



Bonnier Zaffre



Rights Guide
Spring 2018

FILM & TELEVISION OPTIONS

THE LAST THING I REMEMBER by Deborah Bee

KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING by S. Block

THE HELICOPTER HEIST by Jonas Bonnier

THE SPY OF VENICE by Benet Brandreth

THE ASSASSIN OF VERONA by Benet Brandreth

SWEET LITTLE LIES by Caz Frear

THE ICE BENEATH HER by Camilla Grebe

MAESTRA by L. S. Hilton

WIDOWS by Lynda La Plante

LIES by T. M. Logan

KILLING IT by Asia Mackay

MY HUSBAND'S SON by Deborah O'Connor

THE ANOMALY by Michael Rutger

STASI CHILD by David Young

AWARDS & BESTSELLERS

Crime Writers' Association Endeavour Historical Dagger Award Winner
STASI CHILD by David Young

Crime Writers' Association John Creasey Debut Dagger Award Winner
TALL OAKS by Chris Whitaker

Crimefest Last Laugh Award Shortlist
TALL OAKS by Chris Whitaker

Theakston Old Peculier Crime Novel of the Year Award Longlist
STASI CHILD by David Young

Ngaio Marsh Award for Best Crime Novel Finalist
SPARE ME THE TRUTH by C.J. Carver

Best Swedish Crime Novel of The Year
DIARY OF MY DISAPPEARANCE by Camilla Grebe

Romantic Novelists' Association Historical Award Shortlist
MAP OF STARS by Catherine Law

Bord Gáis Energy Irish Book Awards Shortlist
LITTLE BONES by Sam Blake

The Sunday Times #1 Bestseller
MAESTRA by L.S. Hilton
WILDE LIKE ME by Louise Pentland

The Sunday Times #2 Bestseller
MOTHERING SUNDAY by Rosie Goodwin
A MOTHER'S GRACE by Rosie Goodwin
GOOD FRIDAY by Lynda La Plante

The Times #2 Bestseller
THE TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ by Heather Morris

Irish #1 Bestseller
MOTHERING SUNDAY by Rosie Goodwin
LITTLE BONES by Sam Blake

The Sunday Times Top 10 Bestseller
NOMAD by James Swallow
EXILE by James Swallow
DOMINA by L.S. Hilton
THE TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ by Heather Morris

The Sunday Times Top 15 Bestseller
CORPUS by Rory Clements
NUCLEUS by Rory Clements

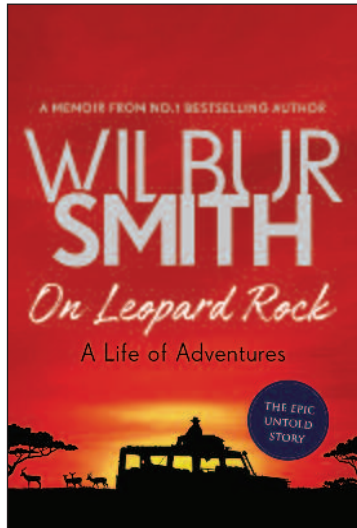
Top 30 (all genres) National Print Bestseller
EVIL GAMES by Angela Marsons
BICYCLES AND BLACKBERRIES by Sheila Newberry
MY HUSBAND'S SON by Deborah O'Connor
ISLAND OF SECRETS by Patricia Wilson
STASI CHILD by David Young

Kindle Top 10 Bestsellers
THE LAST THING I REMEMBER by Deborah Bee
DON'T WAKE UP by Liz Lawler
MAESTRA by L.S. Hilton
LIES by TM Logan
THE GINGERBREAD GIRL by Sheila Newberry
THE SHOCK by Marc Raabe
ISLAND OF SECRETS by Patricia Wilson
STASI CHILD by David Young

Wilbur Smith

ON LEOPARD ROCK

A Life of Adventures



MAY 2018
368pp | Hardback
WORLD RIGHTS
Rights sold: Czech Republic, Italy,
Netherlands, Norway
USA & Canada: Zaffre

WILBUR SMITH is a global phenomenon – one of the most successful novelists of our time. The author of 41 international bestsellers, he has built up a large and established readership over five decades of writing with sales of over 130 million books in 26 languages worldwide.

The first ever memoir from the No. 1 global bestselling adventure author

‘At one stage in my life I was really excited by danger: I flew, drove fast cars, dated faster women, hunted dangerous animals, all the things that pushed me to the edge of the precipice. I’ve had tough times, made bad decisions, had people I loved dearly dying in my arms, burnt the midnight oil getting nowhere, but it has all, in the end, added up to a phenomenally fulfilled and wonderful life . . .’

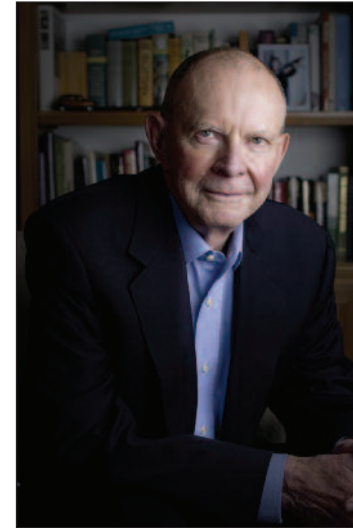
Wilbur Smith has lived an incredible life of adventure, and now he shares the extraordinary true stories that have inspired his fiction.

From being attacked by lions to close encounters with deadly reef sharks, from getting lost in the African bush without water to crawling the precarious tunnels of gold mines, from marlin fishing with Lee Marvin to near death from crash-landing a Cessna aeroplane, from brutal school days to redemption through writing and falling in love, Wilbur Smith tells us the intimate stories of his life that have been the raw material for his fiction. Always candid, sometimes hilarious, and never less than thrillingly entertaining, *ON LEOPARD ROCK* is testament to a writer whose life is as rich and eventful as his novels are compellingly unputdownable.

‘A master storyteller’ – Sunday Times

Wilbur Smith

COURTNEY’S WAR



SEPTEMBER 2018
400pp | Hardback
WORLD RIGHTS
Rights sold: Italy, Netherlands
USA & Canada: Zaffre

The brand new Courtney Series novel, and the much-anticipated sequel to the global bestseller *WAR CRY*

Paris, 1939.

Torn apart by war, Saffron Courtney and Gerhard von Meerbach are thousands of miles apart, both struggling for their lives.

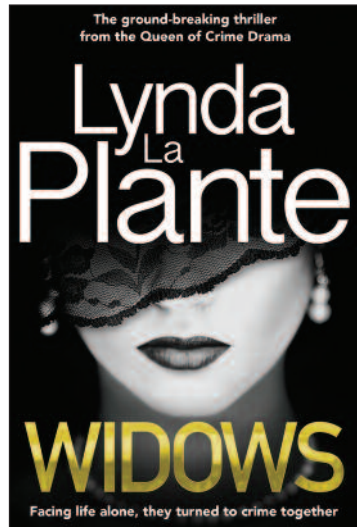
Gerhard – despite his objections to the Nazi regime – is fighting for the Fatherland, hoping to one day have the opportunity to rid Germany of Hitler and his cronies. But as his unit is thrown into the hellish attrition of the Battle of Stalingrad, he knows his chances of survival are dwindling by the day.

