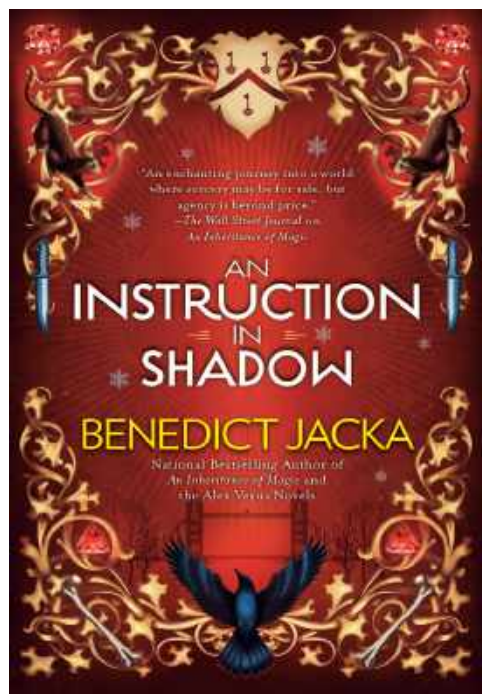
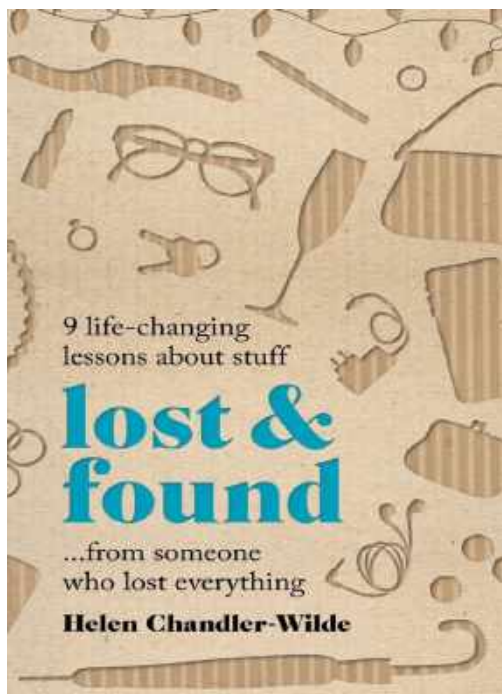


Sophie Hicks Agency

Spring 2024



Sophie Hicks Agency

Spring Highlights 2024

Helen Chandler-Wilde	LOST & FOUND
Sarah Clarke	THE NIGHT SHE DIES
Eoin Colfer	JUNIPER'S CHRISTMAS
Eoin Colfer	THE GUARDIANS OF CEDAR WOOD
Colfer, Donkin & Rigano	WAR
Dan Davies	THE UNACCOUNTABILITY MACHINE
Benedict Jacka	AN INSTRUCTION IN SHADOW
Pádraig Kenny	STITCH
Korky Paul	ONE SNOWY CHRISTMAS EVE
Alex Smith	HARRY HARDMAN vs HALLOWEEN
Alex Smith	UNHOLY SAINTS
Kiah Thomas	THE CALLERS 3

Backlist Highlights

Herbie Brennan	GRAILQUEST
Tristan Gooley	HOW TO READ A TREE
Lucy Martin	LAST TO LEAVE
Tom Whipple	THE BATTLE OF THE BEAMS



Helen Chandler-Wilde

LOST AND FOUND

**9 Life-changing Lessons About
Stuff...from Someone Who Lost
Everything**

"Helen goes deeper than the decluttering trends to ask *why* we buy and keep things. This book is full of practical wisdom!"

-- Bryony Gordon, author of *MAD GIRL*

"I loved this book! As well as being an interesting insight into the time, effort, thought and emotions we all put into our things, Helen ends each chapter with questions that really get you thinking (in a good way) about your relationship with your possessions. It helps you recognise what things you truly need and want in your life."

-- Gill Hasson, author of *DECLUTTER YOUR LIFE*

Combining personal experience, expert opinion and self-help advice, *Lost & Found* explains why we buy and keep the things we do, and how we can live a less cluttered life.

On New Year's Eve of 2018, journalist Helen Chandler-Wilde lost everything she owned in a storage unit fire in Croydon, where she'd stowed all her possessions after a big break-up. She was left devastated, and forced to re-evaluate her relationship with owning material things.

A mix of memoir, self-help and journalism, *Lost & Found* explores the psychological reasons for why we buy and keep the things we do, and explains how we can liberate ourselves from the tyranny of 'too much'. Helen interviews people from all walks of life, including behavioural psychologists on the science of nostalgia, a nun on what it's like to own almost nothing, and consumer psychologists on why we spend impulsively, to help us better understand why we're surrounded by clutter and what we can do to change it.

This smart-thinking book explains the sociological quirks of human nature and the fascinating science behind why we buy and hold onto things. By the end of it, your relationship with your belongings will be changed forever.

