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May new releases 2024

# My Favourite Mistake

## Marian Keyes

Read by the Author

'Warm-hearted, witty and fearless'

*Daily Mail*

# Marian Keyes

# My Favourite Mistake



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& unabridged



The hilarious, heartwarming story from #1 internationally bestselling author Marian Keyes.

*Anna has just lost her taste for the big apple ...*

Anna has a life to envy. An apartment in New York. A well-meaning (too well-meaning?) partner. And a high-flying job in beauty PR. Who wouldn't want all that? Anna – it turns out. Turning a minor mid-life crisis into a major life event she packs it in, heads back to Ireland, and gets a PR job for a super-high-end coastal retreat.

Tougher than it sounds. Newsflash – the locals hate it. So much so, there have been threats – and violence.

Anna, however, worked in the beauty industry. There's no ugliness she hasn't seen. No wrinkle she can't smooth over. Anna's got this. Until she discovers that leaving New York doesn't mean escaping her mistakes. Once upon a time she'd had a best friend. Once upon a time she'd loved a man. Now she has neither. And now she has to face them.

We all make mistakes. But when do we stop making the same one over and over again?

Marian Keyes is a multimillion copy, internationally bestselling author of some of the most widely loved, genre-defying novels of the past 30 years and has millions of devoted fans around the world

In addition to her 15 previous novels, Keyes has also written two collections of journalism, upon which the recent hit BBC Radio 4 show *Between Ourselves* is based

In 2022, Keyes was named the British Book Awards Author of the Year

*'Marian's glorious, warm-hearted wit is always guaranteed to make me laugh ...'* – Liane Moriarty, bestselling author of *Big Little Lies* (on *The Break*)

*'Clever, hilarious, poignant ... Gloriously funny.'* – Sunday Times (on *The Break*)

# Holmes, Margaret and Poe

Holmes, Margaret and Poe #1

James Patterson & Brian Sitts

Read by a Full Cast

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

Brendan Holmes, Margaret Marple and Auguste Poe run the most in-demand private investigation agency in New York City in this twisty mystery thriller from the award-winning, bestselling author James Patterson.

The three detectives make a formidable team, solving a series of seemingly impossible crimes which expose the dark underbelly of the city – from a priceless art theft, high-stakes kidnapping and a decades-old unsolved murder, to a gruesome subterranean prison, and corruption and bribery at the highest levels of power.

But it's not long before their headline-grabbing breakthroughs, unconventional methods – and untraceable pasts – attract the attention of the NYPD and the FBI.

After all, it's no surprise that there's a mystery or two to unravel in the city that never sleeps ... not least, who really are Holmes, Margaret and Poe?

James Patterson is one of the best known and biggest selling authors of all time, with his titles selling more than 400 million copies worldwide

Patterson is the author of some of the most popular series of the past two decades including the Women's Murder Club, Detective Michael Bennett and Private series

Patterson has co-authored #1 bestselling novels with Bill Clinton and Dolly Parton, and told the story of his own life in *James Patterson* by James Patterson for which he received various awards

*'A classic, witty and wonderful mystery from the king of crime. Fast-paced and fun, clever and exciting. I loved it.'* – Chris Whitaker, bestselling author of *We Begin at the End*

*'I loved every criminally delicious moment of Holmes, Margaret and Poe.'*  
– Dreda Say Mitchell, award-winning and internationally bestselling author

Three  
extraordinary  
detectives.

A city full  
of secrets.

# Holmes, Margaret and Poe

'Loved it'  
CHRIS  
WHITAKER

Read by  
Christine  
Lakin

# JAMES PATTERSON

THE WORLD'S BESTSELLING THRILLER WRITER

# & BRIAN SITTS



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# Fourteen Days

An Unauthorised Gathering

Margaret Atwood & Douglas Preston

Read by Shayna Small

Adult New Release

Contemporary Fiction | May 2024

Set in a New York apartment building, *Fourteen Days* is an irresistibly propulsive story with an unusual twist – each character in this diverse, eccentric cast of neighbours has been written by a different, major literary voice.

One week into lockdown, the tenants of a run-down apartment building in Manhattan have begun to gather on the rooftop each evening and tell stories. With each passing night, more and more neighbours gather, bringing chairs and milk crates and overturned pails. Gradually the tenants – some of whom have barely spoken to each other before now – become real neighbours.

A dazzling, heartwarming and ultimately surprising narrative, *Fourteen Days* is an ode to the power of storytelling and human connection.

Includes writing from: Charlie Jane Anders, Margaret Atwood, Jennine Capo Crucet, Pat Cummings, Joseph Cassara, Angie Cruz, Sylvia Day, Emma Donoghue, Dave Eggers, Diana Gabaldon, Tess Gerritsen, John Grisham, Maria Hinojosa, Mira Jacob, Erica Jong, CJ Lyons, Celeste Ng, Tommy Orange, Mary Pope Osborne, Doug Preston, Alice Randall, Caroline Randall, Ishmael Reed, Roxana Robinson, Nelly Rosario, James Shapiro, Hampton Sides, R.L. Stine, Nafissa Thompson-Spires, Monique Truong, Scott Turow, Luis Alberto Urrea, Rachel Vail, Weike Wang, DeShawn Charles Winslow and Meg Wolitzer.

Margaret Atwood is the author of more than 50 books of fiction, poetry and critical essays, which include *Cat's Eye*, *The Robber Bride*, *Alias Grace*, *The Blind Assassin* and the MaddAddam trilogy

Douglas Preston has published 39 books of fiction and nonfiction, of which 32 have been *New York Times* bestsellers, some reaching the #1 position



  
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# The Prisoner's Throne

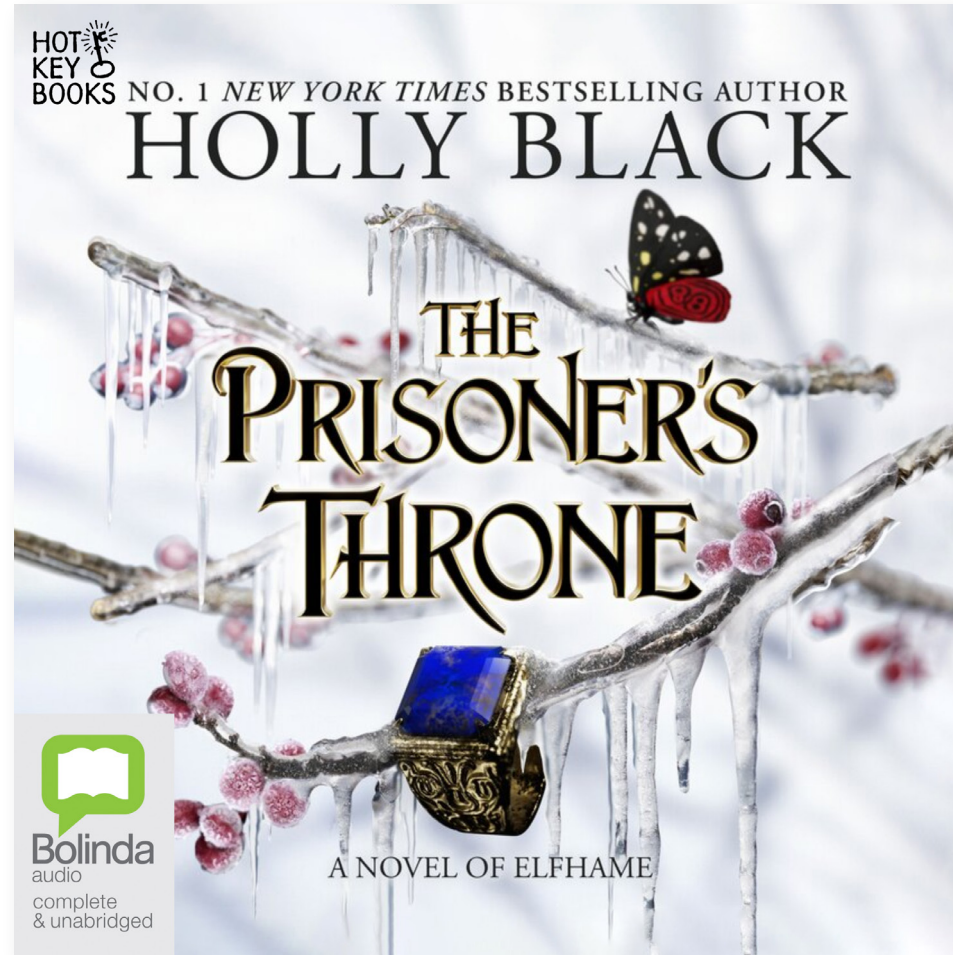
Elfhame: The Stolen Heir #2

**Holly Black**

Read by Barrett Leddy

Young Adult New Release

Fantasy Fiction | May 2024



From #1 *New York Times* bestselling author Holly Black comes the highly anticipated conclusion to the *Stolen Heir* duology.

*An imprisoned prince. A vengeful queen. And a battle that will determine the future of Elfhame.*

Prince Oak is paying for his betrayal. Imprisoned in the icy north and bound to the will of a monstrous new queen, he must rely on charm and calculation to survive. With High King Cardan and High Queen Jude ready to use any means necessary to retrieve their stolen heir, should Oak attempt to regain the trust of the girl he's always loved, or remain loyal to Elfhame and hand over the means to end her reign – even if it means ending Wren too ...

With war looming and treachery lurking in every corner, neither Oak's guile nor his wit will be enough to keep everyone he loves alive. He will have some terrible choices to make.

Holly Black is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of fantasy books including the *Folk of the Air* series, *The Coldest Girl in Coldtown* and the *Spiderwick Chronicles*

Black has been a finalist for an Eisner Award and the recipient of the Andre Norton Award, the Mythopoeic Award and a Newbery Honor

Black's *The Stolen Heir* was the winner of *AudioFile* Earphones Award, *AudioFile Magazine* 2023

*'Black works at her usual high standards, offering plenty of action and whip-smart dialogue.'* – Common Sense Media (on *The Stolen Heir*)

*'Holly Black's new series brims with magic, beauty and danger ... a thrillingly twisty adventure.'* – The New Statesman (on *The Stolen Heir*)

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# Close to Death

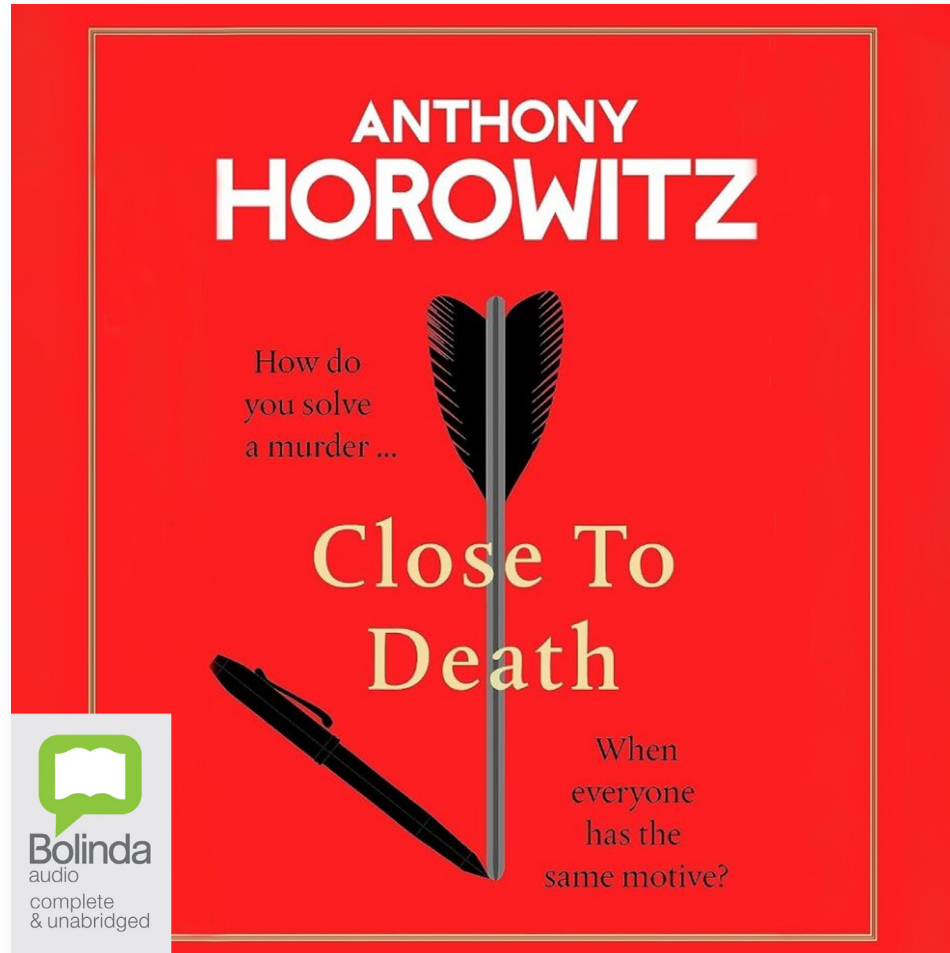
Hawthorne & Horowitz #5

**Anthony Horowitz**

Read by Rory Kinnear

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024



From global bestselling author Anthony Horowitz, a brilliantly entertaining new mystery in the Hawthorne & Horowitz series.

Richmond Upon Thames is one of the most desirable areas to live in London. And Riverview Close – a quiet, gated community – seems to offer its inhabitants the perfect life.

At least it does until Giles Kenworthy moves in with his wife and noisy children, his four gas-guzzling cars, his loud parties and his plans for a new swimming pool in his garden. His neighbours all have a reason to hate him and are soon up in arms.

When Kenworthy is shot dead with a crossbow bolt through his neck, all of them come under suspicion and his murder opens the door to lies, deception and further death. The police are baffled. Reluctantly, they call in former Detective Daniel Hawthorne. But even he is faced with a seemingly impossible puzzle.

Bestselling author Anthony Horowitz has written two highly acclaimed Sherlock Holmes novels, *The House of Silk* and *Moriarty*, three James Bond novels and the acclaimed bestselling mystery novels *Magpie Murders* and *Moonflower Murders*

Horowitz is also the author of the bestselling Alex Rider series for young adults, which has sold more than 19 million copies worldwide

As a TV screenwriter, Horowitz created both *Midsomer Murders* and the BAFTA Award-winning *Foyle's War* on PBS

'Anthony Horowitz is easily the greatest of our crime writers.' – Sunday Times

'My favourite literary hero at the moment is Anthony Horowitz.' – Shari Lapena, author of *The Couple Next Door*

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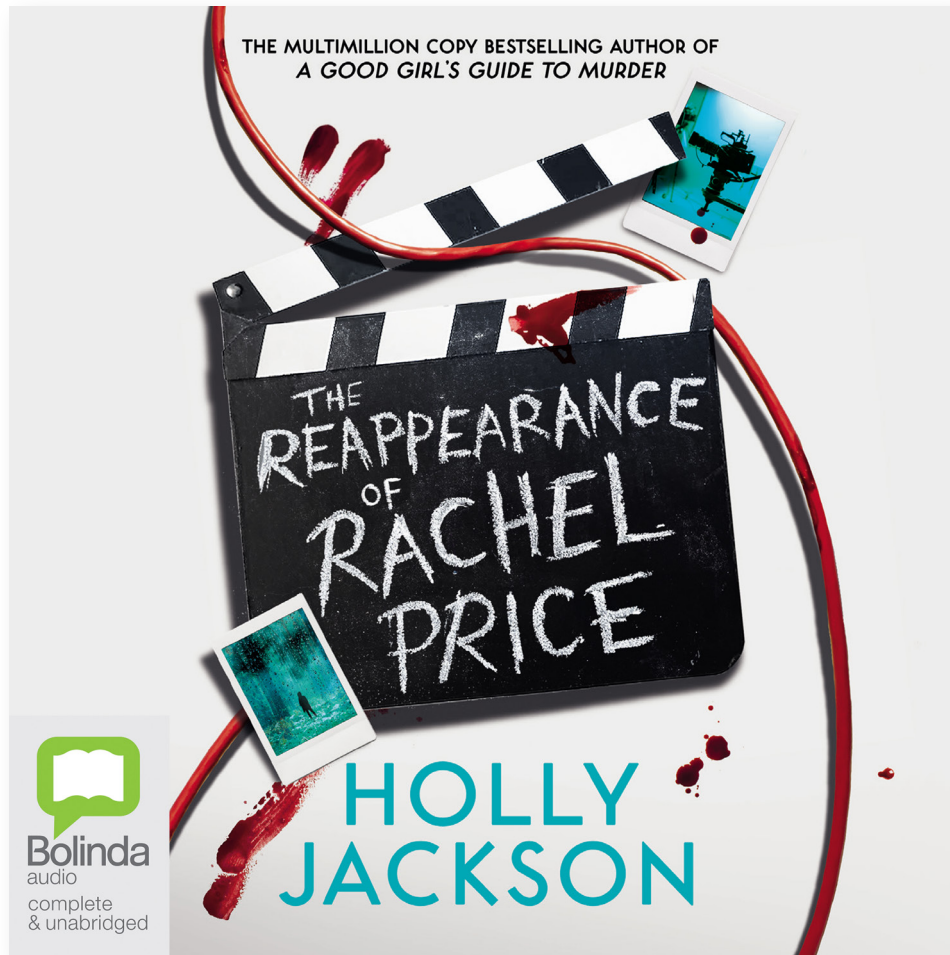
  
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# The Reappearance of Rachel Price

Holly Jackson

Read by Sophie Amoss



A sensational new young adult thriller from the BookTok Author of the Year and bestselling author of the A Good Girls Guide to Murder trilogy.

18-year-old Bel has lived her whole life in the shadow of her mum's mysterious disappearance. Sixteen years ago, Rachel Price vanished, and young Bel was the only witness. Rachel is gone, presumed dead.

The case is dragged up from the past when the Price family agree to a true crime documentary. Bel can't wait for filming to end, for life to go back to normal. But then Rachel Price reappears, and life will never be normal again ...

Holly Jackson is the international bestselling author of the young adult crime series A Good Girl's Guide to Murder, which has sold millions of copies and been adapted into a major television show

Jackson's *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder* won the National Book Award for Children's Book of the Year in 2020 and Waterstones Children's Book of the Year

Jackson graduated from the University of Nottingham with a 1st class degree and a master's in English, focusing on literary linguistics and creative writing

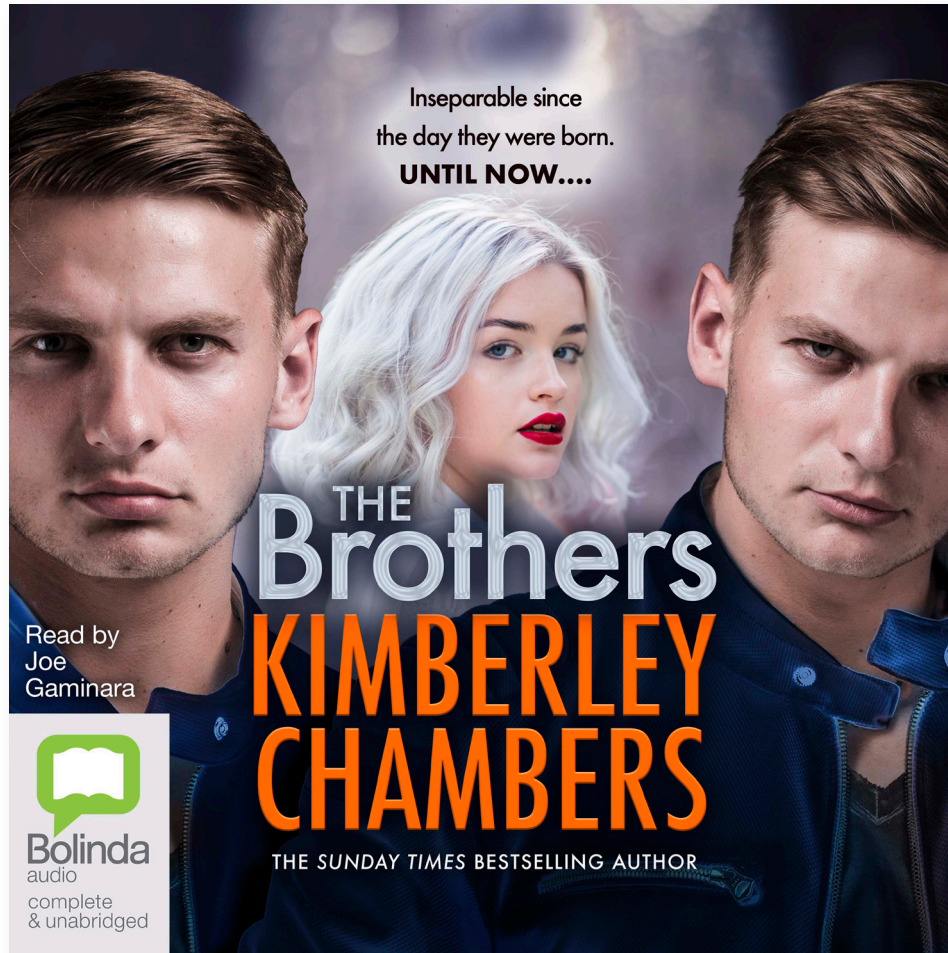
*'Intervals of intense suspense and a well-crafted puzzle blend to create a thrill ride of a story.'* – Kirkus Reviews (on *Five Survive*)

*'There is a lot to really enjoy in this story and there is great energy to the writing, as well as some fine characterization.'* – Peter James, author of the Roy Grace series (on *A Good Girl's Guide to Murder*)

# The Brothers

## Kimberley Chambers

Read by Joe Gaminara



A gripping new thriller from the #1 bestselling Queen of Gangland crime, Kimberley Chambers.

*You don't want to be on the wrong side of this family ...*

Beau Bond hates fiercely and loves hard. He'll do anything to protect his twin Brett, and his girlfriend Jolene. Brett is a survivor. He's always followed his brother's lead, even if it means he's lived to regret it.

As Beau and Jolene get hitched, their feuding families must put their differences aside. But the brothers have a dark secret that could cause a war between both sides ... and what better place to reveal all than at a wedding ...

When their past sins resurface to threaten those closest to them, will the brothers still have each other's backs?

Chambers is a *Sunday Times* #1 bestselling author of Gangland Crime novels, and has sold a million copies of her titles across the globe

Before becoming a full-time writer, Chambers had a number of jobs, including being a DJ, a street trader and a cab driver

*'This beautifully crafted, sharp, well-paced novel will keep you hooked until the very end. An outstanding tale of betrayal, violence and love.'* – Amanda Prowse, bestselling author of *An Ordinary Life* (on *The Sting*)

*'Brilliantly delivers a story of violence, treachery and family ties ...'* – News of the World (on *The Family Man*)

# Baptiste

The Blade Must Fall

David Hewson

Read by Tcheky Karyo

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

From the bestselling author of *The Killing*, David Hewson, comes the official prequel to the hit BBC television series, *Baptiste*.

France, 1977. Baptiste is an intelligent but somewhat naive detective, sent to work in Clermiers, a town filled with corruption. A girl goes missing, presumed dead after bloody clothes are found close to an illicit party near an abandoned chateau.

