

Duckworth Books



Spring 2026

DUCKWORTH • FARRAGO • SEPTEMBER

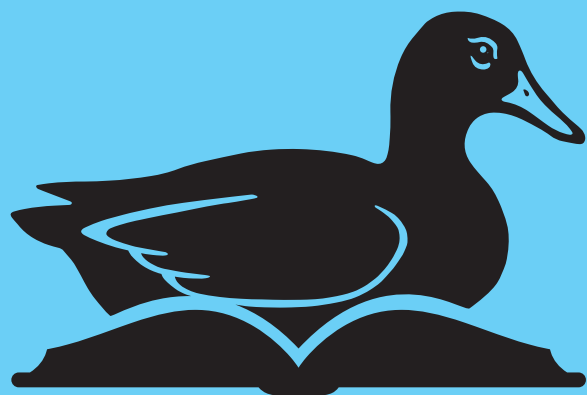
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DUCKWORTH, founded in 1898, remains one of the oldest British imprints under independent ownership.

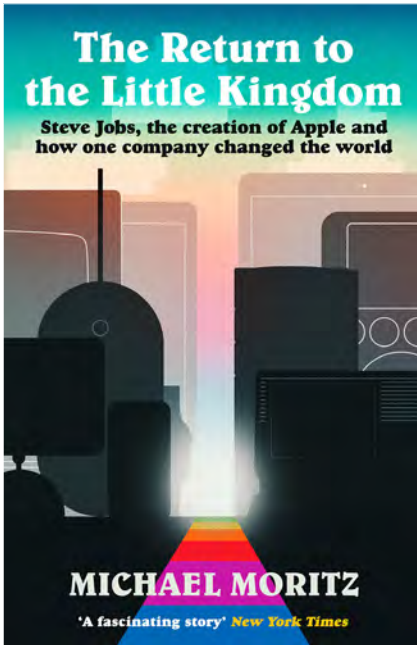
Through its history, Duckworth has published renowned authors including Virginia Woolf, D. H. Lawrence, Anthony Powell, Evelyn Waugh, Charlotte Mew, Oliver Sacks, Beryl Bainbridge and Penelope Fitzgerald.

Our mission is still to seek out and publish brilliant books for curious, independent minds. We hope you enjoy our selection for spring 2025.



DUCKWORTH

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



The Return to the Little Kingdom

Steve Jobs, the creation of Apple, and how one company changed the world

Michael Moritz

15 January 2026

ISBN 9780715656488

Memoir & biography

352 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback

Rights: UK COM ex CAN

A behind-the-scenes look at one of the world's largest global brands

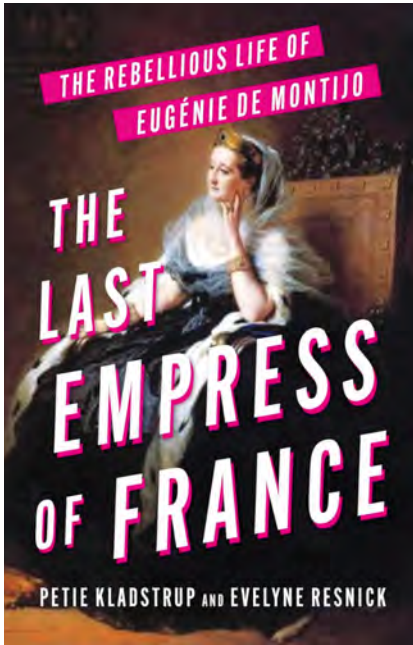
Before Apple became the most valuable company in the world, it was just an idea sparked in a garage. *The Return to the Little Kingdom* is Michael Moritz's vivid, behind-the-scenes account of Apple's explosive early years – a raw, fast-paced journey through invention, obsession and the birth of a movement.

More than a story about Steve Jobs or a scrappy start-up, *The Return to the Little Kingdom* is a rare blueprint of how enduring companies are built from nothing but vision and nerve.

'Meticulous...
the fascination never flags'
Washington Post

Michael Moritz is a former journalist and a venture capitalist. In 2007 he appeared in TIME100, and in 2008 and 2009 was ranked number 2 on Forbes' Midas List of top dealmakers in the technology industry. He lives in San Francisco with his wife and two children.

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



The Last Empress of France

The Rebellious Life of
Eugénie de Montijo

Petie Kladstrup & Evelyne Resnick

5 February 2026

ISBN 9780715656716

European history

304 pages | £11.99

B-format paperback

Rights: UK COM ex CAN

A witty and entertaining biography of one of history's most charismatic figures

In 1839, a Spanish girl with red hair ran away from a Bristolian boarding school and attempted to board a ship headed for India, in search of adventure. Her name was Eugénie de Montijo, and within fifteen years she would be Empress of France, and one of the most influential and celebrated women in the world.

The Last Empress of France is a thoughtful exploration of the century that shaped her, and which she shaped in turn.

'Delights from the very first sentence'

Martin Dugard,
author of *Taking Midway*

Petie Kladstrup is the author, together with her husband, Don, of *Wine and War: The French, the Nazis and the Battle for France's Greatest Treasure and Champagne: How the World's Most Glamorous Wine Triumphed Over War and Hard Times*.

Evelyne Resnick was born and raised in Paris. She developed an early passion for literature and history from various cultures and languages, culminating in a Ph.D. from the Sorbonne on the social status and the literary image of women writers in modern France.

HARDBACK | FICTION



A gripping debut from a major new talent in literary fiction

A homicidal couple embarks on a luxury holiday to save their marriage. After years of secrets and self-restraint, they've reached breaking point. But three days into the trip, they run into Benny, an acquaintance from their Cambridge days. And Benny is desperate to reminisce about a time – and a person – they would rather forget.

Darkly funny and razor-sharp, *I'll Be the Monster* follows a dangerous game of cat and mouse as it plays out under the stifling heat of the Mediterranean sun.