Helen Chandler-Wilde is a news and features journalist at *Bloomberg*. Previously she worked at *The Telegraph* writing long-reads, analysis and covering the human tales behind the headlines. She went to UCL where she studied social sciences and Italian and also holds a MA in journalism from City University.

Sarah Clarke

THE NIGHT SHE DIES

Praise for Sarah Clarke:

'You won't know who to trust.' **Adele Parks, *Platinum***

'A fast-paced tale of revenge.' **Catherine Cooper, author of *The Chalet***

'Suspenseful, claustrophobic.' **Katy Brent, *How to Kill Men and Get Away With It***

'A tense and twisty thriller.' **Nikki Smith, author of *The Beach Party***



What happened in the woods?

Rachel's teenage daughter, Lucy is a shadow of the sweet, happy child she once was. She's being targeted by bullies, so when Rachel returns home one night to find Lucy gone, she fears the worst.

Have the bullies taken things too far? Has Lucy run away, or done something unthinkable? Rachel searches through the night with her husband and Lucy's older sister, desperate to find her child safe.

The following morning, a body is found in the woods.

But the nightmare is only just beginning.

SARAH CLARKE is a writer living in South West London with her husband and children. Over fifteen years, Sarah has built a successful career as a marketing copywriter. When her youngest child started secondary school, she joined the Faber Academy Writing A Novel course to learn the craft of writing psychological thrillers. Sarah graduated in 2019 and joined HQ Digital two years later. *The Night She Dies* is her fourth novel.

UK: HQ (HarperCollins)

Editor: Cicely Aspinall

Publication: July 2024

Material available: Manuscript



Eoin Colfer

JUNIPER'S CHRISTMAS

From the acclaimed, mega-bestselling Eoin Colfer comes a heart-warming, adventurous Christmas classic-in-the-making for readers of all ages who believe in the power of hope, kindness, and holiday magic.

Eoin Colfer's joyful, heart-warming middle grade novel spent a fabulous five weeks on the New York Times bestseller list!

Eleven-year-old Juniper Lane is thrown into a Christmas adventure like no other when she seeks the help of a mysterious woodsman living in her local park, who she suspects is Santa himself, and accidentally gets exposed to North Pole magic.

Join a boisterous cast of characters—including a neighbour who always believed in Santa, a young reindeer in training, and a cut-throat crime boss out to steal Santa's magic—on an unpredictable journey bursting with Eoin Colfer's signature exuberance and merriment.

A story of hope, magic, and saving Santa Claus, from a celebrated author beloved for his spirited storytelling, *Juniper's Christmas* is the perfect festive read. Complete with cheerful, festive illustrations, this tale of wonder will inspire the Christmas spirit in the whole family year after year.

EOIN COLFER is the *New York Times* bestselling author of the children's fantasy series *Artemis Fowl*. His other notable works include *The Dog Who Lost His Bark*, *Half Moon Investigations*, *Airman* and *The Supernaturalist*, and he has sold over twenty million books worldwide. He was the Irish Children's Laureate, the winner of the Evergreen Young Adult Book Award, and won the Irish Children's Book of the Year Award for his story *Imaginary Fred*, illustrated by Oliver Jeffers. He lives in Ireland with his wife and two children.

UK: HarperCollins
Editor: Anne McNeil
Publication: October 2023
Rights sold: France (Gallimard)
Material available: Final PDF

US: Roaring Brook (Macmillan)
Editor: Jennifer Besser
Publication: October 2023



Critical Acclaim for the *New York Times*
bestselling JUNIPER'S CHRISTMAS
by Eoin Colfer

'[With] sprightly prose, original plotting, well-realised characters and a theme of the importance of love, this adventure is not only an exceptional Christmas novel, it is a most enjoyable story for any season' ***Sunday Times, Children's Book of the Week***

'Eoin Colfer crafts a heartwarming tale with Nicholas Claus, now a recluse in a London park . . . The author weaves a wonderful story, introducing diverse characters and challenges' ***The Times, Best Irish Children's Books***

'The author of *Artemis Fowl* delivers an enchanting Christmas tale set in a world where Santa is merely a memory, as Juniper enlists a mysterious stranger to help save the local park' ***Waterstones, Best Books of the Year***

'Have no fear: *Juniper's Christmas* will restore any child's holiday spirit' ***New York Times Holiday Gift Guide***

'Colfer weaves a love story with numerous characters . . . [centered] on the determined efforts of his perceptive and big-hearted young protagonist. A soaring flight fueled by joys, sorrows, and deeds both ill and good' ***Kirkus, starred review***

'A warmhearted Christmas novel . . . [with] a fresh spin on familiar holiday themes, including forgiveness, healing and hope' ***Publishers Weekly, starred review***

'Colfer is a master storyteller . . . A delightful tale. Readers will enjoy the imaginative story filled with lush prose and a heart-warming ending' ***School Library Journal***



Eoin Colfer

**THE GUARDIANS
OF CEDAR WOOD**

(working title)

From the acclaimed mega-bestselling **Eoin Colfer**
comes the next adventure with **Juniper Lane**

When Santa Claus leaves London and returns to the North Pole (which is not at the north pole by the way) he leaves behind a single Christmas reindeer with his young apprentice Juniper Lane and bestows upon the pair the very fancy title of: Guardians of Cedar Wood. Their orders are to patrol the forest every night because there's a teeny-tiny chance that sparks of residual magic from Santa's own visit might attract magical creatures to the area.