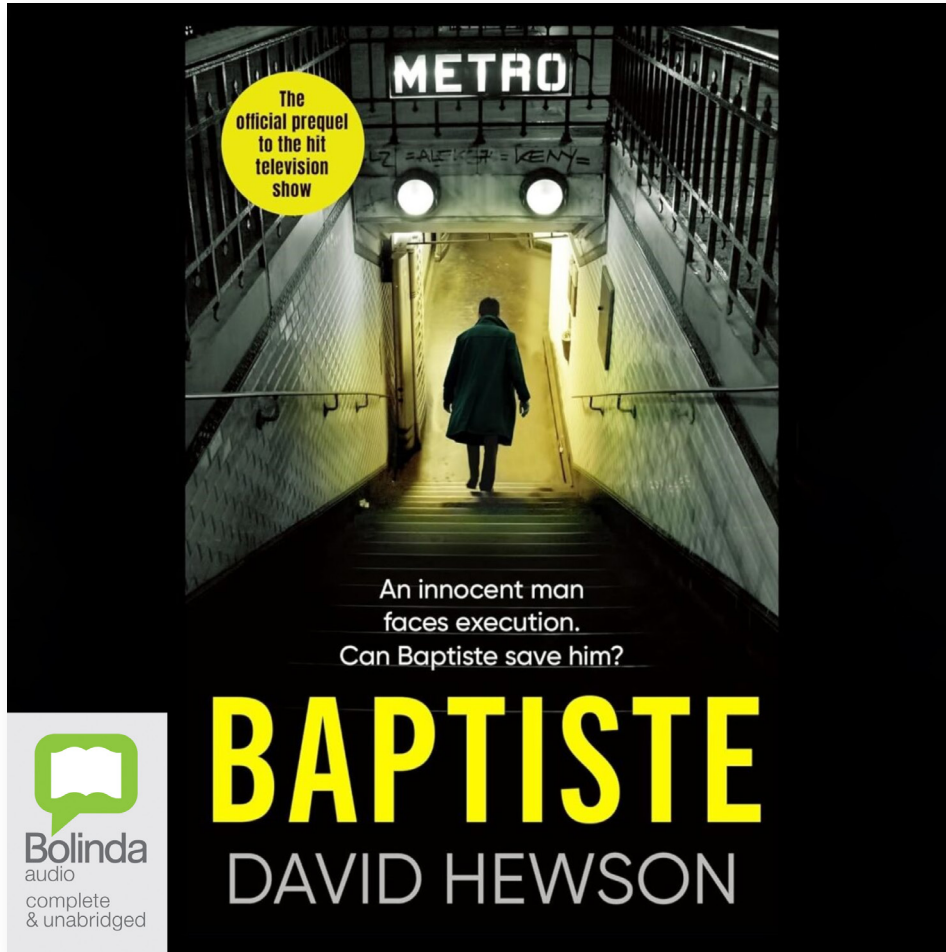
Baptiste believes he's nailed the culprit, the eccentric Gilles Mailloux. When he appears in court, the public call for the guillotine – and that's the sentence Mailloux gets. But as Mailloux awaits an appeal for clemency, he asks to see Baptiste, who's still haunted by the fact the girl's body remains missing. As the clock ticks towards execution hour, Baptiste begins to realise he may have made a terrible mistake ...

David Hewson is the author of more than 25 novels including his Rome-based Nic Costa series, which has been published in 15 languages, and has written three acclaimed adaptations of the Danish TV series *The Killing*

Hewson is a former journalist with *The Times*, *The Sunday Times* and *The Independent*

'It's hard to see how the author could have made his dark tale more fascinating, entertaining and yet entirely serious than he has.' – The Washington Post (on *The Fallen Angel*)

'Dark and atmospheric with breathless pacing.' – Linwood Barclay, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Find You First* (on *The House of Dolls*)



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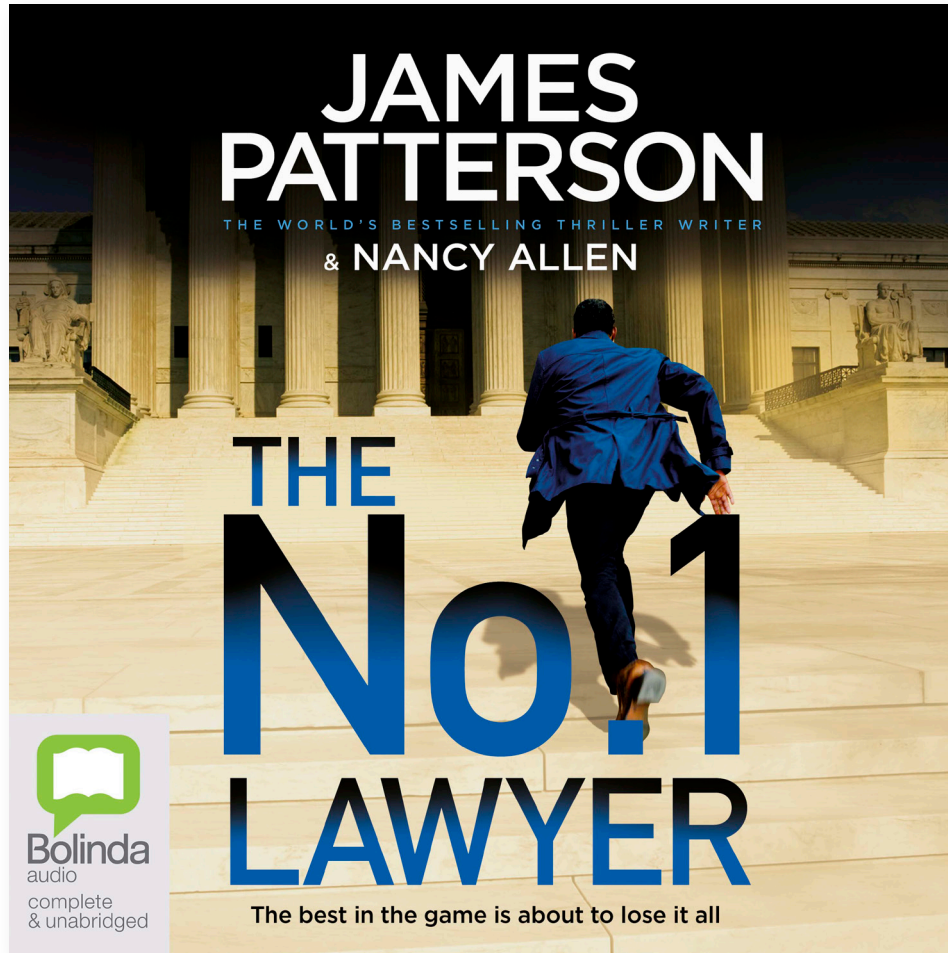


Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

# The No. 1 Lawyer

James Patterson & Nancy Allen  
Read by Kevin Stillwell



Move over, John Grisham! Biloxi's best criminal defense attorney has never lost a case, in this southern legal thriller by bestselling author James Patterson.

Stafford Lee Penney is a small-town lawyer with a big-time reputation for winning every case he tries. In his sharp suits and polished Oxford shoes, Penney is Biloxi, Mississippi's number one lawyer and top local celebrity.

Just as Penney notches his latest courtroom victory, his wife is scandalously killed. He spirals into a legal and personal losing streak, damaging his reputation and ruining his career.

That's when Penney makes a bold decision. He stops trading on his power-lawyer identity and creates a new one – lawyer lifeguard. Moonlighting at the beach, showing up to court in flip-flops, mentoring a law student, the new Penney is at first unrecognisable.

It's said that a lawyer who represents himself has a fool for a client. But when Penney's accused of murder, the number one lawyer will find a way to triumph.

James Patterson is one of the best known and biggest selling authors of all time, with his titles selling more than 400 million copies worldwide

Nancy Allen practiced law for 15 years in her native Ozarks and served as a law instructor at Missouri State University for 16 years

*'Fast-paced and fun, clever and exciting. I loved it.'* – Chris Whitaker, bestselling author of *We Begin at the End* (on *Holmes, Margaret and Poe*)

*'Patterson knows where our deepest fears are buried ... there's no stopping his imagination.'* – The New York Times Book Review (on *3rd Degree*)

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# A Clock Stopped Dead

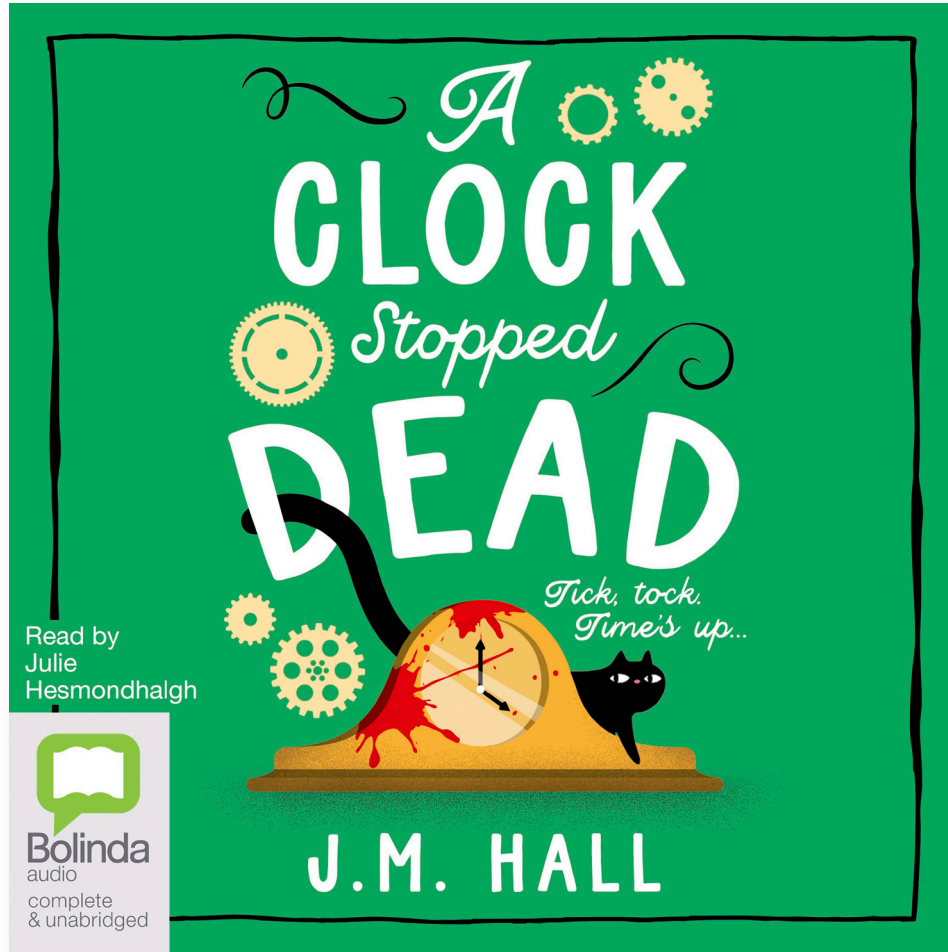
Liz, Pat and Thelma #3

**J.M. Hall**

Read by Julie Hesmondhalgh

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024



Retired schoolteachers and amateur sleuths Liz, Pat and Thelma are giving up their coffee morning for a brand new mystery. The perfect cosy crime story for fans of *The Thursday Murder Club*

Retired teachers Pat, Liz and Thelma are happiest whiling away their hours over coffee, cake and chat at the Thirsk Garden Centre café.

But when their good friend Marguerite claims to have uncovered a mysterious charity shop that has since vanished, they simply can't resist investigating.

Before long, our trio of unlikely sleuths find themselves embroiled in a race against the clock to get to the bottom of this mystery – but who has a secret to hide and how far will they go to keep it concealed?

Only time will tell ...

J.M. Hall is an author, playwright and deputy head of a primary school

Hall's plays have been produced in theatres across the UK as well as for radio, the most recent being *Trust*, starring Julie Hesmondhalgh on BBC Radio 4

*'As delightful as it is deadly ... a feel-good, fun and fabulous cosy mystery. J.M. Hall proves once again he's one of our very best cosy mystery writers. I absolutely loved it.'* – Jonathan Whitelaw, author of *The Bingo Hall Detectives* (on *A Pen Dipped in Poison*)

*'The ingredients for the perfect modern cosy crime: intrigue, characters you care about and a good dollop of humour.'* – Ian Moore, author of *Death and Croissants* (on *A Pen Dipped in Poison*)

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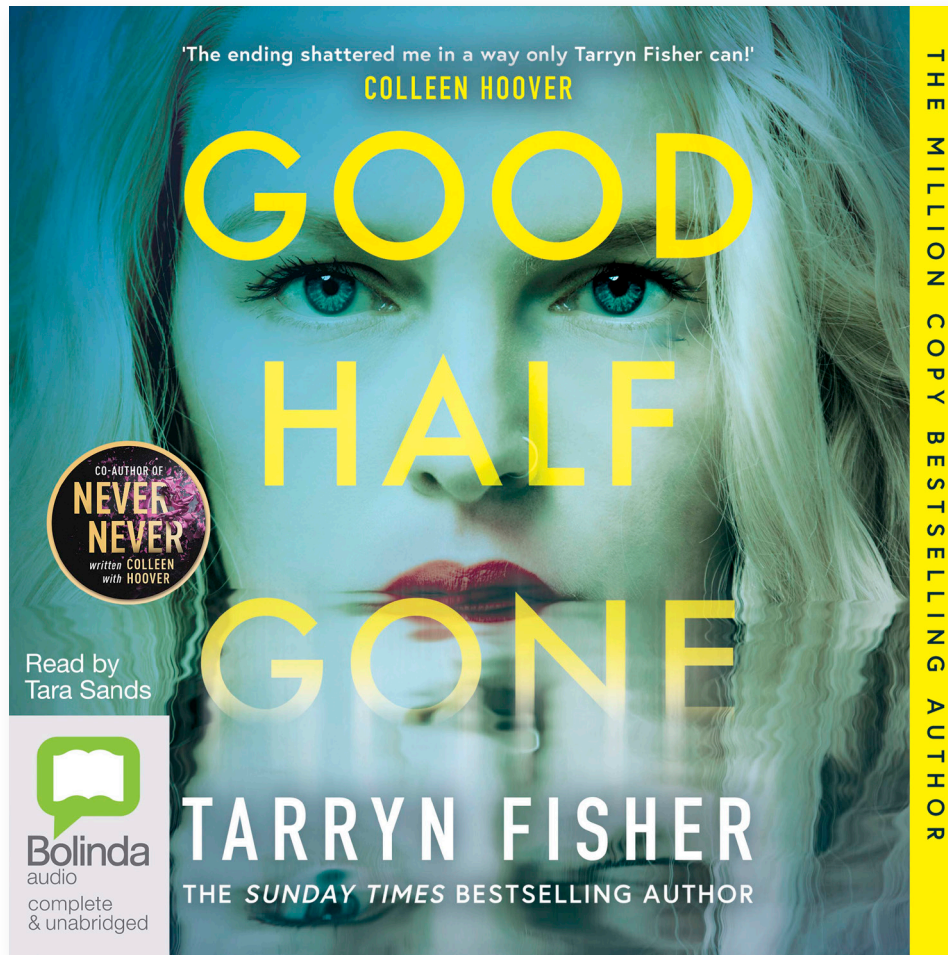
Adult New Release

Psychological Fiction | May 2024

# Good Half Gone

Tarryn Fisher

Read by Joy Osmani



Follow a woman on a mission to find her kidnapped sister in this explosive new thriller from the *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *Never Never*.

Iris Walsh saw her twin sister, Piper, get kidnapped – so why does no one believe her?

Iris narrowly escaped her pretty, popular twin sister's fate as a teen – vanished long before the cops agreed to investigate. With no evidence to go on but a few fractured memories, the case quickly went cold.

Now an adult, Iris wants one thing – proof. And if the police still won't help, she'll just have to find it her own way; by interning at the isolated Shoal Island Hospital for the criminally insane, where secrets lurk in the shadows and are kept under lock and key.

But Iris soon realizes that something even more sinister is simmering beneath the surface of the Shoal, and that the patients aren't the only ones being observed ...

Tarryn Fisher is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of 12 novels, and the founder of the fashion blog, *Guise of the Villain*

*'A defiant stand against the things that haunt us. The ending shattered me in a way only Tarryn Fisher can!'* – Colleen Hoover, #1 *New York Times* bestselling author

*'A defiant stand against the things that haunt us. The ending shattered me in a way only Tarryn Fisher can!'* – Colleen Hoover

*'A compulsive, brilliant, enthralling thriller... a novel that totally captures absolute love and utter deception, total obsession and cruel betrayal. I was hooked to the very last page.'*  
– *Sunday Times* bestselling author, Adele Parks

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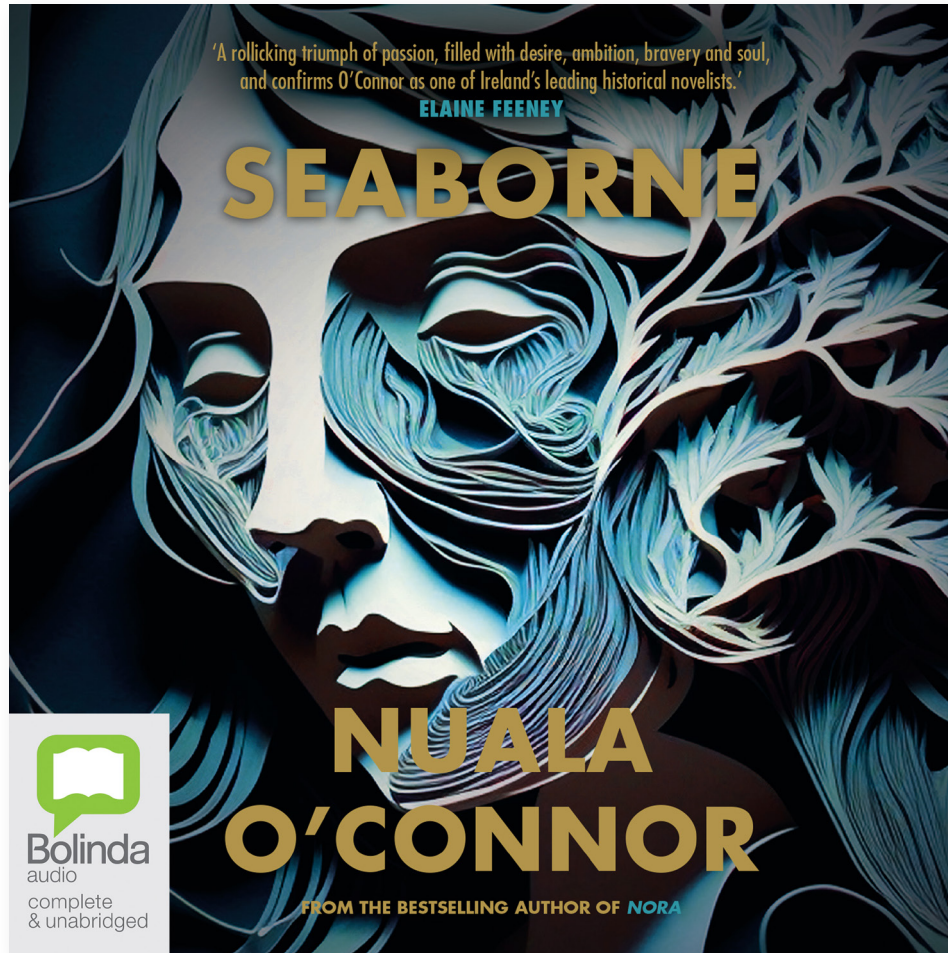
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# Seaborne

## Nuala O'Connor

Read by Breffni Holahan



Anne Bonny's exhilarating journey towards a fleeting pirate career, re-imagined by one of Ireland's finest writers, is uncompromising, queer, neurodivergent, brave and passionate.

*Kinsale, County Cork, 1703.* Anne Coleman is the illegitimate child of a local lawyer and his maid – disguised as 'Anthony' to protect reputations, the mask suits her just fine. But, obsessed with boats and the sea, Anne struggles to fit in, and her devoted mother fears for her fiercely independent and impulsive daughter.

When secrets are exposed, the family emigrates to the new colony of Carolina, but this fresh start brings huge loss and stifling responsibilities. A lonely and transgressive Anne finds comfort only with Bedelia, servant and intimate friend. But her craving for the sea-wandering life and a misjudged marriage to Gabriel Bonny compel Anne to take to the sea again, this time to the islands of the Caribbean, famous for plunder and piracy.

Adventure and freedom await, but so do violence and disappointment. While exploring her sexuality, and ideals around friendship and self-belief, Anne Bonny must also face her own privilege and the sacrifices required for enduring love.

O'Connor's work has been nominated for numerous prizes including the Edge Hill Short Story Prize, the Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year Award, the Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year and the International Dublin Literary Award

'SEABORNE is a rollicking triumph of passion, and a powerful portrayal of Irish pirate, Anne Bonny – a true original. Faultless in tone ... a wonderfully rendered reimagining of a great historical figure, and confirms (what I already knew) that O'Connor is one of Ireland's leading historical novelists.' – Elaine Feeney, award-winning author of *As You Were*

'Nuala O'Connor has the thrilling ability to step back nimbly and enter the deep dance of time.' – Sebastian Barry, award-winning author of *The Secret Scripture* and *Days Without End* (on *Becoming Belle*)



# The Proof of the Pudding

Royal Spyness #17

Rhys Bowen

Read by Jasmine Blackborow

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024



Lady Georgiana Rannocho is looking forward to her first ever turn as hostess for her very own house party when the festivities lead to murder, in this all-new mystery by *New York Times* bestselling author Rhys Bowen.

Georgie, back home at her estate in Eynsleigh, impatiently awaits the birth of her baby. But she has plenty to occupy her: her new chef, Pierre, has arrived from Paris, and Sir Hubert, who owns Eynsleigh, is back from his latest expedition. It's time for Georgie to throw her first house party to celebrate his return and show off her new chef. The dinner party is a smashing success. Sir Mortimer Mordred, a famous author of creepy Gothic horror novels, is one of the guests. He recently purchased a nearby Elizabethan manor because it has a famous poison garden. After the dinner, Sir Mortimer approaches Georgie and asks to borrow her new chef for his upcoming party, and Georgie and Darcy, her dashing husband, are invited!

The tour of the poison garden is fascinating, as is Sir Mortimer's laboratory. Shockingly, just after the banquet, several of the guests become sick. But how could this be when they all ate the same meal and the same delectable dessert? Georgie has to find the culprit to save her new chef and her own reputation. All before her bundle of joy arrives!

Rhys Bowen, a *New York Times* bestselling author, has been nominated for every major award in mystery writing and has won many, including both the Agatha and Anthony awards. Bowen is also the author of the Molly Murphy Mysteries, set in turn-of-the-century New York, and the Constable Evans Mysteries, set in Wales, as well as two international bestselling standalone novels

*'Full of fascinating characters in a compelling setting, she keeps you spellbound to the very end.'* – Charles Todd, bestselling author of the Ian Rutledge Mysteries and the Bess Crawford Mysteries (on *Four Funerals and Maybe a Wedding*)

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Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

# Under the Black Mountain

K.T. Fitzpatrick

Read by Rebecca Macauley

COVER COMING SOON

# Under the Black Mountain

KT Fitzpatrick



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Don't miss the new gripping thriller with twists that will leave you stunned, from the author of *The Secret of the Ninth Stone*.

*1919, far northern Queensland.*

Fleeing from England and a violent marriage, Eva Willoughby arrives at her childhood friend's home, a cattle station near the eerie and mysterious Black Mountain, the site of several unexplained disappearances. Although the war is over there is unease, and tensions are rising ...

Not long after Eva finds employment as an assistant to Detective Sergeant Jack Shaw at the Ross Constabulary, her friend Sylvia disappears.

Shaken, Eva suspects that Sylvia's disappearance is connected to the mysterious death of a troubled young soldier. Since her new boss is too preoccupied with a covert operation, and in spite of local superstitions about Black Mountain, Eva embarks on her own dangerous investigation to uncover exactly what happened to Sylvia.

