

SPRING CATALOGUE

DUCKWORTH
FARRAGO
THE SCHOOL OF LIFE



**THE
SCHOOL
OF LIFE**

2022

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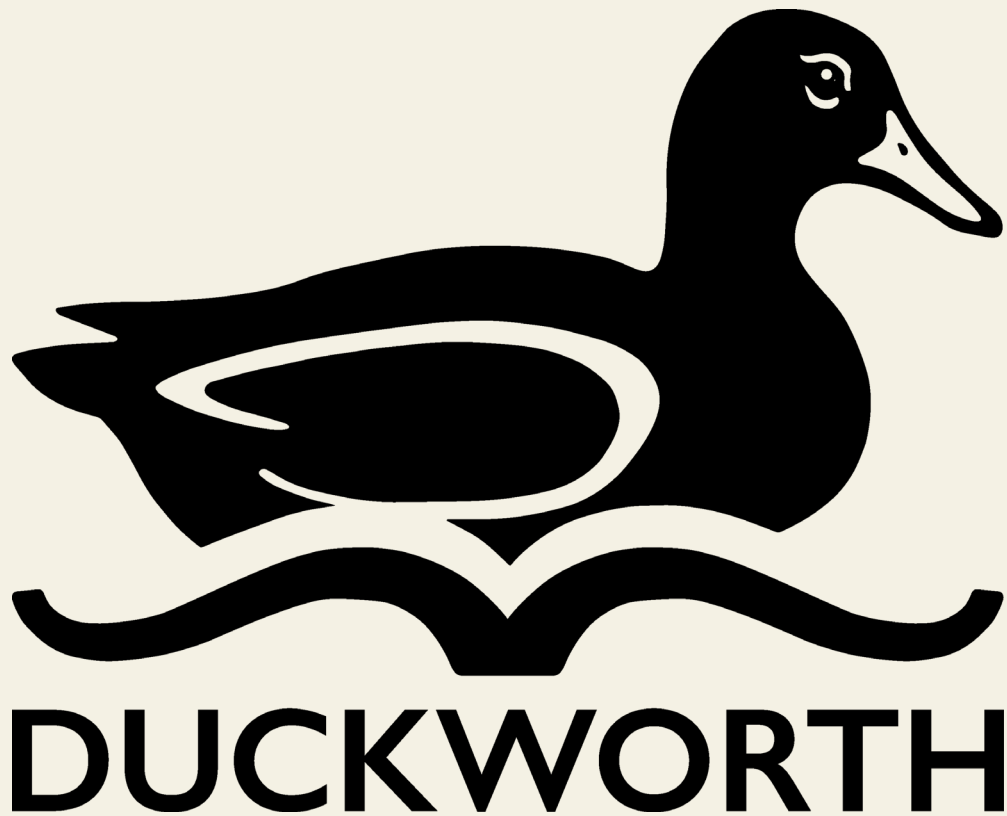
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**THE
SCHOOL
OF LIFE**



DUCKWORTH prizes great storytelling in all forms. We publish accessible, stimulating and intellectually curious works of non-fiction, including biography, memoir, science, psychology and history, as well as the most compelling historical and literary fiction.

Founded in 1898, Duckworth's heritage includes legendary authors such as D. H. Lawrence, Hilaire Belloc, Evelyn Waugh and Beryl Bainbridge. Moving with the times, among our critically acclaimed authors of recent years are Julia Child, Yu Hua, Ruth Pavey, Ray Kurzweil and Julia Parry.

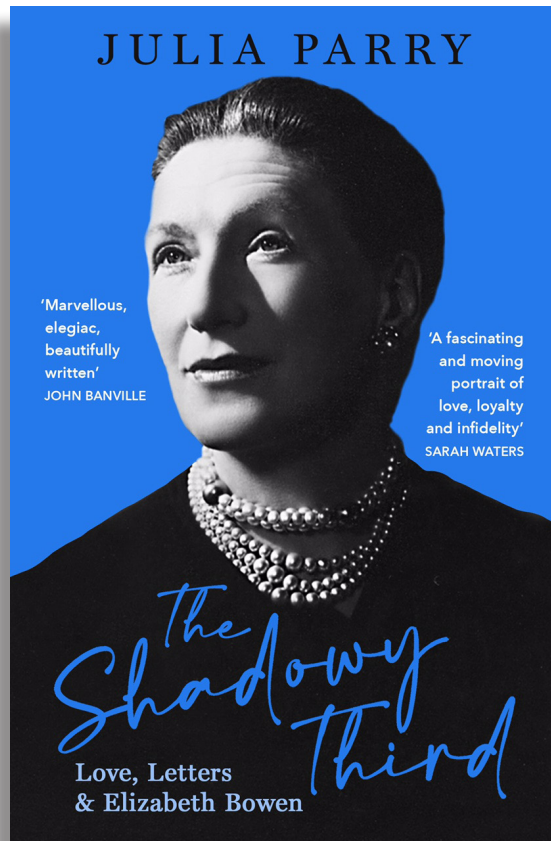


The Shadowy Third

Love, Letters and Elizabeth Bowen

Julia Parry

PAPERBACK



'A work of discovery, rebuilding a lost world with imaginative flair'

Colm Tóibín

'Marvellous, gently elegiac, beautifully written, and fascinating'

John Banville

'A vivid picture of an important and immensely gifted writer in love'

Joseph O'Connor

Critically acclaimed, this unique and compelling personal biography uncovers the hidden love triangle between novelist Elizabeth Bowen and the author's grandparents.

After a death in the family, Julia Parry is bequeathed a box of love letters which reveal an illicit affair between the celebrated novelist Elizabeth Bowen and Parry's married grandfather, Humphry House.

Drawing on the never-before-published correspondence, *The Shadowy Third* traces the overlapping lives of three very different characters through some of the most dramatic decades of the twentieth century.

3 February 2022

ISBN 9780715654491

Literary Biography

384 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Illustrations: Integrated B/W

Territories: UK C/Wealth excluding Can.

Julia Parry was brought up in West Africa and educated at St Andrews and Oxford. She teaches English literature and has worked as a writer and photographer for a variety of publications and charities. She lives in London and Madrid. This is her first book.



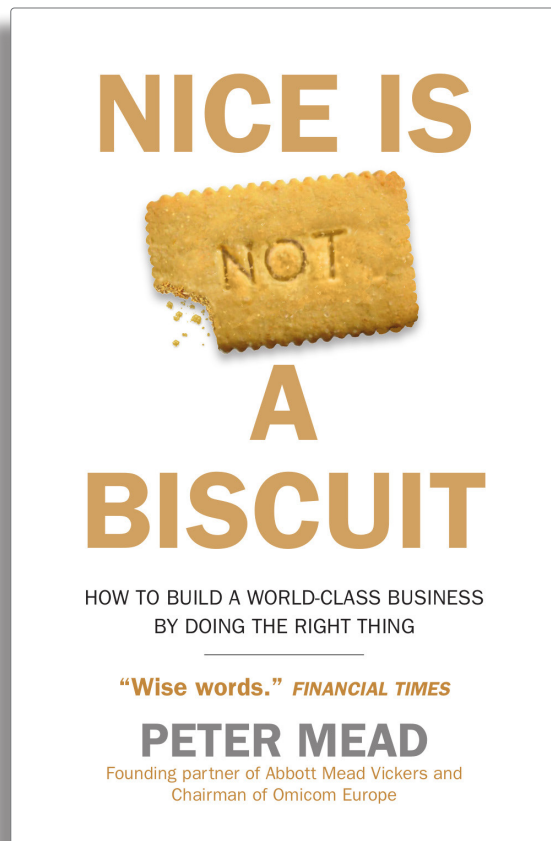


Nice is Not a Biscuit

How to Build a World-Class Business by Doing the Right Thing

Peter Mead

HARDBACK



Companies are waking up to the notion that being nice can be good for business

'The best and wisest book on advertising I've ever read'

Bernard Barnett
former editor of *Campaign*

Essential insights on how to make harmony work from one of Britain's most successful entrepreneurs and leaders

Peter Mead's spectacular career saw him co-found Abbott Mead Vickers, which grew into one of the industry's most respected and garlanded advertising agencies.

Nice is Not a Biscuit distils the most important business lessons Peter has learnt from his years at the cutting edge of advertising. In a series of short, utterly beguiling chapters it reveals the secrets of his success, and a lifetime's thought about the right way to do business in the creative industries (and beyond).

17 February 2022

ISBN 9780715654262

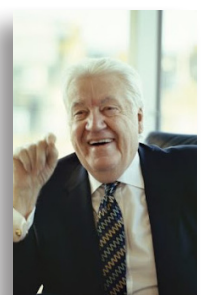
Business Management

224 pages | £9.99

A-format hardback | 178x111mm

Territories: World

Peter Mead left school at 16 and went to work for a large advertising agency, rising quickly through the ranks. In 1977, he co-founded Abbott Mead Vickers, which became, and remains, the most successful British advertising agency ever. In 2013, he received a CBE for services to the creative industries.