I'll Be the Monster

Sean Gilbert

'Pitch-perfect dialogue, arresting scenes and a caustic humour... one of our most promising emerging writers'

Sophie Mackintosh,
author of *Cursed Bread*

12 February 2026

ISBN 9780715656006

Literary fiction

352 pages | £18.99

Demy hardback

Rights: UK COM ex CAN

Sean Gilbert studied English at the University of Cambridge before pursuing the Creative Writing Master's at UEA. His non-fiction has appeared in *Time Out*, *Metro*, *Theatre Full Stop* and *The Holborn* and his short fiction has appeared in *Storgy*, *Short Fiction* and *Litro*. He lives in London.

📧 seangilbertwrites

HARDBACK | FICTION



Spider, Spider

L. C. Winter

5 March 2026

ISBN 9780715655825

Historical fiction

288 pages | £18.99

Royal hardback

Rights: World English

A pitch-black tale of revenge set in Victorian London

Young Nancy Ratcliffe is on the run. Her father had sought refuge for his family with the Brethren, led by the charismatic but dangerous Prophet. But now her father is gravely ill, and even the sooty streets hold less terror than the brutality of Brethren Hall.

Meanwhile, Spider is biding her time. Wrapped in dreams and visions, she paces the dark corridors and hidden staircases of the crumbling house she grew up in.

Jet-black and thrilling, *Spider, Spider* is an unforgettable tale of a woman who has lost herself in the poison of vengeance, and the knife-sharp girl who might just bring her back.

‘Prepare to be glued to every creeping word’

Essie Fox,
author of *The Fascination*

L. C. Winter is the pen name of Libby Cutts. Cutts grew up in East Anglia, and studied English Literature at the University of Wales, Bangor. *Spider, Spider* is her first novel. When not writing she works as a professional gardener.

@libbythescribbler

libbyscribbles.com

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



The London Underground

50 Things To See and Do

Geoff Marshall & Vicki Pipe

19 March 2026

ISBN 9780715656563

Transport, young adult non-fiction

128 pages | £10.99

Paperback (second edition)

Rights: World All Languages

Discover the top 50 exciting things to do and see on the London Underground

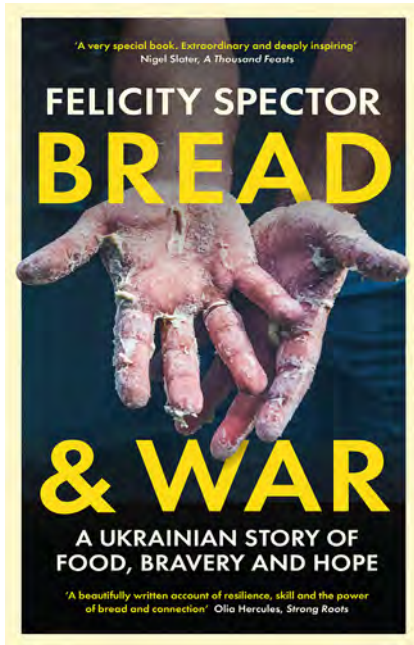
Explore the rarest routes, take historic rides, visit abandoned stations, uncover secret shortcuts, discover letter-based odysseys and embark on unique Tube challenges with this lively, interactive book.

Bursting with facts and activities, this book will inspire children – and adults – to seize the moment and explore the hidden world of London's Underground.

Geoff Marshall is a freelance video producer who makes transport films for his own YouTube channel *All The Stations* (83k subscribers and 20m views). He is also a tour guide for *Hidden London*.

Vicki Pipe is a museum education professional, and also a video presenter, artist and improviser.

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



How do you source, cook and take joy in food in the midst of war and loss?

Food is a weapon, a lifeline, a means of survival. Ukrainian food is also a powerful symbol of national identity and independence.

This is a journey through mine-ridden, wrecked villages, repeatedly bombed cities, family kitchens and precarious small bakeries and cafes.

Along the way news journalist and food writer Felicity Spector shares meals with soldiers, travels supply lines with volunteers and is fed incredible food by army cooks, fine bakers and home-cooking heroes.

Bread and War

A Ukrainian Story of Food, Bravery and Hope

Felicity Spector

'Stories of kindness, bravery and love shine from these pages'

Nigel Slater

2 April 2026

ISBN 9780715656242

Food & society

256 pages | £12.99

B-format paperback

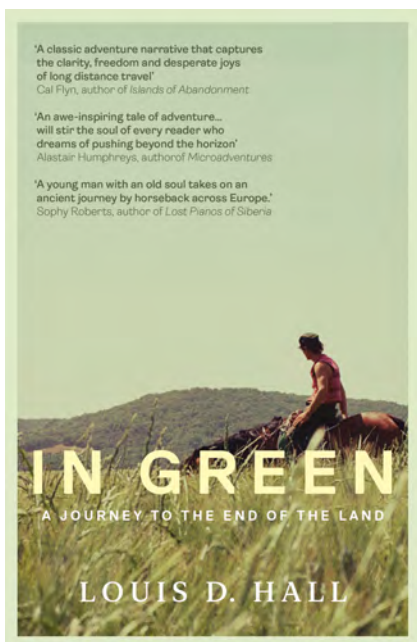
Rights: World English

A senior producer for *Channel 4 News*, **Felicity Spector** has been a television journalist for 34 years. An influential Instagrammer and Substacker, she has built a following of more than 130,000 through sharing her adventures in restaurants and home baking.

📷 @felicityspector

🌐 fspector.substack.com

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



In Green

A Journey to the End of the Land

Louis D. Hall

14 May 2026

ISBN 9780715656235

Travel writing

304 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback

Rights: World All Languages

One man's journey on horseback across Southern Europe

In his mid-twenties, city-bound and restless, Louis D. Hall found himself uncertain. How to create a life he wanted to lead? Inspired by Don Quixote, he decided to fulfil a childhood dream – to make an uncharted journey on horseback.

After finding his horse, Sasha, in Italy's Apennine Mountains, Louis set off and headed west. His destination: Cape Finisterre, 'the end of the land'.