Kylie Fitzpatrick is an historical novelist with a background in broadcasting and script development, working with the BBC and ABC and many other producers and broadcasters

Fitzpatrick's titles include *Tapestry*, *The Secret of the Ninth Stone*, *The Silver Thread* and *Women of the Round Table*

After lecturing for several years on the Creative Writing degree and MA programs at Bath Spa University, Fitzpatrick left to start Curative Writing, and now develops courses with educational and cultural institutions

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# Dead Happy

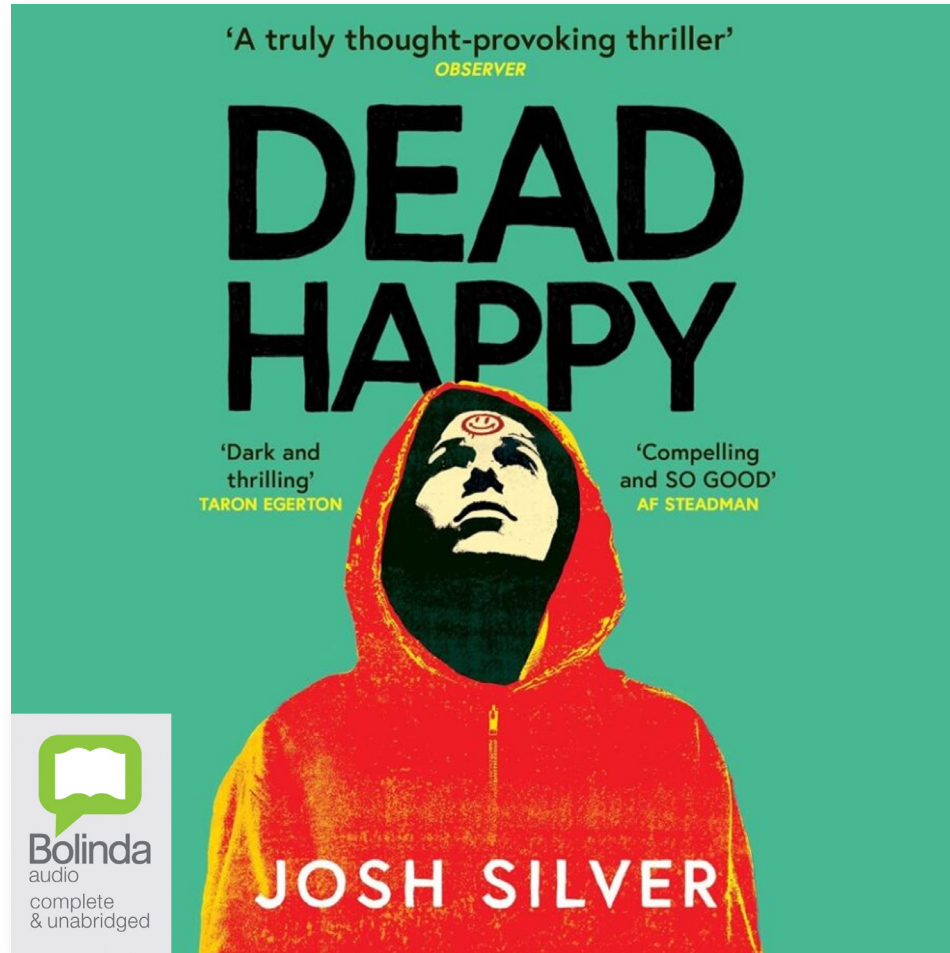
HappyHead #2

Josh Silver

Read by Huw Parmenter

Young Adult New Release

Young Adult Fiction | May 2024



*Squid Game* meets *They Both Die at the End* in a nail-biting sequel to the Carnegie Nominated *HappyHead*.

After discovering that HappyHead was a sinister eugenics experiment, Seb along with a select group of participants, finds himself washed up (literally) on an isolated island called Elmhallow. Here the teens are split into two groups – the chosen Ten and the Bottom Percentile.

With the boys divided, Seb's burgeoning relationship with Finn is put to the test and when the competition takes a deadly turn, their plan to take down HappyHead rapidly unravels ...

Josh Silver trained at RADA as an actor and has performed in West End and on Broadway

In 2019 Silver retrained as a Mental Health Nurse, and during this time he began to write

Range Media Partners and actor-producer Taron Egerton have acquired screen rights for Silver's HappyHead.

For fans of Adam Silvera, Patrick Ness and Darren Charlton

*'Like Hunger Games but better.'* – Sue Wallman, author of *Lying About Last Summer* (on *HappyHead*)

*'Dark and thrilling.'* – Taron Egerton, on *HappyHead*

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# The Innocents

Variety Palace Mysteries #2

**Bridget Walsh**

Read by Jasmine Blackborow

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

The highly anticipated second instalment in the gritty Variety Palace Murders series, *The Innocents* takes Minnie and Albert on a new quest to stop a murderer with a novel modus operandi.

The Variety Palace Music Hall is in trouble, due in no small part to a gruesome spate of murders that unfolded around it a few months previously.

Between writing, managing the music hall and trying to dissuade her boss from installing a water tank in the building, Minnie Ward has her hands full. Her complicated relationship with detective Albert Easterbrook doesn't even bear thinking about.

But when a performer's brother mysteriously goes missing, Minnie and Albert are thrown together once more. Then another body is found dead in a trunk, and a strange connection starts to emerge.

The crimes will propel the unlikely duo into the shady world of illegal gambling, dog fighting and monkey kidnappings as they trace things back to a tragedy that took place 14 years ago – leaving 183 children dead. And given that the incident touched so many people's lives, everyone is a suspect ...

*The Innocents* is guaranteed to delight fans of Victorian mysteries such as *The Clockwork Girl* and *The Circus of Wonders*

Bridget Walsh was born in London to Irish immigrant parents. She studied English Literature and was an English teacher for 23 years, before leaving the profession to pursue her writing

Walsh is the author of *The Tumbling Girl*, which won the UEA Little, Brown Award for Crime Fiction 2019

*'Beautifully evocative, deftly plotted and with engaging characters, it was a page-turner from beginning to end.'* – Sheila O'Flanagan, bestselling author of *What Happened That Night* (on *The Tumbling Girl*)



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# A Trace of Hares

Nell Ward #5

**Sarah Yarwood-Lovett**

Read by Kristin Atherton

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

The gripping British cosy murder mystery by Sarah Yarwood-Lovett, perfect for fans of Richard Osman, Robert Thorogood and Janice Hallett.

Dr Nell Ward is in the lush, emerald-green hills of Ireland to attend the wedding of two dear friends at a picture-perfect farmhouse.

But family tensions are running high in the days before the happy couple tie the knot. And when Nell hears a fox kill a hare in the early morning, the bad omen sends shivers down her spine. Almost like it is a sign of something to come ...

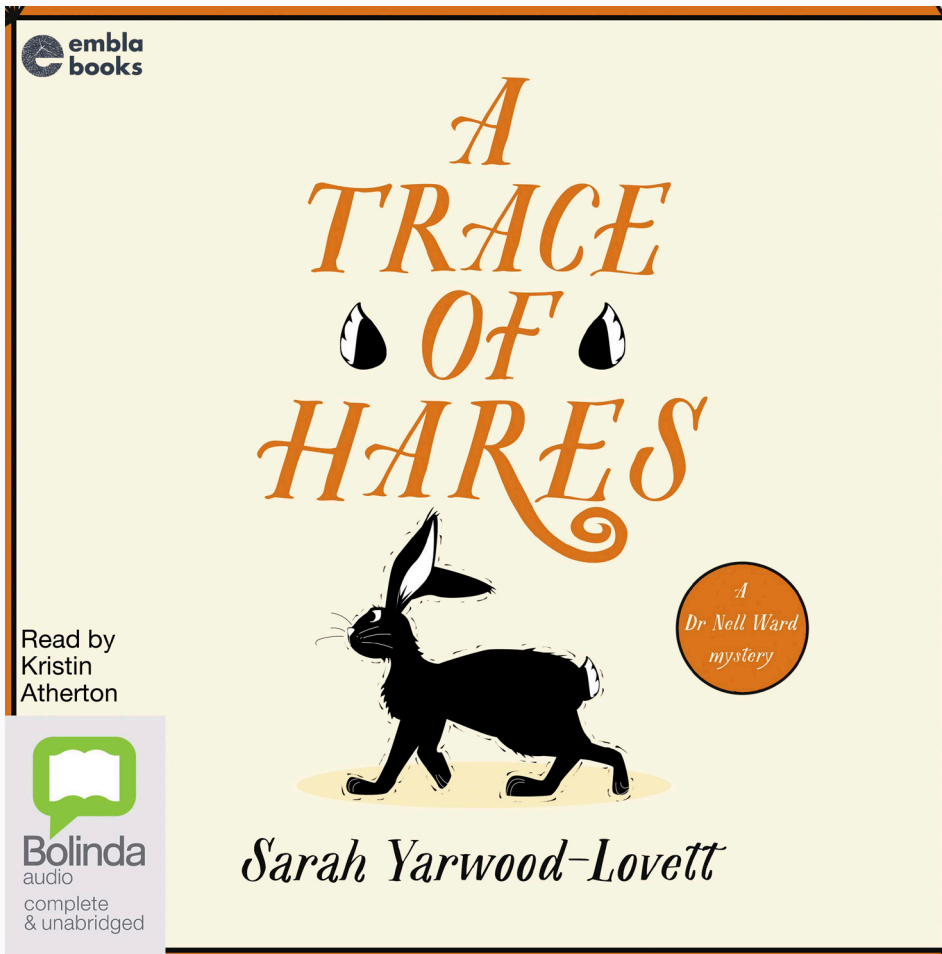
Then one of the locals makes a gruesome discovery in a nearby peat bog. The habitats are famous for the ancient bodies they can preserve for thousands of years. This woman, however, died much more recently and was clearly a victim of foul play.

Nell and her friends are suddenly in the middle of another murder case. Can they trace the truth to unmask a long-hidden killer and save the wedding, before it's too late?

After spending 16 years as an ecologist crawling through undergrowth and studying the nocturnal habits of animals (and people), Dr Sarah Yarwood-Lovett naturally turned her mind to murder mysteries

Forensically studying clues for animal activity has seen Yarwood-Lovett surveying sites all over the UK and around the world. She re-discovered a British species thought to be extinct during her PhD and updated London's Natural History Museum

Yarwood-Lovett's unusual career has provided the perfect inspiration for a series of murder mysteries with an ecological twist



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# Alien Clay

## Adrian Tchaikovsky

Narrator to Come

A thrilling far-future adventure by acclaimed author Adrian Tchaikovsky, winner of a Hugo Award and Arthur C. Clarke Award.

*They travelled into the unknown and left themselves behind ...*

On the distant world of Kiln lie the ruins of an alien civilisation. It's the greatest discovery in humanity's spacefaring history – yet who were its builders and where did they go?

Professor Arton Daghdev had always wanted to study alien life up close. Then his wishes become a reality in the worst way. His political activism sees him exiled from Earth to Kiln's extrasolar labour camp. There, he's condemned to work under an alien sky until he dies.

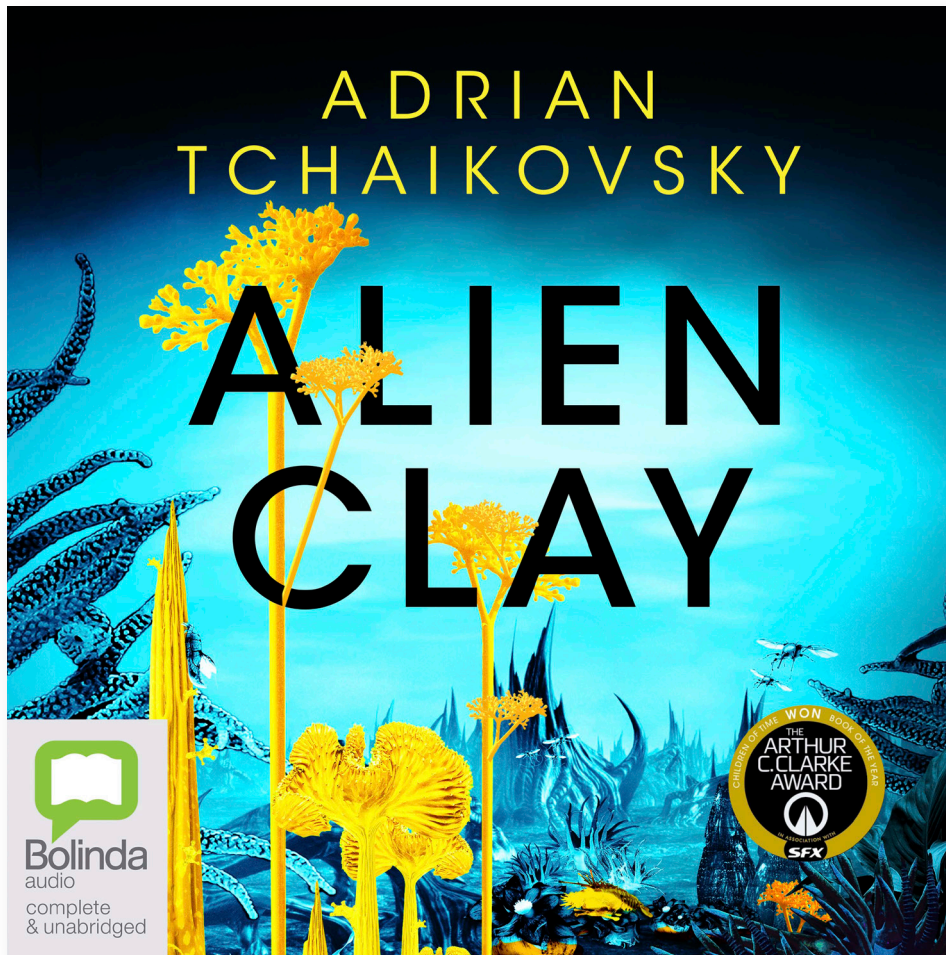
Kiln boasts a ravenous, chaotic ecosystem like nothing seen on Earth. The monstrous alien life interacts in surprising, sometimes shocking ways with the human body, so Arton will risk death on a daily basis. However, the camp's oppressive regime might just kill him first. If Arton can somehow escape both fates, the world of Kiln holds a wondrous, terrible secret. It will redefine life and intelligence as he knows it, and might just set him free.

Adrian Tchaikovsky is the author of the critically acclaimed *Shadows of the Apt* series and the *Echoes of the Fall* series

Tchaikovsky is also the author of *The Tiger and the Wolf*, which won the British Fantasy Award for Best Fantasy Novel and *Children of Time*, which won the Arthur C. Clarke Award for Best Science Fiction Novel

*'Alien Clay is convincing, compelling on human and cosmic levels, and unputdownable. With work like this, Adrian Tchaikovsky is fast becoming the voice of his generation in British SF.'* – Stephen Baxter, award-winning *Sunday Times* bestselling author

*'The central concept unravels itself in a manner that is both deeply satisfying and not at all predictable. He truly is one of our finest writers of SF right now. The whole was an excellent story told with Adrian's trademark skill and flair.'* – James Oswald, author of the Inspector McLean Mysteries





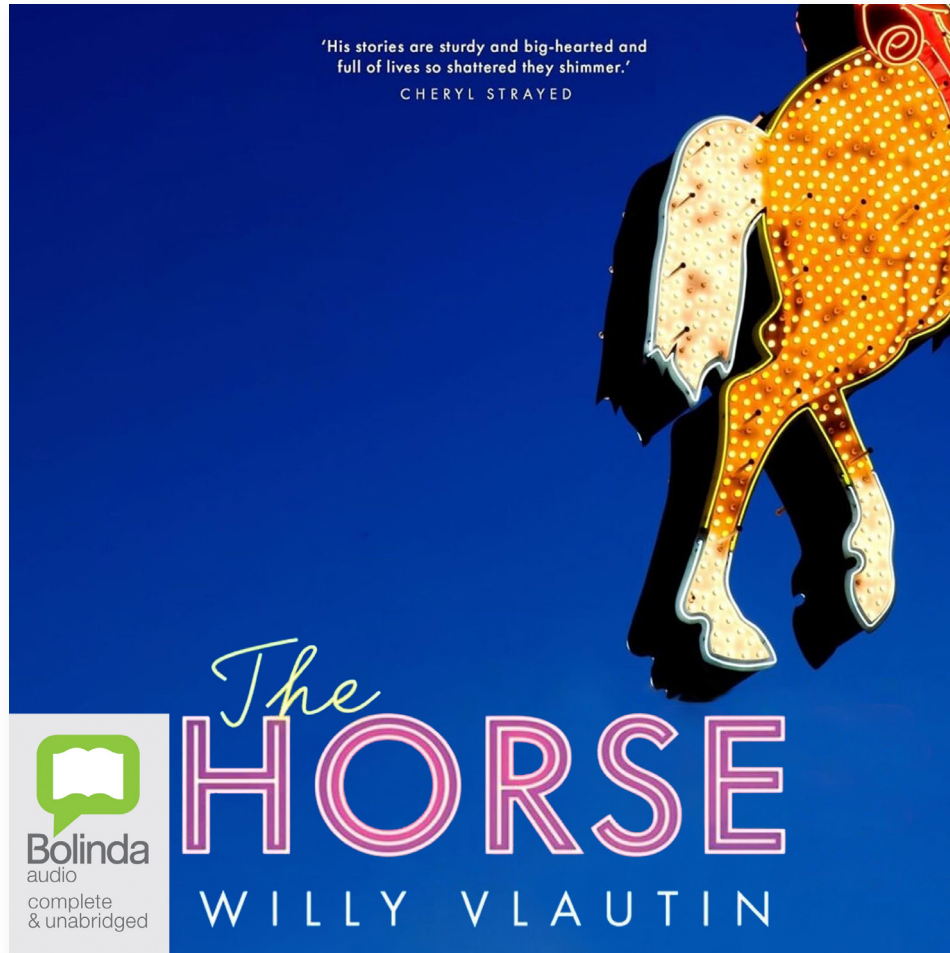
Adult New Release

Literary Fiction | May 2024

# The Horse

## Willy Vlautin

Read by the Author



Award-winning author Willy Vlautin explores loneliness, art, regret and hard-won empathy in this poignant story – that captures the life of a journeyman musician unable to escape the tragedies of his past.

Al Ward lives on an isolated mining claim in the high desert of central Nevada, 50 miles from the nearest town. A grizzled man in his 60s, he survives on canned soup, instant coffee and memories of his ex-wife, friends and family he's lost, and his life as a touring musician. Hampered by insomnia, bouts of anxiety and a chronic lethargy that keeps him from moving back to town, Al finds himself teetering on the edge of madness and running out of reasons to go on – until a horse arrives on his doorstep: nameless, blind and utterly helpless.

As Al contemplates the horse's existence, his thoughts are interspersed with memories, from the moment his mother's part-time boyfriend gifts him a 1959 butterscotch blonde Telecaster, to the day his travels begin. He joins various bands – all who perform his songs once they discover his talent – playing casinos, truck stops, clubs and bars. Never close to stardom or financial success, he continues as a journeyman for decades until alcoholism and a heartbreaking tragedy lead him to the solitude of the barren Nevada desert.

Perfect for fans of *A Star is Born* and *Crazy Heart*

Willy Vlautin is the author of *The Motel Life*, *Lean on Pete*, *Don't Skip Out on Me*, which was shortlisted for the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and made into an acclaimed film by Andrew Haigh

Vlautin is the founding member of the bands Richmond Fontaine and The Delines

'There's not another writer out there, living or dead, that I trust with my heart more than Willy Vlautin, and he breaks it every damn time. In Al Ward's love and loss, in his decency, his pathos, and his struggle to endure, Vlautin has gifted us a paean to the power of song. *The Horse* is another classic from one of America's greatest storytellers.' – Jonathan Evison, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Again and Again*

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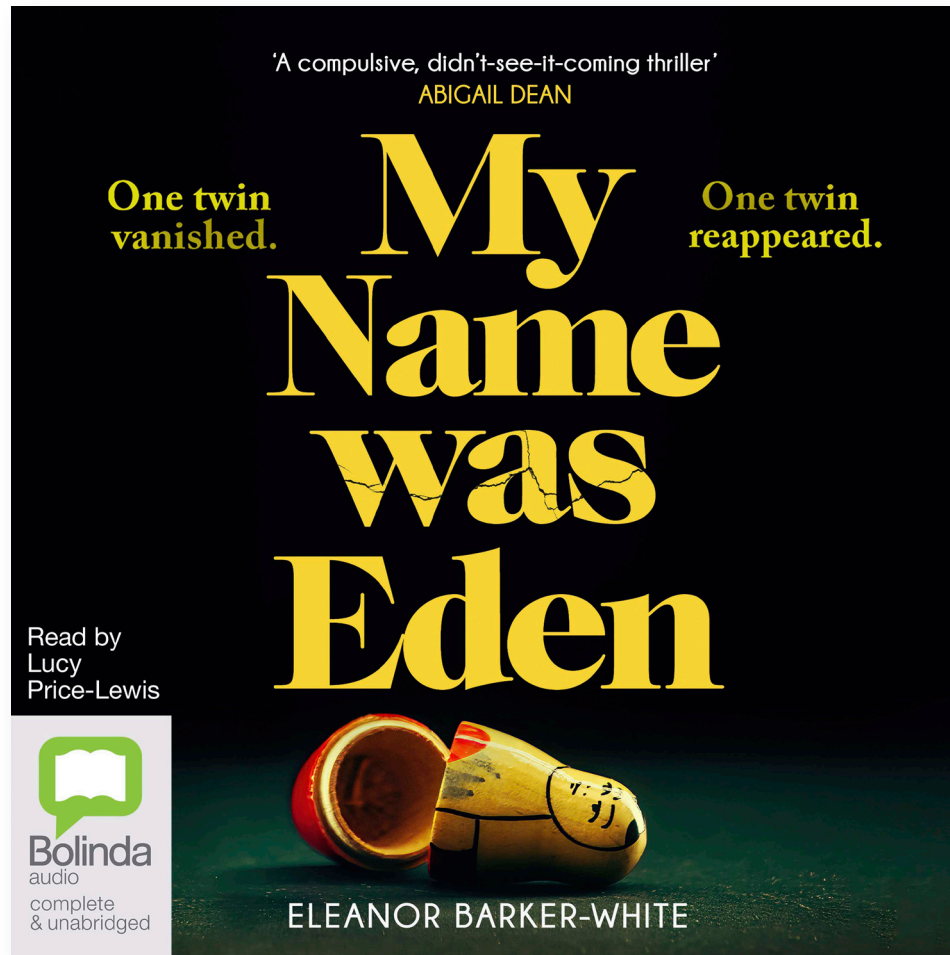
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# My Name Was Eden

## Eleanor Barker-White

Read by Lucy Price-Lewis



In this edge-of-your-seat psychological debut, a mother's experience with Vanishing Twin Syndrome triggers disturbing changes in her teenage daughter, perfect for fans of *The Push* and *The Undoing*.

*One twin vanished. The Other twin remained.*

When Eden is rescued from the lake, her mother Lucy has a second chance.

No one knows why the 14-year-old Eden almost drowned on her way home from school. But now she's safe, Lucy can start being a good mother. The mother she should have always been, before the loss of Eden's twin during the pregnancy consumed Lucy, all those years ago.

But when Eden wakes up in hospital, she claims that Eden isn't her name. That her name is Eli – the name Lucy had reserved for the unborn twin.

Could it be that all this time, Lucy's grief has been misplaced?

Eden, it seems, is the twin who's really disappeared ...

*My Name Was Eden* is inspired by the author's own experience of Vanishing Twin Syndrome

*'A deep dive into the messy emotions of love and mourning . . . A great read'* – Helen Fields, international bestselling author of *The Institution*

*'Shifting fluidly between family drama and thriller, My Name Was Eden is a haunting exploration of motherhood at its most tested. Tragic and unnerving in equal measure, Barker-White's debut had me gripped from its heart-rending opening chapter through to its shocking end. Brilliant!'* – Amy Beashel, author of *The Sky is Mine*

# The Divorcées

Rowan Beard

Read by Bailey Carr

MANILLA  
PRESS

ROWAN BEAIRD



THE DIVORCÉES



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& unabridged

A delicious and deeply compelling debut set at a 1950s Reno ‘divorce ranch’, about the complex friendship between two women who dare to imagine a different future.

Lois Saunders thought that marrying the right man would finally cure her loneliness. But as picture-perfect as her husband is, she is suffocating in their loveless marriage. In 1951, though, unhappiness is hardly grounds for divorce – except in Reno, Nevada.