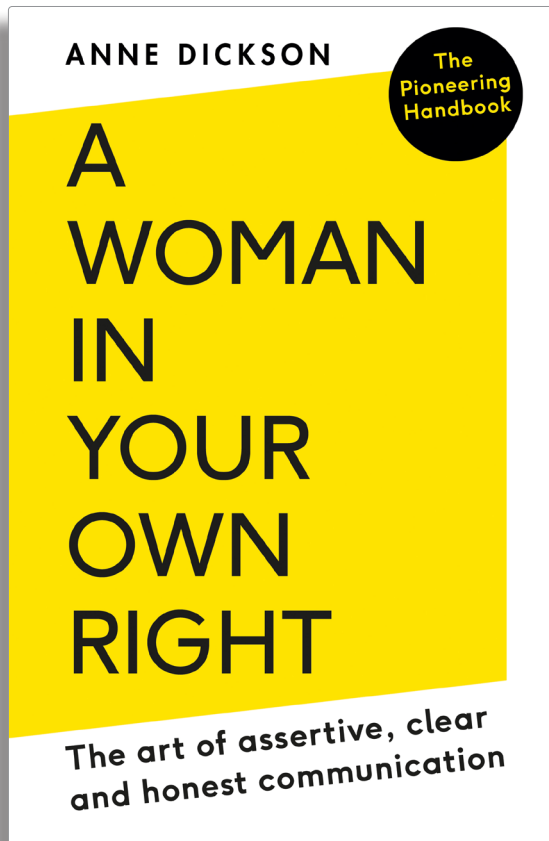


A Woman in Your Own Right

The Art of Assertive, Clear and Honest Communication

Anne Dickson

PAPERBACK



Stylish new edition

'As important as it ever was'

Angela Neustatter

'The bible for anyone who wants to get their voice heard... Invaluable'

Lesley Garner

A fully updated 40th anniversary edition of the pioneering handbook for female assertiveness – an indispensable guide to stating what you feel and want.

Despite recent advances in gender equality in education, the home and the workplace, in practice many women and girls still find it a challenge to speak up and be heard.

Psychologist and assertiveness trainer Anne Dickson draws on her long experience of in-person training to give all feminists the practical skills and tools we need to assert what we feel and want, manage difficult conversations, say 'No', and find self-acceptance.

17 March 2022

ISBN 9780715654545

Self-help & Counselling

384 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Illustrations: Integrated B/W

Territories: World

Anne Dickson is a psychologist, writer and trainer with over 40 years' experience of teaching communication skills and management of emotions. She is the author of several books, including *The Mirror Within* and *Difficult Conversations*.

What does it mean to be assertive?

More specifically, what does it mean to be an assertive woman?

Forty years ago many people believed that assertiveness training was only relevant for shy, retiring violets who needed to learn to be more outspoken and less afraid of a good fight. In some ways, though things have changed, a similar confusion exists today.

I could never have imagined how far the relevance of assertiveness would reach... it soon became clear that women of very differing cultures identified with similar problems of communication, low self-esteem, expressing anger and problems with confrontation.

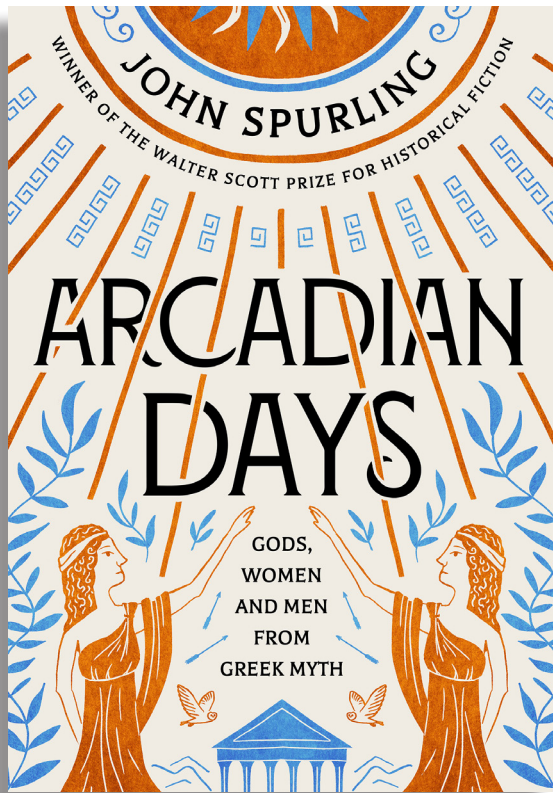
“ ”



Arcadian Days

John Spurling

PAPERBACK



'Spurling brings together his strengths as a dramatist, an art critic, and a novelist'

Michael Holroyd

28 April 2022

ISBN 9780715654583

Historical Fiction

320 pages | £10.99

Flapped B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Territories: World

**Greek myths thrillingly reimagined
in a stunning duo**

In *Arcadian Days*, award-winning novelist and playwright John Spurling restyles five male–female pairings that sealed the fates of mortals, including Prometheus and Pandora, and Odysseus and Penelope.

Arcadian Nights reimagines the legends of five great Greek heroes – Apollo, Herakles, Theseus, Perseus and Agamemnon – along with the gods, demi-gods and monsters who shaped their destinies.

28 April 2022

ISBN 9780715654569

Historical Fiction

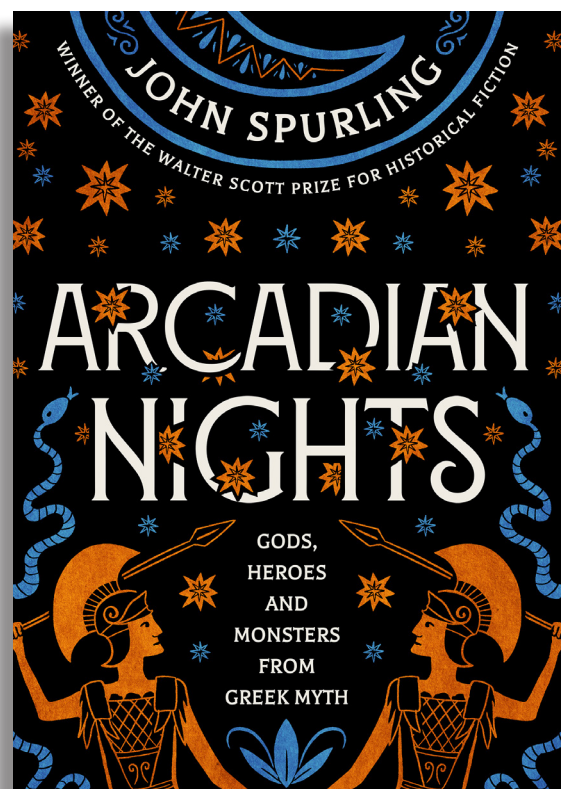
320 pages | £10.99

Flapped B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Territories: World

Arcadian Nights

PAPERBACK





Award-winning historical novelist and playwright John Spurling draws on his lifelong love and knowledge of Classical Greek drama and poetry to reanimate, with vivid wit and zest, five great male–female pairings of Greek myth.

Prometheus and Pandora

In this twisting tale of gifts, thefts and retribution, Zeus, not content with chaining Prometheus to a rock as punishment for giving Olympian fire to men, commands that Pandora be shaped from clay and sent down to mingle with the mortals. In her casket, all the bad things that torment us – we have been reopening it ever since.

Jason and Medea

When handsome Jason and his Argonauts arrive on the shores of Colchis on a fool’s errand to obtain the Golden Fleece, the dark-eyed princess Medea, granddaughter of Apollo, comes to his aid in exchange for marriage vows and escape. But the sorceress leaves a tragic trail of blood in her wake...

Oedipus and Antigone

Though fated to kill his father and marry his mother, when Oedipus is named king of Thebes he’d be forgiven for thinking the gods are on his side. But when he starts investigating who murdered his predecessor – perhaps our earliest whodunnit – all fingers seem to point back at him. Unlucky fate, his daughter Antigone is ready to do anything for her family...

Achilles and Thetis

Thetis, mother of the hero Achilles, adores him so much that, as a baby, she places him among the fire’s embers in the hope of securing immortality. Later, when war is declared against Troy, she persuades Achilles to hide among the women of Skyros. But he is fated to follow his own path. Thetis stays at his side to the end, strengthening his armour.

Odysseus and Penelope

Clever, dignified, loyal Penelope awaits the return of her husband Odysseus from Troy, besieged by suitors hoping to seize his kingdom of Ithaka. After twenty years of fending them off, she devises a challenge to win her hand. Will Odysseus, finally returned and disguised in rags, triumph?