It turns out that Santa left behind more magic than he thought which reaches deep into the earth and completely terraforms the entire wood making it a haven for the very magical creatures that Santa was hoping would not turn up. And when a volcano erupts in Iceland grounding Santa, Juniper and her reindeer partner must contend with a Welsh witch who may or may not be wielding Excalibur and the legendary Green Knight (who is actually a queen), both on the trail of the immortal firefox Twilikko who has a single wish to grant on Midsummer's eve.

This is a lot of work for an intern, but Juniper is determined to save the world, mostly because her mum lives in it, and with the help of her flying reindeer puts in motion a very risky plan that has a ten per cent chance of stopping the Green Knight (who is actually a queen) stealing the fox's wish and resurrecting her army of darkness. Oh, and not to mention that this adventure features giant ground sloths which are about the size of a Toyota Prius but with more claws.

US: Roaring Brook (Macmillan)

Editor: Jennifer Besser

Publication: October 2024

Material available: Manuscript available summer 2024



Dan Davies

THE UNACCOUNTABILITY MACHINE

**Why Big Systems Make Terrible Decisions –
and How The World Lost its Mind**

Part-biography, part-political thriller, *The Unaccountability Machine* is a rousing exposé of how management failures lead organisations to make catastrophic errors.

'A corporation, or a government department isn't a conscious being, but it is an artificial intelligence. It has the capability to take decisions which are completely distinct from the intentions of any of the people who compose it. And under stressful conditions, it can go stark raving mad.'

When we avoid taking a decision, what happens to it? In *The Unaccountability Machine*, Dan Davies examines why markets, institutions and even governments systematically generate outcomes that everyone involved claims not to want. He casts new light on the writing of Stafford Beer, a legendary economist who argued in the 1950s that we should regard organisations as artificial intelligences, capable of taking decisions that are distinct from the intentions of their members.

Management cybernetics was Beer's science of applying self-regulation in organisational settings, but it was largely ignored - with the result being the political and economic crises that we see today. With his signature blend of cynicism and journalistic rigour, Davies looks at what's gone wrong, and what might have been

DAN DAVIES is a former regulatory economist at the Bank of England and analyst for a number of investment banks. His career has seen him tackle all manner of financial crookedness, including the LIBOR and FX scandals, the collapse of Anglo Irish Bank and the Swiss Nazi gold scandal. He has written for the *Financial Times* and the *New Yorker* among other publications

UK: Profile Books

Editor: Nick Humphrey

Publication: April 2024

Material available: Final PDF

Rights held by publisher



WAR

EOIN COLFER & ANDREW
DONKIN

Illustrated by GIOVANNI RIGANO

From the award-winning team
behind the graphic novels
ILLEGAL and **GLOBAL**

Praise for **GLOBAL**:

"The text is pointed and poignant, beautifully complemented by dynamic illustrations that bring the scenes to dramatic life. Backmatter does an excellent job summarizing global warming...Timely and boldly told." — **Kirkus Reviews**

"Heart-pumping... Realistically rendered, suspense-filled illustrations by Rigano portray the children's harrowing experiences with sharp clarity. Colfer and Donkin's tense narrative clearly outlines contemporary climate change–related realities amid relentless, riveting action."

— **Publishers Weekly**

"Full of information, emotion, excitement, and entertainment, the graphic novel *Global* puts a human face to the problem of climate change."

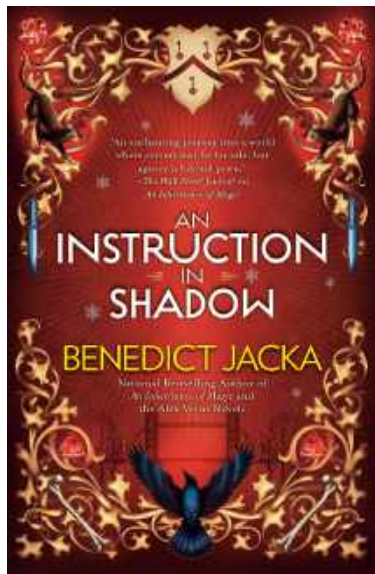
— **Foreword Reviews, STARRED review**

"A gripping graphic novel that is a hopeful call to action for all readers. Highly recommended."

— **School Library Journal**

WAR tells the story of teenager Kat, and her family – who suddenly find their previously safe and secure life ripped apart when their city is taken over by an invading army.