At the Golden Yarrow, the most respectable of Reno’s famous ‘divorce ranches’, Lois finds herself living with half a dozen other would-be divorcees, all in Reno for the six weeks’ residency that is the state’s only divorce requirement. They spend their days riding horses and their nights flirting with cowboys, and it’s as wild and fun as Lake Forest, Illinois, is prim and stifling. But it isn’t until Greer Lang arrives that Lois’s world truly cracks open.

Gorgeous, beguiling and completely indifferent to societal convention, Greer is unlike anyone Lois has ever met – and she sees something in Lois that no one else ever has. Under her influence, Lois begins to push against the limits that have always restrained her. How far will she go to forge her independence, on her own terms?

A recipient of the Ploughshares Emerging Writer Award, Beard’s work has been nominated for a Pushcart

*‘Beard digs into the idiosyncrasies of midcentury Reno, Nevada, when it was the divorce capital of the world in this journey into an oft-untapped era in fiction ... Through the eyes of a more glamorous world, Beard examines the true meaning of friendship and freedom.’*

– Entertainment Weekly

*‘Beard shines in her impressive debut about a group of divorcées-to-be in 1950s Reno, Nevada. This author is one to watch.’* – Publishers Weekly



# Murder Takes Root

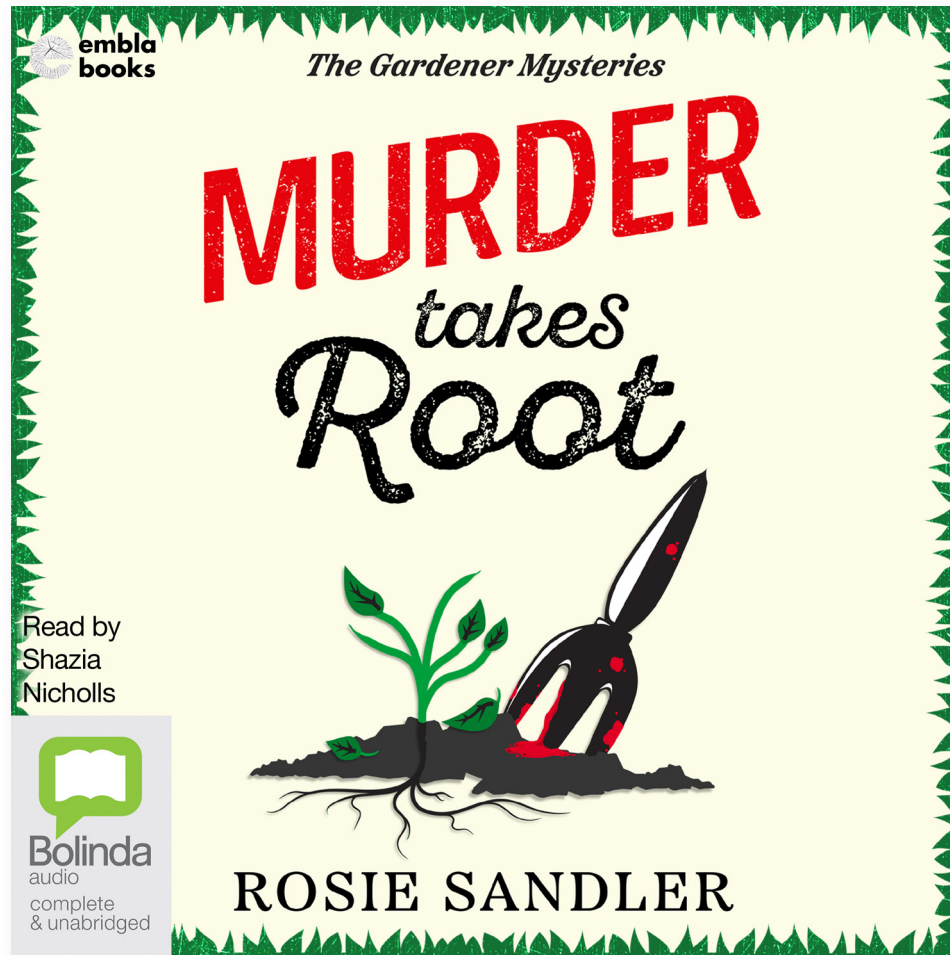
The Gardener Mysteries #2

Rosie Sandler

Read by Shazia Nicholls

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024



The second instalment in the gardening murder mystery series filled with twists and turns from the author Rosie Sandler.

Steph is excited to get her hands stuck into her latest gardening project. This time, she's been commissioned by Lady Clara of Ashford Manor to restore the stately gardens to their former glory.

But the estate is suddenly thrown into chaos when a dead body is discovered in one of the rooms. The police rule it as suicide, though Steph's convinced they're barking up the wrong tree. Because she knows the deceased better than they do and it could only be one thing: murder. And if the police won't listen to her, then Steph will have to get to the bottom of the case herself.

As Steph starts digging for the truth, it seems the staff are hiding more than it seems. But one thing is for sure, she's not going to let the killer lead her up the garden path ...

Perfect for fans of S.J. Bennet, J.M. Hall and Richard Coles

Sandler's poems and stories for adults have been widely published, including in a Penguin anthology, *The Rialto* journal and *Fictionvale*, a sci-fi e-zine

*'From the minute I started to read the book I could not put it down. Absolutely incredible reading and such a talented writer.'* – Reader review

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# Your Wild and Precious Life

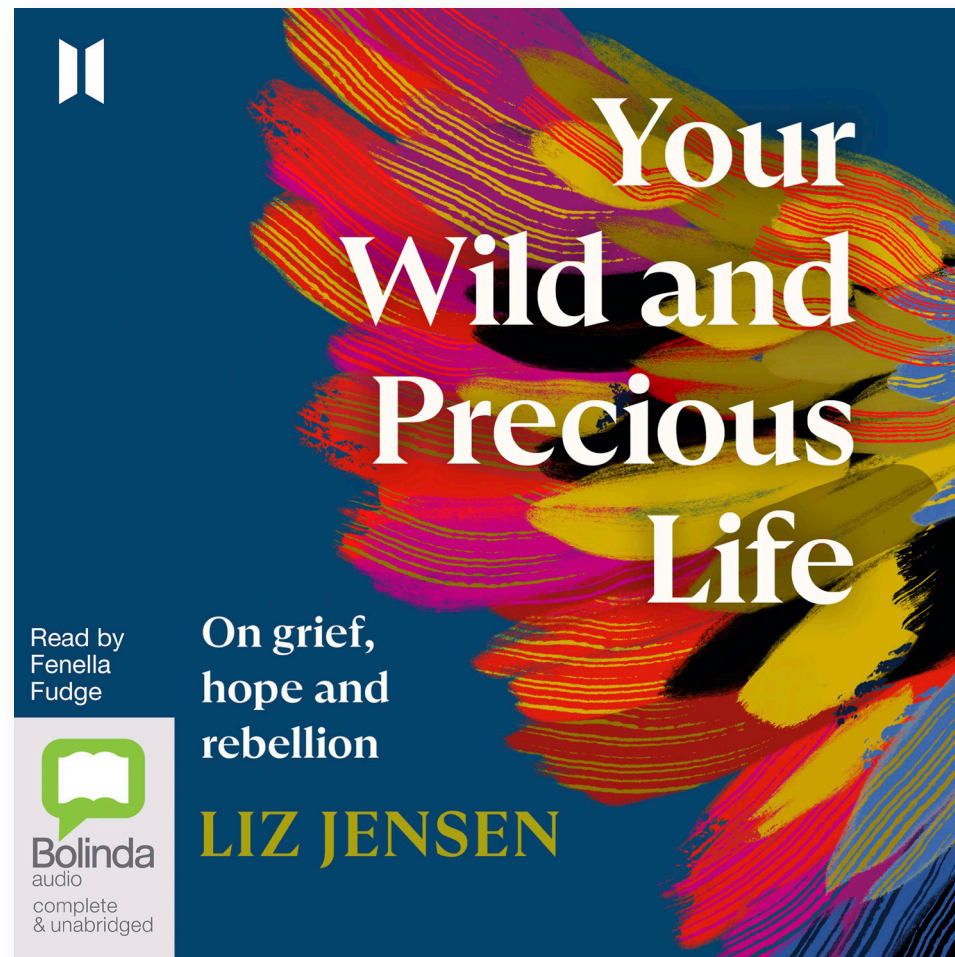
On Grief, Hope and Rebellion

**Liz Jensen**

Read by Fenella Fudge

Adult New Release

Autobiography | May 2024



A beautiful, honest and ultimately uplifting memoir about family grief and ecological breakdown.

Liz Jensen's son, a zoologist, conservationist and ecological activist, was 25 when he collapsed and died unexpectedly. Liz fell apart. As she grieved, forest fires raged, coral reefs deteriorated, CO<sup>2</sup> emissions rose and fossil fuels burned.

*Your Wild and Precious Life* is the story of how a mother rebuilt herself, reoriented her life and rediscovered the enchantment of the living world. Set against the backdrop of climate and ecological catastrophe, it's an argument for agency, legacy and the wild possibility of hope after devastation.

Liz Jensen is the author of eight acclaimed titles including *The Ninth Life of Louis Drax* and the climate thrillers *The Rapture* and *The Uninvited*

Jensen is a founder of the ecological campaign group Writers Rebel and the creator of the Rebel Library

*'Fierce and fizzing with life. It faces the monster of parental loss absolutely head on and turns it into a joyous celebration.'* – Mark Haddon, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*

*'Liz Jensen is an amazing writer and there is huge force and power in this story of reckoning with loss.'* – Cathy Rentzenbrink, author of the *Sunday Times* bestseller *The Last Act of Love, A Manual for Heartache* and *Dear Reader*

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May new releases 2024

# A Body Made of Glass

A History of Hypochondria

Caroline Crampton

Read by the Author

Adult New Release

Lifestyle - Wellbeing | May 2024

Part cultural history, part literary criticism and part memoir, *A Body Made of Glass* is a definitive biography of hypochondria.

An ache, a pain, a mysterious lump, a strange sensation in some part of your body, the feeling that something is not right. The fear that something is, in fact, very wrong. These could be symptoms of illness. But they could also be the symptoms of hypochondria – an enigmatic condition that might be physiological or psychological or both.

In this landmark book, Caroline Crampton tells the story of hypochondria, beginning in the age of Hippocrates and taking us right through to the wellness industry today. Along the way, we encounter successive generations of doctors positing new theories, as well as quacks selling spurious cure-alls to the desperate.

Drawing on Crampton's own experience of surviving a life-threatening disease only to find herself beset by almost constant anxiety about her health, *A Body Made of Glass* explores part of the landscape of illness that most memoirs don't reach: the territory beyond survival or cure, where body and mind seem locked in a strange and exhausting kind of dance. The result is both a fascinating cultural history of hypochondria and a moving account of what it means to live with this invisible, elusive and increasingly widespread condition.

Caroline Crampton is a writer and editor who contributes regularly to *The Guardian*, *The Mail on Sunday* and *The New Humanist*

Crampton is the creator and host of the award-winning podcast about detective fiction, *Shedunnit*, and is the author of *The Way to the Sea*

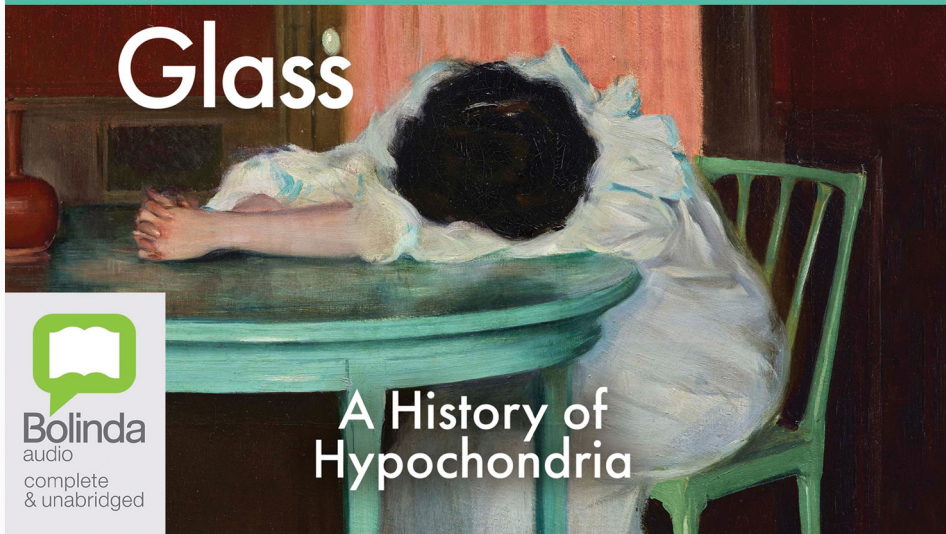
*'This is a wonderful, poignant and personal journey into the world of hypochondria. We stand with Crampton on the precipice, where a small shift in perception can plunge us into an overwhelming dread of illness.'* – Alastair Santhouse, author of *Head First*

*'... the writing is beautiful. This is a profound work, especially when Crampton weaves in her own story of illness anxiety and trauma.'* – Dr Gwen Adshead, author of *The Devil You Know*

CAROLINE CRAMPTON

# A Body Made of Glass

'Humane, thoughtful,  
and unsettling. The best  
book I've read in ages'  
Cal Flyn



  
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A History of  
Hypochondria

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# The Loss Prescription

A Practical Roadmap to Grief Recovery

**Dr Chloe Paidoussis-Mitchell**

Read by the Author

Adult New Release

Lifestyle - Wellbeing | May 2024

# The Loss Prescription



Read by  
the Author



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& unabridged

A practical roadmap  
to grief recovery

**Dr Chloe Paidoussis-Mitchell**

This audiobook is an expert source of healing inspiration that will guide you back to a place of security and safety.

Nobody gets through life free from the pain of loss.

However, despite its ubiquity, we aren't very good at holding space for and consciously processing what grief does to us. It is deeply rupturing and, if left unchecked, it can begin to seriously damage our mental health.

You may be deep in the darkness of a loss from which it feels like you'll never recover, but the human spirit has the potential to notice itself, to heal itself and to adapt – anchored in love, connection and resilience. In order to navigate grief, we must embrace life, growth and our communities.

In *The Loss Prescription*, chartered psychologist and trauma counsellor Dr Chloe Paidoussis-Mitchell offers a roadmap for grief recovery. With abundant hope and practical tools, listeners will learn how to work through their loss and develop compassion and empathy for themselves.

Dr Chloe Paidoussis-Mitchell is a UK Chartered Counselling Psychologist and expert on mental health, trauma and loss

Paidoussis-Mitchell is a lecturer and supervisor at The New School of Psychotherapy and Counselling and at The Existential Academy in London, and has been a visiting lecturer and facilitator for a number of mental health programmes

In addition to her academic work, Paidoussis-Mitchell is a regular consultant for the private sector and her expert guidance has formed the basis for Qwell, the NHS approved platform for mental health

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May new releases 2024

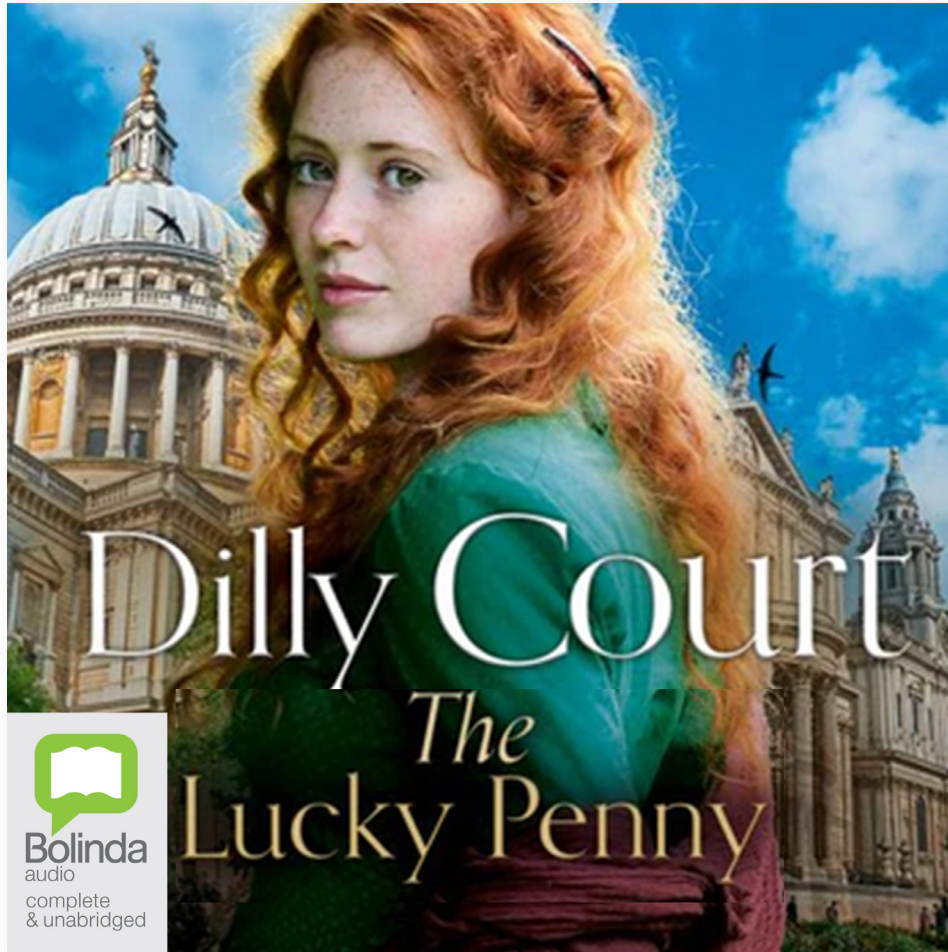
Adult New Release

Sagas | May 2024

# The Lucky Penny

## Dilly Court

Read by Annie Aldington



From the #1 *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *The Rockwood Chronicles* comes an emotional and captivating fireside tale of finding home in the most unlikely places.

---

*Clinging tightly to the penny in her palm, Flora's fortune was about to change ...*

Flora is forever grateful for the day the Stewart family rescued her from her life of poverty on London's streets. Adopted as one of their own, she shed her rags and was finally given a place to call home.

When a twist of fate calls her back to the cobbles, Flora's new life is torn apart.

Flora must make her own way if she is ever to find where she truly belongs ...

---

Dilly Court is a *Sunday Times* bestselling author of over 40 novels.

Court also writes popular historical fiction and family saga novels under the pseudonym of Lily Baxter

*'Compelling vivid drama.'* – My Weekly (on *The Best of Daughters*)

*'Feisty female characters to fall in love with in a spirited, adventurous novel'* – Sunday Express

*'Perfect for Downton Abbey fans ... heart-tugging'* – Peterborough Telegraph

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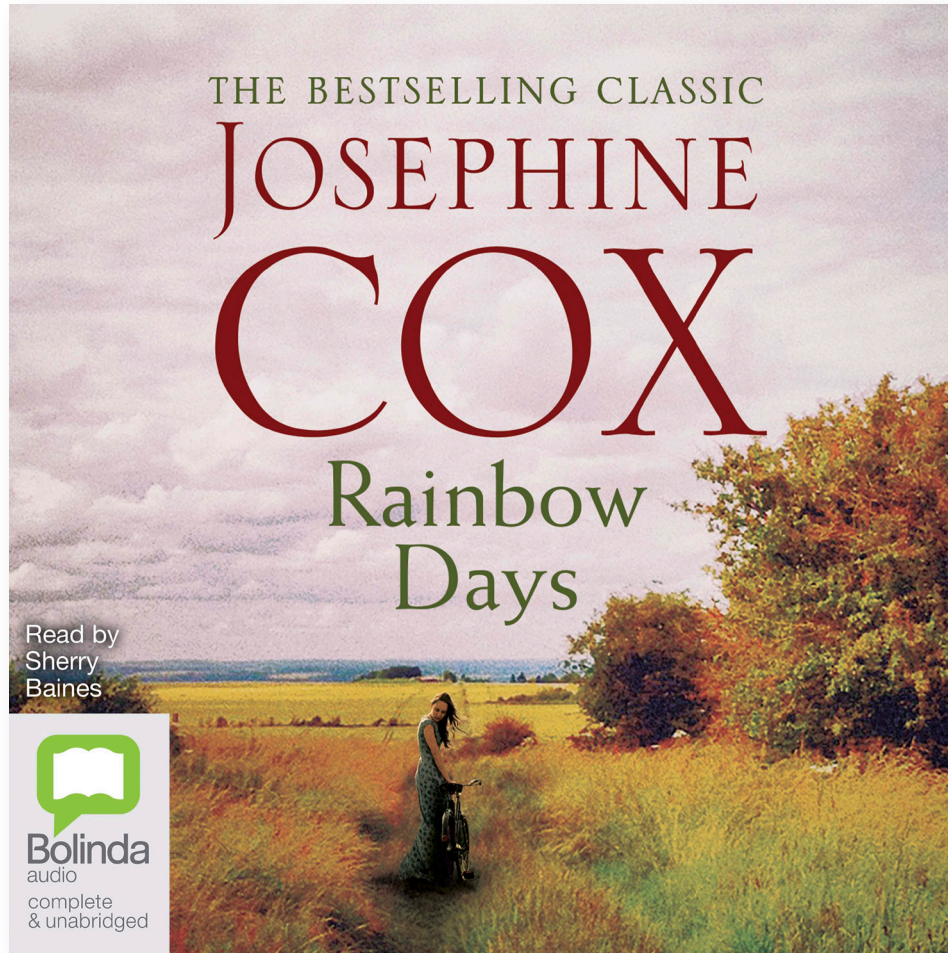
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# Rainbow Days

## Josephine Cox

Read by Sherry Baines



A captivating saga, exploring the strength of love, family and jealousy, from bestselling author Josephine Cox. Perfect for fans of Kitty Neale and Cathy Sharp.

'You're everything to me. I'd have to lose my life before I'd lose you.' This is the vow Silas made to Cathleen on the day he asks her to marry him. Throughout their childhood their love has grown stronger and now, in 1900, they start to plan a life together.

But a jealous woman is determined to ruin their happiness and uses Silas's father – a good and honest man – to do so, forcing him to make an impossible sacrifice. As a dutiful son, Silas has no choice but to obey his father, and Cathleen must pay the bitter price. Separated, each is swept along to a place where there is no love or peace and no way back ...