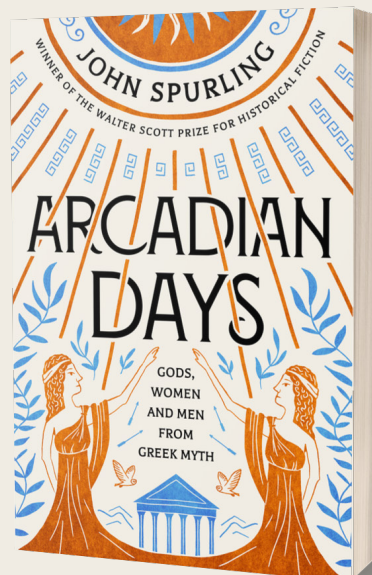
ARCADIAN DAYS

28 April 2022

Flapped B-format paperback

Historical Fiction | £10.99

ISBN 9780715654569





Digging into the stories of the five larger-than-life heroes of Greek myth, *Arcadian Nights* shows in dazzling style how – gods, heroes and kings though they are – the emotions that drove them on reverberate down the millennia.

Agamemnon

King Agamemnon, who leads the Greeks to victory in Troy, is murdered by his wife and her lover in the hour of his triumph. The double curse on his house unspools down two generations, characterized by murder, incest, blood sacrifice, and children served up in a stew. Beware, in the House of Atreus, anything that can go wrong will go wrong.

Apollo

Through a selection of myths centred on the golden god of the sun, shepherding and the arts, Spurling explores the complexities of relationships between mortals and immortals, and argues that what adds to Apollo's attractions is, perhaps, that he at times behaves more like a man than a god.

Herakles

Though gifted with strength and intelligence, being the stepson of vengeful Hera is a major drawback for Herakles. Perhaps the inspiration for evil stepmothers to come, she sends Herakles temporarily mad and, mistaking his wife and children for enemies, he slaughters them. As recompense, he undertakes his legendary Twelve Labours.

Perseus

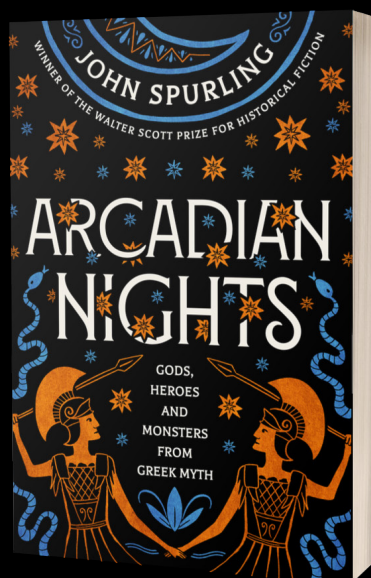
Sent away from his mortal grandfather's kingdom due to a prophecy, this son of Zeus vows to deliver the gorgon Medusa's head to his rescuer King Polydektes. Armed with powers of invisibility and flight by Hermes and the nymphs, he completes his ambitious task. But when he reveals what's in his sack, the court is rooted to the spot.

Theseus

Unlike his cousin Herakles, Theseus does not rate a constellation – but he is still a star. King of Athens, slayer of the Minotaur, deserter of Ariadne, husband to Ariadne's sister Phaedra, abductor of beautiful Helen, lover of an Amazon queen – his exploits have given birth to a thousand tales.



ARCADIAN NIGHTS
28 April 2022
Flapped B-format paperback
Historical Fiction | £10.99
ISBN 9780715654583

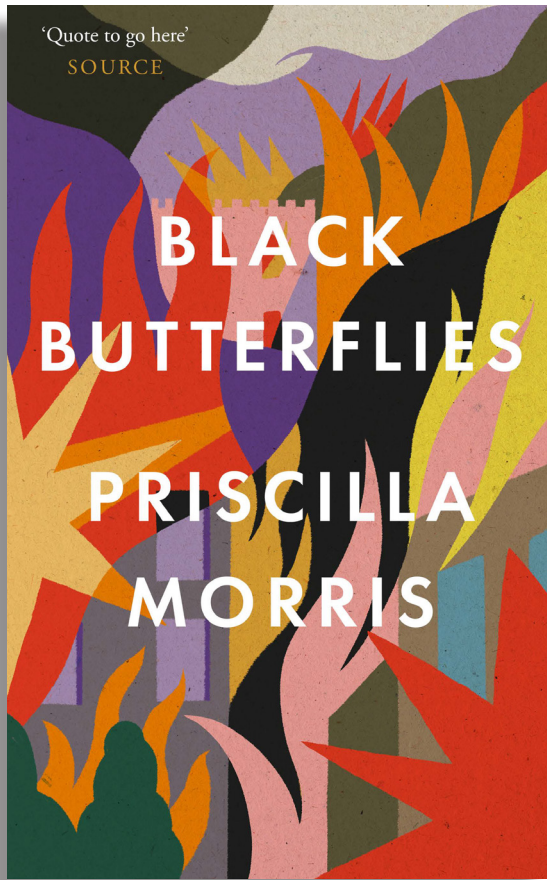




Black Butterflies

Priscilla Morris

HARDBACK



Captivating storytelling
for readers who loved
The Tiger's Wife and
The Cellist of Sarajevo

This extraordinarily affecting debut novel captures life inside the Siege of Sarajevo.

Sarajevo, spring 1992. Each night, nationalist gangs erect barricades, splitting the diverse city into ethnic enclaves.

When violence finally spills over, Zora, an artist and a teacher, sees that she must send her family to safety in England. Reluctant to leave her work, she stays behind as the city falls under siege. Everything Zora loves is laid to waste as she is forced to rebuild her life, over and over.

Inspired by real-life accounts of the longest siege in modern warfare, exactly thirty years ago, *Black Butterflies* is a heartrending and utterly captivating portrait of disintegration, resilience and hope.

5 May 2022

ISBN (HB): 9780715654590 | £16.99

ISBN (TPB): 9780715654644 | £12.99

Literary Fiction

256 pages

Demy hardback | 216x138mm

Territories: UK C/Wealth

Priscilla Morris is the daughter of a Yugoslav mother and a Cornish father. She grew up in London, spending summers in Sarajevo, and studied at Cambridge University and the University of East Anglia, where she gained her PhD in Creative Writing. *Black Butterflies* is her debut novel.

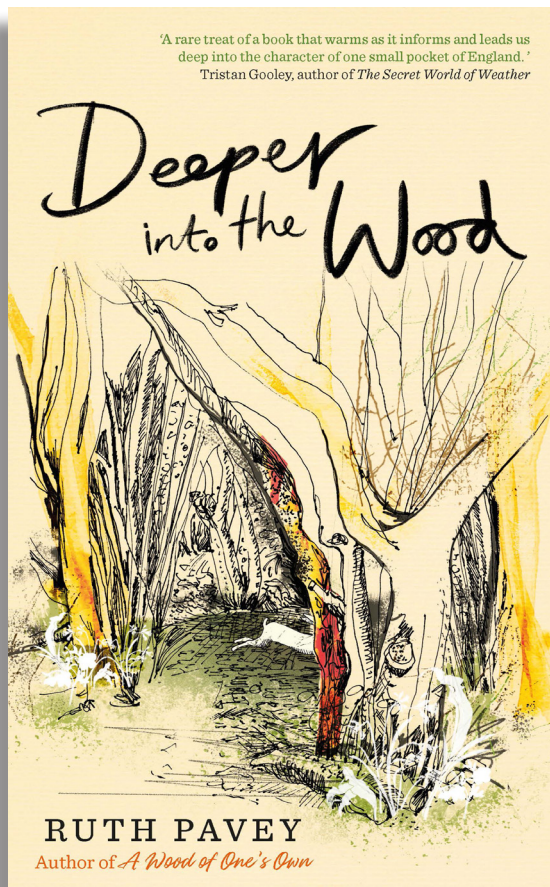




Deeper Into the Wood

Ruth Pavey

PAPERBACK



From the
much-loved author of
A Wood of One's Own

'Delightfully discursive'

Daily Mail

'A lyrical and inspiring story with
a strong environmental message'

In Your Area

A beguiling memoir that delves deeper into resilience, legacy and our connections with nature.

As steward of her four-acre woodland on the Somerset Levels, Ruth Pavey has witnessed nature's shifting forces play out in this wildlife haven. But when the rabbits suddenly vanish, it is an alarm call to learn what must be done to preserve the wood for generations to come.

Deeper into the Wood recounts a year in the life of an amateur naturalist working with wildlife experts to interpret the language of the land. Accompanied by Ruth's own illustrations, this is one woman's story of inspiration, conservation and love of place.