Using old and forgotten routes, guided by strangers and nature's clues, the travellers unravel into a wilder way of life; united by the mysteries of the horse, enticed by the illusions of adventure.

'An emotionally taut, beautifully written book for eternally restless romantics'

Sophy Roberts

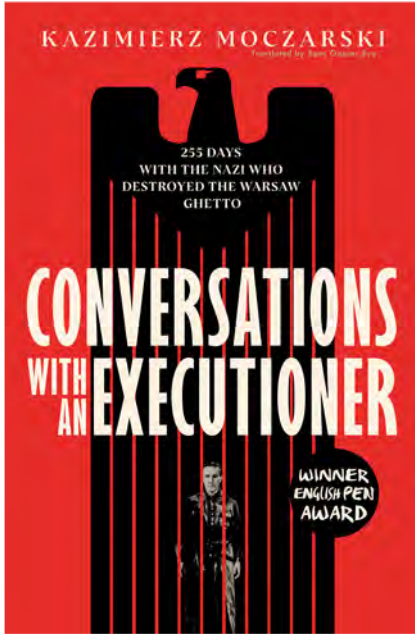
author of *The Lost Pianos of Siberia*

After growing up in Scotland, Louis D. Hall went on a trip to northern Mongolia, aged 18, in search of the Tsaatan tribe. It was on this trek that he first encountered the connecting powers of the horse. After his 110-day journey, Louis returned to Scotland to work for NGO Insulate Ukraine. He is also the founder of The Big Hoof, a Scottish mental health charity.

📷 @louis.d.hall

🌐 louisdhall.com

HARDBACK | NON-FICTION



Conversations with an Executioner

255 Days with the Nazi who
Destroyed the Warsaw Ghetto

Kazimierz Moczarski

Translated by Sean Gasper Bye

14 May 2026

ISBN 9780715655771

Autobiography

544 pages | £25.00

Royal hardback

Rights: World English Language

**A masterful insight into the mind
of one of history's most
brutal war criminals**

Warsaw, 1949: freedom fighter and journalist, Kazimierz Moczarski is being held in a maximum security prison. A survivor of the Warsaw Uprising, he is horrified to find himself locked up in a cell with the notorious Nazi official responsible for the destruction of the Warsaw Ghetto: Jürgen Stroop.

For 255 days Stroop talks to Moczarski of his life, entirely unrepentant of his crimes.

Conversations with an Executioner is Moczarski's first-hand account of these extraordinary exchanges and an unflinching examination of some of humanity's darkest moments.

Kazimierz Moczarski was born in Warsaw in 1907, and studied law at Warsaw University and the Sorbonne. During the Nazi Germany occupation of Poland, he fought as an officer in the Polish Resistance. In 1945, he was arrested by the new Communist regime as an enemy of the state, and was sentenced to ten years in prison. He died in 1975.

Sean Gasper Bye is a translator from Polish. His translations have won the EBRD Literary Prize and the Asymptote Close Approximations Prize.

TRADE PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



On Thin Ice

A Journey in Siberia, and Prison
in Putin's Russia

Charlie Walker

11 June 2026

ISBN 9780715656730

Travel writing

304 pages | £16.99

Trade paperback

Rights: World English

The astonishing account of one man's solo trek through the icy wastes of Siberia

In early 2022, Charlie Walker set out to hike 600 miles along Siberia's frozen rivers. But on 24 February, Russia invaded Ukraine, with devastating consequences.

What had begun as an adventure swiftly descended into a paranoid nightmare, as Walker began to suspect he was being surveilled by the Russian authorities.

On Thin Ice juxtaposes the harsh beauty of a Siberian winter with a thriller-like series of events that exposes the dark heart of Putin's propaganda machine.

'One of the most inspiring, thought provoking and memorable talks I've ever heard. Charlie is a fluent, engaging and witty speaker '

Chalke History Festival

Charlie Walker is an award-winning explorer, author and international keynote speaker. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, a Scientific Exploration Society Explorer Award winner, and the author of *Through Sand & Snow* and *On Roads That Echo*.

@cwexplore

cwexplore.com

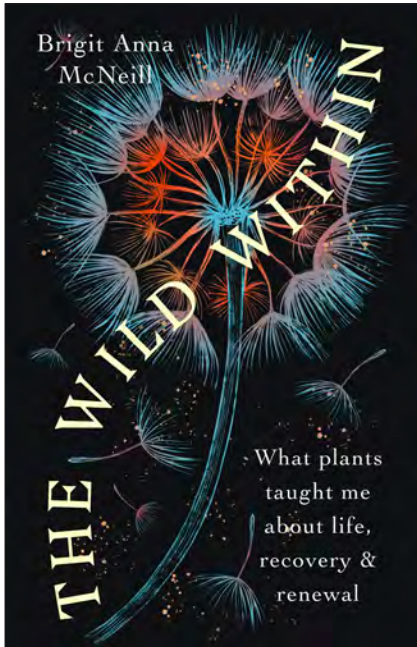
SEPTEMBER is a list of intelligent and beautifully produced non-fiction and fiction. Founded in 2014 our titles focus on transforming readers' worlds.

Books in which to lose yourself... and find yourself.

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PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



The Wild Within

What Plants Taught Me about
Life, Recovery and Renewal

Brigit Anna McNeill

8 January 2026

ISBN 9781914613258

Nature writing & self-development

320 pages | £14.99

Demy paperback with flaps

Rights: World All Languages

Echoing the journey of a plant itself, this is a personal exploration of rewilding and recovery

In a series of beautifully written, viscerally alive chapters, eco-psychotherapist and herbalist Brigit Anna McNeill tells her own story and explores the lives of the plants in her wooded Devon landscape.