WAR is not a story about any one specific war. Rather, it's a story about the effects of each and every war on the most vulnerable group of people in the world – children.



Benedict Jacka

AN INSTRUCTION IN SHADOW

The ultra-rich control magic—the same way they control everything else—but Stephen Oakwood may just beat them at their own game in this exhilarating contemporary fantasy from the author of the Alex Verus novels.

Stephen Oakwood has emerged victorious against the schemes of his aristocratic family. Now he finally has the opportunity to do what he has been wanting to do for a long time: track down his father.

But doing so won't be easy. Stephen is not so isolated any more, but the contacts he is making in the magical world—everyone from the corporation he works for to the mother he is just beginning to reconnect with—all have agendas of their own. And now a new group is emerging from the shadows, calling themselves the Winged. Their leader, the mysterious Byron, promises that he can show Stephen how to find his father...but he wants something in return.

Following that trail will throw Stephen into greater danger than he has ever faced before. To survive, he will need to use all of his tricks and sigils, and pick up some new ones. Only then will he be able to prevail against his enemies...and find out who is really pulling the strings...

BENEDICT JACKA is half Australian, half Armenian, and grew up in London. He has studied philosophy at Cambridge, worked as a teacher, as a bouncer and as a civil servant. His Alex Verus series has sold over one million copies worldwide.

UK: Orbit (Little, Brown)

Editor: Jenni Hill

Publication: October 2024

Material available: Manuscript

Rights sold in series: German (Blanvalet), French (Bayard)

US: Ace (Penguin Random House)

Editor: Anne Sowards

Publication: October 2024



***Critical Acclaim for
AN INHERITANCE
OF MAGIC:***

“One of the most satisfying contemporary fantasies I have read in a long time; cozy and human, with some good fight scenes to boot. . . . an enchanting journey into a world where sorcery may be for sale, but agency is beyond price.”

—Wall Street Journal

“Benedict Jacka gives us a flawed protagonist but ensures we are always on his side. Stephen Oakwood has many strikes against him: absent father and mother, financial woes, dead-end jobs. But he perseveres in the face of danger and death, and he loves his cat. It’s more than enough. Benedict Jacka is one of my must-reads.”

—#1 New York Times bestselling author Charlaine Harris

“Jacka has drawn a potent new world of magic controlled by a privileged few, and Stephen Oakwood is the sigil-wielding rebel we didn’t know we needed.”

—New York Times bestselling author Chloe Neill

“A world of magic usually known only to the rich and powerful is put to the test in the page-turning urban fantasy that launches an intriguing new series... there’s lots of promise to this eat-the-rich world. Readers will be eager to see where things go next.”

—Publishers Weekly



Pádraig Kenny

STITCH

The new compelling & atmospheric gothic middle grade adventure from bestselling author Pádraig Kenny

"A thrilling gothic adventure, brimming with heart and bursting with big questions. I loved it."

— Lucy Strange

"A poignant, deeply rewarding, Gothic story."

— The Guardian

Children's Book Roundup, February 2024

"In a lightning-storm of beautiful writing, Pádraig Kenny brings his extraordinary cast of characters to perfect, charming life. A marvellously delicate parable of friendship and compassion, *Stitch* is witty, elegant and profound."

- Jonathan Stroud

Stitch is not a monster – he's a creation.

He and his friend Henry Oaf were brought to life by the genius Professor Hardacre, and have spent all their days in a castle deep in the woods, far from humankind. But when the Professor dies and his pompous nephew comes to take over the laboratory, they soon find out that his sights are set not on scientific discovery, but personal glory. And Henry is his next experiment.

Can Stitch and Henry escape his clutches and make their way in a world they were never built for – and may never be ready for them?

PÁDRAIG KENNY is an Irish writer from County Kildare, now living in Limerick. Previously an arts journalist, a teacher and a librarian's assistant, he now writes full-time. His first novel *Tin* and recent *The Monsters of Rookhaven* were both Waterstones Books of the Month. He has twice won the Children's Books Ireland Honour Award for Fiction, has been nominated for the Carnegie Medal and shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards.

UK: Walker Books

Editor: Gráinne Clear

Publication: January 2024

Material available: Final PDF

Rights held by publisher

Alexander Gordon Smith

HARRY HARDMAN vs HALLOWEEN

A hilarious, horror-filled, heart-warming middle grade adventure from the internationally bestselling author of the ESCAPE FROM FURNACE series.

"A delightfully delicious helping of Halloween mayhem. Smith throws in everything except the sink – then throws in the (blood-stained) sink!"

--Darren Shan

"The kids will love the action and friendship, the adults will love the clever references to their favourite horror movies. A perfect adventure story for everyone in the family to enjoy!"

--Thrilling Fiction Magazine



"A wonderful Halloween romp, pacey, funny but with plenty of heart and with a wonderful retro Stranger Things / The Goonies vibes. A delightful cast of characters with a hero we can all relate to and the best zombie sidekick ever! So go grab your Halloween costume and join this hilarious, heart-warming adventure!"