Meanwhile Saffron – recruited by the Special Operations Executive and sent to occupied Belgium to discover how the Nazis have infiltrated SOE’s network – soon finds herself being hunted by Germany’s most ruthless spymaster.

Confronted by evil beyond their worst imaginings, the lovers must each make the hardest choice of all: sacrifice themselves, or do whatever they can to survive, hoping that one day they will be reunited.

COURTNEY’S WAR is an epic story of courage, betrayal and undying love that takes the reader to the very heart of a world at war.

Lynda La Plante **WIDOWS**



June 2018

400pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Brazil, Czech Republic, Denmark, Israel, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Taiwan, Turkey, Ukraine, USA & Canada

LYNDA LA PLANTE is the doyenne of police procedural, the Queen of Crime Drama. She has been awarded a CBE for services to Literature, Drama and Charity. She is a member of the Crime Thriller Awards Hall of Fame and is the only lay person to be made a fellow of the Forensic Science Society.

The basis for Steve McQueen's upcoming major motion picture, *Widows* is a fast-paced heist thriller with an unforgettable cast including Viola Davis, Daniel Kaluuya, Colin Farrell, Elizabeth Debicki, Liam Neeson, Robert Duvall and André Holland.

Screenplay by Gillian Flynn

Film set for release November 2018

Facing life alone they turned to crime together

Dolly Rawlins, Linda Perelli and Shirley Miller are left devastated when their husbands are killed in a security van heist that goes disastrously wrong.

When Dolly discovers her husband Harry's bank deposit box containing a gun, money and detailed plans for the hijack she realizes that she only has three options: she could hand over the ledgers to the police, she could hand them over to the thugs who want to take over Harry's turf, or, she and the other widows could finish the job their husbands started.

As they rehearse the raid, the women discover that Harry's plan required four people and recruit hooker Bella O'Reilly. But only three bodies were discovered in the carnage of the original hijack – so who was the fourth man, and where exactly is he now?

Lynda La Plante **THE TENNISON SERIES: GOOD FRIDAY**

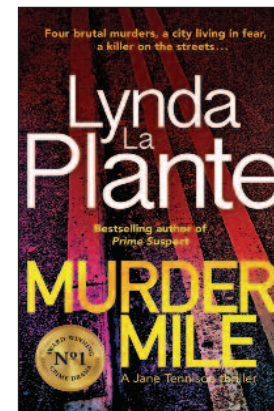


MARCH 2018 | Paperback

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Denmark

MURDER MILE



SEPTEMBER 2018 | Hardback

400pp

Over 116,000 copies sold
#2 Sunday Times Bestseller

The prequel to *Prime Suspect*, the Tennison series takes Helen Mirren's iconic character back to the start of her police career in 1970s London.

Tennison, ITV's most expensive TV series to date has been shown in the UK and on US Masterpiece Theatre and is scheduled for broadcast on networks internationally.

Four brutal murders, a city living in fear, a killer on the streets. Can Jane Tennison uncover the crime?

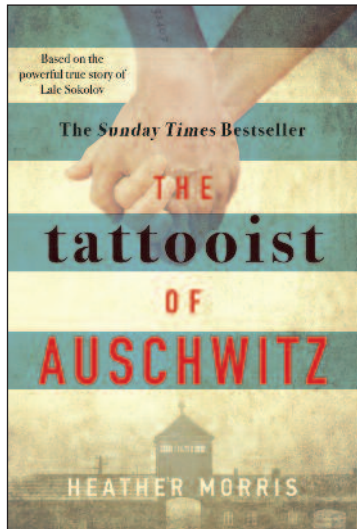
It is February, 1979, and economic chaos has led to widespread strikes across Britain. Jane Tennison, now a Detective Sergeant, has been posted to Peckham CID, one of London's toughest areas. As the rubbish on the streets begins to pile up, so does the murder count: two bodies in as many days.

There are no suspects and the only link between the two victims is the location of the bodies. Three days later another murder occurs in the same area. With press headlines claiming police incompetence, Jane is under immense pressure to catch the killer – before they strike again.

Working long hours with little sleep, what Jane uncovers leaves her doubting her own mind . . .

Heather Morris

THE TATTOOIST OF AUSCHWITZ



JANUARY 2018

288pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Albania, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine, USA

HEATHER MORRIS is a New Zealander, now resident in Australia. She studied screenwriting and one of her screenplays was optioned by an Academy Award-winning screenwriter. In 2003, Heather was introduced to an elderly gentleman who 'might just have a story worth telling'.

Sunday Times Top 10 Bestseller

The Times #2 Bestseller

Top 10 Bestseller in Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, Portugal, South Africa

Top 30 Bestseller in The Netherlands

Based on the incredible true story of Lale Sokolov and the love of his life

The heart-breaking story behind one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust – the blue numbers tattooed on prisoners' arms. When Lale Sokolov, a Slovakian Jew, was given the job of tattooist in Auschwitz, he used his infinitesimal freedom of movement to help keep fellow prisoners alive. If caught, he would have been executed; many owed him their life.

Terrible though this story is, it is also one of hope, of courage – and of love. Waiting in line to be tattooed was a terrified girl. For Lale it was love at first sight, and he was determined he and Gita would survive. Their story, fact-checked against all available documentary evidence and untold for over seventy years, may make you weep, but will also inspire you. It shows the very best of humanity in the very worst of circumstances.

'Extraordinary – moving, confronting and uplifting . . . a story about the extremes of human behaviour: calculated brutality alongside impulsive and selfless acts of love.

I recommend it unreservedly'

– Graeme Simsion, author of THE ROSIE PROJECT

'What an extraordinary and important book this is. We need as many memories of the Holocaust as we can retain, and this is a moving and ultimately uplifting story of love, loyalties and friendship amidst the horrors of war . . . It's a triumph.'

– Jill Mansell



- **Heart-rending** – a tale of love and survival amidst the horrors of Auschwitz-Birkenau
- **Human** – the real story behind one of the most potent symbols of the Holocaust, the blue numbers tattooed on prisoners' arms
- **Inspiring** – the very best of humanity in the very worst of circumstances
- **Unforgettable** – a story untold for over seventy years is finally shared
- **Life-affirming** – one man's determination to survive against all odds and live a full life with the woman he loved
- **True** – told as a novel, but based on Lale and Gita Sokolov's life and love

Paola Peretti

THE DISTANCE BETWEEN ME AND THE CHERRY TREE

Illustrated by Carolina Rabei | Translated by Denise Muir



SEPTEMBER 2018

244pp with b&w illustrations

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Albania, Canada, Catalan, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Serbia, Spain, Taiwan, Turkey, USA

PAOLA PERETTI lives in Verona and teaches immigrant children. She studied Philosophy and Literature and fifteen years ago was diagnosed with a rare genetic illness called Stargardt Disease which causes progressive vision loss, and eventually blindness. There is no known cure.