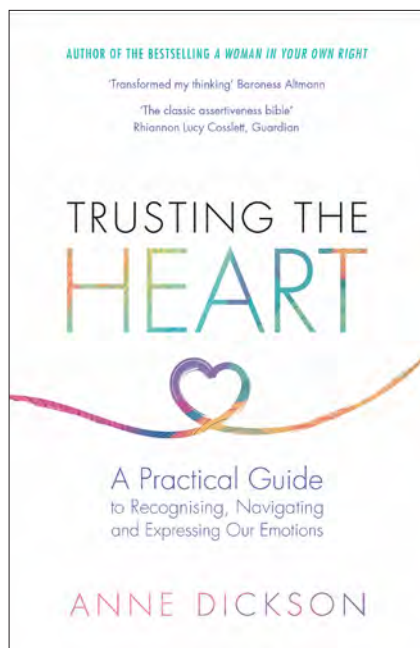
She explains how the natural cycle of dispersal, growth and bloom can inspire our recovery from trauma, stress and illness.

Scattered with beautiful illustrations, this gloriously uplifting book will both inform and transform reader's daily lives.

Brigit Anna McNeill is an eco-psychotherapist and herbalist, and the author of *Bloom & Thrive: Essential Healing Herbs and Flowers*. She has over 58,000 followers on Instagram: @brigitannamcneill. She lives in Dartington, Devon.

📷 @brigitannamcneill

🌐 brigitannamcneill.substack.com



An accessible guide to identifying and trusting our emotions, by the author of *A Woman in Your Own Right*

Not everyone finds it easy to say what they feel, or even know what they feel.

In *Trusting the Heart*, Anne Dickson brings a wealth of personal and professional experience to helping us understand and process our emotions.

She explains how we can live with and learn from our feelings more productively, and above all makes clear that emotion is part of everyday life and not a problem.

Trusting the Heart

A Practical Guide to Recognising, Navigating and Expressing Our Emotions

Anne Dickson

15 January 2026

ISBN 9780715656310

Psychology & self-development

256 pages | £12.99

B-format paperback

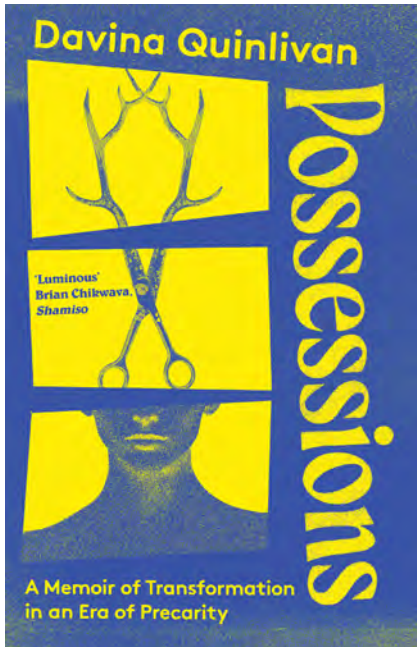
Rights: World All Languages

Anne Dickson is a psychologist, counsellor, trainer and writer with over 40 years' experience. Her book *A Woman in Your Own Right* has remained in print since first published in 1982 and has been translated into thirteen languages.

📷 @annedickson

🌐 annedickson.co.uk

HARDBACK | NON-FICTION



An exquisitely written account of one woman's awakening

After two decades of academia, Davina Quinlivan – and the world of university education – were approaching crisis.

Yet as a child of Anglo-Burmese parents, growing up in West London, education had promised a way out, a route to sophistication and belonging.

Haunted by the ghosts of colonialism, *Possessions* beautifully lays bare our blind spots as we grapple with decolonisation and the hypocrisies within our institutions of education.

Possessions

A Memoir of Transformation
in an Era of Precarity

Davina Quinlivan

'Told in stunningly beautiful prose, it's
impossible not to be moved by
this story'

Angharad Hampshire,
author of *The Mare*

29 January 2026

ISBN 9780715656044

Memoir

240 pages | £18.99

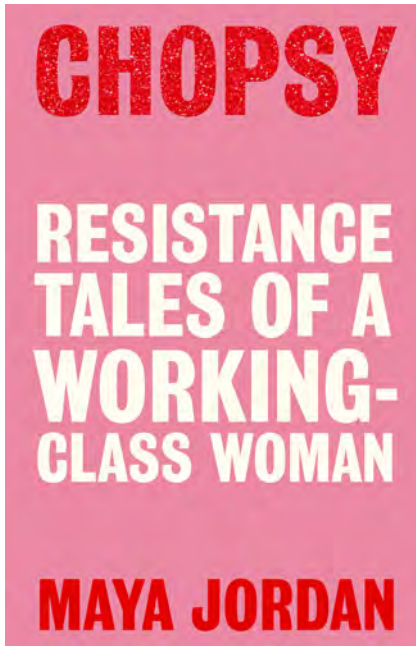
Demy hardback

Rights: World All Languages

Davina Quinlivan is a research fellow at the Department of English and Creative Writing at the University of Exeter. Her writing has appeared widely, and she is the author of *Shalimar* (Little Toller).

📷 @qdavina

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



Chopsy

Resistance Tales of a
Working-Class Woman
Maya Jordan

19 February 2026

ISBN 9780715656136

Memoir

320 pages | £14.99

Demy paperback

Rights: World English

A sharply funny account of a life lived in triumphant opposition

Underestimated and overlooked at each stage and age, Maya Jordan's ambition and resilience was born in the library and nourished by reading and the Open University.

Furious and rousing, *Chopsy* is a collection of resistance tales – through early motherhood, precarious housing, caring responsibilities and chronic disability – to the point where one woman finally seizes her right to write.