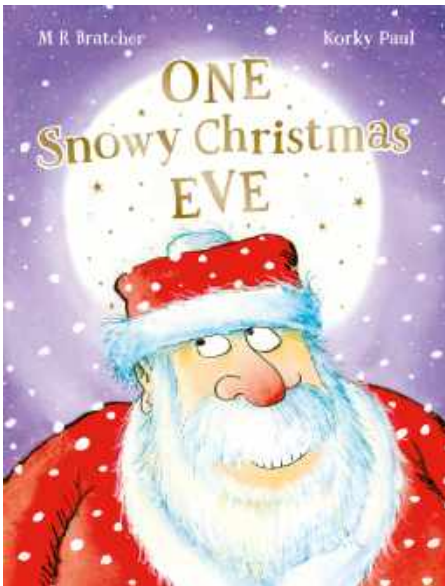
--James Nicol, author of The Apprentice Witch

Eleven-year-old Harry absolutely loves Hallowe'en, and this year is set to be the best one EVER. But it all goes wrong when his dog eats his costume and his best friend Buster forces him to go to a Hallowe'en party at the school bully's house—dressed as a fairy princess!

And that's not the worst of it. A strange curse has infected the town where Harry lives, turning everyone into whatever Hallowe'en monster they are dressed up as.

Harry and Buster find themselves on a dangerous mission to save not just Hallowe'en, but the world. It's a good thing fairy princesses have magic powers...

ALEXANDER GORDON SMITH is the award-winning author of twelve novels for children and young adults, including the ESCAPE FROM FURNACE series, which is loved by millions of readers worldwide. His other books include THE FURY, THE DEVIL'S ENGINE trilogy, and THE INVENTORS books, which he co-wrote with his eleven-year-old brother. He is the author of two creative writing handbooks, a number of screenplays, several non-fiction books, and hundreds of short stories and articles. His love of engaging with young readers and writers, not to mention the army of devoted FURNACE enthusiasts, makes him a genuine fan-favourite across the globe. He writes adult thrillers as Alex Smith.



ONE SNOWY CHRISTMAS EVE

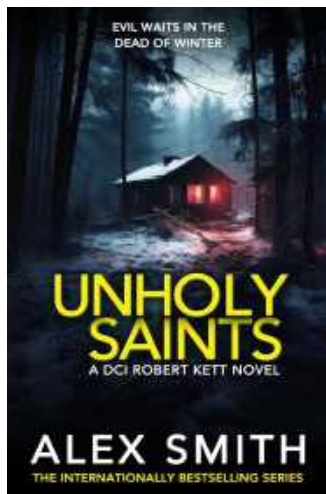
KORKY PAUL
(with text by **MARC BRATCHER**)

One Snowy Christmas Eve is a perfect picture book for Christmas from debut writer, Marc Bratcher and illustrated by master children's illustrator, Korky Paul. Late one snowy Christmas Eve an idea pops into the head of the man who is about to become Father Christmas. He will give a present to every child to celebrate the season – but then, calamity strikes as his wheelchair gets stuck in the snow.

This is a debut children's picture book with a difference. Perfect for fans of Winnie the Witch, The Dog that Dug and Father Christmas, too; One Snowy Christmas Eve is set to become a new Christmas classic.

KORKY PAUL was born in Zimbabwe and studied Fine Arts at Durban Art School and Animation at CalArts, California. He is a much loved, award-winning illustrator of children's books, namely the Winnie The Witch series for Oxford University Press, published in over 44 languages with sales of 10 million worldwide.

Korky has illustrated several other successful books for Andersen, Frances Lincoln, and Penguin Random House. He works in Oxford, England, but lives it up in Greece with his wife. This book is the first in his new, exciting partnership with the writer Marc Bratcher.



Alex Smith

UNHOLY SAINTS

Book 14 in the million-selling explosive British crime thriller series featuring DCI Kett!

Relentless action, compulsive mystery and dark humour abound in the series that Thrilling Fiction calls "*Heart-stoppingly gripping!*" from the author that James Patterson describes as "*fresh and ferocious!*"

Evil waits in the dead of winter...

Christmas is just days away, and DCI Kett and the Extreme Crime Task Force are preparing to celebrate the festive season with some well-earned peace and quiet.

But all hopes of a restful holiday are crushed when a man dressed as Santa Claus is found dead in the chimney of an old cabin. And he's just the first.

The hunt for a monster begins, but standing in the way is a cutthroat family of thieves, a bloody vendetta and a sinister cult led by a man known only as Saint Nick.

In a town full of secret, somebody knows the truth. But they're willing to kill to keep it buried. And in the bleakest of midwinters, nobody is guaranteed to wake up on Christmas morning...

