedication in minding the lights then and now, continue to capture the public's imagination and inspire us.

Shona Riddell has a long-held fascination with lighthouses. A writer for 20 years (including her subantarctic history book *Trial of Strength* with Exisle Publishing), Shona lives with her husband and two daughters in Wellington, New Zealand.



Penguin	09/20
PRH New Zealand	
152 pp.	
MS available	

KIEREN E. SCOTT: DOT

A little book to help anyone (big or small) take a moment and some nice, deep breaths.

Are you feeling a little bit (or a lottle bit) anxious?

Meet DOT, who's here to help. In this beautiful little hand-drawn book, DOT offers a practical way to comfort and calm anyone anxious, stressed or overwhelmed. Flicking through DOT has the effect of a perfectly executed mindfulness exercise, in which the text and illustrations do the work for you.

It's a gorgeous project (published in five colour ways!) that is sure to make readers smile. For fans of Ruby Jones's *All Of This Is For You*. Most breathing tools these days are apps, but with screens being an added source of anxiety, DOT gives the reader an opportunity to step away from their phone.

Kieran E. Scott is a highly acclaimed New Zealand photographer who accidentally wrote a book. He has produced photographs for more than forty books, and hundreds of advertising campaigns and design projects. His work has appeared in local and international magazines, including *Cuisine*, *Vogue*, *Inside Out* and *Country Style*. His most recent projects are the international bestseller *200 Women* and *The Recipe*. He lives in New Zealand with his partner, artist Tam West.



KALE WILLIAMS: THE LONELIEST POLAR BEAR

A True Story of Survival and Peril on the Edge of a Warming World

Six days after giving birth, a polar bear named Aurora got up and left her den at the Columbus Zoo, leaving her tiny, squealing cub to fend for herself. Hours later, Aurora still hadn't returned. The cub was furless and blind, and with her temperature dropping dangerously, the zookeepers entrusted with her care felt they had no choice but to raise one of the most dangerous predators in the world themselves, by hand. Over the next few weeks, a group of veterinarians and zookeepers would work around the clock to save the cub, whom they called Nora.

Gene, a hunter in Western Alaska now faces some of the same threats as the wild bears near his village. As sea ice diminishes and temperatures creep up year-after-year, Gene and the polar bears--and everyone and everything else living in the far north--are being forced to adapt. Not all of them will succeed...

Kale Williams is a reporter at *The Oregonian/OregonLive*, where he covers science and the environment. A native of the Bay Area, he previously reported for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. He shares a home with his wife, Rebecca; his two dogs, Goose and Beans; his cat, Torta; and his step-cat, Lucas.

Crown	03/21
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Neon Literary

288 pp.

MS available

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