Josephine Cox was an English author. Her books were frequently bestsellers and the UK Public Lending Rights figures often listed her in the top three borrowed authors

The author of more than 60 titles, written over a career which spanned three decades, Cox sold over 20 million copies of her family sagas, which combined romance and tragedy to dramatic, bestselling effect

*'There is a new thoughtfulness in Cox's work. Always a gutsy, passionate writer she has gained stature ... Saga addicts will devour this and bay for more.'* – Historical Novels Review

*'Hailed quite rightly as a gifted writer in the tradition of Catherine Cookson.'* – Manchester Evening News



# A Wedding for the Bomber Girls

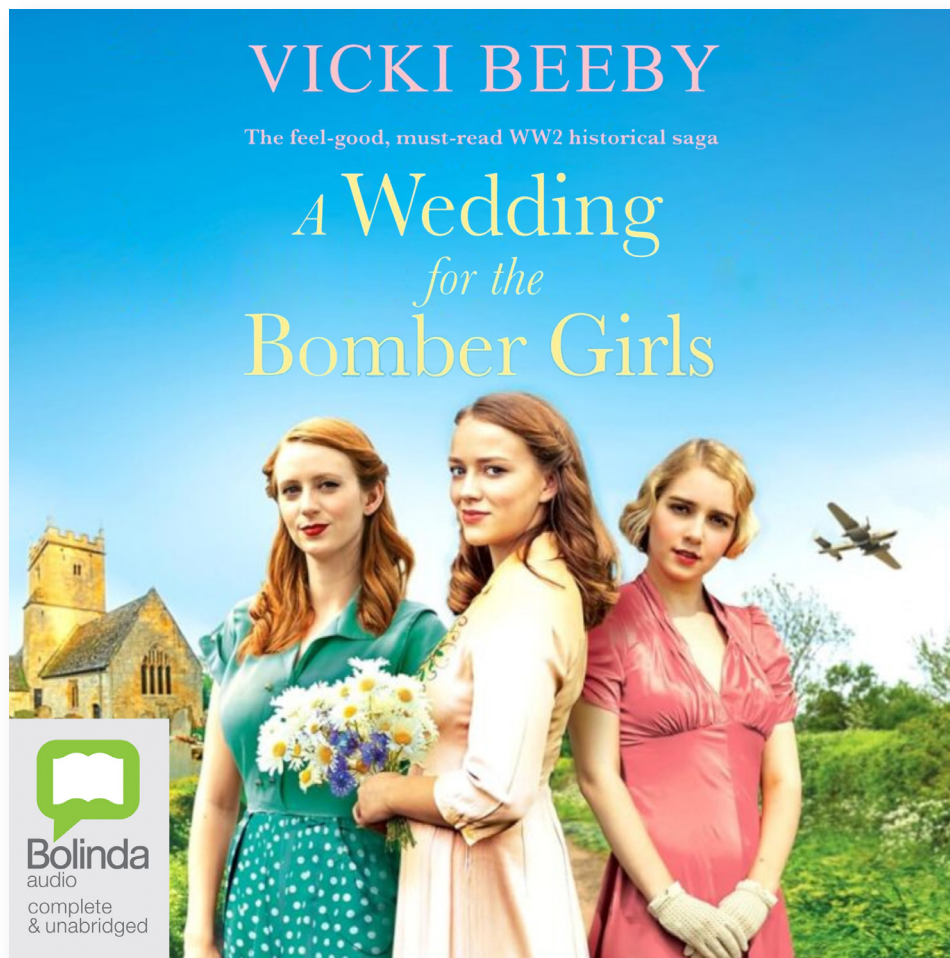
Bomber Command #2

**Vicki Beeby**

Read by Sofia Engstrand

Adult New Release

Sagas | May 2024



The feel-good, must-listen WWII historical saga from the author of *The Women's Auxiliary Air Force* and *The Wrens* series.

At RAF Fenthorpe, instrument repairer Thea is helping her sister, Pearl, plan her wedding alongside fellow WAAF and maid of honour Jenny. A misfit amongst the women on the base, though, Thea is struggling to get others onboard.

When Flight Sergeant Fitz makes a point of befriending and standing by her, sparks fly between the two. And when Fitz's crew member, Jack, faces being stripped of his rank due to cowardice, Thea throws herself into seeking justice and support for him.

Just as she begins to be accepted by her fellow WAAFs, a shadowy figure from her past has returned and is determined to ruin not just Thea, but also Pearl's wedding. Will Thea's reputation be marred once more? And will she face this struggle alone?

Vicki Beeby writes historical fiction about the friendships and loves of service women brought together by the Second World War

Beeby is the author of *The Women's Auxiliary Air Force* and *The Wrens* series

Perfect for fans of Johanna Bell, Daisy Styles and Kate Thompson

*'A fabulous tale of courage, comradeship and romance.'* – Glynis Peters, author of *The Secret Orphan* (on *The Ops Room Girls*)

*'Beeby's tale is well-written and makes sure that the reader is invested in each character.'* – Historical Novel Society (on *Victory for the Ops Room Girls*)

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# The Woman Who Ran Away from Everything

Fiona Gibson

Read by Eilidh Beaton



A hilarious and heartwarming tale of a woman who has had enough. Perfect for fans of Sophie Kinsella and Jill Mansell.

Being married to a comedian is no joke.

Kate is sick of it. Sick of being a wife, cook, dog walker and flat-pack assembler, while still being treated like a doormat. Her husband all but ignores her – unless he needs a clean shirt – and she's constantly compelled to keep up with the (very smug) Joneses in their neighbourhood.

What happened to the fun-loving woman she used to be? At almost 50, Kate feels lost, overlooked and stuck. That is, until she comes home to one of her husband's impromptu parties – and is expected to feed their hungry guests. And that's it. Breaking point. The final straw.

Scrambling out of the bathroom window, Kate leaves. She has no money, no clean pants, and no plan – but a chance encounter sees her following her heart for once. And now there's no going back ...

Fiona Gibson is the author of 16 romantic comedy novels, including Kindle #1 bestseller *The Mum Who Got Her Life Back*

As Ellen Berry, she also writes the heartwarming Rosemary Lane series

Gibson started working on teen magazine *Jackie* at age 17, then went on to join *Just Seventeen* and *More!* where she invented the infamous 'Position of the Fortnight'

'A terrifically entertaining, cheery romance, with an endearing heroine.' – The Sunday Mirror (on *The Woman Who Upped and Left*)

'Warm, funny and poignant.' – Daily Mail (on *The Mum Who Got Her Life Back*)

# The Teashop Girls at War

Teashop Girls #3

**Elaine Everest**

Read by Annie Aldington

Adult New Release

Sagas | May 2024



The third instalment in the Teashop Girls series – a captivating wartime saga from the bestselling author of Woolworth Girls series.

Happily married, Rose is busy with staffing problems at the teashop with many women taking on war work. Rose dreams of her husband's return while trying to keep everyone happy.

Lily has her own worries when the father of her daughter appears back in her life with no explanation. Katie longs for a family of her own – just as a handsome airman arrives on the scene.

At Sea View Guest House, Flora – wary of a relationship and marriage – is fearful of letting her feelings for John Bentley develop further. Especially as she has her guests to be mindful of ...

Anya is torn, having given birth to a beautiful baby boy who is the spitting image of his father, who has been taken as a prisoner of war. Presented with a chance to save him, Anya confides in her friends, leaving her son in their care. With the uncertainty of the future, can the Teashop girls overcome their personal battles?

Elaine Everest is the author of the *Sunday Times* bestselling series The Teashop Girls and has written widely for women's magazines and national newspapers, with short stories, serials and features

Everest's non-fiction books for dog owners have been very popular and led to her broadcasting on radio about our four-legged friends

Everest is a member of the Romantic Novelists' Association, The Crime Writers Association and The Society of Women Writers & Journalists

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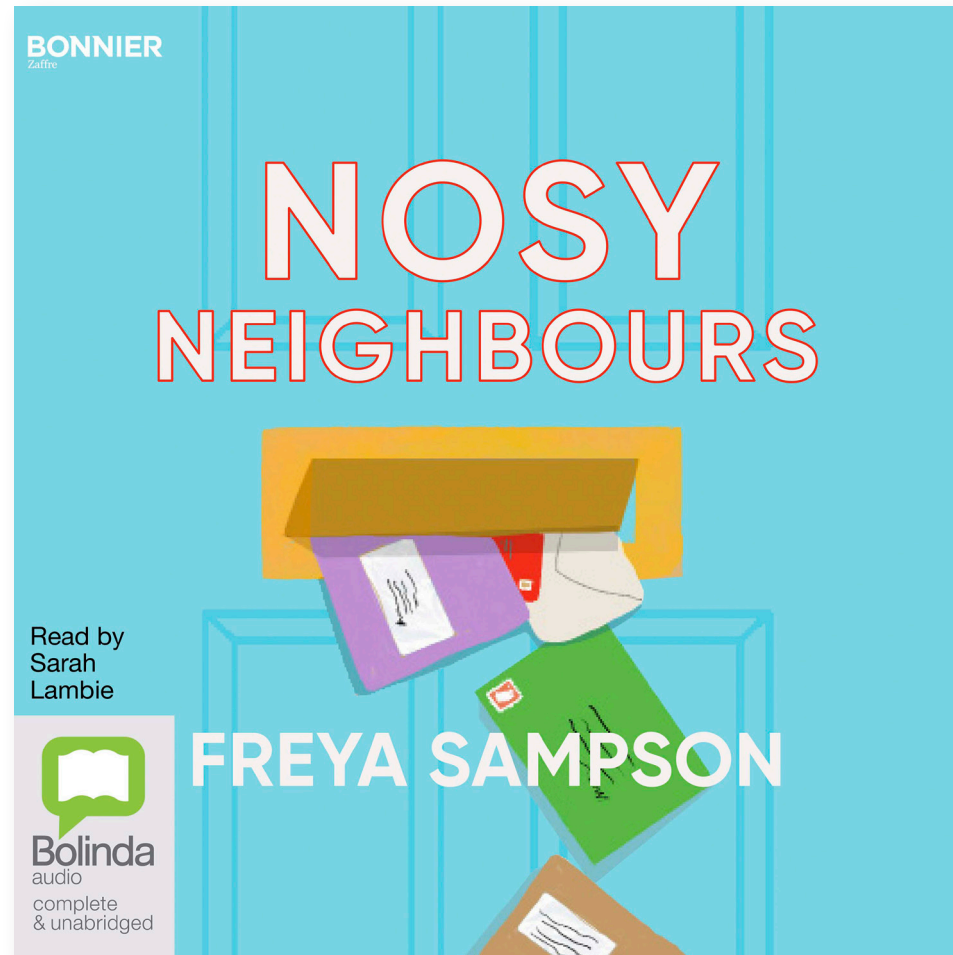
  
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# Nosy Neighbours

Freya Sampson

Read by Sarah Lambie



The author of *The Last Library* brings us another heartwarming story about finding where you belong.

Twenty-five-year-old Kat Bennett has never felt at home anywhere, especially not in crumbling Shelley House. The other residents think she's prickly and unapproachable, but beneath her tough exterior, Kat is plagued by guilt from her past and looking for somewhere to belong.

Seventy-seven-year-old Dorothy Darling has lived in Shelley House for longer than anyone else, and if you believe the other tenants, she's as cantankerous and vindictive as they come. Dorothy may spend her days spying on the neighbours, but she has a closely guarded secret herself – and a good reason for barely leaving her home.

When their building faces demolition, sworn enemies Kat and Dorothy become unlikely allies in their quest to save their historic home; and even less likely detectives when they suspect that foul play is coming from within Shelley House ...

Freya Sampson is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Last Library* and *The Girl on the 88 Bus*

Sampson worked in TV as an executive producer and her credits include two documentary series for the BBC about the British Royal Family and a number of factual and entertainment series

'Brimming with hope, heart and intrigue.' – Jessica Ryn, author of *The Extraordinary Hope of Dawn Brightside*

'A deftly rendered story of friendship and community that would bring both a smile to your face and a tear to the eye – I loved it.' – Hema Sukumar, author of *Minor Disturbances at Grand Life Apartments*

# The Underground Library

Jennifer Ryan

Read by Fenella Woolgar



When the Blitz threatens the heart of a London neighbourhood, three young women must use their fighting spirit to keep their community together in this heartwarming story from the author of *The Kitchen Front*.

On the day Juliet Lansdown reports to work for the first time at Bethnal Green Library, it isn't the bustling hub she's been expecting. But, in the face of German attacks, she's intent on making it a place where everyone feels safe and welcome.

Katie Upwood is thrilled to be working at the library, too, though she's only there until she heads off to university in autumn. But, after the death of her sweetheart on the front line and some unexpected family strife, she's more in need of support herself.

Sofie Baumann, a Jewish refugee without any family to lean on, finds comfort and friendship in Bethnal Green's rapidly growing literary scene and escapes to the library every chance she gets. But, with her asylum in London tied to a domestic work visa issued by an unscrupulous employer, her position is vulnerable.

When bombs damage the library, Juliet can't bear to give up on her safe haven of books, so she relocates the stacks to an underground station, where the city's residents shelter nightly. The three women must work together to overcome their own troubles and keep the library – the beating heart of their community – open to all ...

Jennifer Ryan is the author of national bestseller *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir*, *The Spies of Shilling Lane* and *The Kitchen Front*

Ryan's work has featured in *Literary Hub*, *Moms Don't Have Time to Write*, *The Daily Mail*, *The Irish Times*, *The Express*, *BBC Online*, *YOU Magazine*, *The Simple Things Magazine* and *Good Reading Magazine*

Originally from Kent and then London, Ryan was previously a non-fiction book editor and now writes historical fiction inspired by her grandmother's tales of the war in Britain



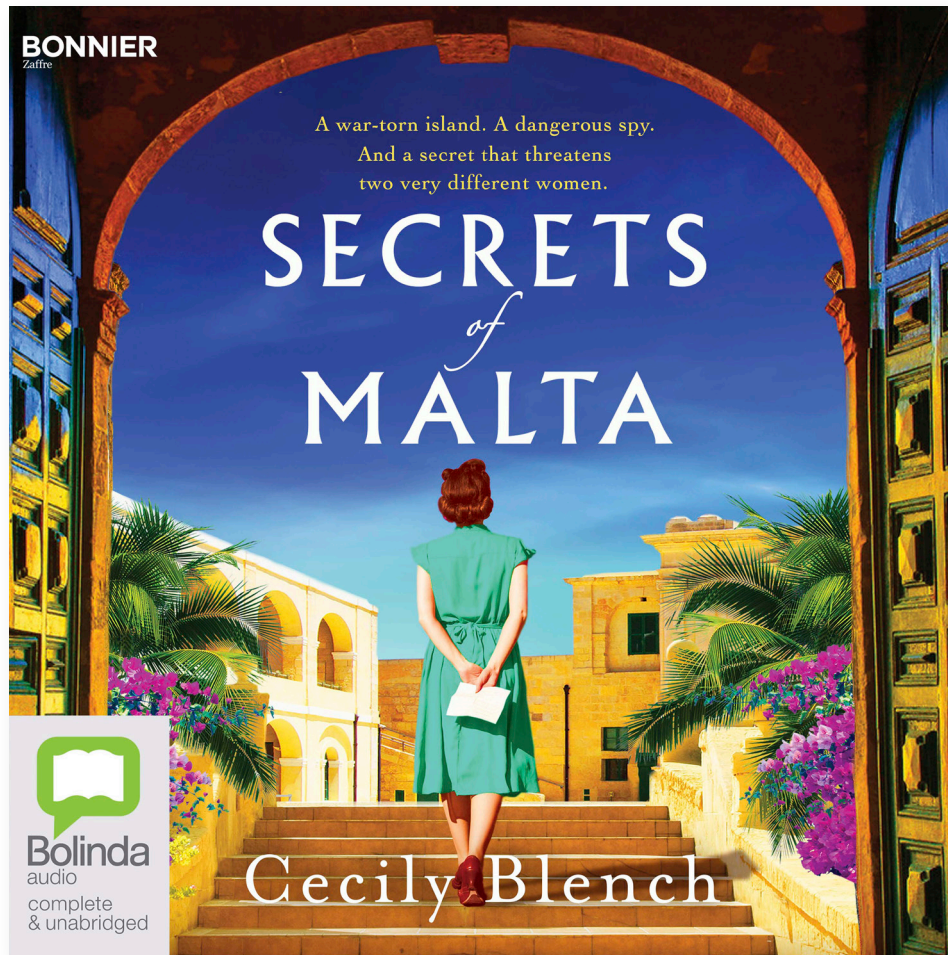
Adult New Release

Romance | May 2024

# Secrets of Malta

Cecily Blench

Read by Helen Keeley



Full of suspense, courage and love, *Secrets of Malta* is a stunning story about two extraordinary women, a world at war and a race against time.

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*Malta, 1943.* The war in the air above Malta is over, but the battle for Europe is about to begin.

Margarita, a young singer in a Valletta nightclub, has seen her former lover Henry Dunn only once since breaking off their affair. His wife Vera, an enigmatic archaeologist, arrives at the club to tell her that Henry has disappeared, presumed dead. While investigating, Margarita stumbles upon the hunt for a notorious and dangerous spy: Nero.

As an unlikely bond develops between the two women, and strange secrets emerge, an urgent quest to unmask Nero starts – before he can enact a deadly plan that may threaten the course of the war.

---

Cecily Blench is the author of *The Long Journey Home*, which won the 2019 Wilbur Smith Adventure Writing Prize

Blench worked for an independent publisher for several years and is now a freelance author and editor

*'A sweeping historical fiction masterpiece.'* – My Weekly (on *The Long Journey Home*)

*'Evocative and atmospheric. Blench captures the wild and perilous journeys made by so many at the arrival of the war.'* – Wilbur Smith, *New York Times* bestselling author (on *The Long Journey Home*)

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# Somewhere in the Sunset

## Estelle Maskame

Read by Clementine Clover & Bryan Da Silva



From million copy bestselling author comes this story of two broken-hearted singletons meet at a bar fight in San Francisco – they’re worlds apart, but maybe that’s just what they need to fall in love.

Gracie’s future is glossy, glam and loved-up. Flawless like her influencer lifestyle. Weston’s is all tattoo parlours, hitting the bar on the regular, and earning his police officer’s badge. Tough guy, or so he tells himself.

What they have in common is heartbreak. In the aftermath of shattered romances, they’re reeling. Gracie’s been unceremoniously dumped ... by the guy who promised to be her forever. While Weston is realising he never showed his ex quite how much he loved her.

When two sets of friends stage an intervention – no more pity parties – worlds collide in a downtown club. There’s spilled drinks, thrown punches and ugly tears in the back of an Uber. Not exactly a cute meet-cute.

Their futures uncertain, Gracie and Weston gravitate toward one another. The chemistry between them is undeniable – but they’re just friends, right. Right?

Estelle Maskame started writing The Dimily trilogy when she was 13, which have gone on to sell over a million copies worldwide in 19 different countries

Maskame was winner of the Young Scot Award 2016 (Arts) and shortlisted for the Young Adult Romantic Novel Award 2017

# First Base

Chicago Heartbreakers #1

Ally Wiegand

Read by Ina Marie Smith & Nezar Alderazi

Adult New Release

Romance | May 2024



Love meets curveballs in the first instalment of the Chicago Heartbreakers sports romance series, which will have you hooked from the opening pitch.

Baseball photographer Maggie Redford is happy to watch life from the stands. At 25, she's already lost the love of her life and is content to focus on her job snapping shots of Chicago's MLB team instead of her love life. But Maggie's thrown a curveball when the team signs Tommy Mikals, a tattooed hotshot whose talent for making plays is matched by a playboy reputation.

Tommy knows he was traded because his last team grew tired of his tabloid escapades, but he's looking at this season as a chance at redemption. Vowing to give up his party-boy ways, he can't afford to be distracted by the gorgeous team photographer.

When a wild team outing leads to Maggie getting caught on the wrong side of the camera with Tommy, the photo goes viral – making Maggie look like just another of Tommy's hook-ups. With his reputation and her job at risk, the PR team devises a plan: fake a romance to convince the world that the two are an established couple.

But as their pretend relationship plays out in the spotlight, real feelings come into play. Maggie's already loved and lost, Tommy's never learned to commit. Can they even make it past first base?

Perfect for the TikTok audience and fans of *Icebreaker* (Hannah Grace), *Fangirl Down* (Tessa Bailey), and *The Graham Effect* (Elle Kennedy)

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# Perennial Bestsellers on CD & MP3

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May new releases 2024

# Mightier than the Sword

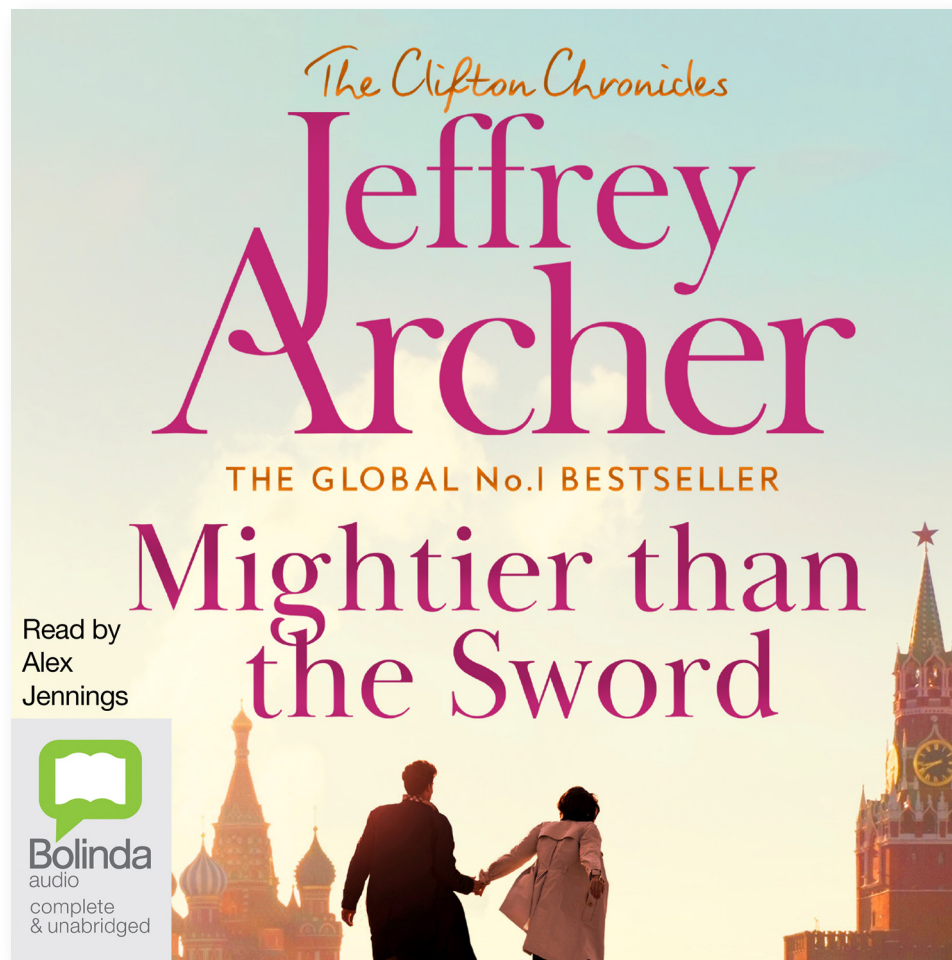
Clifton Chronicles #5

Jeffrey Archer

Read by Alex Jennings

Adult New Release

Historical Fiction | May 2024



*Mightier than the Sword* opens with an IRA bomb exploding during the MV *Buckingham*'s maiden voyage across the Atlantic, but how many passengers lose their lives?

When Harry Clifton visits his publisher in New York, he learns that he has been elected as the new president of English PEN, and immediately launches a campaign for the release of a fellow author, Anatoly Babakov, who's imprisoned in Siberia. Babakov's crime? Writing a book called *Uncle Joe*, a devastating insight into what it was like to work for Stalin. So determined is Harry to see Babakov released and the book published, that he puts his own life in danger.

His wife Emma, chairman of Barrington Shipping, is facing the repercussions of the IRA attack on the *Buckingham*. Some board members feel she should resign, and Lady Virginia Fenwick will stop at nothing to cause Emma's downfall.

Sir Giles Barrington is now a minister of the Crown, and looks set for even higher office, until an official trip to Berlin does not end as a diplomatic success. Once again, Giles's political career is thrown off balance by none other than his old adversary, Major Alex Fisher, who once again stands against him at the election. But who wins this time?

In London, Harry and Emma's son, Sebastian, is quickly making a name for himself at Farthing's Bank in London, and has proposed to the beautiful young American, Samantha. But the despicable Adrian Sloane, a man interested only in his own advancement and the ruin of Sebastian, will stop at nothing to remove his rival.

Now published in 114 countries and more than 47 languages, Jeffrey Archer is firmly established as one of the world's bestselling authors, with international sales passing 275 million copies

*'The conclusion's a turbo-charged cliffhanger that'll have fans screaming Arrrcherr!'* – Kirkus Reviews

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# The Strange Case of the Moderate Extremists

A Detective Varg Story / Detective Varg #1.5

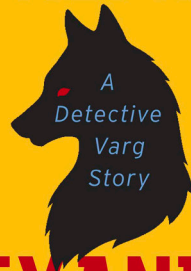
Alexander McCall Smith

Read by Saul Reichlin

Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

## THE STRANGE CASE OF THE MODERATE EXTREMISTS



A  
Detective  
Varg  
Story

Read by  
Saul  
Reichlin



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audio  
complete  
& unabridged

**ALEXANDER  
McCALL SMITH**

From literary master Alexander McCall Smith, this is a bewitching short foray, witty and warm, into Scandinavian mystery.