12 May 2022

ISBN 9780715654286

Memoir

256 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Illustrations: Integrated B/W

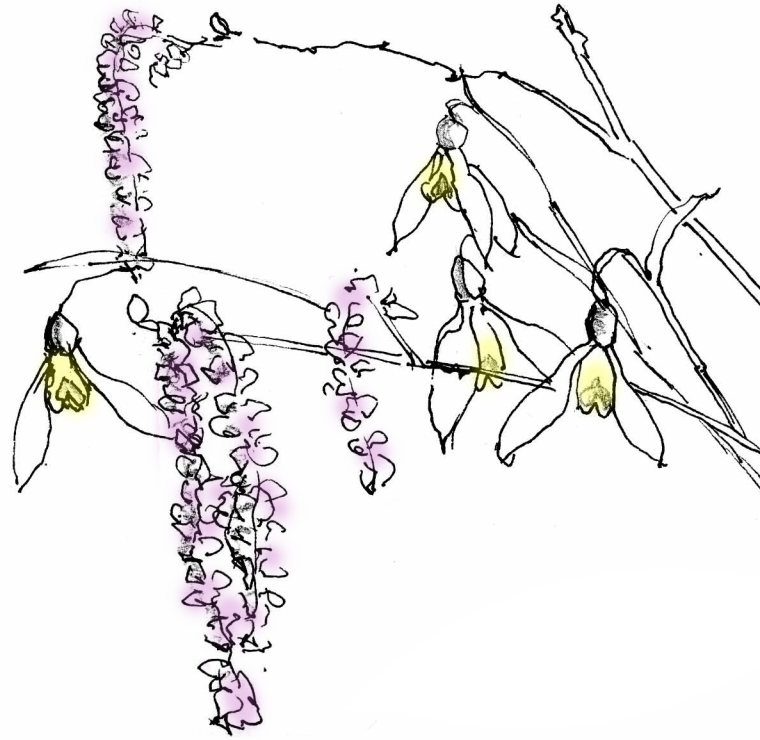
Territories: World

Ruth Pavey is the Gardening Correspondent for *Ham & High*. She attended the Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art, and her illustrated works appear in her books. Pavey has written reviews and features for publications including the *Observer*, *Guardian*, *New Statesman* and *Garden*.



'The truths that *Deeper into the Wood* tells about our rapidly changing landscapes and natural world are universal. It could make for a rather sobering, melancholy read, but Pavey's self-deprecating humour shines through and I was heartened by this tale of one woman doing her best to bravely carve out a space for wildlife, learning along the way'

Gardens Illustrated



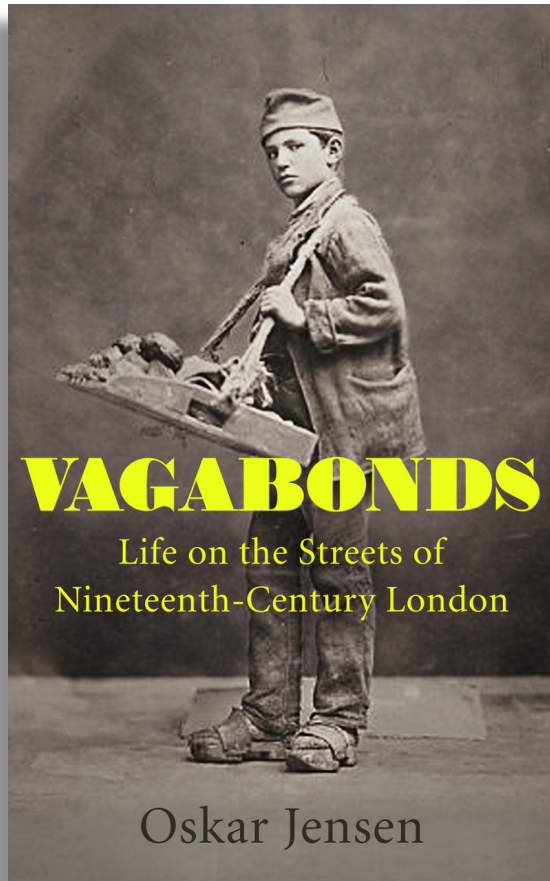


Vagabonds

Life on the Streets of Nineteenth-Century London

Oskar Jensen

HARDBACK



Peter Ackroyd's
London: The Biography
or Simon Jenkins'
A Short History of London
meets Hallie Rubenhold's
The Five.

Compelling, moving and unexpected portraits of London's poor from a rising star British historian – the Dickensian city brought to real and vivid life.

Vagabonds brilliantly – and radically – shows us the city's most compelling period (1780–1870) at street level. From beggars and thieves to musicians and missionaries, porters and hawkers to sex workers and street criers, Jensen unites a breadth of original research with first-hand accounts and testimonies to tell their stories in their own words. What emerges is a buzzing, cosmopolitan world of the working classes, diverse in gender, ethnicity, origin, ability and occupation – a world that challenges and fascinates us still.

2 June 2022

ISBN 9780715654392

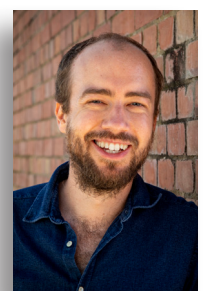
Social and Cultural History

400 pages | £20.00

Royal hardback | 234x156mm

Territories: World

Oskar Jensen is an author and academic with a doctorate in History from Christ Church, Oxford. Oskar writes for *New Statesman*, has appeared on BBC1's *Who Do You Think You Are?* and BBC Radio 3 and 4. *Vagabonds* is his first trade non-fiction book.



At first glance, he sees the usual squalor to be found when a large family lives entirely in a single space. The children are pressed to the walls, sullen, wary of this big man with his cape and stick. They appear to have no mother – at least, she is not present. There is a storage cupboard, which is suggestive of good order. Godwin lays a hand upon the latch. Perhaps his nostrils twitch: above the usual odours, to which he is not yet inured, he detects something else, worse, something that he cannot place but that tugs, insistent. Something is wrong. With a creak, the cupboard door swings open. Godwin, we can only assume, swallows back a retch.

***He “found, shut up with the bread
and some other matters,
the body of a child,
without a coffin, but decently disposed.
The child had been dead a week:
on one of the shelves was its little mug,
marked ‘Mary Ann,’
with some broken crockery.”***

*Mary Ann must have been very small,
for her corpse to be stowed on a shelf.*

But she is one of the family: she has her own mug.

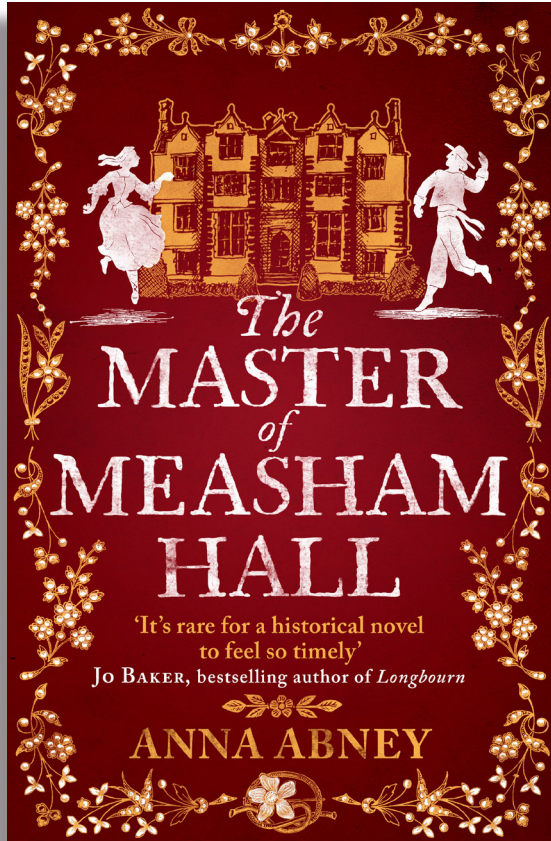
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The Master of Measham Hall

Anna Abney

PAPERBACK



'Impeccably researched and wonderfully atmospheric'

Frances Quinn

Author of The Smallest Man

'Exciting and immersive... Anna is a stunning new talent'

Nicola Cornick

Author of The Last Daughter

A gripping historical adventure novel set during the Great Plague of the 1660s.

1665: the scars of the English Civil Wars are yet to heal and now the Great Plague engulfs the land.

Alethea Hawthorne is safe inside the walls of the Calverton household as a lady's companion, awaiting the day when she can return to her ancestral home of Measham Hall in Derbyshire.

But when Alethea suddenly finds herself cast out onto the plague-ridden streets of London, a long road to Derbyshire lies ahead. She must navigate a perilous new world of militias, religious dissenters, charlatans, and a pestilence that afflicts peasants and lords alike.

23 June 2022

ISBN 9780715654507

Historical Fiction

304 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Territories: World

Anna Abney is among the last descendants of the Abney family, former residents of Measham Hall, a lost house of Derbyshire. Anna writes fiction, journalism and drama. Born and raised in London, she lived in Ireland for thirteen years, and now resides in rural Kent.





FARRAGO publishes fiction to make you smile, to tickle your funny bone. We make sure that, once you've found one funny book, there's a whole series to enjoy.

Farrago readers can trust us to bring them new series to keep the laughter going all year round.