'If love and grief and despair and possibility all make sense to you – then you want to read this'

Stella Duffy,
author of *The Room of Lost Things*

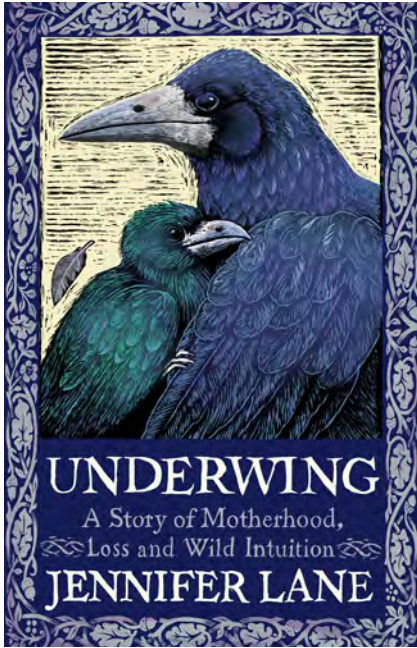
'A curse on being ordinary! Wrong is not her name. Her name is Maya Jordan. She is a noisy woman and we should fear her'

Michael Sheen

Maya Jordan was selected by A Writing Chance, a programme launched by actor and writer Michael Sheen with New Writing North, to support working-class writers. Her work has been performed by Sheen for BBC Radio Wales' *Margins to Mainstream*.

📷 @maya_jordan_writes
🌐 borderinggrey.com

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



A memoir of pregnancy, loss and motherhood from the nature and witchcraft writer Jennifer Lane

When Jennifer Lane finally fell pregnant she and her partner were overjoyed. But it was not an easy pregnancy and her journey towards motherhood was, in the end, a journey of loss.

In the wake of her traumatic grief and physical recovery, Jennifer – a practising green witch – was left questioning everything.

A healing and comforting book for anyone who has ever struggled with pregnancy or motherhood and is desperate to find solace in the natural world.

Underwing

A Story of Motherhood, Loss
and Wild Intuition

Jennifer Lane

12 March 2026

ISBN 9781914613500

Memoir

224 pages | £14.99

Demy paperback with flaps

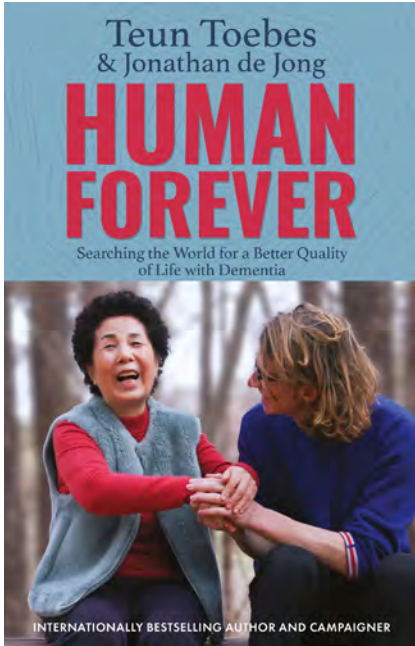
Rights: World English

Jennifer Lane is a green witch and nature writer with a background in wildlife communications. She is the author of *The Wheel: A Witch's Path to Healing Through Nature* and *The Witch's Survival Guide: Spells for Healing From Stress and Burnout*. As a journalist she has written for *Vogue*, the *Guardian* and the BBC.

📷 @thegreenwitchwriter

🌐 thegreenwitchwriter.substack.com

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



Human Forever

Searching the World for a Better Quality of Life with Dementia

Teun Toebes

9 April 2026

ISBN 9780715656570

Social science

256 pages | £12.99

B-format paperback

Rights: World English excl. Netherlands

A journey to explore how dementia is dealt with around the world

Twenty-four-year-old care innovator Teun Toebes has a mission: to improve the quality of life of people living with dementia.

After his international bestseller *The Housemates* made headlines across Europe, Teun Toebes travelled to explore how communities and care systems are handling dementia care around the world, from South Africa to New Zealand, Norway to Japan.

The hopeful findings he shares in *Human Forever* suggest cross-cultural ideas for making the future more inclusive for people living with dementia.

'Toebes' vision for the future of care is one in which we all pitch in'

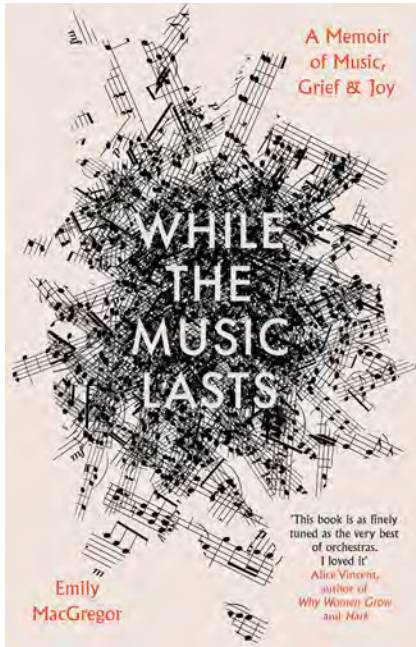
The Times

Teun Toebes is a care ethicist and humanitarian activist who fights to improve quality of life for people living with dementia. His previous book, *The Housemates*, was translated into English, German, Italian and Arabic and was a number one bestseller in Denmark.

📷 @teuntoebes

🌐 teuntoebes.com

PAPERBACK | NON-FICTION



A healing journey to rediscover the purpose of making and participating in music

When her father dies, music historian and trombonist Dr Emily MacGregor finds that music has become too much.

Listening to, let alone playing, music is suddenly too difficult. This is problematic given that she's a broadcaster, writer and academic working with classical music.

This predicament leads her on a journey of discovery. What is it about our experience of music that cuts so sharply to the heart of our emotions? And why is it more than any other artform painfully, exquisitely crucial in the evoking of memories?