Detective Ulf Varg from the Department of Sensitive Crimes is often called upon to investigate unusual matters. But rarely is he asked to conduct an inquiry on behalf of his own family. Is such a thing ethical?

Adding to Ulf's moral discomfort is the fact that he does not exactly see eye to eye with his younger brother Bjorn – a leading player in one of Sweden's right-wing parties, the Moderate Extremists. Still, family is family, so Ulf finds himself working to uncover the mole leaking secrets to a rival party, the Extreme Moderates.

All of this in addition to his responsibilities to the Department, which include investigating a case of cat-related sabotage. As always, it's up to Ulf to close the case ... even if he encounters unexpected resistance from the victims themselves.

Alexander McCall Smith is one of the world's most prolific and best loved authors, whose titles have been translated into 46 languages and become bestsellers throughout the world

In 2015, McCall Smith received the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize for Comic Fiction and in 2017, The National Arts Club of America Medal of Honor for Achievement in Literature

For many years he was a professor of Medical Law and worked in universities in the UK and abroad before turning his hand to writing fiction

*'It's short, fun and smoothly told.'* – AudioFile

*'Detective Varg promises to be a complex series character, and the department itself looks certain to deliver more oddball yet poignant cases.'* – Booklist, starred review

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# Molly

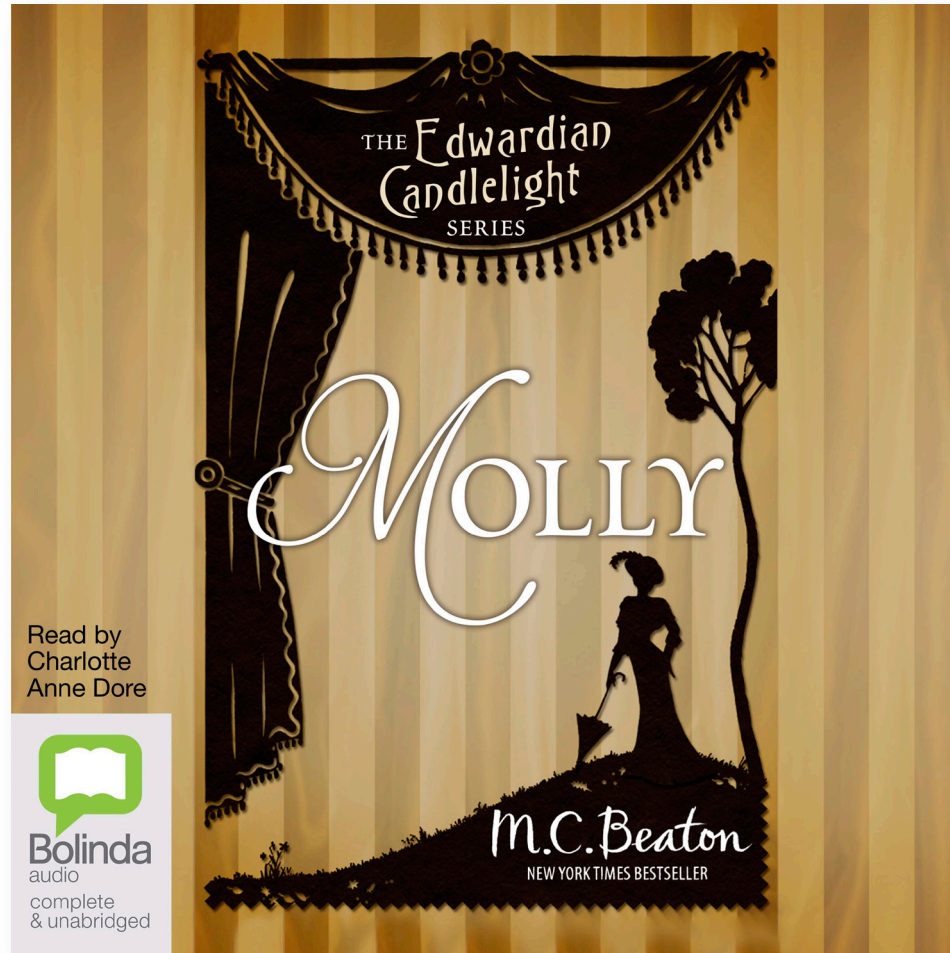
Edwardian Candlelight #2

**M.C. Beaton**

Read by Charlotte Anne Dore

Adult New Release

Romance | May 2024



From bestselling author M.C. Beaton comes the second instalment in the charming Edwardian Candlelight series.

Molly had dared to turn a cold shoulder on London's prize catch. She was a precocious American upstart who thought beauty, brains and bravery were enough to conquer London society. Well, he'd show her! Nobody publicly (or privately!) spurned Lord David Manley, the most eligible bachelor in town. He was determined that soon she'd be trembling in his arms, desperately in love with the man she had dared to mock.

David Manley always got his way, and Miss Molly Maguire presented a challenge he couldn't resist! But Lord David had never met anyone quite like this headstrong heiress who fought like the devil, looked like an angel, and had all of London society dangling on a string.

M.C. Beaton is the author of the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling Agatha Raisin series – the basis for the hit show on Acorn TV and public television

Known as the 'Queen of Crime', Beaton was born in Scotland and started her career writing historical romances under several pseudonyms as well as her maiden name, Marion Chesney

Beaton's titles have been translated into 17 languages and have sold more than 22 million copies worldwide

*'Chesney once again adroitly manipulates the floating upstairs population that keeps the downstairs on its toes.'* – Publishers Weekly (on *Rake's Progress*)

*'A witty, charming, touching bit of Regency froth. Highly recommended.'* – Library Journal (on *Rake's Progress*)

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# Bolinda audio New Children's on CD & MP3

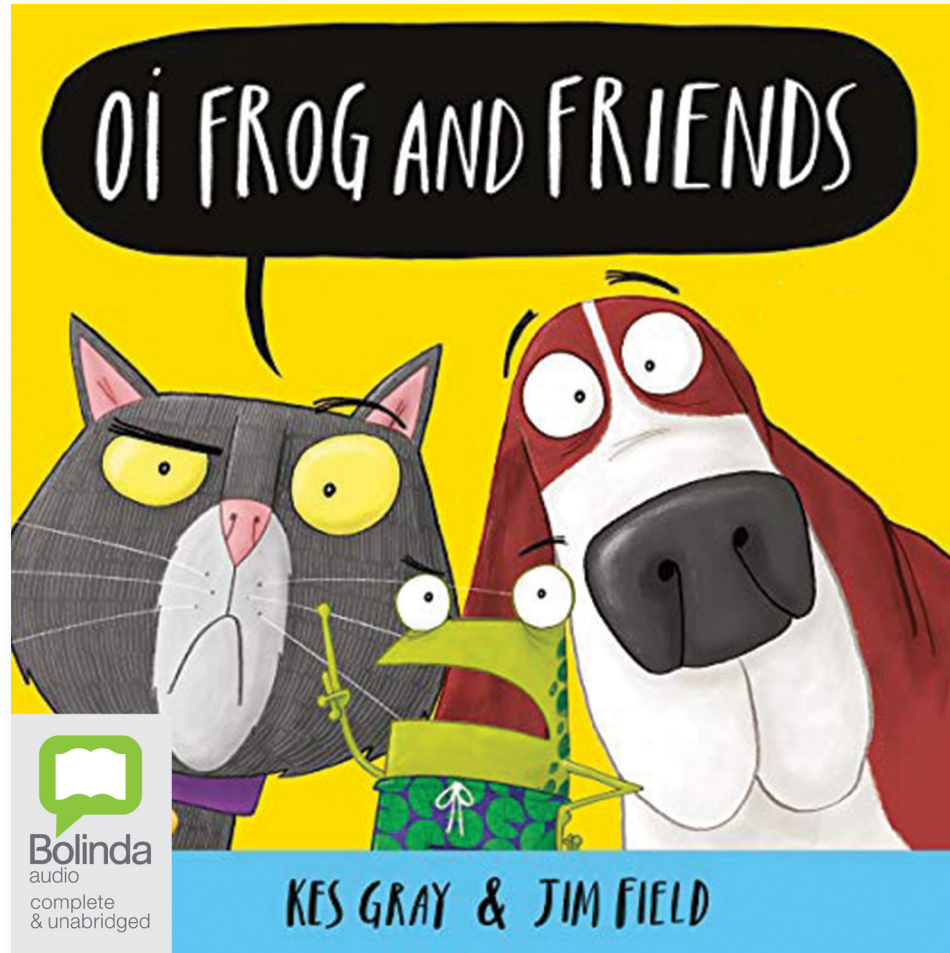
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May new releases 2024

# Oi Frog & Friends

Kes Gray

Read by David Mitchell



A collection of laugh-out-loud stories, jam-packed with animals and silliness, from the bestselling, award-winning author Kes Gray.

*Oi Aardvark!:* Join in with the fun and silliness, and meet a whole host of crazy creatures from aardvarks to zebras, along the way.

*Oi Duck-Billed Platypus!:* Oi! Where are duck-billed platypuses meant to sit? And kookaburras and hippopotamuses and all the other animals with impossible-to-rhyme-with names?

*Oi Frog!:* Cats sit on mats, hares sit on chairs, mules sit on stools and gophers sit on sofas. But Frog does not want to sit on a log.

*Oi Cat!:* Cat doesn't like sitting on gnats, they keep biting his bottom! Will Frog and Dog help him change the rules?

*Oi Dog!:* Cat is a stickler for rules: cats sit on mats, hares sit on chairs and, however irritating, dogs must sit on frogs. That's until Frog decides to change the status quo.

*Oi Puppies!:* Dog is looking after some puppies. Quite a few puppies, actually, and none of them will sit! Not even on guppies, like they're supposed to! They're getting a little out of hand. But luckily Frog's got a cunning plan ...

*Oi Frog and Friends* is a top ten bestselling series which has sold over one million copies to date

Loved by children and parents, the titles have won numerous awards, including the Laugh Out Loud Picture Book Award, and been shortlisted for many more

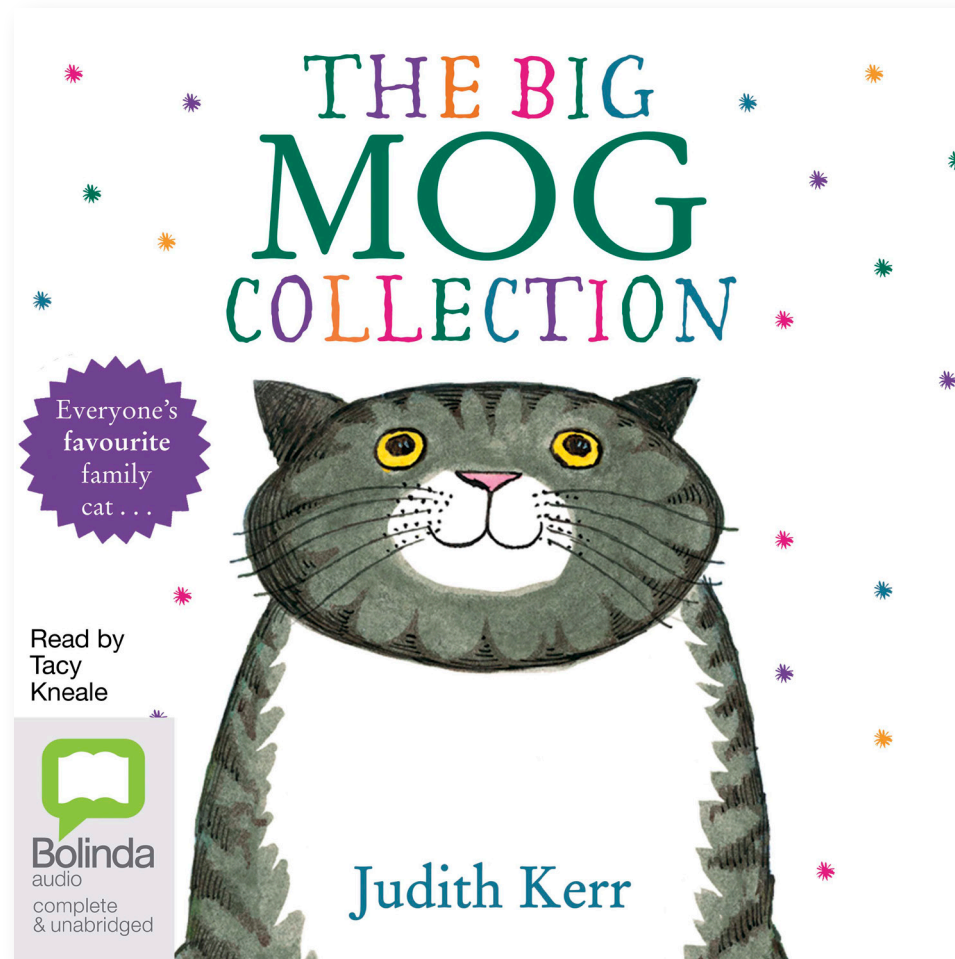
Kes Gray has won the Sainsbury's Children's Book Award and has been shortlisted for the British Book Awards



# The Big Mog Collection

Judith Kerr

Read by Tacy Kneale



Join everyone's favourite family cat in this delightful collection of classic stories, full of her warm-hearted and funny escapades.

Share in 50 years of a really remarkable cat ...

From the creator of *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* and *Mog the Forgetful Cat* comes a remarkable audio collection of five delightful family adventures about a really remarkable cat!

Featuring five funny and exciting classic stories:

- *Mog and the V.E.T.*
- *Mog the Forgetful Cat*
- *Mog and the Baby*
- *Mog's Christmas*
- *Mog's Amazing Birthday Caper*

Judith Kerr was awarded the BookTrust Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016 and was named Illustrator of the Year at the British Book Awards in 2019

Kerr was the author of the much-loved classic and perennial bestseller *The Tiger Who Came to Tea*

Kerr died in May 2019 at the age of 95, and her stories continue to entertain and delight generations of children

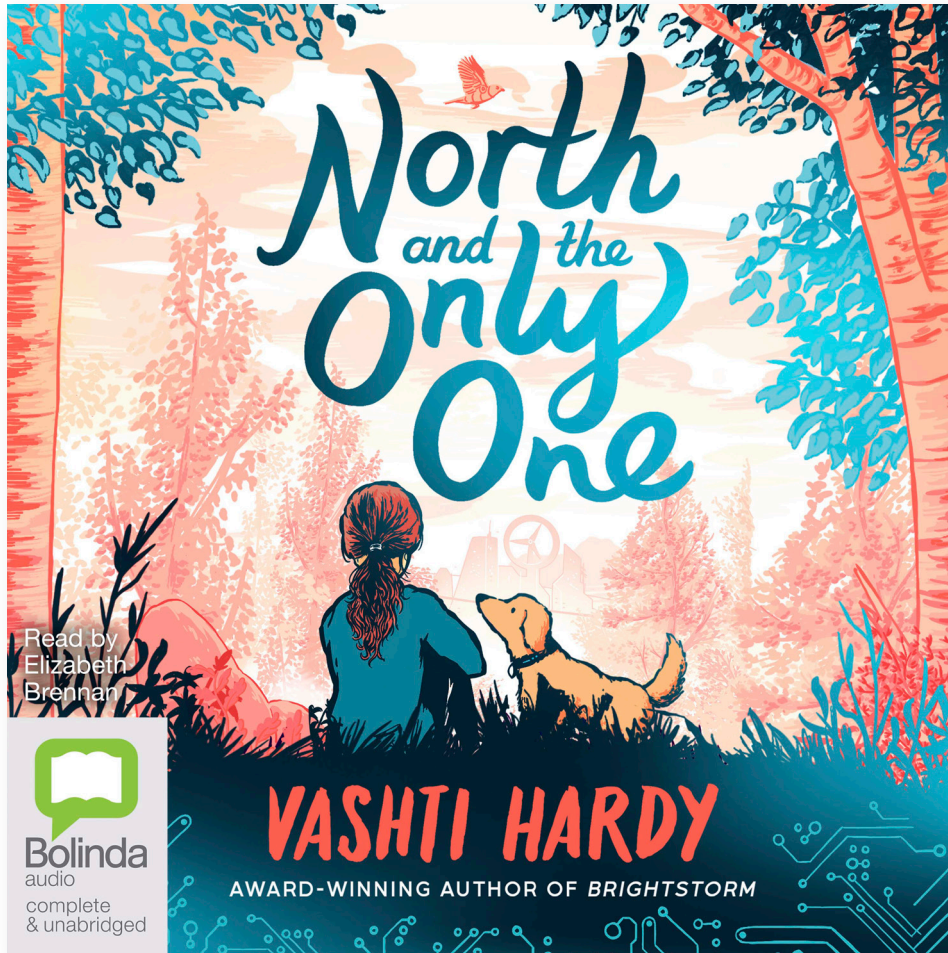
'Since her debut in 1970, Mog has become ... a national hero.' – Junior Magazine

'Mog is a star, she really is. I can't recommend her highly enough. Someone should give that cat a medal, or an egg for breakfast.' – The Bookbag

# North and the Only One

## Vashti Hardy

Read by Elizabeth Brennan



From the award-winning author of *The Brightstorm Chronicles*, Vashti Hardy, comes a powerful new story set in a surprising world filled with action, adventure and big questions about family and what it means to be human.

Twelve-year-old Rose can't remember anything before last week, when she woke up not knowing her own name, her own house or even her own mother. The only thing Rose recognised was her puppy, North.

But Mother patiently explained everything – well, not everything. Not the real-feeling dreams Rose has about a mysterious forest she half-recognises. Or why she is not allowed to stray beyond the garden, out into Luminelle, the vast city surrounding them.

Mother is kind and helpful, but Rose can't shake the feeling that something's not right. Or maybe it's everything that's not right?

But then, when Rose flees to the outside world with North, it quickly becomes clear to Rose that she is different. And for reasons she doesn't understand, she's dangerous.

On an unforgettable journey of discovery, Rose uncovers life-altering truths about the city she's in, the people around her ... and ultimately herself.

Perfect for children aged nine and up, and for fans of Ross Welford and Piers Torday

Vashti Hardy is the author of *Wildspark*, which won the Blue Peter Book Award's Best Story in 2020 and the FCBG Children's Book Award

Hardy is also the author of *Brightstorm*, which was shortlisted for the Waterstones Children's Book Prize, the Books Are My Bag Readers' Award and Leeds Book Award

'... combines the very best of many children's classics in a fresh and highly original way that pulls the [listener] into the world and doesn't let them go until the end.' – The Bookbag (on *Brightstorm*)



# The Mystery of the Forever Weekend

Lisa Thompson

Read by Gregg Lowe



A gripping mystery adventure from the bestselling author of modern classic *The Goldfish Boy*.

Cory is coming to dread having the Sunday Scaries. The kids at school are picking on him because of his cheesy daytime TV presenter father and he's struggling with lessons. Ahead of a Monday comprising a maths test and another lonely lunchbreak, Cory wishes that the weekend would never end ... and when he wakes up the next day, time has reset itself to Sunday morning.

This is amazing! He can re-watch his favourite football team win a big match and have pizza for dinner, do-over some less brilliant things, plus play the lottery to win!

But Cory soon gets frustrated with being stuck in this time loop – he may win the lottery but the next day never arrives when he can spend the money. He must break the curse and return to normality – but how?

Lisa Thompson is the author of *The Goldfish Boy*, which was a Waterstones Children's Book of the Month and went on to become a bestseller around the world

Thompson is also the author of *The Light Jar*, *Owen and the Soldier*, *The Boy Who Fooled the World*, *The Graveyard Riddle* and *The House of Clouds*

'One of our most inventive writers for children.' – The Times (on *The Goldfish Boy*)

'For my money, Lisa Thompson is one of the greatest treasures we have in contemporary children's fiction. She effortlessly blends sentiment with skill, creating stories that excite the mind while tugging the heart. A rare, brilliant talent.' – Maz Evans, bestselling author of *Who Let the Gods Out* series (on *Owen and the Soldier*)



# The Tide Singer

Eloise Williams

Read by Claire Morgan



Strangers, storms and whispers of legendary sea people ... Eloise Williams skilfully interweaves nature and myth in her stunning debut.

In the wake of a tempest hitting her town, Morwenna is left to take care of a stranger washed ashore.

The storm is just another of many that have plagued the town for years – people blame the tide singers, legendary sea people who are said to charm storms with their singing.

Morwenna has never believed the tales, but when she is left alone with the stranger, she realises this is no ordinary girl. Can the stories be true? Can the girl control the tides with nothing more than her voice?

Her arrival brings danger of a different kind, and Morwenna must draw on all the courage she has in order to stop a conflict that could destroy her home ...

Eloise Williams has an MA in Creative Writing with Distinction from Swansea University and was the inaugural Children's Laureate Wales 2019–2021

Williams's middle grade novels have won the Wales Arts Review Young People's Book of the Year, the Wolverhampton Children's Book Award, the YBB Book Award and have been shortlisted for the Tir na n-Og Awards

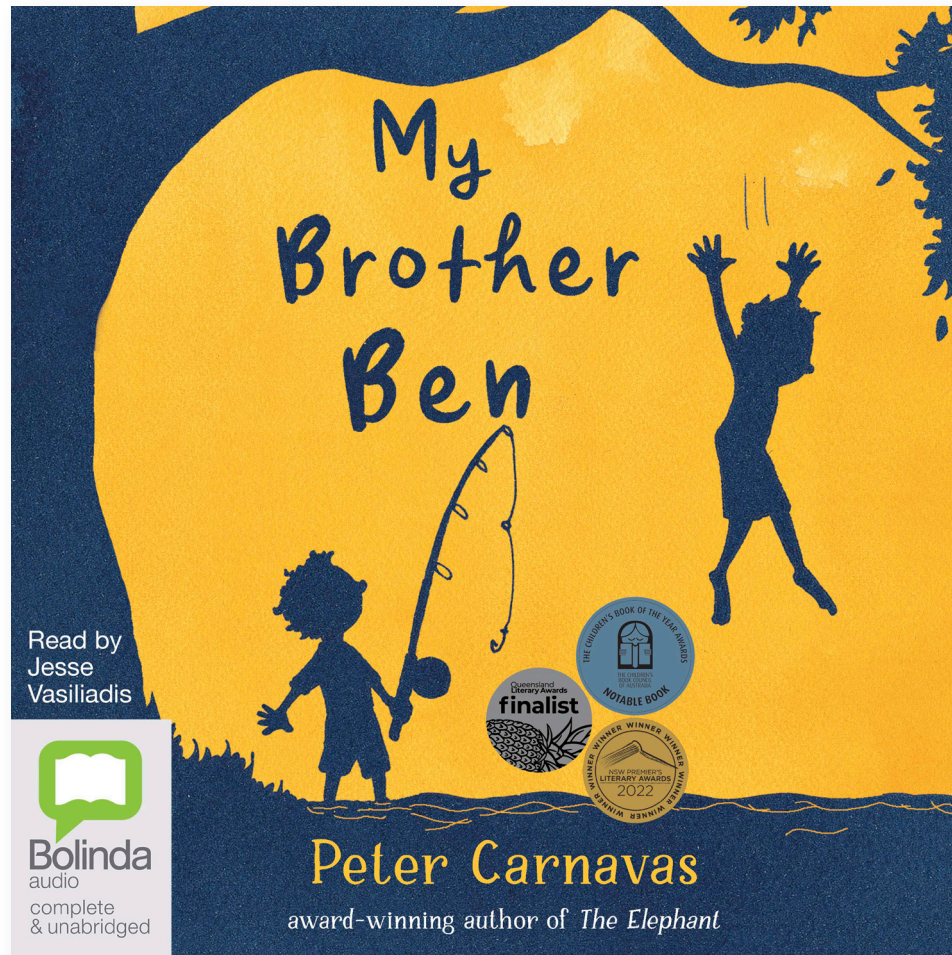
'The Tide Singer is a beautiful story, exquisitely told with nature, myth and legend swirling together and carrying you along on the crest ... has the distinct feel of a classic ...' – Julia Thum, author of *Riverside Lane*

'The sound and taste of the sea roll through this story, wild, strange and powerful, the strength of a storm matched by Morwenna's quiet kindness and compassion. An unforgettable story.' – LoveReading4Kids

# My Brother Ben

Peter Carnavas

Read by Jesse Vasiliadis



A stirringly beautiful, heartwarming story of brotherly love and growing up, from the award-winning author of *The Elephant*.