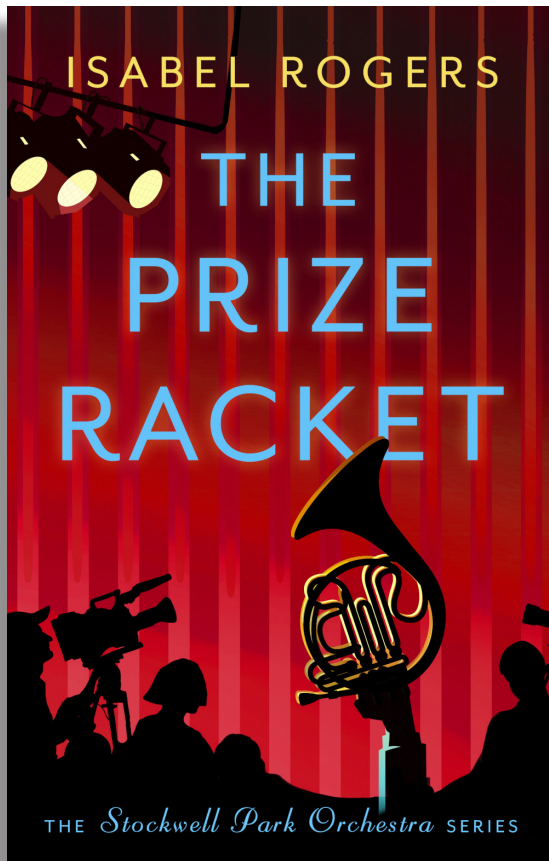


The Prize Racket

The Stockwell Park Orchestra, Book 4

Isabel Rogers

PAPERBACK



With a huge reward on the line, the Stockwell Park Orchestra will need to play on a whole new scale to win big.

Stockwell Park Orchestra is invited to take part in a TV competition for classical music. For a £50,000 prize some competitors are tempted to stretch the genre to ‘crossover’ and beyond.

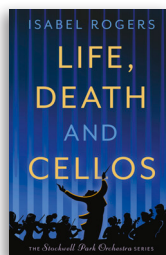
Can a full concert orchestra compete with jazz bands and Mrs Ford-Hughes singing in Portuguese with nine cellos? The TV producers aren’t worried: they know a good fight means great ratings.

What was supposed to be a quirky diversion threatens to take over the orchestra’s rehearsals for their own concert, but discovering a voting scam means they must fix things in the TV studio first.

‘Sharp, witty and richly entertaining’

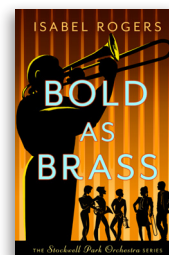
Lev Parikian

More Stockwell Park Orchestra



Book 1

9781788421119



Book 2

9781788421386



Book 3

9781788422673

20 January 2022

ISBN 9781788423991

Social Comedy

304 pages | £8.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Territories: World

Isabel Rogers writes poetry and fiction. She won the 2014 Cardiff International Poetry Competition and was the Hampshire Poet Laureate 2016. She had a proper City job before a decade in the Scottish Highlands, writing and working in the NHS.



She is on Twitter @Isabelwriter

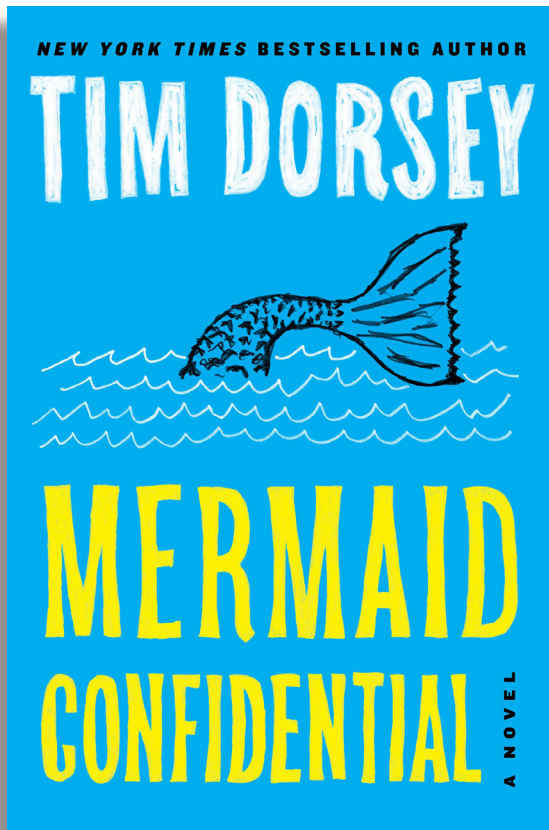


Mermaid Confidential

Serge Storms, Book 24

Tim Dorsey

PAPERBACK



If you like your humour dark and twisty, then you'll love Tim Dorsey's outrageous **Serge Storms** series of crime novels.

In this latest crime caper, Serge Storms and his permanently baked sidekick Coleman decide to pump the brakes and live on island time.

But with young vacationers who party at all hours putting their little slice of heaven on the line, Serge takes it upon himself to convince the tourists to move on, and quickly becomes a local favourite.

Meanwhile, the island chain's long and rich smuggling heritage is causing mayhem. Luckily, Florida's most lovable serial killer is there to help!

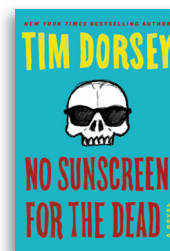
'Manic, hysterical...
I almost exploded with laughter'

Independent

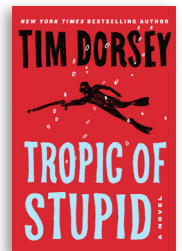
More Serge Storms



Book 1
9781911440932



Book 21
9781788421546



Book 23
9781788423595

27 January 2022

ISBN 9781788424011

Humorous Crime & Mystery

320 pages | £8.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Territories: UK C/wealth excl. Can

Tim Dorsey was a reporter and editor for the *Tampa Tribune* from 1987–99, and is the author of twenty-three previous Serge Storms novels.



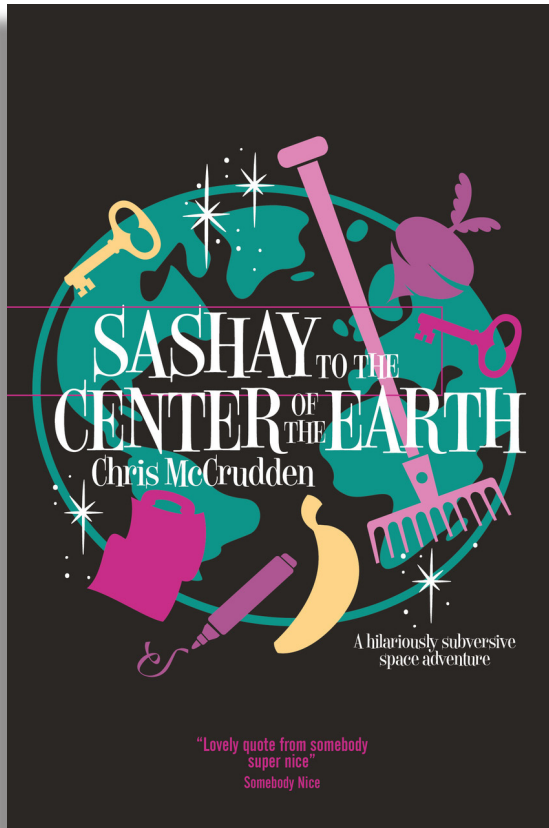


Sashay to the Centre of the Earth

Battlestar Suburbia, Book 3

Chris McCrudden

PAPERBACK



The third hilarious instalment of the anarchic Battlestar Suburbia series.

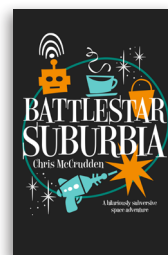
The only thing harder to win than a war is the peace that follows it... Six months after the end of hostilities that pitted man against robot, both machines and humans are still struggling to work out how they'll share custody of the solar system.

Both learn that the answers to – and possibly the causes of – all their problems lie not in space but under their feet. It's time for toasters and fleshies alike to *Sashay to the Centre of the Earth*.

'Cunning punnery...
a comic novel of our times'

Financial Times

More Battlestar Suburbia



Book 1
9781788421027



Book 2
9781788421058

17 February 2022
ISBN 9781788423779
Science-Fiction
320 pages | £8.99
B-format paperback | 198x129mm
Territories: World

Chris McCrudden was born in South Shields and has been, at various points in his life, a butcher's boy, a burlesque dancer and a hand model for a giant V for Victory sign on Canary Wharf. He now lives in London and, when not writing books, works in PR, so in many ways you could describe his life as a full-time fiction.