Previous books in the bestselling DCI Kett series:

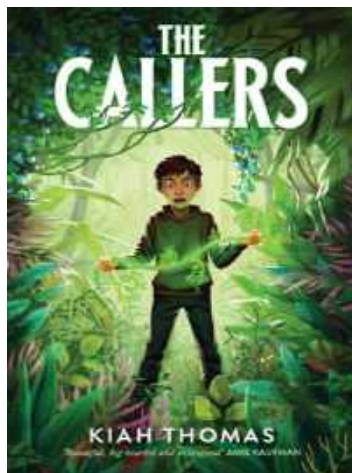
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|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| #1 Paper Girls | #8 Sweet Briar Rose |
| #2 Bad Dog | #9 Jaw Breaker |
| #3 Three Little Pigs | #10 Knock Knock |
| #4 Whip Crack | #11 King Rat |
| #5 Run Rabbit Run | #12 Knuckle Bones |
| #6 Stone Cold Dead | #13 Unlucky Number Seven |
| #7 Every Mother's Son | |

UK: Relentless Media

Publication: November 2023

Material available: Final PDF

Rights sold in series: Czech Republic (Dobrovsky), Estonia (Eesti Raamat), Finland (Minerva), Germany (Rowohlt), Italy (Newton Compton), Lithuania (Terra Publica), Russia (Eksmo), Spain (Atico de los Libros)



Kiah Thomas

Book 3 in THE CALLERS TRILOGY

Arresting, fast-paced and thought-provoking, this non-stop middle grade adventure turns familiar magic upside down and inside out.

"Beautiful, big-hearted and so original-I fell in love with this book." -Amie Kaufman, *New York Times*-bestselling author of *The World Between Blinks* and the *Illuminae Files* series

"[*The Callers*] keeps the tone nonpreachy, but its themes of environmental crisis, greed, and exploitation are spot-on. The action will keep readers avidly turning pages . . . [A] fresh, original, and timely story." -**Kirkus Reviews**

"Thomas' debut middle-grade novel is poignant in its simplicity, with tight, effective prose, a slim page count, and a minimal style of world building that allows readers to concentrate on the thought-provoking questions being raised about oppression, consumerism, and our relationship to our planet, as well as Quin's search for identity outside of his family's legacy. A refreshing, affecting work that shows what thoughtful fantasy can do." -**Booklist**

"[With] clever and imaginative world-building . . . the fast pace keeps the pages turning . . ."
--**The Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books**

Restrictions on Calling have been lifted and supplies on Evantra are low. Davinia must go up against her mother to help her new friends; but with Allie in prison and Adriana on the brink of declaring war — time is running out.

Quin may have healed the vine on Evantra but the battle is far from over.

In a story that explores some of the most crucial topics of our time—our relationship to consumerism, the exploitation of natural resources, colonialism, and the consequences of wanting more than we need—magic is sought, and truth is found.

From dazzling newcomer **KIAH THOMAS** comes an arresting, fast-paced and thought provoking adventure about the consequences of wanting more than we need.

THE CALLERS: THE HIDDEN FOREST publishing Spring 2025!

US: Chronicle Books

Publication: Fall 2025

Material available: Manuscript available Summer 2024

Rights sold in series: Australia (HarperCollins), France (Pocket Jeunesse)

Herbie Brennan
Multi-million copy selling
GRAILQUEST SERIES



**** 2024 marks the 40th ANNIVERSARY of GRAILQUEST! ****

Ferocious dragons, valiant knights... and fearsome humour!

**GRAILQUEST: the classic gamebook series
that makes you a future Knight of the Round Table.**

**Two dice, a pencil and an eraser: start the adventure!
YOU alone will decide which route to take, which risks to run and which
creatures to fight. Good luck...**



Book 1: THE CASTLE OF DARKNESS

In the fabled realm of Avalon, the great King Arthur keeps court at Camelot. The far reaches of his kingdom are being terrorized by monstrous dragons and powerful warlocks, and the famous Knights of the Round Table set forth on quests of valour to combat these forces of evil. But YOU have been chosen for the most perilous mission of all: to penetrate the enchanted fortress of the dreaded Wizard Ansalom, and rescue Queen Guinevere from his sorcery.



Book 2: THE DEN OF DRAGONS

A huge and murderous Dragon is rampaging through the Realm of Avalon, leaving a trail of frightful destruction in its wake. The brave Knights of the Table Round are powerless against the beast's might, and even King Arthur's court at Camelot is threatened by its fire-breathing fury. YOU alone can free the people from their curse. You alone must seek out and slay the foul reptile in its hellish lair.



Book 3: THE GATEWAY OF DOOM

The Kingdom of Avalon is going through dark times. The gates of the sinister Realm of the Dead have opened, giving way to all sorts of dreadful creatures and evils. What valiant Knight of the Round Table will be responsible for going to close these doors of the beyond? None, because it is to YOU that King Arthur has entrusted this terrifying mission. May Merlin and his spells come to your aid!