DENISE MUIR has translated children's fiction for the last fifteen years.

There is always a light in the darkness

'And now here is my secret, a very simple secret: It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; what is essential is invisible to the eye.' – *THE LITTLE PRINCE*

Mafalda is nine and there is one thing she knows with absolute certainty: sometime in the next six months she will lose her sight. She will have to give up doing some of the things she loves the most, she will have to move house and perhaps not be able to take her beloved wayward cat with her. If only she could find a way to avoid all this. She could just climb up the cherry tree at school, like her favourite character in a book, and not come down from it until everything is over. But Mafalda is not a character in a book and the challenge life has dealt her will not go away. Can Mafalda find a way to face her darkening future and maybe discover new possibilities that are invisible to the eye?

With evocative references to *THE LITTLE PRINCE* and Italo Calvino's *THE BARON IN THE TREES*, this gently powerful and richly textured novel speaks to all – from 9 to 99 years – with an innocence and spontaneity that has universal resonance.



Dear Sirs, dear Madams,

I'm writing in the hope of explaining who I am. With my brown, rather ordinary eyes, I see only a fifth of what other people can see. I'm going blind.

Ever since I learned that one day in the not-so-distant future I wouldn't be able to see anymore, my every morning contains a brand new light. I'm not a wise, heroic person. I'd much rather be able to see well. But since I can't, I've decided to let go of the doubts and fears that have constrained me for too long.

Now, I throw myself head-first into life. I ski, (following my friends). I play the piano (by ear).

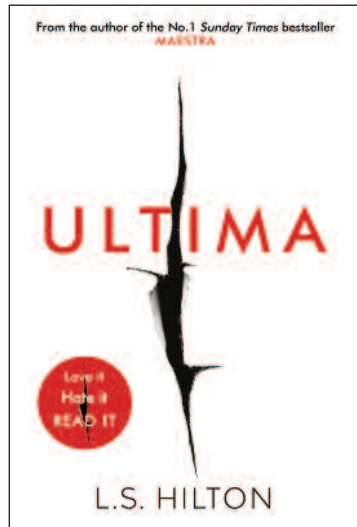
At night I sit by my window and stare at the star-filled sky. I beg it to burn into my retinas so that if I had a daughter and she asked me about the last thing I saw before losing my sight completely, I wouldn't have to say it was a street curb or a trash bag. I could tell the truth. . .

I want to write. I can't wait any longer. I have eyes inside my hands, and when I'm writing I even see better inside my head. Before my light goes out I want to tell this story.

*Thank you for listening.
Paola*

L. S. Hilton

ULTIMA



APRIL 2018

352pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Belgium, Bosnia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Catalonia, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, USA, Vietnam

After graduating from Oxford L. S. HILTON studied art history in Paris and Florence. She has worked as a journalist, art critic and broadcaster.

If you can't beat them – kill them

First there was **MAESTRA**. Then there was **DOMINA**. Now there is . . . **ULTIMA**

Judith Rashleigh meets her match in this dark and erotic high-stakes finale that will have you on the edge of your seat as you discover the truth behind her killing spree . . . This is the ultimate read for seekers of high-octane thrills.

Love it. Hate it. READ IT!

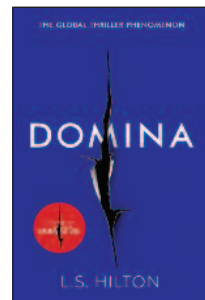
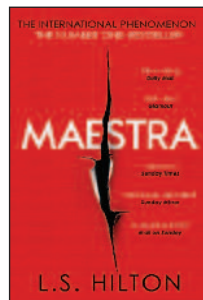
Praise for L.S. Hilton:

'Patricia Highsmith crossed with *Gone Girl*' – *HARPERS BAZAAR*

'Murderous and provocative' – *THE TIMES*

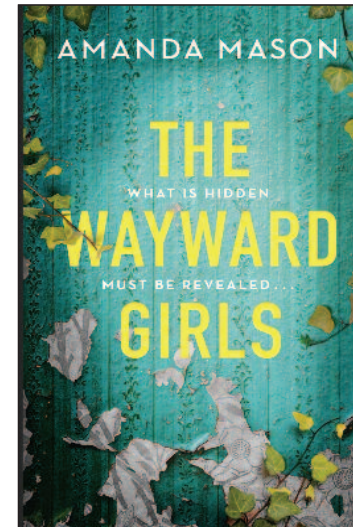
'A rip-roaring read . . . Sharp and extremely well written' – *DAILY MAIL*

'I want the next L. S. Hilton with an aching, selfish yearning I do not feel for the Man Booker list' – *Stephen Bayley, THE AMORIST*



Amanda Mason

THE WAYWARD GIRLS



SEPTEMBER 2019

470pp

WORLD RIGHTS

AMANDA MASON lives in York. This is her debut novel. It was long-listed for the Deborah Rogers Prize.

Emma Cline's *THE GIRLS* meets Sarah Waters' *THE LITTLE STRANGER*

A vivid coming of age story with a gripping, ghostly twist

Summer 1976. Loo and her sister Bee live in a run-down cottage in the middle of nowhere, with their artistic parents and their wild siblings. Their mother, Cathy, had hoped to escape to a simpler life; instead the family find themselves isolated and shunned by their neighbours. When strange, unexplained occurrences in the house begin to disturb their every waking moment, the family gain even more notoriety.

The police are called and then a group of strangers arrives, fascinated by the mysterious goings on, and becomes increasingly entwined with this eccentric family.

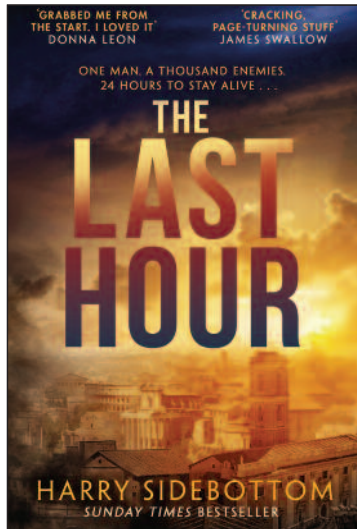
But what is really happening here? And why does so much of the activity centre around Bee and Loo?

A beautifully written perfectly paced debut with a dark heart.

Perfect for fans of Amy Engel's *THE ROANOKE GIRLS*

Harry Sidebottom

THE LAST HOUR



MARCH 2018

352pp

TRANSLATION RIGHTS

US RIGHTS: United Agents

Rights sold: Germany, Italy

DR HARRY SIDEBOTTOM lectures in Classical History at Oxford and is also a Sunday Times bestselling author whose 'sword and sandals' novels have been translated into a dozen languages. Now he is reinventing and reinvigorating the genre by bringing it into the televisual era . . .

One man, a thousand enemies, twenty-four hours to stay alive

In the last hour of light a dying man tells the decorated general, Marcus Clodius Ballista, that the Emperor will be assassinated when he leaves the gladiatorial fight in the Colosseum at the same time the next day.