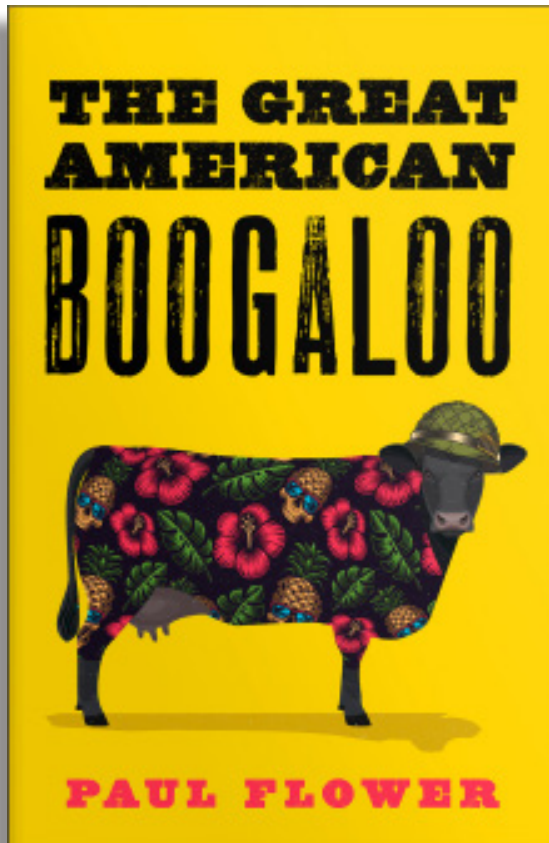




The Great American Boogaloo

Paul Flower

PAPERBACK



'A rollicking riot
of insanity'

Goodreads

31 March 2022

ISBN 9781788423861

Humorous Crime & Mystery

320 pages | £8.99

B-format paperback | 198x129mm

Territories: World

A right-wing conspiracy theory spirals out of control in this political satire for our times.

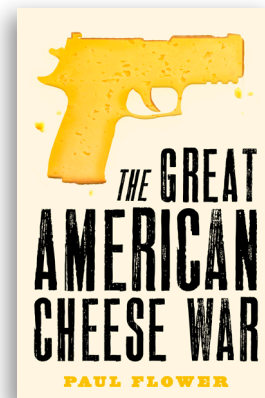
From his woodland bunker in Michigan, Bo 'Big Bruddah' Watts has assembled an army of gun-toting militiamen based all over the US. He's angry because he missed the last uprising, which ended in failure.

Bill Hoeksma, former governor of Michigan, is now nominally in charge of his late father's private military empire, Silver Eagle. But the man really running the show is octogenarian Wilbur Tuttle, fresh out of jail.

Meanwhile, amid ever more frequent climate catastrophes, rumours are circulating that the liberal, female President of the USA is going to ban beef – snatching the great American hamburger from the mouths of American patriots.

Tuttle's plan? To stage a coup in Tampa, Florida by kidnapping the President's daughter.

More Paul Flower



The Great American
Cheese War
9781788421577

Paul Flower was born and raised in Michigan and still resides there. He has been writing professionally for more than 37 years and his work has appeared in numerous national and regional magazines.



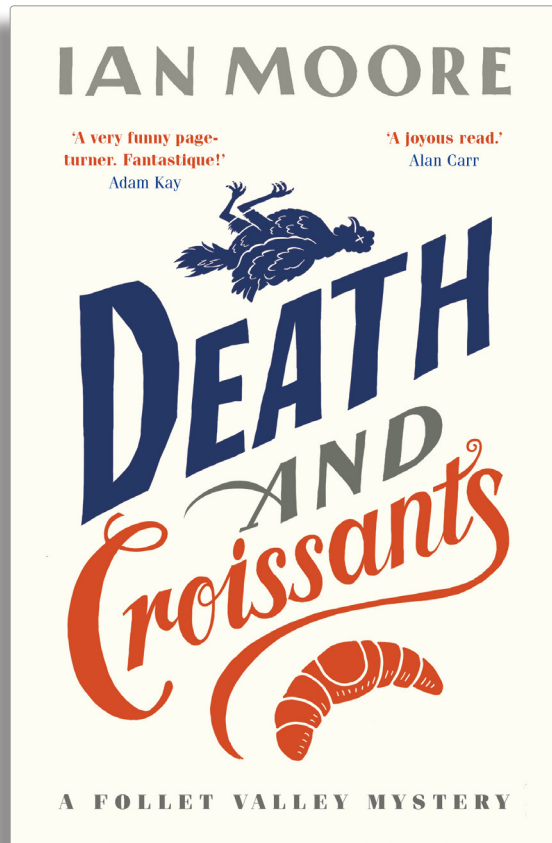


Death and Croissants

A Follet Valley Mystery, Book 1

Ian Moore

PAPERBACK



Now optioned for TV
by the producers
of Sky UK's
Agatha Raisin.

'A very funny page-turner.
Fantastique!'
Adam Kay

'Beautifully done.
Very funny indeed!'
Miles Jupp

The hit of the summer, by the leading broadcast comedian – now in paperback!

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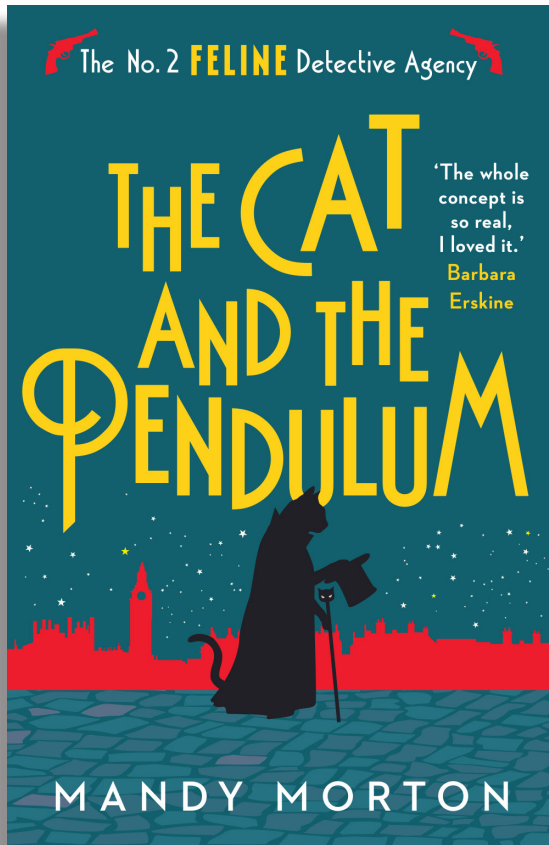


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Mandy Morton began her professional life as a musician. More recently, she has worked as an arts journalist for national and local radio. She lives with her partner in Cambridge and Cornwall.



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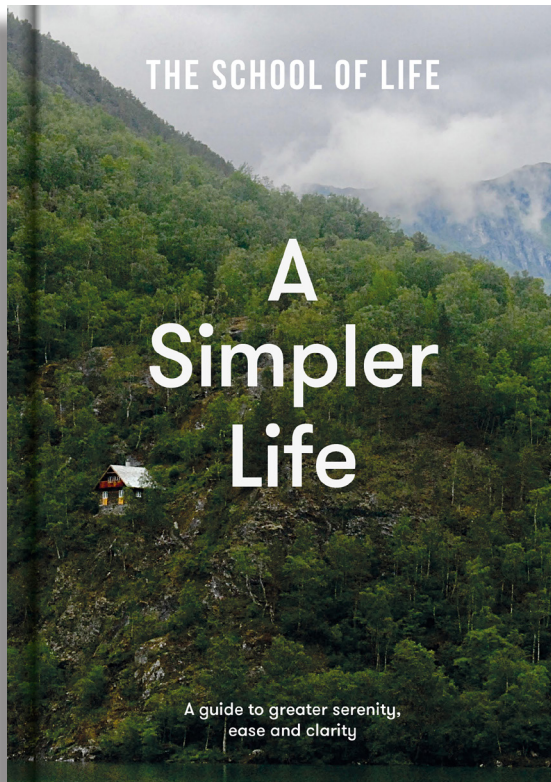
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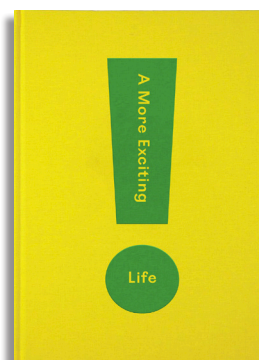
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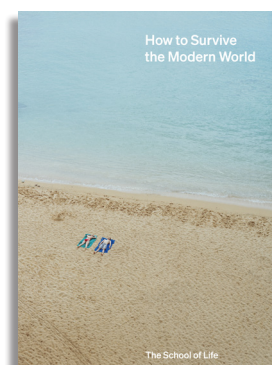
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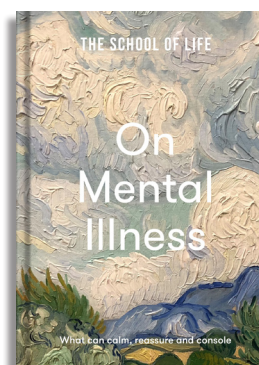
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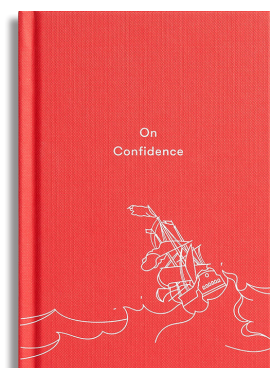
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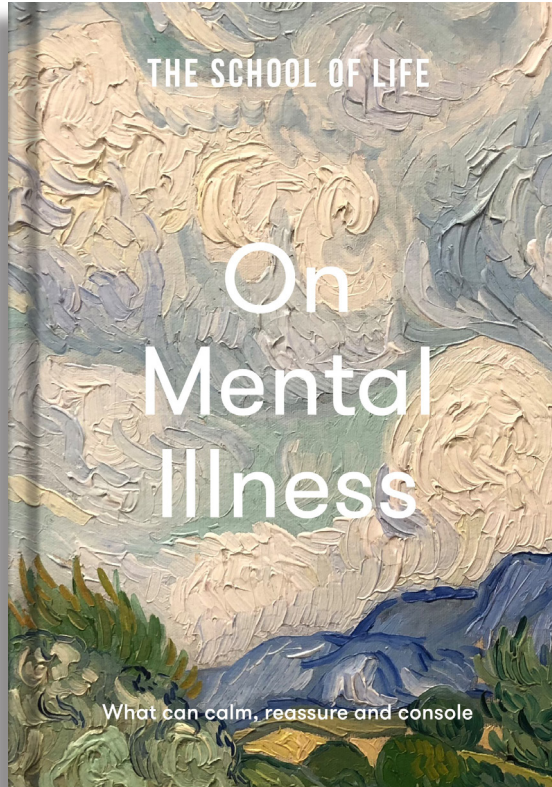