While the Music Lasts

A Memoir of Music, Grief and Joy

Emily MacGregor

'As finely tuned as the very best of orchestras'

Alice Vincent,
author of *Hark*

7 May 2026

ISBN 9780715656266

Memoir

320 pages | £10.99

B-format paperback

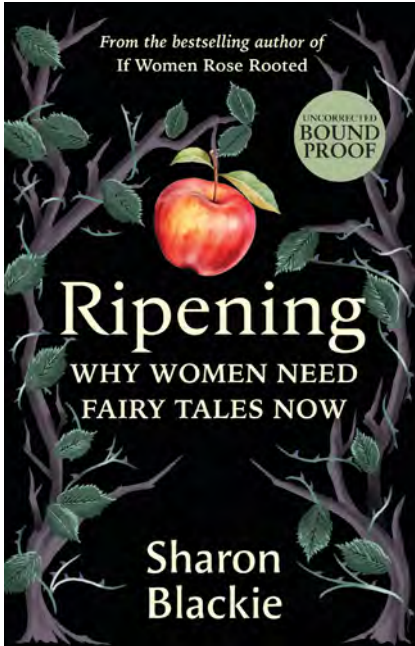
Rights: World English

Dr Emily MacGregor is a writer, broadcaster and music historian. She appears regularly on BBC Radio 3 and 4, and has written for the *Guardian*. Her academic CV includes a doctorate from Oxford University and subsequent research positions at Harvard University and King's College London.

📷 @emjmacgregor

🌐 emilymacgregor.co.uk

HARDBACK | NON-FICTION



Ripening

Why Women Need
Fairy Tales Now

Sharon Blackie

14 May 2026

ISBN 9781914613524

Self-help, myth & folklore

352 pages | £20.00

Demy hardback

Also available: TPB for export (£14.99)

Rights: World English

From acclaimed mythologist and psychologist Dr Sharon Blackie, bestselling author of *If Women Rose Rooted* and *Hagitude*

In this world in which all our old certainties seem to be crumbling, many women feel lost. In *Ripening*, Sharon Blackie insists that fairy tales are precisely the stories we need for such times.

They show us how to take hold of our own personal narratives and transform them into stories that might begin with trauma, but end with empowerment.

Long before they became bywords for people-pleasing princesses, these old stories – passed down to us through generations by our peasant ancestors – told us everything that women need to learn about the world.

Also available
as a trade
paperback for
export £14.99

Dr Sharon Blackie is an award-winning author and a psychologist with a background in mythology and folklore. Her previous books are *The Long Delirious Burning Blue*, *If Women Rose Rooted*, *The Enchanted Life*, *Foxfire*, *Wolfskin and Other Stories of Shapeshifting Women*, *Hagitude* and *Wise Women*.

📧 @sharonblackiemythmakings

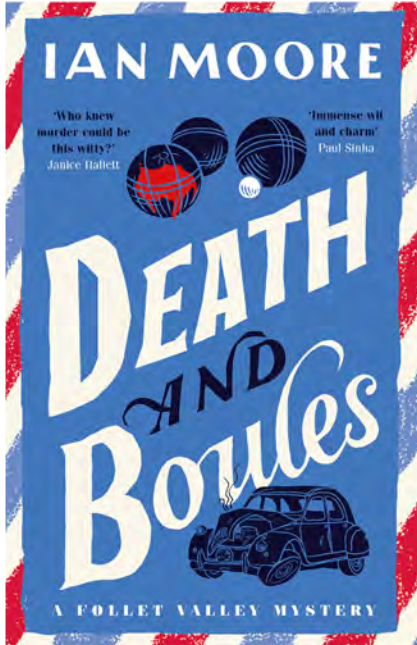
🌐 sharonblackie.net

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.

Farrago

PAPERBACK | FICTION



Death and Boules

Ian Moore

19 March 2026

ISBN 9781788425933

Cosy crime murder mystery

336 pages | £9.99

B-format paperback

Rights: World English

From the bestselling author of
Death and Croissants

Saint-Sauver, home to Richard Ainsworth and Valérie d'Orçay's detective agency, is celebrating the 25th anniversary of its town twinning with Anglethorp Spa in Lincolnshire.

Events are planned, a huge brocante, street parties and the centrepiece, an exhibition boules tournament between the two towns and a team of international boules all-stars. Everything is going well, the sun shines, the wine flows and the entente is very cordiale.

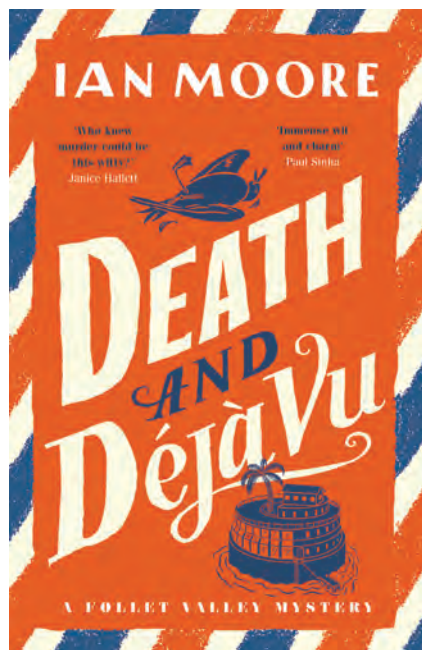
Until the mayor turns up dead in an antique dresser having apparently been killed twice. Inevitably Richard and Valérie have very different views on the subject and engage in their own battle: who will solve the crime first?

Ian Moore is a leading stand-up comedian, known for his sharp, entertaining punditry. A BBC TV and radio regular, he was a Champion on Richard Osman's *House of Games* and stars in Radio 4's *The Now Show*.

📷 @ianmooreauthor

🌐 ianmoore.info

HARDBACK | FICTION



Death and Déjà Vu

Ian Moore

4 June 2026

ISBN 9781788425971

Cosy crime murder mystery

304 pages | £16.99

Hardback

Also available: TPB for export (£14.99)

Rights: World English

A brand new installment of the Follet Valley Mystery series

Richard Ainsworth moved to rural France to escape the world, so being voted mayor of the small town of Saint-Sauver comes as a terrible shock. Fortunately bureaucracy has its benefits and he is shipped off to a health spa to recuperate.

The Esprit de l’Air is a world famous venue on a deserted island fort off the west coast of France, and was chosen specifically by his business partner and bounty hunter of international repute, Valérie d’Orçay. Richard should have been prepared then.