If the Emperor is struck down civil war will tear the empire apart, the barbarians will flood the frontiers and the known world will slide into chaos. If the Emperor is killed, all those close to him will be next. The equestrian General Ballista is a friend and ally of the Emperor. He knows that his family will be hunted down. Everyone he loves – his wife, his two sons, his best friend, Maximus – all his household will be killed. All will be lost.

Ballista has twenty-four hours to cross Rome and avert the murder. It doesn't sound so difficult, but . . .

For readers of Bernard Cornwell, Ben Kane and Conn Iggulden – this is 24 set in Ancient Rome

Praise for *THE LAST HOUR*:

'Relentless, brutal, brilliant, this is Jack Reacher in ancient Rome' – Ben Kane

'Grabbed me from the start. I loved it' – Donna Leon

'Cracking, page-turning stuff' – James Swallow

W. C. Ryan

A HOUSE OF GHOSTS



OCTOBER 2018

400pp

WORLD RIGHTS

W. C. RYAN is a pseudonym for William Ryan, author of THE CONSTANT SOLDIER and the Korolev series of crime novels. His books have been shortlisted for numerous awards including the Theakston Crime Novel Award, the CWA Historical Dagger and the Ireland Crime Novel of the Year Award and have been translated into over a dozen languages.

A chilling murder mystery set in a haunted house

Winter 1917. As the First World War enters its most brutal phase, back home in England, everyone is trying to resist the darkness that has seeped into their lives.

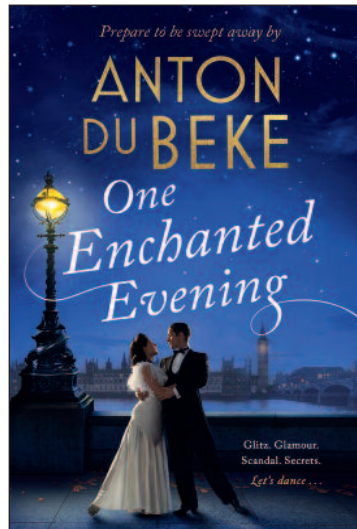
At Blackwater Abbey, situated on an island off the Devon coast, Lord Highmount has arranged a spiritualist gathering to contact his two sons who were lost in the conflict. But as his guests begin to arrive, it gradually becomes clear that each has something they would rather keep hidden. Then, when a storm descends on the island, the guests will find themselves trapped. Soon one of their number will die.

For Blackwater Abbey is haunted in more ways than one . . .

AND THEN THERE WERE NONE meets THE WOMAN IN BLACK

Anton Du Beke

ONE ENCHANTED EVENING



OCTOBER 2018
352pp
WORLD RIGHTS

ANTON DU BEKE is one of the most instantly recognisable dancers in the UK today, best known for his role on the BBC's Strictly Come Dancing, where he has featured since its inception in 2004. His debut album reached the Top 20 in 2017, and his sell-out dance tour is in its tenth year. Anton, aka 'Mr Debonair', has more than 206k Twitter followers.

Downton Abbey with dancing . . .

London, 1936.

Inside the spectacular ballroom of the exclusive Buckingham Hotel the rich and powerful, politicians, film stars, even royalty, rub shoulders with Raymond de Guise and his troupe of talented dancers from all around the world, who must enchant them, captivate them, and sweep away their cares. But Raymond knows a secret from his past threatens all he holds dear.

Nancy Nettleton, new chambermaid at the Buckingham, finds hotel life a struggle after leaving her small hometown. She dreams of joining the dancers on the Grand Ballroom floor as she watches, unseen, from behind plush curtains. She soon discovers everyone at the Buckingham – guests and staff alike – has something to hide . . .

The storm clouds of war are gathering, and beneath the glitz and glamour of the ballroom lurks an irresistible world of scandal and secrets.

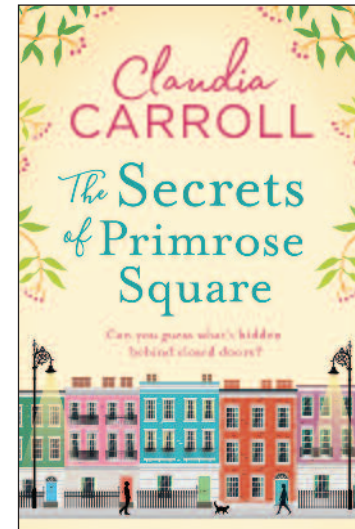
Perfect for fans of Downton Abbey, Mr Selfridge, The Halcyon and Belgravia.

The master entertainer brings us his debut novel. Prepare to be swept off your feet . . .

- Anton Du Beke is a national treasure with an army of adoring fans
- His debut album 'From The Top' hit the Top 20 in 2017 and spent three weeks in the Top 40
- He is currently on a sell-out national dance tour

Claudia Carroll

THE SECRETS OF PRIMROSE SQUARE



JULY 2018
384pp
WORLD RIGHTS

CLAUDIA CARROLL is a Dubliner. She is the author of fourteen bestselling novels and has always been grateful to her mentor, Maeve Binchy. She stars in the Dublin-based soap opera, Fair City.

Ireland's #1 bestseller is back with this compelling, warm and poignant story

It's late at night and the rain is pouring down on the Dublin city streets. A mother is grieving. She stands silently outside the home of the teenage boy she believes responsible for the death of her child. She watches . . .

In a kitchen on the same square, a girl waits for her mum to come home. She knows exactly where she is, but she knows she cannot reach her.

A few doors down, and a widow sits alone in her room. She has just delivered a bombshell to her family during dinner.

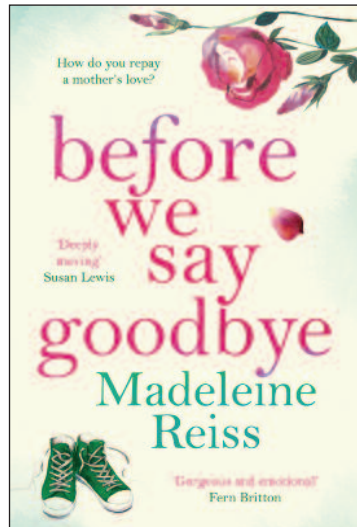
And an aspiring theatre director has just moved in to a flat across the street. Her landlord is absent, but there are things about him that don't quite add up . . .

Welcome to Primrose Square. . .

Perfect for fans of Marian Keyes and Joanna Trollope

Madeleine Reiss

BEFORE WE SAY GOODBYE



FEBRUARY 2018
384pp
WORLD RIGHTS
Rights sold: France, Italy

MADELEINE REISS was born in Athens. She worked in an agency for street performers and comedians and then as a journalist and publicist. Madeleine's first novel won The People's Novelist Competition. Her second novel, *THIS LAST KISS* was published by Zaffre. She has two sons and lives in Cambridge.

With only months left to live, can he heal his mother's heart?