*Even on the dark days, birds still sing.*

Luke and his big brother Ben spend the summer on the banks of Cabbage Tree Creek. Quiet Luke sketches birds, while Ben leaps off the Jumping Tree. The boys couldn't be more different, but they share a special bond.

When a local competition to win a boat is announced, the brothers spring into action, dreaming of exploring the creek together. But then Ben starts high school, bringing unfamiliar changes into their lives. Slowly, the boys start to drift apart as the contest approaches. Can their unique friendship survive?

*My Brother Ben* won a NSW Premier's Literary Award, as well as a Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year award

*My Brother Ben* was shortlisted in several national awards and was named a CBCA Notable Book

Peter Carnavas has created over 20 books. His work has been translated into many languages across the world and he has presented at many festivals and schools around Australia

*'For everyone whose brother is a hero, even if they don't know it yet.'* – Morris Gleitzman, author of the Once Series

*'This story about birdwatching, being different and the bond between brothers is told in Peter's lovely gentle way and it's a real treat. Kids will love it.'* – Karen Foxlee, author of *Dragon Skin*



# Million Dollar Mess

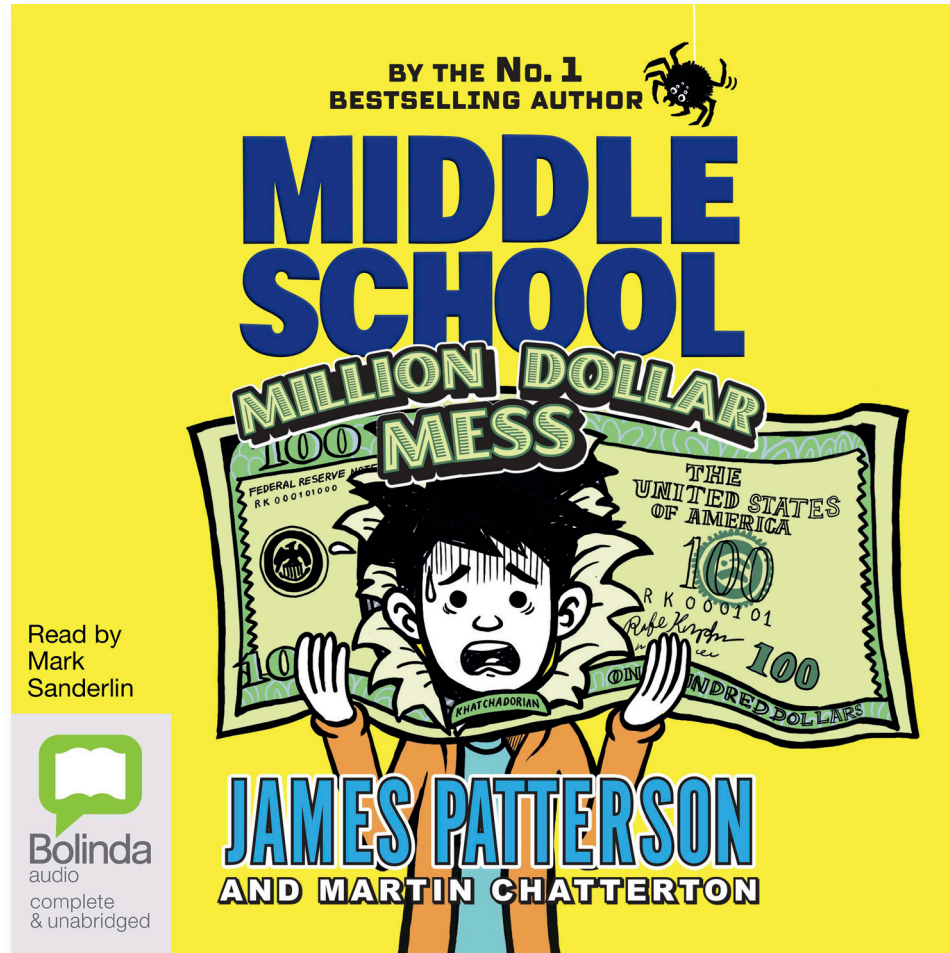
Middle School #16

James Patterson & Martin Chatterton

Read by Mark Sanderlin

Children's New Release

Children's Fiction | May 2024



In this hilarious new instalment of a #1 *New York Times* bestselling series, Rafe inherits a million dollars – and a million problems – as he struggles to fit in at one of the snobbiest schools in the country.

When Rafe discovers that he's inherited a fortune, it's not all good news. Sure, he gets an all-expenses-paid trip to glamorous Beverly Hills ... but he also has to go to school while he's in California. Blergh. And not just any school – St Benedict's, the snobbiest of snobby establishments. You can bet your bottom dollar that Rafe doesn't exactly fit in. Toss in a ramshackle house Rafe's family has to live in before they can inherit the money and a group of bullies who make Miller the Killer look downright friendly, and this trip might be more trash than treasure.

Rafe finds himself in the middle of a very big mess. Can he tidy his life up, or will he be sent packing?

James Patterson is one of the best known and biggest selling authors of all time, with his titles selling more than 400 million copies worldwide

Patterson is the author of some of the most popular series of the past two decades and has written many other number one bestsellers, including standalone thrillers and non-fiction

Martin Chatterton has been successfully writing and illustrating books for almost 30 years, and his work has been shortlisted for numerous awards in the UK, US and Australia

*'A satisfying and progressive tale with real sweetness at its center.'* – Kirkus Reviews (on *The Worst Years of My Life*)

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# Mission Microraptor

Mission Microraptor #1

Philip Kavvadias

Read by Nic Davey-Greene

Children's New Release

Children's Fiction | May 2024

The first in an thrilling new series of all-action environmental adventures – with added dinosaurs, from hugely talented debut author Philip Kavvadias.

Two boys and a microraptor. A dark, mysterious forest. And a squad of army-trained mercenaries searching for them. What could possibly go wrong?

Falling behind their classmates on a school trip to the Alps, Finn and Milo stumble upon an egg buried in ice. Later that night it hatches, and a 65-million-year-old baby is born. Arty is a microraptor brought back from extinction. But keeping her safe proves harder. Wicked scientists will do anything to get their hands on her, and soon Finn and Milo must run for their lives ...

*Jurassic Park* meets *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by way of *Alex Rider* in this joyous, riotous, all-action series for children aged eight and above

Philip Kavvadias writes constantly – stories, screenplays, poems, and he also sketches, and as an engineer, he works in sustainability for one of the biggest brands in the world.

For fans of *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* and *Alex Rider*

*'... brace yourselves for a bright new comedy voice. . . When Finn and Milo accidentally unearth a dinosaur on a school trip, an epic adventure ensues. Fast, funny and fabulous.'* – Maz Evans, author of *Who Let the Gods Out?*

*'Hard to believe this is Philip's debut novel. It's funny and fast paced with more twists and turns than a microraptor in flight. It's a great set up for lots more adventures to come. I really enjoyed it.'* – Mo O'Hara, author of *My Big Fat Zombie Goldfish*



Read by  
Nic Davey-  
Greene



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# Ballots, Blasts and Betrayal

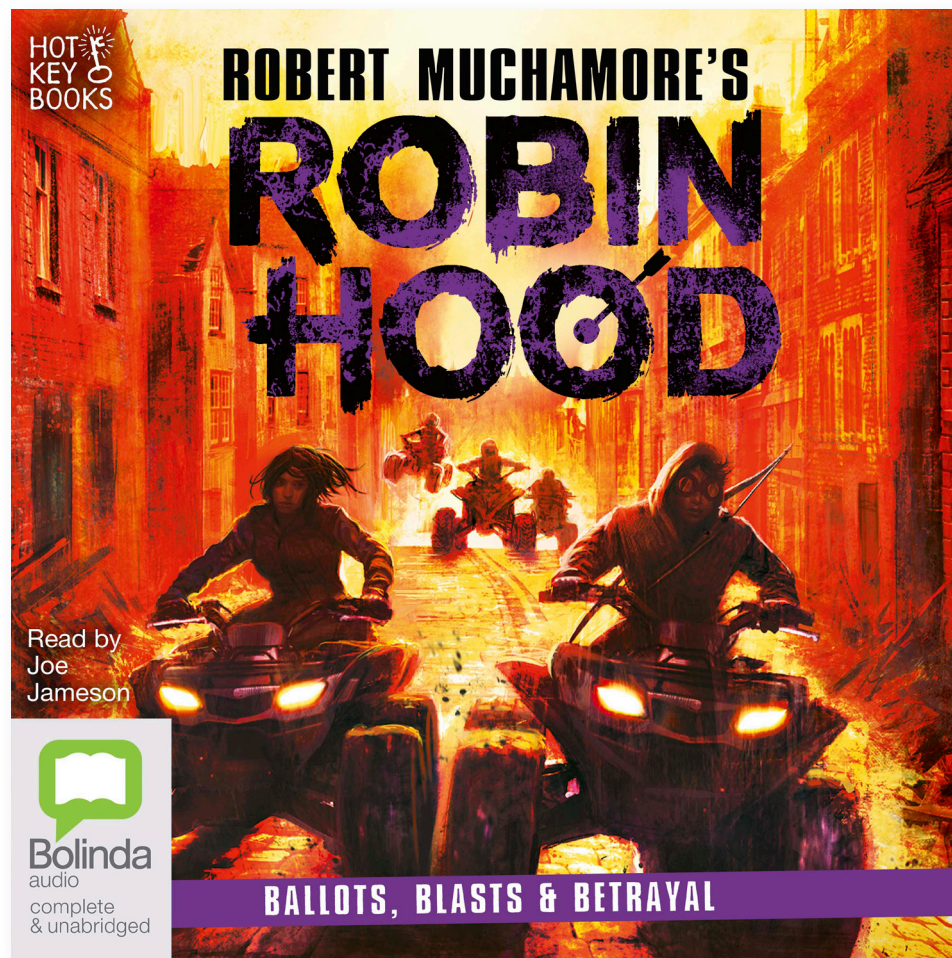
Robin Hood #8

Robert Muchamore

Read by Read by Joe Jameson

Children's New Release

Children's Fiction | May 2024



The eighth episode in the latest sure-fire hit series from the bestselling author of *Cherub*. Teen rebel and social-media star Robin Hood continues his epic struggle against the corrupt Sheriff of Nottingham and brutal crime boss Guy Gisborne.

Robin Hood is campaigning to get his dad, Ardagh Hood, elected Sheriff of Nottingham. But their rival is arch-gangster Guy Gisborne, who won't hesitate to stuff ballot boxes with fake votes to ensure that he wins.

And Robin has more personal worries – is he losing confidence in his ability to shoot arrows with deadly accuracy?

Meanwhile Robin's half-brother Little John is caught up in his mother's presidential election campaign, further complicating contact with Robin, his father Ardagh and his relationship with his girlfriend, Gisborne's daughter Clare.

The stakes get ever higher for both brothers in the eighth book of this all-action series.

Robert Muchamore's books have sold over 15 million copies worldwide, have been translated into 24 languages, and have been number one bestsellers in eight countries including the UK, France, Germany, Australia and New Zealand

Muchamore won the Red House Children's Book Award 2005 for his title, *The Recruit*

'Classic Muchamore: witty characters, clever twists and high-tech gadgetry.' – *Daily Mail*

'Compulsively readable.' – *Guardian*

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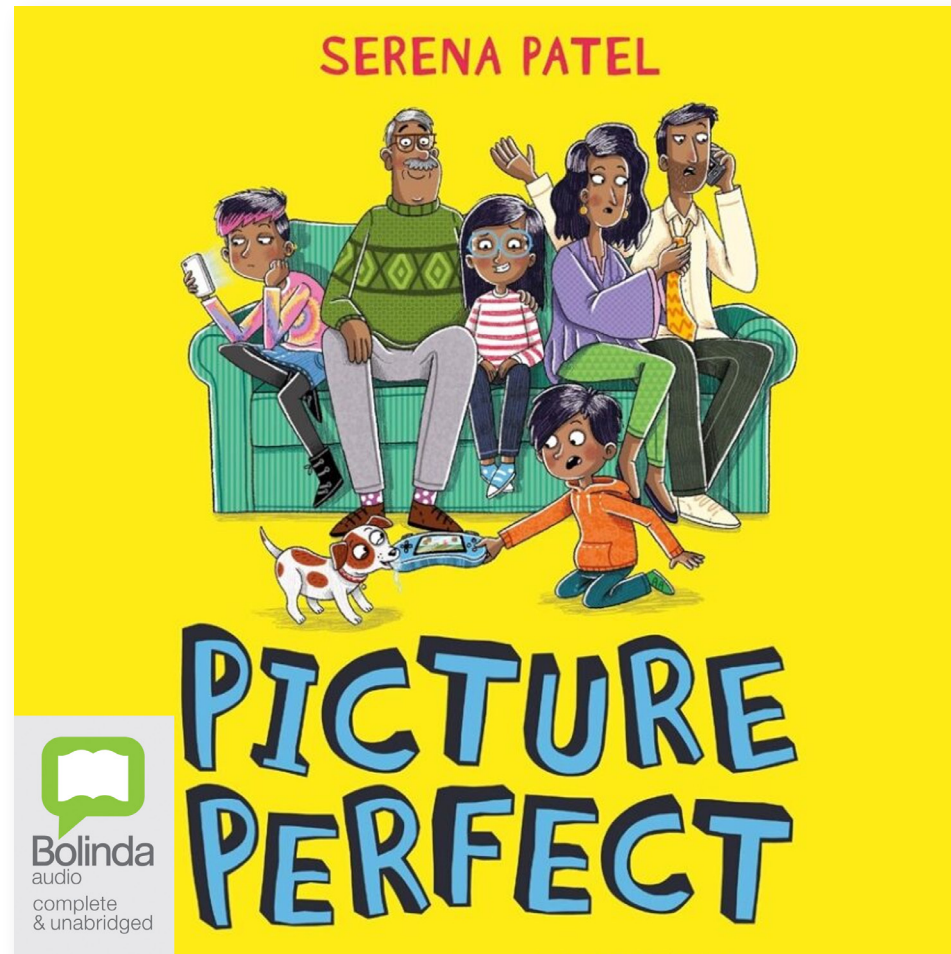
  
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# Picture Perfect

## Serena Patel

Read by Krupa Pattani



A quest for screen-free family time leads to camping chaos in this hilarious and heartwarming comedy from bestselling author Serena Patel.

Sonal needs to capture a great family picture for her school photography project – but it's impossible when everyone's always so busy! Luckily they're heading off on a family camping trip which should provide lots of great photo opportunities ... shouldn't it?

Faced with an enforced digital detox, will Sonal's family come together and have fun ... or will the trip end in complete disaster?

Serena Patel is the author of the bestselling Anisha, Accidental Detective series, the first of which won the Sainsbury's Children's Book Award in 2020

Patel's *School's Cancelled* was shortlisted for the Blue Peter Book Award for Best Story 2021 and the Lollies Book Awards 2021

Patel's works revolve around friendship and family, and she believes all children deserve to feel seen in the stories that they read

*'This lovely story about a relatable family is ... fabulous ... and a reminder for children – especially in the age of social media – that other people's lives and families are just as imperfect as their own.'* – BookTrust



# Show Me the Science

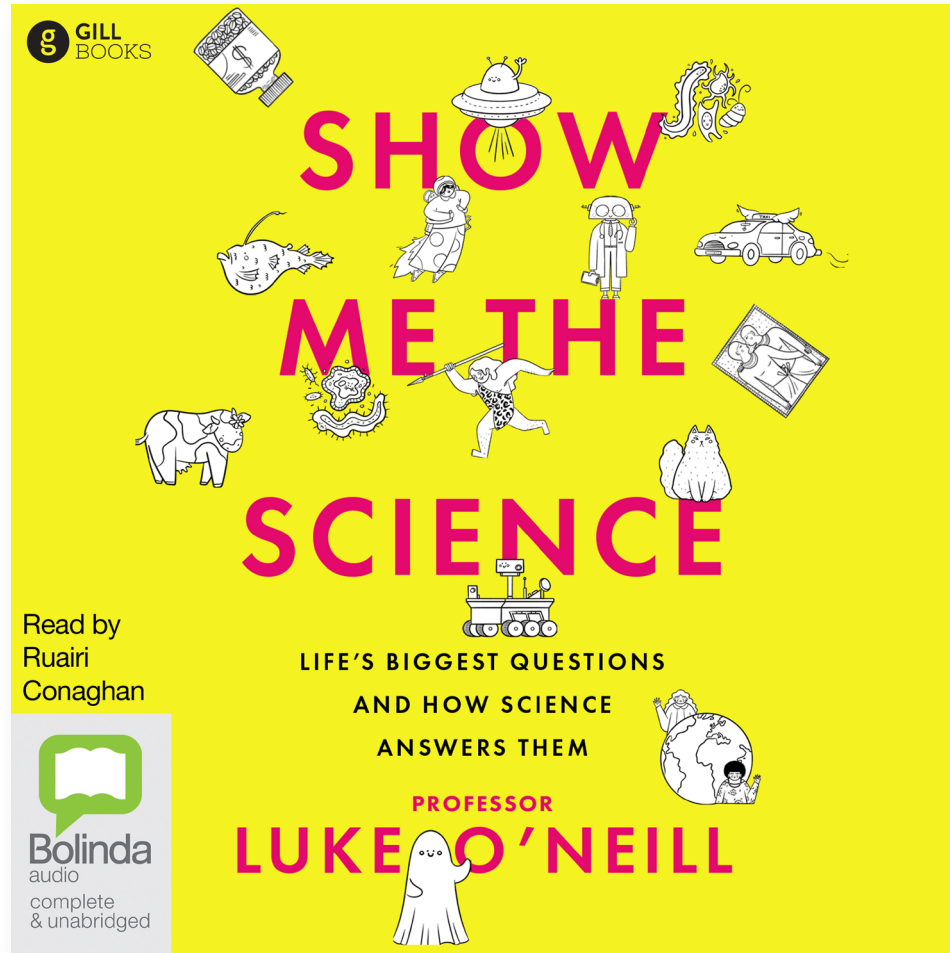
Life's Biggest Questions and How Science Answers Them

Luke O'Neill

Read by Ruairi Conaghan

Children's New Release

Science & Technology | May 2024



Covering topics from global pandemics to artificial intelligence, this is a celebration of science and all the brilliant answers it can offer us for a budding generation of professors.

*Never Mind the B#ll\*cks, Here's the Science* is Professor Luke O'Neill's biggest runaway bestseller in which he grapples with life's biggest questions and tells us what science has to say about them.

Now adapted for children, *Show Me the Science* asks the same questions, do we have control over our lives? Can we escape working in terrible jobs? Why do we need vaccinations? Are men's and women's brains different? Will we destroy the planet? – and encourages children to apply a scientific mindset in attempting to answer them.

Professor Luke O'Neill is the author of five bestselling and award-winning books, including *The Great Irish Science Book* and *What Makes Us Human*

In 2020, O'Neill was awarded the prestigious SFI Outstanding Contribution to Stem Communication award

O'Neill is an immunologist and Professor of Biochemistry at Trinity College Dublin

'A celebration of scientific fact in an era characterised by nebulous subjectivity.' – Irish Times (on *Never Mind the B#ll\*cks, Here's the Science*)

'O'Neill distils the potentially esoteric into something understandable and engaging.' – The Times Ireland (on *Never Mind the B#ll\*cks, Here's the Science*)

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# The Harp of Power

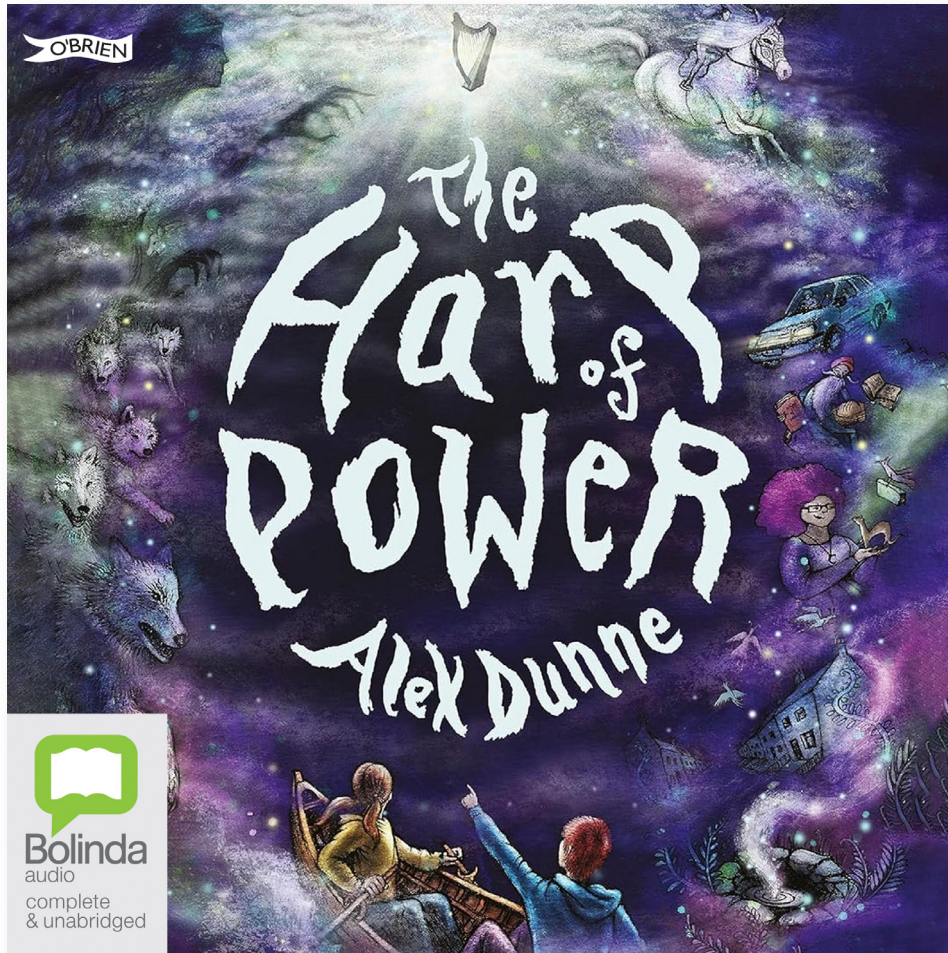
The Book of Secrets #2

Alex Dunne

Read by Róisín Rankin

Children's New Release

Children's Fiction | May 2024



The sequel to *The Book of Secrets*, from award-winning author Alex Dunne.

When Cat finds out that her cool new neighbour, Dr Becca Ryan, is a witch, she's fascinated. Cat already loves magic – she has The Sight – and she's sure she can learn loads from Becca.

But Cat has other things on her mind – her mum has a boyfriend and Cat's not happy. When she turns to Becca for advice, she gets more than she bargained for. Cat and her friend Shane are sent off on a perilous quest for an ancient harp that, when played, can influence the thoughts of anyone who hears it – and it seems like Cat will go to any lengths to find it ...

As they face shape-shifting wolves, demons and magic on the island of Hy-Brasil, Cat and Shane learn many things about themselves – and prepare to battle an ancient and terrifying power ...