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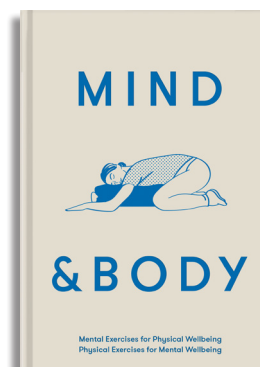
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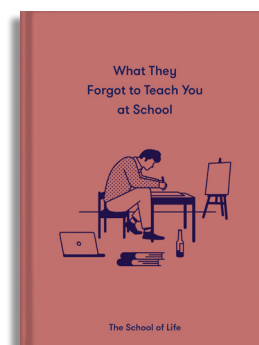
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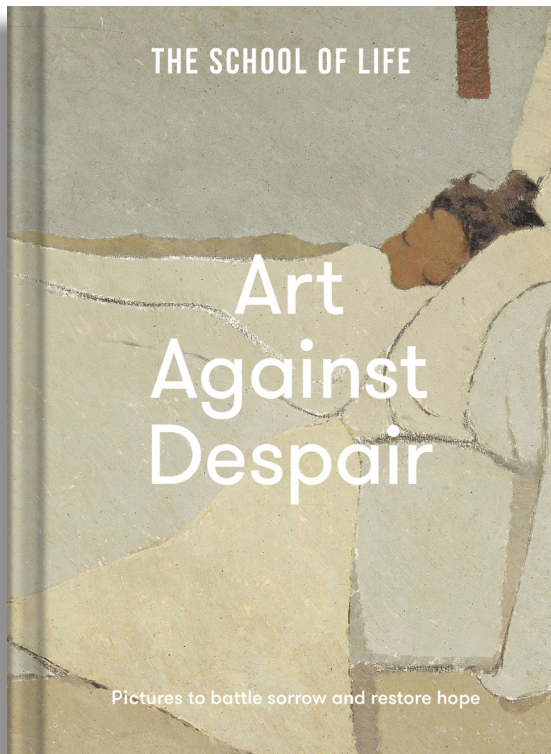


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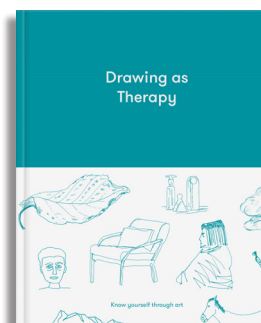
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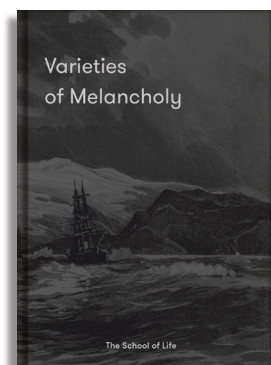
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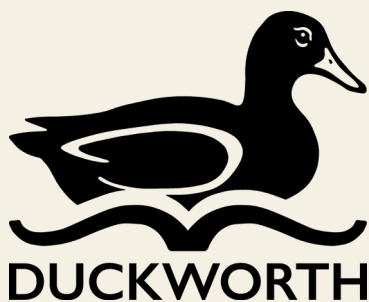


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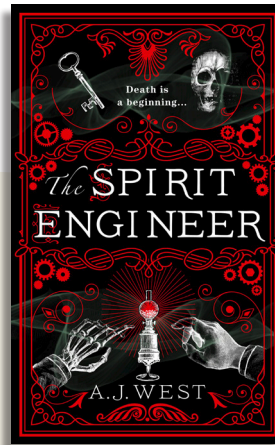
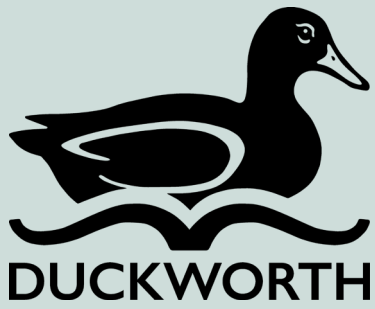


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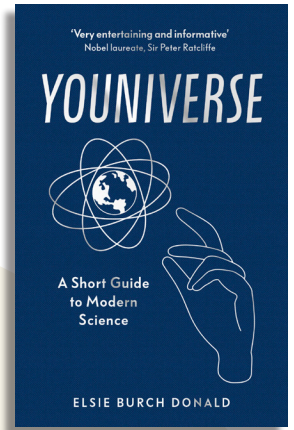
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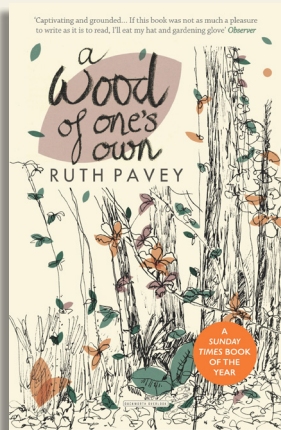
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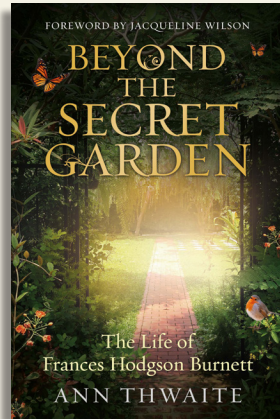
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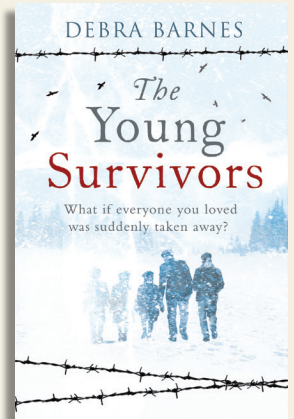
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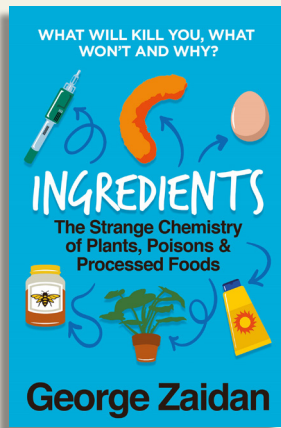
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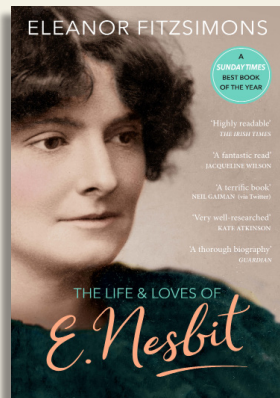
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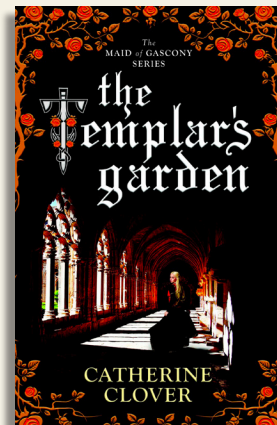
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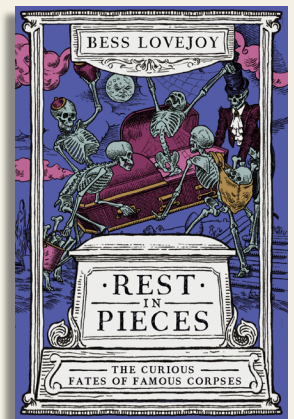
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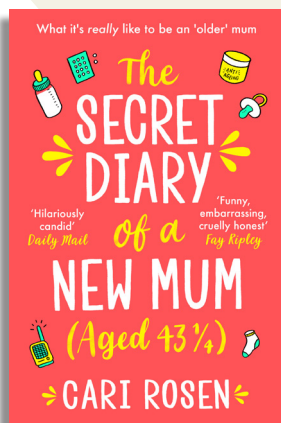
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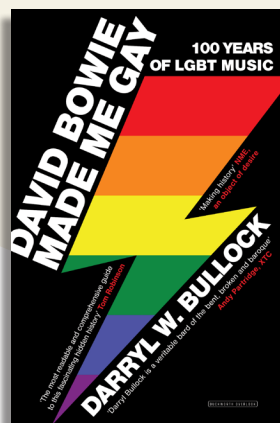
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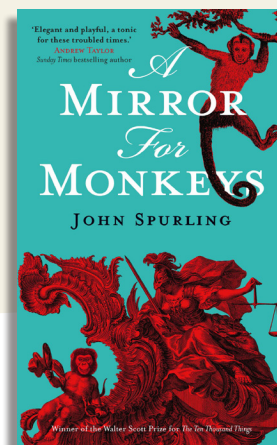
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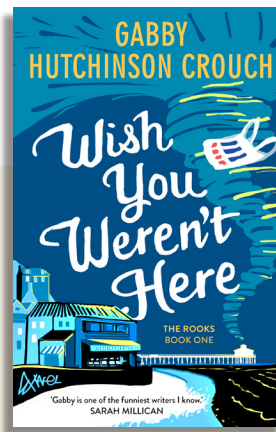