'Even as a child, Scott had known that his illness was far harder for his mother to bear than it was for him to endure. The feeling that he had been the cause of her unhappiness had been with him for as long as he could remember . . . He would find her someone to love so that she wouldn't be alone when he wasn't there anymore.'

Josie Hudson's whole life has been about one thing and one thing only: keeping her son Scott alive.

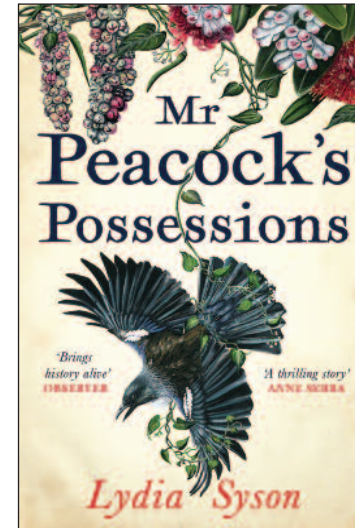
And when Scott, now nineteen, finds out that his heart is once again failing, Josie's world comes crashing down.

Determined to give meaning to his final months, Scott decides to find a suitable match for his mum: someone to be there for her when he can't . . .

A beautiful novel that will break your heart and put it back together again.

Lydia Syson

MISTER PEACOCK'S POSSESSIONS



MAY 2018
432pp
WORLD RIGHTS

Before turning to writing LYDIA SYSON was a BBC radio producer. She is a Royal Literary Fellow for the Courtauld Institute and has written three acclaimed YA novels as well as non-fiction. This is her first novel for an adult audience.

Oceania 1879.
A family of intrepid settlers from New Zealand become the sole inhabitants of a remote volcanic island

For two years they struggle alone with the harsh realities of trying to make this unforgiving place a paradise they can call their own. At last, there is a ship. Kalala and the five Pacific islanders on board have travelled eight hundred miles across the ocean to offer work and discover new horizons. Hopes are high for all, but when Albert, the eldest son, is nowhere to be found and celebration turns to fear. The weeks pass and there is still no sign of the lost child, alive or dead, but in their search, both settlers and newcomers expose far more than they were looking for. The island's secret history will force them all to question their deepest convictions. And Lizzie Peacock must choose her allegiance . . .

An intimate, intense and beautifully realised novel of possession, power and the liberating loss of innocence.

'SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON meets **LORD OF THE FLIES** in Lydia Syson's superb and engrossing book. This scintillating story evokes an island paradise which descends into a nightmarish hell as it builds towards a shocking revelation and a thrilling climax' – **Wendy Moore** author of *THE MESMERIST*

Anna Bell

IT STARTED WITH A TWEET



DECEMBER 2017

432pp

US RIGHTS

Rights sold: Germany, Portugal

ANNA BELL lives in the south of France with her young family and energetic Labrador.

Can Daisy log off for love . . . ?

A hilarious new romantic comedy from the author of *THE BUCKET LIST TO MEND A BROKEN HEART*, perfect for fans of Lucy Diamond and Sophie Kinsella.

Daisy Hobson lives her whole life online. But when her social media obsession causes her to make a catastrophic mistake at work, Daisy finds her life going into free-fall.

Her sister Rosie thinks she has the answer to all of Daisy's problems – a digital detox in a remote cottage in the Lake District. Soon, too, Daisy finds a welcome distraction there in the brusque and mysterious man-next-door.

But can a city girl ever really settle into life in a tiny, isolated village? And, more importantly, can she survive without her phone?

'Had me smiling from start to finish. A joy to read' – Cathy Bramley

Louise Pentland

WILDE ABOUT THE GIRL



AUGUST 2018

400pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Germany, Italy

WILDE LIKE ME sold: France, Germany, Italy, Portugal

Award-winning, fastest growing and #1 YouTube 'mummy blogger' plus fashion designer and author, LOUISE PENTLAND published her first novel in 2017. It was an instant Sunday Times #1 smash hit. A UN Global Ambassador for Gender Equality, Louise won InStyle Best High-Street Fashion YouTuber and the Shorty Award for Best YouTube Guru.

Following the massive #1 *Sunday Times* bestseller *WILDE LIKE ME*, Robin Wilde is back!

Robin Wilde is acing life. After the year from hell, she's pulled herself up and out of the Emptiness, her love life is ticking along nicely, single motherhood is actually quite fun and she is ready for whatever life throws at her. When a thrilling opportunity at work arises, Robin is more than excited to step up and show everyone, including herself, what she's made of.

But her best friend Lacey is increasingly broken-hearted about struggling to conceive, and her daughter Lyla is starting to come out with some horrible attitudes she's learning from someone at school. Is Auntie Kath hiding loneliness under her bubbly, loving veneer? And can Robin definitely trust the people she must depend on in her fab new role?

But Robin has her girls. And her girls have got her. Together they can handle any crisis. Can't they?

Life is about to throw quite the curve ball at Robin Wilde, and she'll need to make some pretty brave choices if she's going to stop everything she cares about falling apart . . .

Praise for *WILDE LIKE ME*: 'Warm and engaging' – Sophie Kinsella

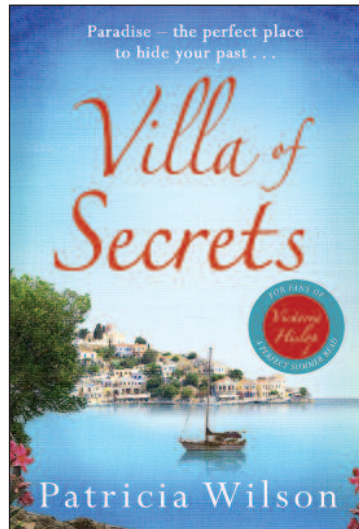
'I'm smitten' – Lindsey Kelk

'Gorgeous, witty, reassuring' – Daisy Buchanan

'Funny, heartfelt, tender and empowering!' – Giovanna Fletcher

Patricia Wilson

VILLA OF SECRETS



MAY 2018
480pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Norway

ISLAND OF SECRETS sold: Croatia,
France, Greece, Norway, Serbia

PATRICIA WILSON was first inspired to write when she unearthed a machine gun in her garden – in the Cretan village of Amiras. She now lives in Rhodes.

Two sisters unlock the secrets of their grandmother's past and the long-buried events that unfolded in 1944

Rebecca Neumann has spent years trying to conceive a child. Her fragile marriage is on the brink of collapse, and her desire to become a mother is becoming an obsession. Then she receives news from her estranged family in Rhodes, and Rebecca's world is turned upside down.

Drawn to the beautiful island of her birth, she realises how little she knows of the grandmother she has not seen for over a decade. A freedom fighter in the Second World War, her Bubba harbours secrets that she intended to take to the grave. But those secrets affect everyone, and perhaps they are not hers to keep.

With Rebecca's arrival, the time has come to tell the truth . . .