After a dramatic first night where a bizarre and unfriendly group of guests are pitched against each other to win ownership of the resort, Richard’s film historian mind wanders. Has he seen this all before?

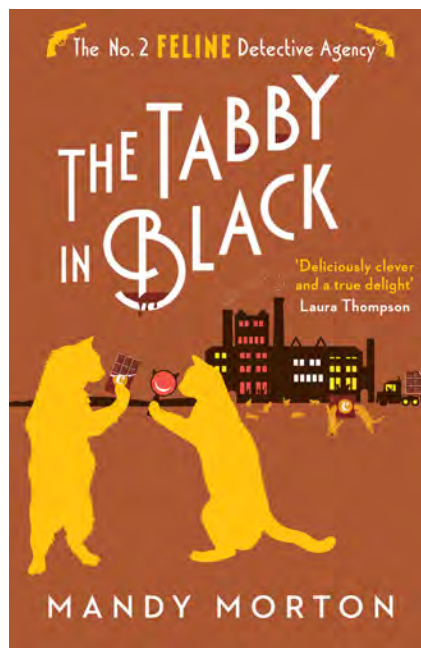
And when the first body turns up, he knows he has...

Also available
as a trade
paperback for
export £14.99

‘I love this series, and goodness knows we need the laughs right now. Ian’s comic touch is as deft as ever’

Rachel Burton

PAPERBACK | FICTION



The Tabby in Black

The No. 2 Feline Detective Agency

Mandy Morton

7 May 2026

ISBN 9781788425940

Crime & mystery

288 pages | £9.99

Paperback

Rights: World All Languages

Our feline detectives unwrap murder and secrets at a chocolate factory

Chocks away! as our feline detectives investigate some sticky situations at the local chocolate factory in Catberry-on-the-Brink.

Up at the Manor House, the family is at war as dark secrets are uncovered in The Tabby in Black chocolate selection box.

Will our sleuths manage to reach the bottom layer before a murderer strikes?

Join Hettie and Tilly as they unwrap the mysteries swirling around the Catberry family in this bitter-sweet assortment of truth and lies.

'Deliciously clever'

Laura Thompson

'The world that Morton has created is irresistible'

Publishers Weekly

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, where there is always a place for a long-haired tabby cat.

X @icloudmandy

Reader reviews

'If you love cats and if you love mysteries, you will adore this one'

'A delightful series... Highly recommended'

'Mandy Morton is a master storyteller and to write a mystery featuring cats and set in a cat-world, well that's the work of a genius'

'I am absolutely hooked'

'This series is addictive: I read one and then I had to read them all!'

'Fantastic, hilarious and ghoulish. Absolute brilliance'

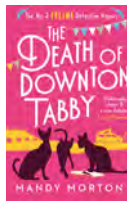
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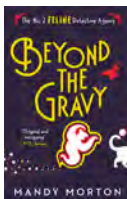
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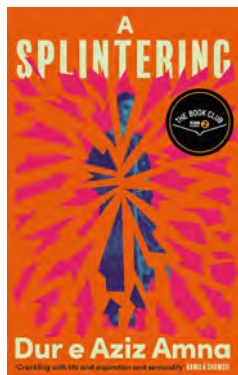
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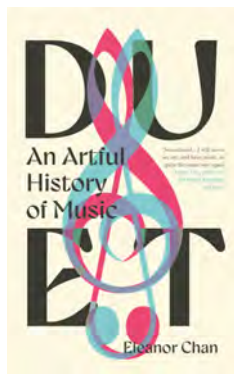
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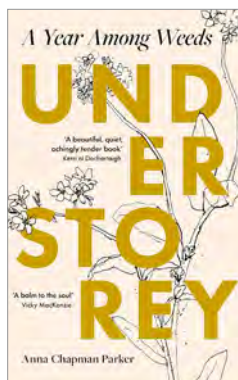
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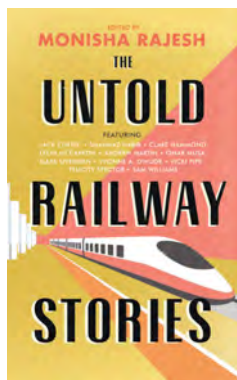
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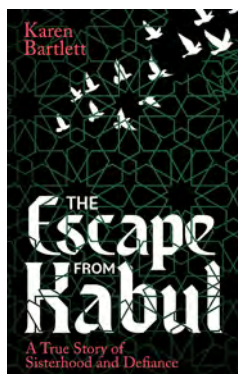
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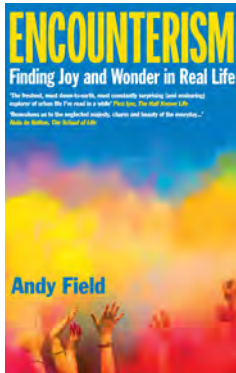
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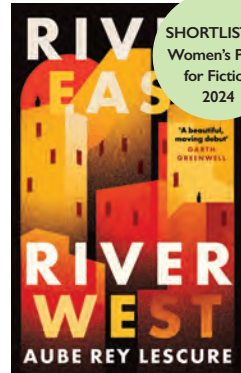


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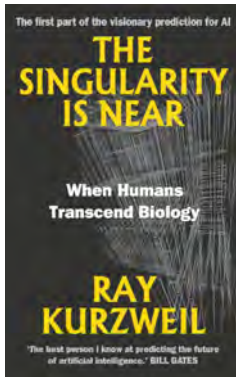
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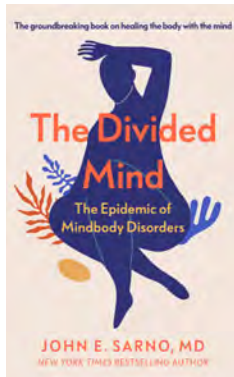