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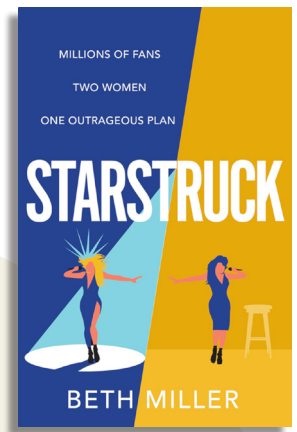


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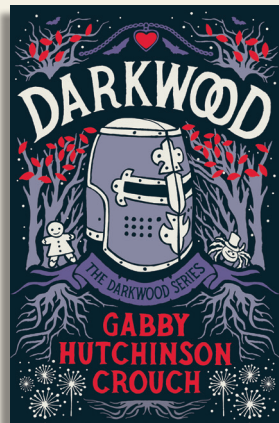
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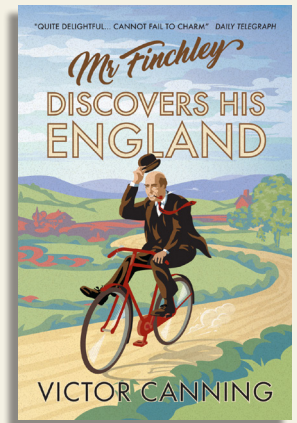
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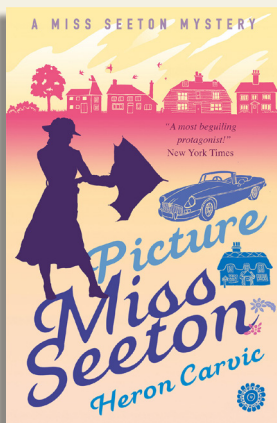
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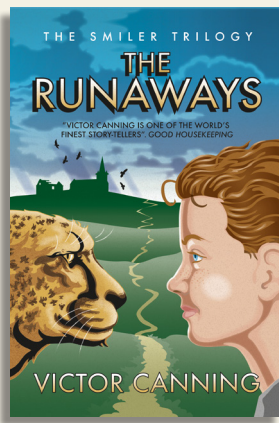
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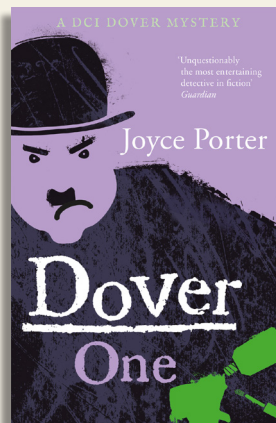
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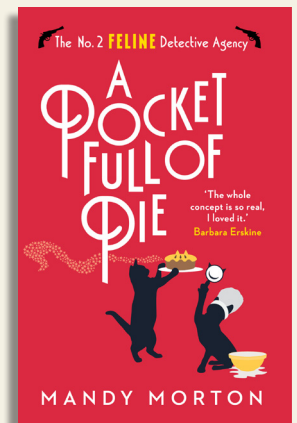
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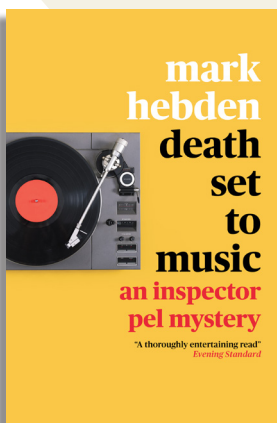
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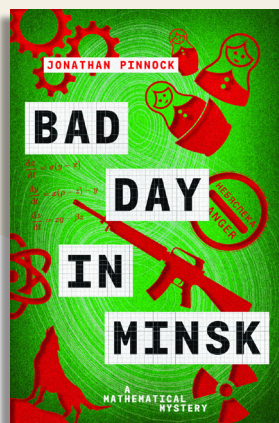
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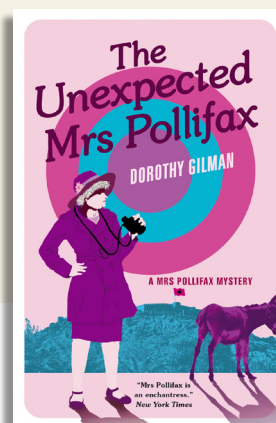
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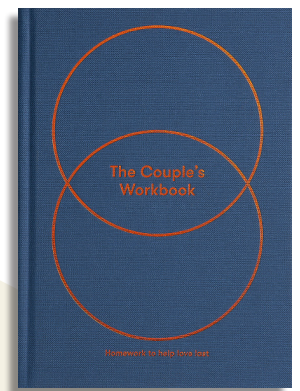


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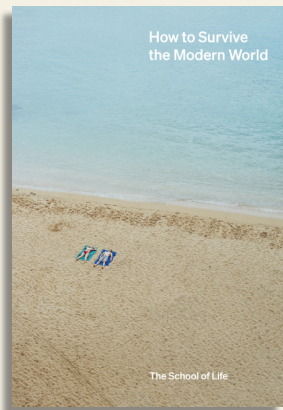
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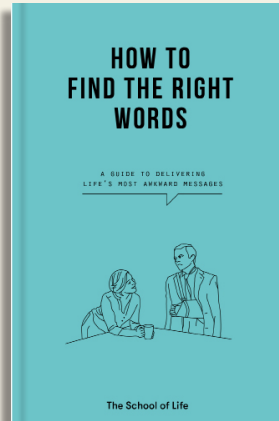
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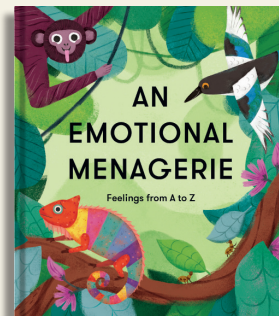
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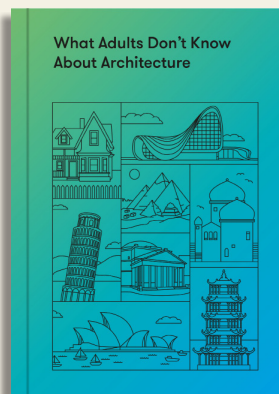
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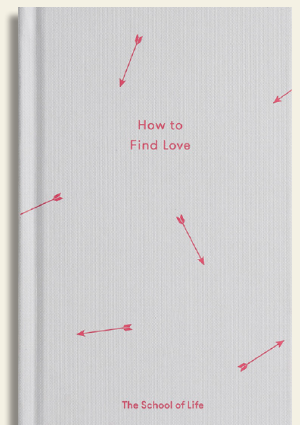
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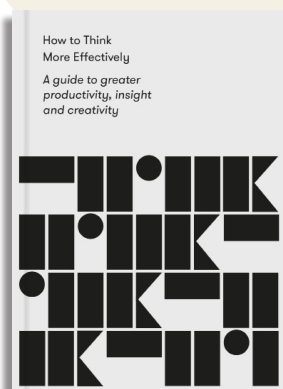
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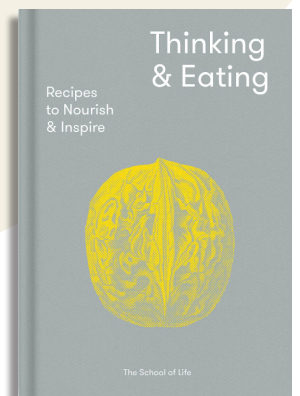
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