Book 4: VOYAGE OF TERROR

The Saxons have invaded Avalon, King Arthur has led Excalibur astray, and the Knights of the Round Table are too busy bickering to be of any use. In short, YOU alone can restore some order to the kingdom of Avalon, and above all drive the Saxons back into the sea. And besides, Merlin leaves you no choice. With a magic formula, he calls you to his side. Unfortunately, Merlin is often distracted... Can you find the Saxons among all the heroes and monsters of ancient Greece?

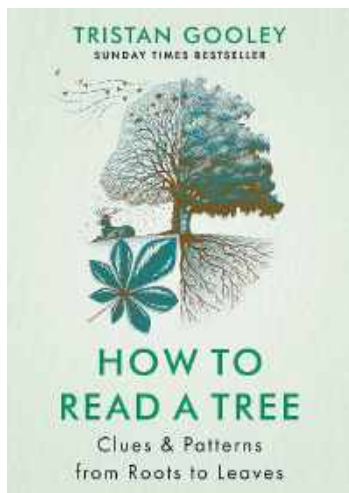
THE SERIES CONTINUES...

**Book 5: Kingdom of Horror, Book 6: Realm of Chaos,
Book 7: Tomb of Nightmares, Book 8: Legion of the Dead**

J.H. BRENNAN's work has appeared in more than fifty countries, and is enjoyed by adults and children alike — sales of his books exceed 8 million copies worldwide. Herbie has a well-established career writing for the children's market — from picture books to teenage fiction. His keen eye for novelty, both in technology and market development, made him among the very first writers to create adventure gamebooks, and his GrailQuest series is an international bestseller. His teenage novel *Faerie Wars*, also rocketed to international success, achieving bestseller status is more than 20 overseas editions, and was voted No 1 Top Ten Teenage Pick in the United States and listed as a *New York Times* bestseller.

Material available: PDFs

Rights sold: Czech (Polaris), France (Gallimard Jeunesse), Italy (Raven Distribution), Spain (Celaeno Books)



Tristan Gooley

HOW TO READ A TREE

**Clues & Patterns
from Roots to Leaves**

**** SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER! ****

**'An important book and a pleasure to read.' -
Raynor Winn, author of *The Salt Path***

**'You will never look at a tree in the same way
again after reading this mesmerising book. Gooley
drops learning as lightly as blossom falls in
spring.' - John Lewis-Stempel**

Do two trees ever appear identical? No, but why? Every small difference is a clue.

Each tree we meet is filled with signs that reveal secrets about the life of that tree and the landscape we stand in. The clues are easy to spot when you know what to look for, but remain invisible to most people.

In *How to Read a Tree*, you'll discover the simple principles that explain the shapes and patterns you can see in trees and what they mean. And you'll learn rare skills that can be applied every time you pass a tree, whether you are in a town or a wilder spot.

As the author of the international bestsellers *The Walker's Guide* and *How to Read Water*, Tristan Gooley knows how to uncover the phenomena worth looking for. He has been instructing people in the art of reading trees for two decades and this book includes signs that will not be found in any other book in the world.

Once you have learned to see these things it is impossible to unsee them. We will never look at a tree the same way again.

TRISTAN GOOLEY is a *Sunday Times* – and *New York Times* – bestselling author. He has led expeditions on five continents, climbed mountains in three, and is the only living person to have both flown and sailed solo across the Atlantic. His more than two decades of pioneering outdoor experience include research among tribal peoples in some of the remotest regions on Earth.

UK: Sceptre

Editor: Rupert Lancaster

Publication: April 2023

Material available: Final PDF

Rights sold: Chinese Complex Characters (Business Weekly Publications), Chinese Simplified Characters (Beijing Green Beans Book Co.), Dutch (Kosmos), French (Éditions

E/P/A), Italian (Iperborea), Korean (Bada Publishing), Slovak (Tatran), Turkish (Avantür),

Spanish (Atico de los Libros)

US: The Experiment

Editor: Nicholas Cizek

Publication: May 2023



Lucy Martin

LAST TO LEAVE

Book 3 in the DS Ronnie Delmar series

'Tight writing and an engaging narrative with great depth of characters. Martin's writing just keeps getting better and better.' — Louise Mangos

'Tense and timely, Martin asks the questions on everyone's lips right now, about policing and violence, secrets and lies. This is a belter of a book, that's as gripping as it is chilling.' — Helen Fields

'A dark, taut thriller that was utterly gripping. The suspense ratchets up with every page.' — Victoria Dowd

Someone has a secret worth killing for...

A young mother is fighting for her life after falling from her third-floor balcony, and police question the last people to see her alive, her three best friends who, an hour earlier were celebrating her birthday at her flat.