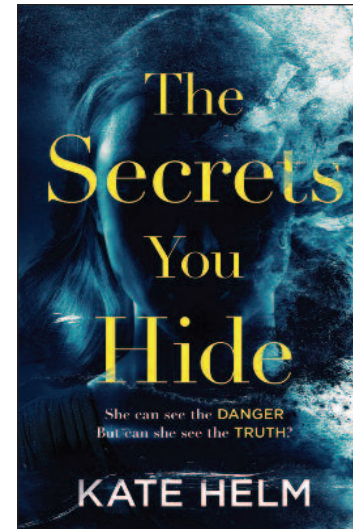
Over 160,000 copies sold of ISLAND OF SECRETS.

Readers love Patricia Wilson:

'Full of raw emotions, family vendettas, hidden secrets and three very strong women, ISLAND OF SECRETS is a book I enjoyed very much and one which fans of Victoria Hislop are sure to love'
– **NETGALLEY reviewer**

Kate Helm

THE SECRETS YOU HIDE



FEBRUARY 2019
304pp

US RIGHTS

Translation rights: Janklow & Nesbitt

KATE HELM worked as a journalist covering courts and crime, before becoming a BBC reporter and producer in news and current affairs. She also writes documentary and drama scripts. Kate Helm is a pseudonym for author Kate Harrison who has been published in 20 countries and whose books have sold over 3/4 million copies.

A twisty and unputdownable debut crime thriller with a killer hook

In her eyes, no-one is innocent.

Georgia Sage has a gift: she can see evil. As a courtroom artist she uses her skills to help condemn those who commit terrible crimes. After all, her own brutal past means she knows that innocence is even rarer than justice. But when she is drawn back into the trial that defined her career – a case of twisted family betrayal – she realises her own reckless pursuit of justice may have helped the guilty go free.

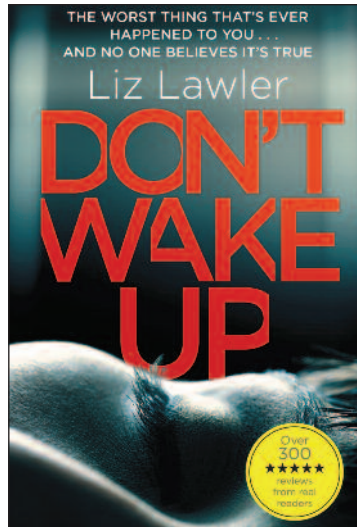
As Georgia gets closer to the truth behind the Slater family, something happens that threatens not only her career – but her own sanity. At first, she fears that the events of her terrible childhood are finally coming back to haunt her.

The truth turns out to be even more terrifying . . .

In *THE SECRETS YOU HIDE* every layer, every twist, every revelation raises questions about the characters you thought you could trust.

A knock-out read for fans of Clare Mackintosh, Sarah Vaughan's ANATOMY OF A SCANDAL and Louise Doughty's APPLE TREE YARD.

Liz Lawler DON'T WAKE UP



OCTOBER 2017

368pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Greece, Italy, Norway, Russia, USA

Born in Kent and partly raised in Dublin, LIZ LAWLER is one of fourteen children and grew up sharing socks, pants, stuffed bras and table space to eat at. Liz now lives in Bath, where the book is also set. She has worked as a nurse and knows all about the secrets that are kept hidden in the forgotten back rooms of hospitals.

A pitch-black psychological thriller

#1 Apple bestseller spot

Amazon Top 10 in ebook

Over 178,000 copies sold

Shortlisted for the Richard & Judy Search for a Bestseller competition

Alex Taylor wakes up tied to an operating table.

The man who stands over her isn't a doctor.

The choice he forces her to make is unspeakable.

But when Alex re-awakens, she's unharmed – and no one believes her horrifying story. Avoided by her colleagues, her family and her partner, she begins to wonder if she really is losing her mind.

And then she meets the next victim.

So compulsive you can't stop reading.

So chilling you won't stop talking about it.

A dark, gripping psychological thriller with a horrifying premise and a stinging twist.

'Outstanding . . . a rollercoaster of a read'
– [Angela Marsons](#)

Asia Mackay KILLING IT



JULY 2018

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Czech Republic, Slovakia

Film rights: 42

ASIA MACKAY lives in London with her husband, four children and two dogs. She can't remember the last time she had a full night's sleep. This is her debut novel.

'Puts the sass in assassin as never before'

Every working mum has had to face it: the guilt-fuelled anxiety-filled first day back at the office after maternity leave. But *this* working mum is one of a kind.

Prepare to meet Lex Tyler. She's an elite covert agent with Her Majesty's Secret Service, and her first project back is a high-stakes hit of global significance.

As the only operational mother in the Old Boys network of government espionage her world might not be quite ready for her return, but woe betide anyone who suggests that she isn't ready – for anything!

Cynical old-school boss? Fine. Misogynist, uncooperative fellow agents? Whatever. East End gangsters and an impenetrable cell of Notting Hill yummy mummies? She's got it. Russian oligarchs, a murder plot and a terrifying cyber threat of global proportions? Bring. It. On.

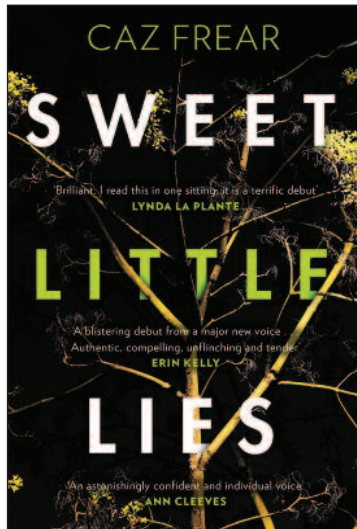
And, yes, she damn well will be back home for bath time.

Mother. Wife. Assassin. Meet the hero you've been waiting for, killing it as only she knows how . . .

'A riotously fun read . . . James Bond should retire now: Lex Tyler shows him up for the tired old has-been he is. With prose as sharp as her heroine's (actual) killer heels, Asia Mackay puts the sass in assassin as it's never been done before' – [Lisa Hilton](#)

'I absolutely loved it! It's so new and different and refreshing and such fun' – [Marian Keyes](#)

Caz Frear SWEET LITTLE LIES



JUNE 2017

480pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Spain, USA

When she's not agonising over snappy dialogue or incisive prose CAZ FREAR can be found shouting at the TV when Arsenal are playing or holding court in a pub on topics she knows nothing about. She is a headhunter.

Winner of the Richard & Judy Search for a Bestseller Competition

Trust cuts both ways . . . what do you do when it's gone?

WHAT I THOUGHT I KNEW

In 1998, Maryanne Doyle disappeared and Dad knew something about it? Maryanne Doyle was never seen again.

WHAT I ACTUALLY KNOW

In 1998, Dad lied about knowing Maryanne Doyle. Alice Lapaine has been found strangled near Dad's pub. Dad was in the local area for both Maryanne Doyle's disappearance and Alice Lapaine's murder. FACT.

Connection?

For fans of [Erin Kelly](#) and [Belinda Bauer](#).