Dunne's first title *The Book of Secrets* won the 2023 Eilís Dillon Award for best Debut and was nominated for the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing

Alex Dunne is a co-founder of *Silver Apples* magazine, an online literary journal dedicated to showcasing the best of Irish and international writing

Dunne has a BA in English and History from the University of Limerick and an MA in Literature and Publishing from NUI Galway

*'Effortlessly blends Irish mythology with the challenges of modern life in a narrative that is equal parts adventure, warmth, and humour.'* – Irish Examiner

*'This sequel to The Book of Secrets is full of adventure, friendship and family bonds – and, of course, magic!'* – Children's Books Ireland's Annual Reading Guide 2023

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# Additional Releases (Not Included in SOP)

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May new releases 2024



# Deep Is the Fen

A Hunger of Thorns #2

Lili Wilkinson

Narrator to Come

Young Adult New Release

Fantasy Fiction | May 2024

A bewitching journey behind the closed doors of a secret society, featuring sinister toadmen, resistance witches and a steamy enemies-to-lovers romance, from the acclaimed author of *A Hunger of Thorns*.

Merriwether Morgan doesn't need a happily-ever-after. Her life in the idyllic town of Candlecott is fine just as it is – simple, happy and with absolutely no magic. Magic only ever leads to trouble.

But Merry's best friend, Teddy, is joining the Toadmen – a secret society upholding backward thinking and suspiciously supernatural traditions – and she is determined to stop him. Even if it means teaming up with her academic arch-nemesis, Caraway Boswell, an ice-cold snob who hides his true face behind a glamour.

An ancient Toad ritual is being held in the nightmarish Deeping Fen, and if Merry doesn't rescue Teddy, she'll lose him forever. But the further she travels into Deeping Fen's foul waters, the more Merry wonders if she can possibly save her friend – or if she's walking straight into a trap.

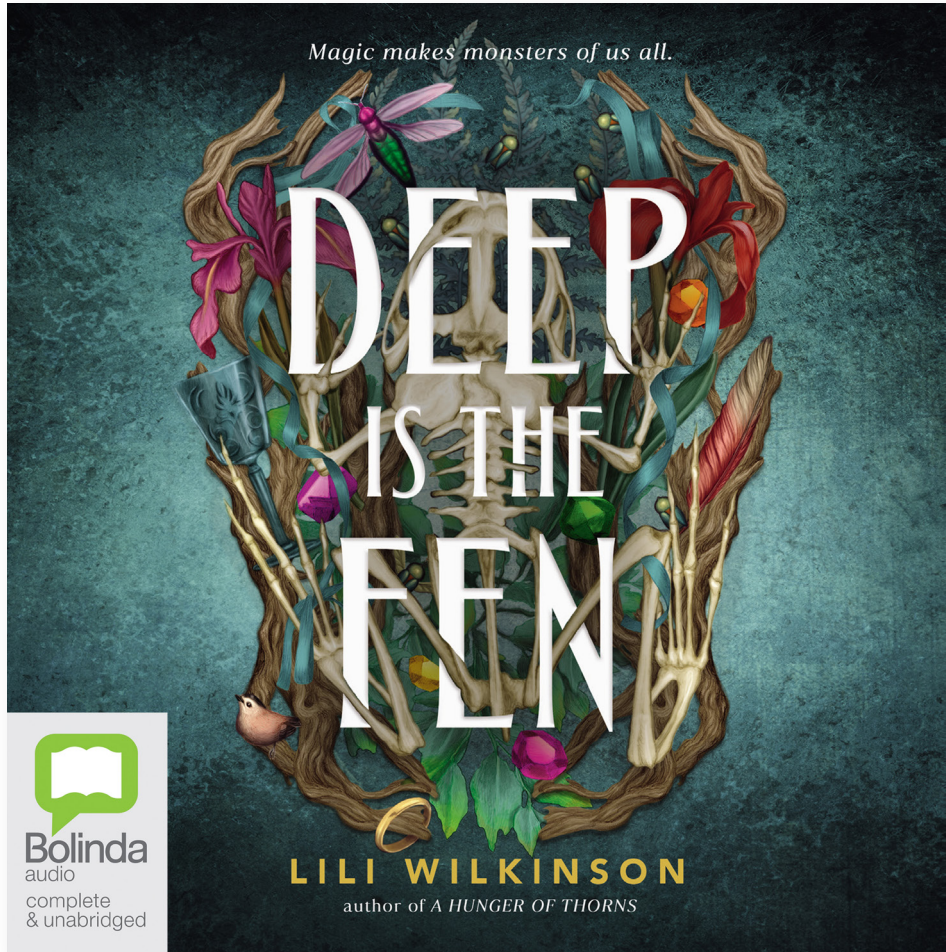
Because there's nothing the Toadmen love more than a damsel in distress ...

Lili Wilkinson is the award-winning author of 18 titles for children and teenagers, including *After the Lights Go Out*, *The Erasure Initiative* and *How To Make A Pet Monster*

Wilkinson established the Inky Awards at the Centre for Youth Literature, State Library of Victoria

'Completely entrancing ... It's full of magic – the real thing.' – Amie Kaufman, *New York Times* bestselling co-author of the *Aurora Cycle* (on *A Hunger of Thorns*)

'A lush, spellbinding tale with dangerously enchanting characters.' – C.S. Pacat, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Dark Rise* (on *A Hunger of Thorns*)



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# My Life and Other Exploding Chickens

Children's New Release

Children's Fiction | May 2024

Tom Weekly #4

Tristan Bancks

Read by Stig Wemyss

A quirky and entertaining collection of stories that will keep listeners laughing, from the award-winning author Tristan Bancks.

I'm Tom Weekly. If my life is an exploding chicken, this audiobook is my attempt to glue it back together.

I have a few confessions. I've done a runner from the dentist. I'm petrified of clowns. Giant headlice tried to eat me. A lost sock nearly killed me. And you're not going to believe this, but I was attacked by Library Ninjas when my book was five years overdue. Let my life be a warning to you.

Plus, how to get famous by:

1. Clapping
2. Collecting scabs
3. Knitting

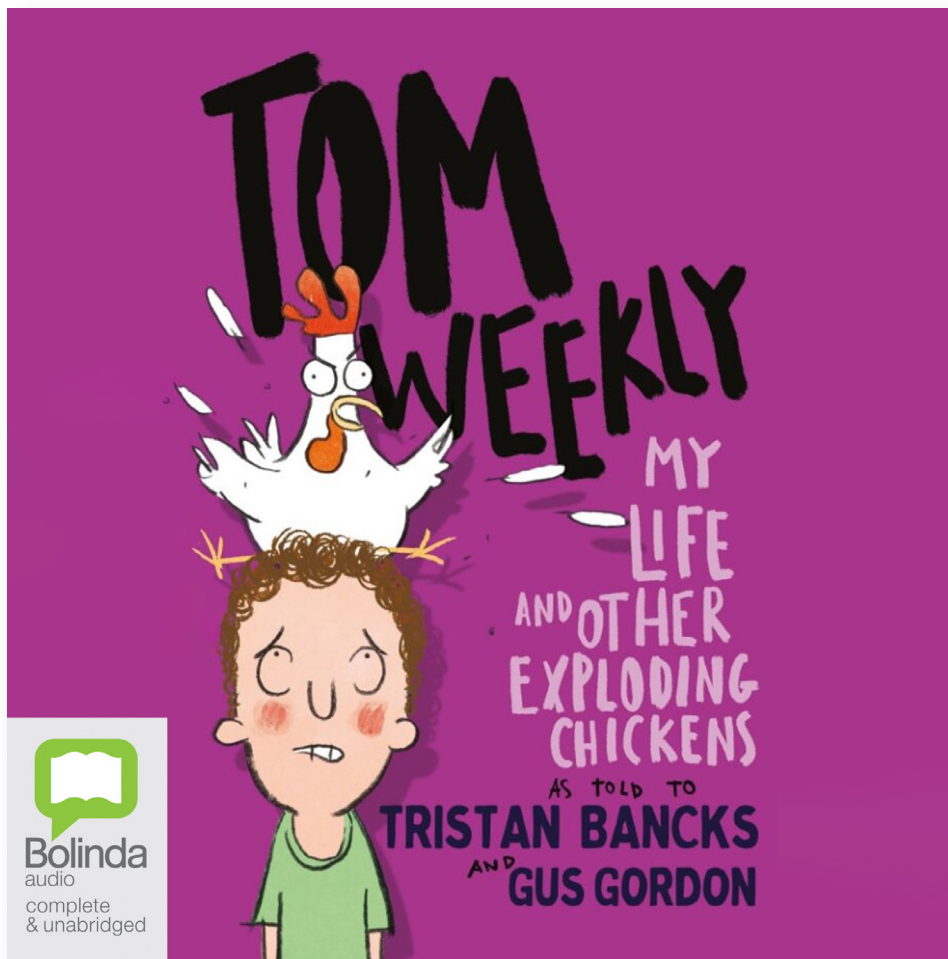
Tristan Bancks is the author of *Two Wolves*, *The Fall*, *Detention*, *Cop & Robber* and *Ginger Meggs*, and is an author-advocate for literacy non-profit Room to Read

Bancks's titles have won and been shortlisted for many awards, including a Children's Book Council of Australia Honour Book, the Prime Minister's Literary Awards and the YABBA Children's Choice Book Awards

Bancks is currently working with producers to develop a number of his books for the screen

*'What an exhilarating ride it is to follow the misadventures of Tom Weekly ... Delightful and funny. Bancks has beautifully captured the essence of boyhood. Tom is a typical 21st-century schoolboy, following in the fine tradition of Ginger Meggs ... Best of all, it made me laugh.'* – Good Reading Magazine

*'Fans of Griffiths, Gleitzman and Jennings will be thrilled to have this in their collection. Author Bancks doesn't skip a beat as he writes from his character Tom's perspective.'* – Kids' Book Review (on *My Life and Other Stuff I Made Up*)



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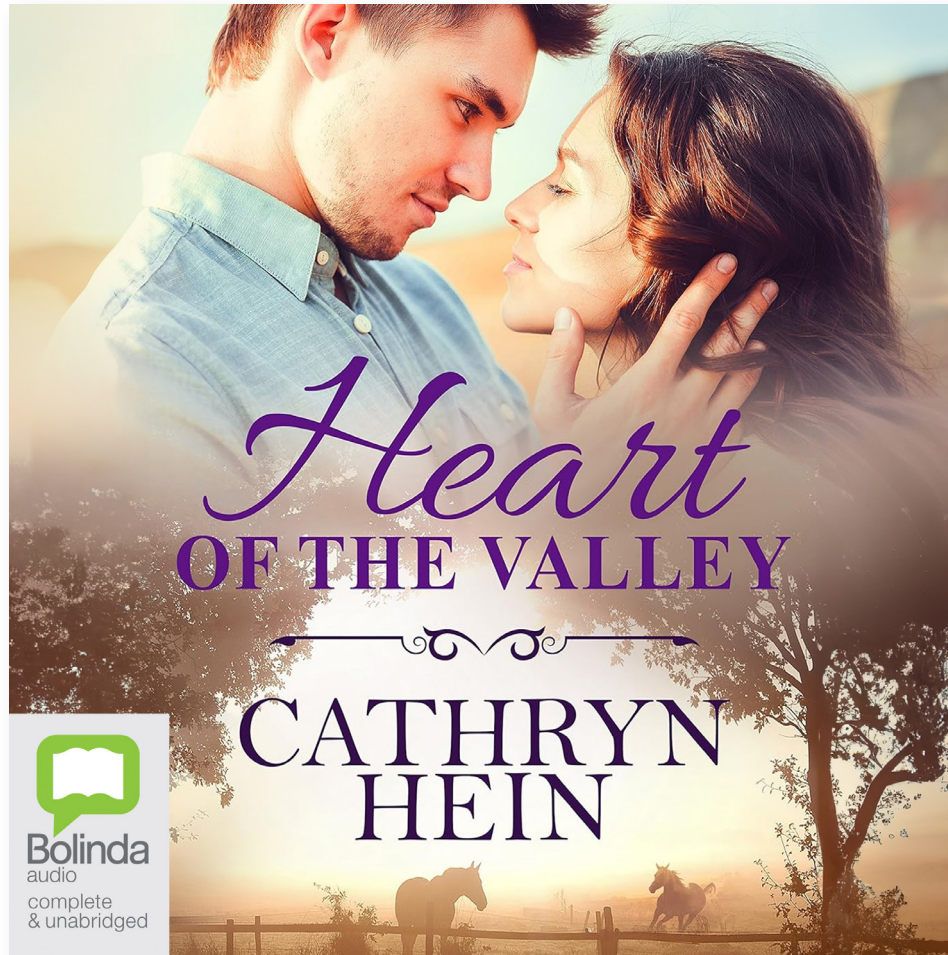
  
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# Heart of the Valley

Cathryn Hein

Read by Alicia Banit



From bestselling author Cathryn Hein comes a vivid, moving and passionate story of love and redemption set in the gloriously rich landscape of Australia's Hunter Valley.

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Brooke Kingston is smart, capable and strong-willed, and runs her family's property with dedication and skill. More at home on horseback than in heels, her life revolves around her beloved 'boys' – showjumpers Poddy, Oddy and Sod.

Then a tragic accident leaves Brooke a mess. Newcomer Lachie Cambridge is hired to manage the farm, and Brooke finds herself out of a job and out of luck. But she won't go without a fight.

What she doesn't expect is Lachie himself – a handsome, gentle giant with a will to match her own. But with every day that Lachie stays, Brooke's future on the farm becomes more uncertain.

Will she be forced to choose between her home and the man she's falling for, or will the very things that brought them together tear them apart?

---

Cathryn Hein is a popular author of rural romance and romantic adventure novels, including the Levenham Love Story series and the Outback Brides series

Hein was a Romance Writers of Australia Romantic Book of the Year finalist with *Santa and the Saddler* and is a regular Australian Romance Reader Awards finalist

*'I finished Heart of the Valley with a contented sigh for a story well told and a longing for a horse of my own. Cathryn Hein has joined my ever growing list of must read Australian women writers.'* – Book'd Out



Adult New Release

Crime & Thriller | May 2024

# Isobar Precinct

Angelique Kasmara

Read by Eva Seymour



An audacious debut novel set in the vivid, grimy streets of Auckland that explores perceptions of time and progress and asks whether the past ever disappears.

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*Who would you go back for?*

Lestari Aris is a woman on the edge. Her tattoo studio on Karangahape Road is hammered by burglaries; the hangers-on in her life, from a teenage runaway to a married cop, are bonded to her for reasons she can't fathom; and years after Lestari's father disappeared, her Indonesian mother is still lost in a self-medicated blur.

When a murder in Symonds Street Cemetery whirls Lestari into the orbit of an unpredictable drug, she uncovers a decades-long covert clinical study targeting rough sleepers and others on the fringes – and its dark connections with her own life and history. Everything is connected – the past is circling. How far will Lestari go to save someone she loves?

---

Angelique Kasmara has a Master of Creative Writing from the University of Auckland

Kasmara was a finalist for the Michael Gifkins Prize and won the Sir James Wallace Prize in 2016

Some of Kasmara's fiction appears in *Newsroom*, *Ko Aotearoa Tatou/We Are New Zealand* and *A Clear Dawn: New Asian Voices*

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# Belle's Secret

Outback Brides #2

Victoria Purman

Read by Jennifer Vuletic

Adult New Release

Romance | May 2024

The second instalment in the Outback Brides series from *USA Today* bestselling author Victoria Purman.

Isabella Martenson never expected to be a runaway bride. She never expected to be a bride, period. She simply has the wrong DNA to do the whole happily married thing. Until one night in Vegas with a handsome winemaker changes everything ...

A year later, Harry Harrison's bride is still a mystery. Who was she? Where was she? And why did she run? When Harry flies to Australia for his best friend's wedding, he runs straight into the woman he's never been able to forget.

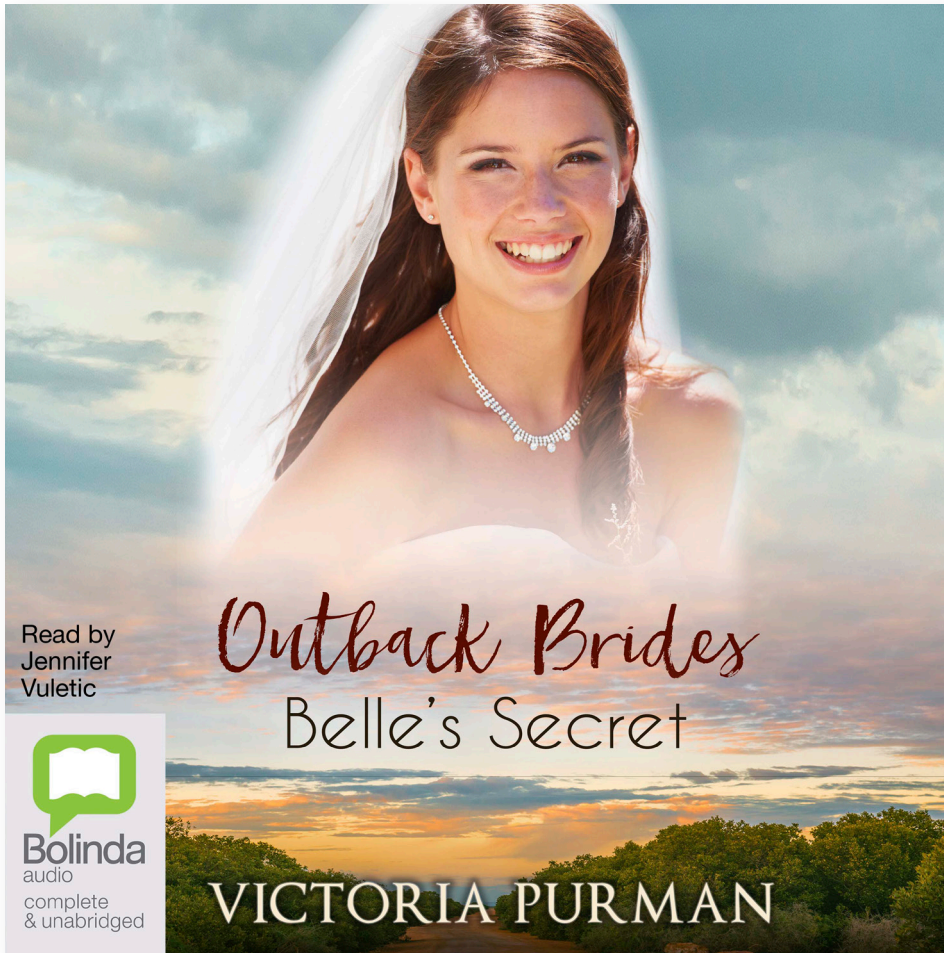
All she asks is for their marriage to be kept a secret. All he asks is for a divorce. But after a week together, Harry and Isabella are forced to face what they really want.

Outback Brides was the winner of the Australian Romance Readers Association Award for Favourite Continuing Romance Series

Victoria Purman is an Australian top ten and *USA Today* bestselling fiction author. Her titles include *The Nurses' War*, *The Women's Pages*, *The Land Girls*, *The Three Miss Allens* and *The Last of the Bonegilla Girls*

Purman is a regular guest at writers' festivals, a mentor and workshop presenter and was a judge in the fiction category for the 2018 Adelaide Festival Awards for Literature

*'Thanks to its rich Australian history, multi-dimensional characters and a story of love, ambition and resilience that will sweep you away ...'* – Mamamia (on *The Women's Pages*)



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# Faking It

Artificial Intelligence in a Human World

**Toby Walsh**

Read by the Author

Adult New Release

Science & Technology | May 2024

In this fun and fascinating audiobook, Professor Toby Walsh explores all the ways AI fakes it, and what this means for humanity – now and in the future.

Artificial intelligence is, as the name suggests, artificial and fundamentally different to human intelligence. Yet often the goal of AI is to fake human intelligence. This deceit has been there from the very beginning. We've been trying to fake it since Alan Turing answered the question 'Can machines think?' by proposing that machines pretend to be humans. Now we are starting to build AI that truly deceives us.

Powerful AIs such as ChatGPT can convince us they are intelligent and blur the distinction between what is real and what is simulated.

In reality, they lack true understanding, sentience and common sense. But this doesn't mean they can't change the world.

Can AI systems ever be creative? Can they be moral? What can we do to ensure they are not harmful?

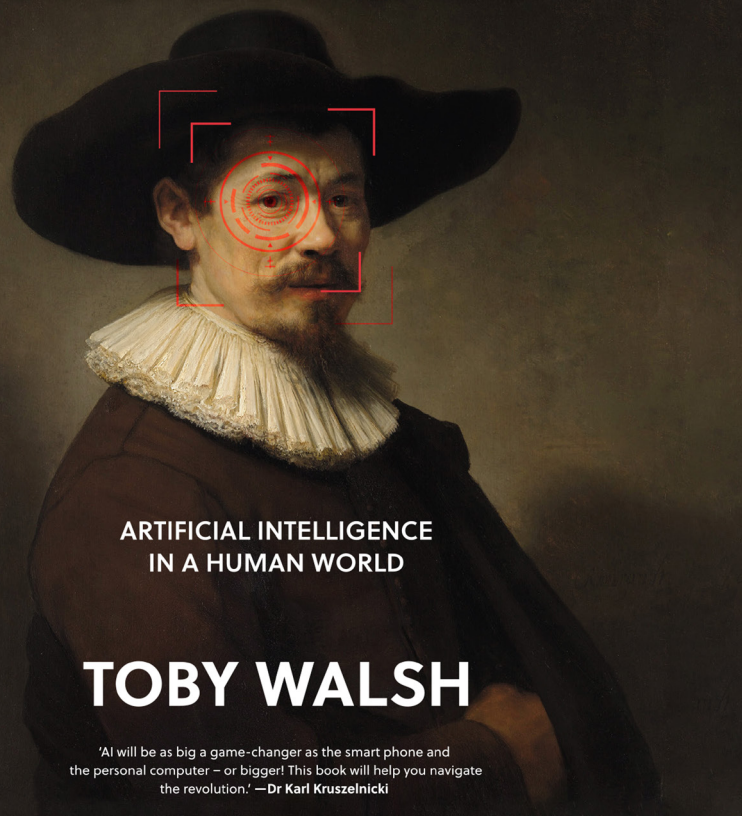
Toby Walsh is a Professor of Artificial Intelligence at the University of New South Wales and leads a research group at Data61, Australia's Centre of Excellence for ICT Research

Walsh has been elected a fellow of the Association for the Advancement of AI for his contributions to AI research, and has won the prestigious Humboldt Research Award

Walsh has previously held research positions in England, Scotland, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland and Sweden

*'Refreshingly clear-eyed ... Faking It is an insightful and intelligent book that's a must for those looking for facts about AI hype.'* – Books+Publishing

## FAKING IT



Read by  
the Author



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# Don't Stress, Just Invest

It's Time to Set Up Your Investments and Get On with Your Life

**Alec Renehan & Bryce Leske**

Read by the Authors



Building wealth in the stock market doesn't require a finance degree or days spent in front of a computer screen. This audiobook will show you the simplest way to invest.

Forget what you think about investing. Technology has made the wealth-building power of the stock market more accessible than ever. You can now get started with just a few cents.

Leading investment podcasters Alec Renehan and Bryce Leske cut to the chase in *Don't Stress, Just Invest*. They show you the absolute simplest way to invest in the stock market and explain why this straightforward, automated strategy is enough.

In four easy steps, you can access the full power of the stock market, then get on with the rest of your life.

Alec Renehan and Bryce Leske started their first podcast, *Equity Mates Investing*, in 2017

Now Equity Mates is the home of multiple award-winning podcasts and is the #1 finance and investing brand for young investors

Renehan and Leske are the authors of the bestselling *Get Started Investing*

*'This is an entertaining and valuable tool in making investing accessible to anyone.'* – Ed Kavalee, comedian and media presenter