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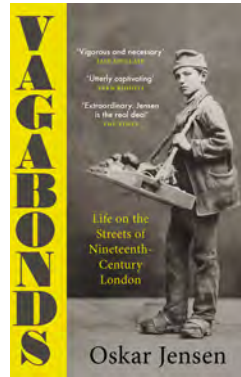
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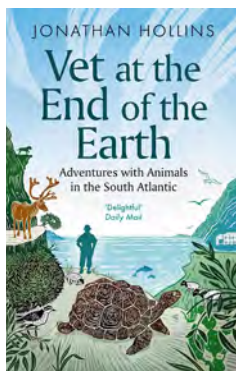
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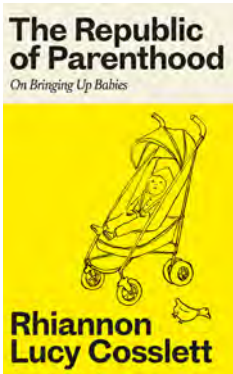
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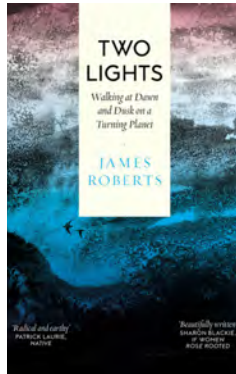
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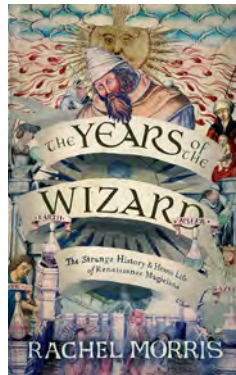
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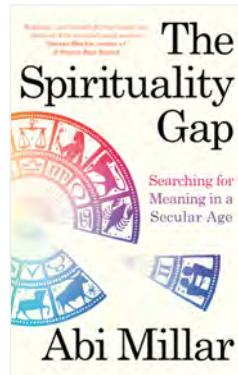
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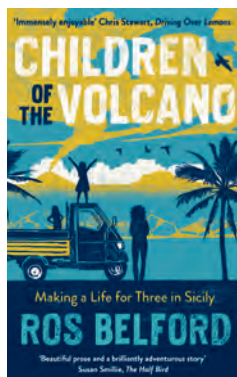
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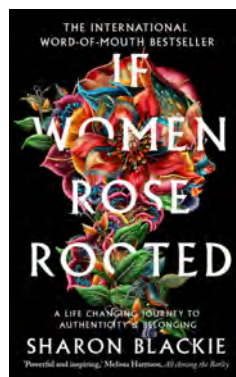
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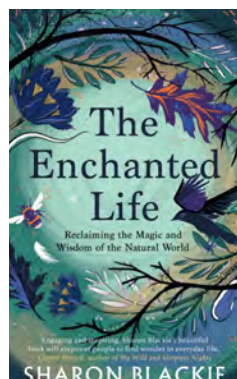
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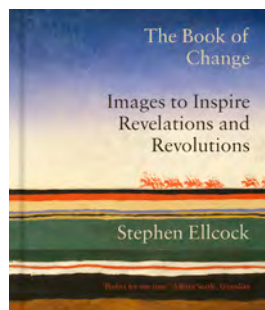
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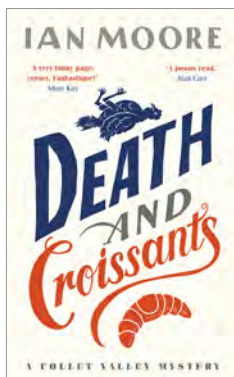
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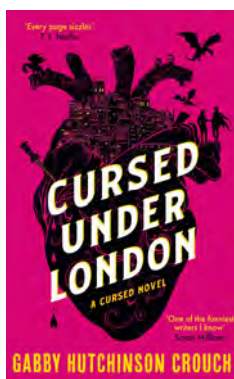
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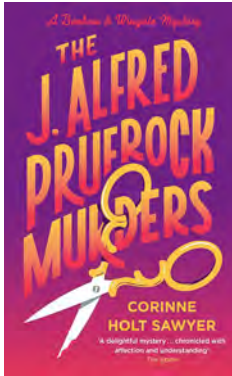
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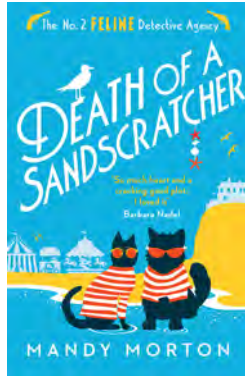
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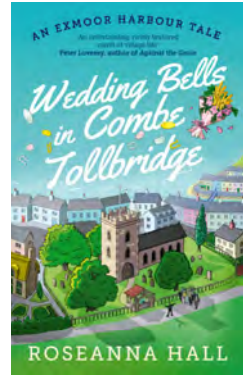
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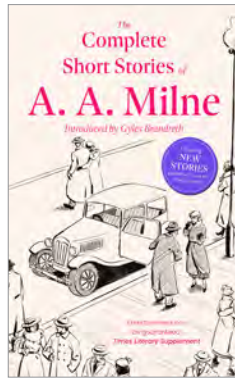
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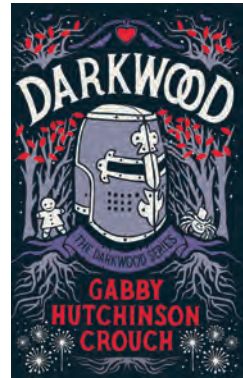
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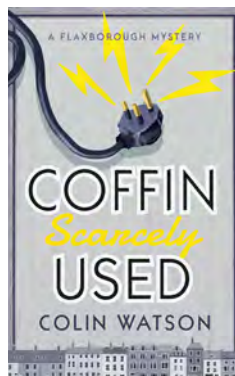
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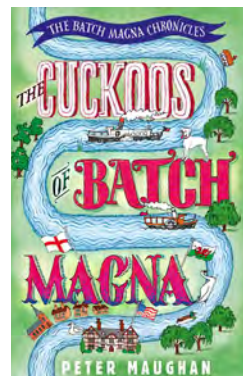
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