'An astonishingly confident and individual voice' – [Ann Cleeves](#)

'A blistering debut from a major new voice. Authentic, compelling, unflinching and tender and written with real verve and assurance' – [Erin Kelly](#)

'With a dark comedic slant – brilliant. A terrific debut' – [Lynda La Plante](#)

'An utterly compelling story that will keep you up all night' – [Fiona Cummins](#), author of *RATTLE*

David Jackson DON'T MAKE A SOUND



MAY 2018

400pp

WORLD RIGHTS

Rights sold: France, Czech Republic, Slovakia

DAVID JACKSON's debut novel, PARIAN, was Highly Commended in the Crime Writers' Association Debut Dagger Awards. He lives on the Wirral peninsula with his wife and two daughters.

The darkest, most unrelentingly gripping thriller you will read this year

You can't choose your family. Or can you?

Meet the Bensons. A pleasant enough couple. They keep themselves to themselves. They wash the car, mow the lawn and pass the time of day with the neighbours. And they have a beautiful little girl called Daisy.

There's just one problem. She's not theirs.

Detective Sergeant Nathan Cody is about to face his darkest and most terrifying case yet . . .

'A mind-blowing, heart-rattling whirlwind of a thriller. Jackson is king of "just-one-more-chapter"' – [Joanna Cannon](#)

'Recalls Harlan Coben, although for my money Jackson is the better writer' – [GUARDIAN](#)

'Jackson catapults himself into the top echelons of crime fiction with his latest novel DON'T MAKE A SOUND. From its incredibly chilling opening chapter, to the spectacular ending, I can't recommend this book highly enough. Crime writing at its best, this book is going to be a talking point for years to come. Fantastic' – [Luca Veste](#)

'Jackson writes with a quiet menace that makes this book incredibly chilling . . . surely a contender for thriller of the year' – [Fiona Cummins](#)

G. J. Minett

ANYTHING FOR HER



MARCH 2018

368pp

US RIGHTS

Translation rights: Peters Fraser & Dunlop

G.J. MINETT studied at Cambridge and then worked as a teacher of foreign languages. He studied for an MA in Creative Writing at the University of Chichester, and won the Chapter One Prize for unpublished novels with the opening chapter of THE HIDDEN LEGACY.

A devilish psychological thriller from a writer to watch . . .

You'd do anything for the one that got away . . . wouldn't you?

When Billy Orr returns home to spend time with his dying sister, he bumps into his ex-girlfriend Aimi, the love of his life. He might not have seen her in eleven years, but Billy's never forgotten her. He'd do anything for her then, and he'd do anything for her now.

When Aimi tells him that she wants to escape her abusive husband, Billy agrees to help her fake her own death. But is she still the Aimi that Billy remembers from all those years ago?

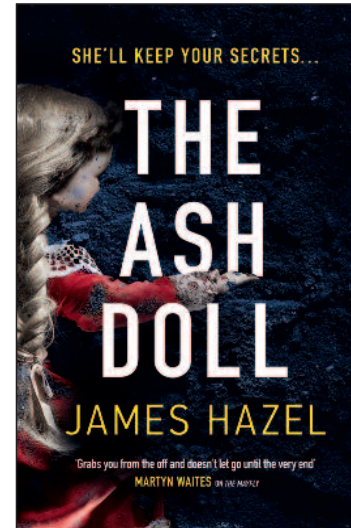
Once Aimi disappears, Billy has to face the possibility that perhaps she had different reasons for disappearing – reasons that might be more dangerous than she's led him to believe . . .

Sometimes trusting the one you love is the wrong thing to do.

A gripping upmarket novel of suspense, for fans of Peter Swanson, Sabine Durrant, JP Delaney and Clare Mackintosh.

James Hazel

THE ASH DOLL



SEPTEMBER 2018

320pp

WORLD RIGHTS

THE MAYFLY sold: Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland, Turkey

Before turning his hand to writing, JAMES HAZEL was a lawyer. He lives on the edge of the Lincolnshire Wolds with his wife and three children.

Some things are meant to be forgotten . . .

What starts out like any other major libel trial for lawyer Charlie Priest turns into a legal train wreck when the defence's star witness turns up murdered. While the defence stalls for time, Priest is determined to find out who is responsible, but as more bodies begin to pile up, Priest realises that he's caught in a web of deceit and corruption that protects a deadly secret: one that threatens to tear him and those he loves apart.

For fans of Robert Bryndza and M.J. Arlidge

Praise for *THE MAYFLY*

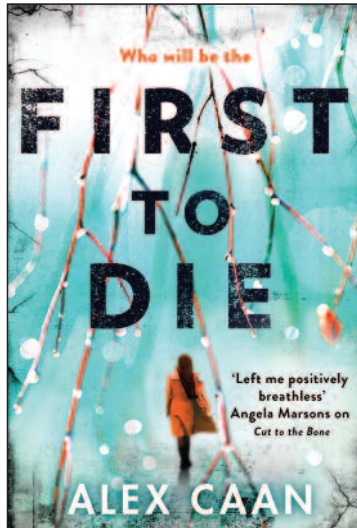
'Hazel grabs you from the off and doesn't let go until the very end. This is his first novel. It's definitely not his last' – Martyn Waites

'A compelling mystery . . . Charlie Priest is a genius creation – brilliant and borderline dysfunctional but you can't help liking him. Highly recommended' – James Carol

'Occasionally horrifically shiver inducing, never less than irresistible, *THE MAYFLY* is really top notch . . . Charlie Priest. Remember the name' – Liz Loves Books

'Addictive and wonderfully macabre. A marvellous cast, a cracking pace. . . I haven't completed a book in such double-quick time . . . a winner' – CrimeSquad

Alex Caan FIRST TO DIE



JUNE 2018
320pp
US RIGHTS
Translation rights: LBA

ALEX CAAN has spent over a decade working in Information Systems Security for a number of government organisations and is currently specialising in terrorism studies.

A dark and edgy crime thriller for fans of Angela Marsons and Robert Bryndza

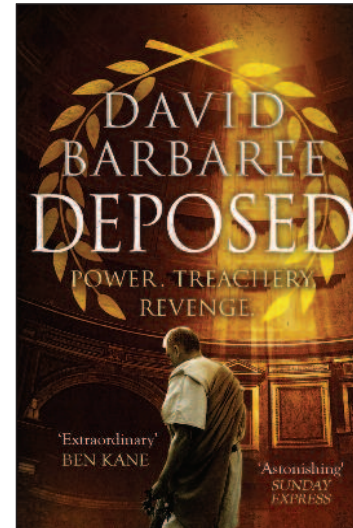
Bonfire Night and St James's Park is filled with thousands of anonymous protesters in a stand-off with the police. When a cloaked mask-wearing body is discovered the following morning, Zain Harris and Kate Riley are called in to investigate. The corpse has been eaten away by a potentially lethal and highly contagious virus, resulting in enforced quarantine for anyone who came into contact with the body. The victim was a senior civil servant whose work in international development involved saving lives. Why would anyone want him dead?

As the origins of the deadly virus are narrowed down, first one, then another pharmacist goes missing. Meanwhile, a dark truth starts to emerge about the murder victim: he was an aggressive man, whose bullying behaviour resulted in the suicide attempt of one of his former staff members, and one of his favoured charities is rumoured to be involved in human trafficking. He must have had enemies after all . . .

Kate and Zain have their work cut out. Can they find the two missing pharmacists in time, or will they too end up dead?

'A chillingly authentic, bang on-trend thriller'
– **Lisa Hall** #1 bestselling author

David Barbaree DEPOSED



MAY 2017
480pp
WORLD RIGHTS
Rights sold: Italy, Spain

DAVID BARBAREE is a lawyer and a graduate of the Curtis Brown Creative Writing School. He lives in Canada.

'Outstanding. An extraordinary recreation of ancient Rome. Miss this at your peril' – Ben Kane

More gripping than *Game of Thrones* and more ruthless than *House of Cards* – this a stunning new thriller of power, treachery and revenge.

In a darkened cell, a brutally deposed dictator lies crippled – deprived of his power, his freedom – and his eyes. His only companion is the boy who brings him his food.

Ten years later, the new ruler's son watches uneasily over his father's empire as a wealthy senator arrives with his young ward.

The senator is witty but inscrutable, generous with his time and money to a leader in desperate need of a friend – and he wears a bandage over his blinded eyes.

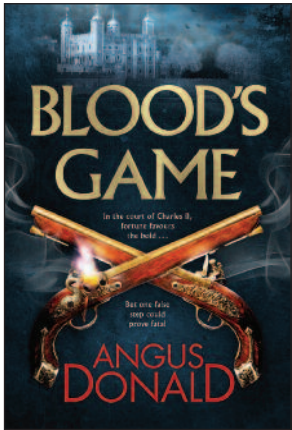
His name is Nero.

But this isn't his story.

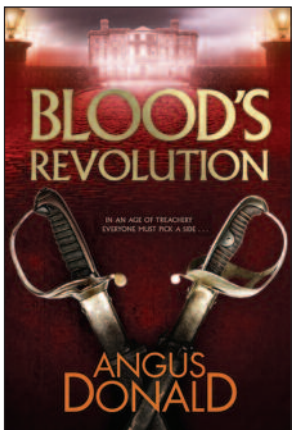
'This marvellous debut moves backwards and forwards in time to tell the story of Nero's possible and astonishing tale'
– **SUNDAY EXPRESS**

'An extraordinary first novel, impressing with its complex plotting, powerful imagination, strong and authentic characters, and the author's gift for making fiction seem so palpably real'
– **LANCASHIRE EVENING POST**

Angus Donald THE BLOOD TRILOGY



OCTOBER 2017
WORLD RIGHTS



OCTOBER 2018
WORLD RIGHTS

ANGUS DONALD was born in China and worked as a journalist in Hong Kong, India, Afghanistan and London.

The thrilling new series from the bestselling author of the *Outlaw Chronicles*

Even the Crown Jewels aren't safe any more . . .

London, Winter 1670.

Holcroft Blood has entered the employ of the Duke of Buckingham, one of the most powerful men in the kingdom after the King. It is here that his education really begins. With a gift for numbers and decoding ciphers, Holcroft soon proves invaluable to the Duke, but when he's pushed into a betrayal he risks everything for revenge.

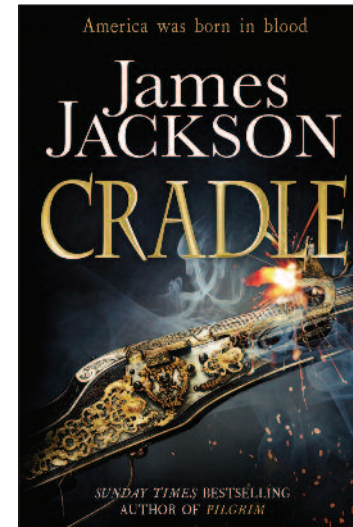
His father, Colonel Thomas Blood, has fallen on hard times. A man used to fighting, he lives by his wits and survives by whatever means necessary. When he's asked to commit treason by stealing the Crown Jewels, he puts himself and his family in a dangerous situation – one that may end at the gallows.

As powerful men plot to secure the country's future, both father and son must learn what it is to survive in a more dangerous battlefield than war – the court of King Charles II.

One false step could prove fatal . . .

Set during the reign of King Charles II, *BLOOD'S GAME* is the first of a trilogy featuring Colonel Thomas Blood, ex-Parliamentarian soldier turned rascal for hire, and his son, Holcroft.

James Jackson CRADLE



NOVEMBER 2017
304pp
US RIGHTS
Translation rights: Furniss Lawton

JAMES JACKSON has written numerous historical and contemporary thrillers, including three previous Christian Hardy novels. He is a former political risk consultant and a postgraduate in military studies. He was called to the Bar and is member of the Inner Temple.

The new historical thriller series from the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *PILGRIM*

America was born in blood . . .

1607

Up the remote James River in the land the English named Virginia, lies a small wooden palisaded fort. This first outpost of the new colony is besieged by natives, beset by danger and sabotaged from within. Intelligencer (aka spy) Christian Hardy is there to protect the new possession on behalf of young Prince Henry, heir to the English throne.

Ranged against him are the forces of King James I and his spymaster Robert Cecil, who will sacrifice all to prevent war with Spain. And there, too, is his old adversary, the renegade Realm, who will stop at nothing to wreak vengeance on Hardy.

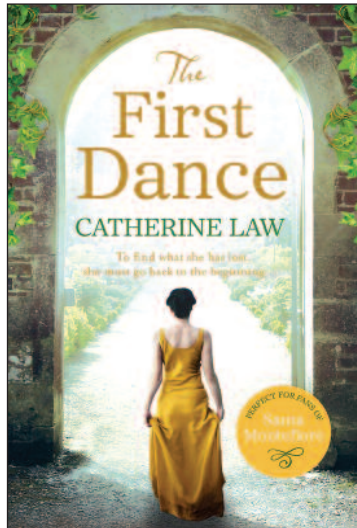
Amid starvation and bloodshed a desperate fight for survival ensues. The battle for America has begun . . .

'There is no one today writing fictionalized history, backed by ferocious research, like James Jackson' – Frederick Forsyth

For readers of Bernard Cornwell, Ben Kane and Conn Iggulden

Catherine Law

THE FIRST DANCE



MARCH 2018

448pp

US RIGHTS

Translation rights: Judith Murdoch

CATHERINE LAW worked at the BBC before becoming a journalist.

To find what she has lost she must go back to the beginning . . .

1924

The First World War is over and eleven-year-old Alexa is growing up on the idyllic Cornish coast with her best friend Harvey. But she soon discovers there are secrets at the heart of her family that have been hidden for years.

1931

Alexa flees Cornwall for the intoxicating city of Venice. But her new glamorous life is not what she hoped for and, with dark shadows closing in on her, Alexa will question everything she thought she wanted . . .

A spellbinding tale of mysteries and secrets and a love that will last forever.

Perfect for fans of Santa Montefiore and Tracy Rees

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