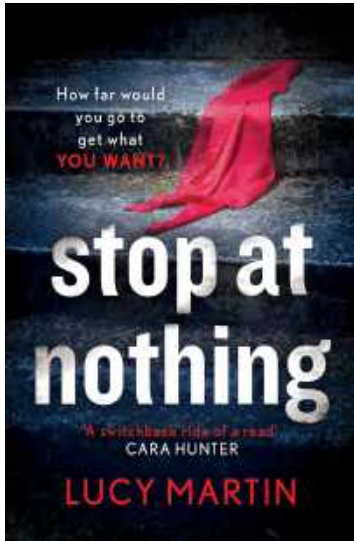
But as the investigation develops, so does the network of suspects. With the victim's husband front and centre of the case, the focus widens to his contacts and associates, revealing a chilling connection not only with the crime in question, but with those in charge of preventing it.

Forced to work alongside her arch-nemesis from the past, DCI Matt Preedy, DS Ronnie Delmar finds herself trying to untie the complex knots of the case, while simultaneously looking over her shoulder at her own colleagues and questioning the motives of those she thought she trusted.

LUCY MARTIN grew up in Brussels and London, and has a first class degree in French and Russian from Wadham College, Oxford. She is a qualified solicitor, contributor to BBC Bitesize French and the founder of networking group Wimbledon Women in Business. The Last To Leave is her third crime thriller novel.

Where the series begins...
The first two books featuring DS Ronnie Delmar

'A vivid blend of police procedural and psychological suspense, this twisty thriller is sure to win lots of new fans' — T.M. Logan



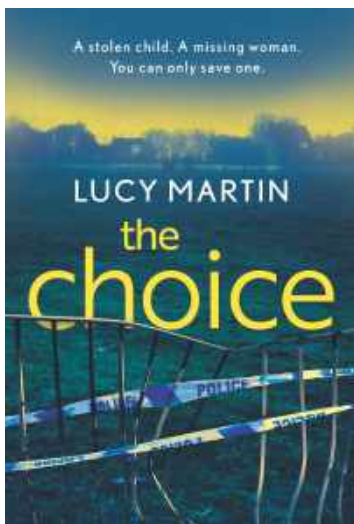
The chilling break out thriller, perfect for fans of Cara Hunter, Fiona Barton and Gillian Flynn.

How far would you go to get what you want?

Amie Slade's sexual assault feels too close to home for DS Ronnie Delmar. Forced to face the demons of her past, she vows to protect the family at all costs.

But everyone's got a secret in this leafy suburb and when a child goes missing and a woman's body is found, it becomes clear that this perfect family hide a sinister reality.

Someone here will stop at nothing to win, but can Ronnie beat them to it?



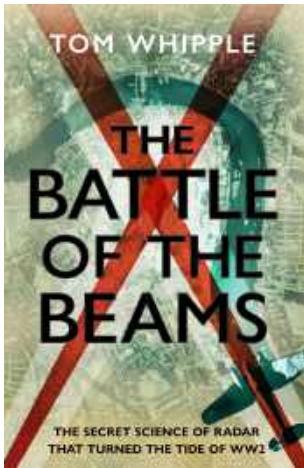
A stolen child. A missing woman. You can only save one.

A distressed young woman arrives at Halesworth police station in fear for her life, then vanishes.

Meanwhile, a local boy is snatched from his school playground.

But the answer to one lies with the other, and soon DS Ronnie Delmar is submerged deep in a world she could never have imagined.

Because to those who have created their own moral code, the truth is worth killing for...



Tom Whipple

THE BATTLE OF THE BEAMS

**The Secret Science of Radar
That Turned the Tide of WW2**

'Deeply researched and engagingly written'

--The Times

'Has the pace and style of a well-crafted thriller'

--Mail on Sunday

**'Chock full of memorable characters and written with all
the drama and pace of a Robert Harris thriller'**

--Rowland White, author of *Harrier 809*

**The radio war of 1939-45 is one of the great scientific battles in history.
This is the story of that war.**

Relying on first-hand accounts as well as papers recently released by the Admiralty, *The Battle of the Beams* fills a huge missing piece in the canon of WW2 literature.

It combines history, science, derring do and dogged determination and will appeal as much to fans of WW2 history as to those fascinated by the science behind the beams that changed our lives.

The British believed that, through ingenuity and scientific prowess, they alone have a war-winning weapon: radar. They are wrong. The Germans have it too.

Luckily there was one young engineer, Reginald Jones, helping the British government with their own scientific developments. In June 1940, when Jones quietly explained the beams the Germans had devised to a room full of disbelieving sceptics, Churchill later described the moment as like sitting in the parlour while Sherlock Holmes finally reveals the killer. Churchill immediately supported Jones's efforts to develop radar technology that went on to help the Allies win the war.

TOM WHIPPLE is the science editor at *The Times*. He covers everything from archaeology to zoology. He writes news, features, reviews and commentary across the paper, as well as appearing regularly on Times Radio. He joined the paper in 2006, shortly after graduating with a degree in mathematics. During the course of his job he has visited the tunnels below Cern and the top of Mont Blanc above it. He has seen the inside of the world's hottest sauna and the world's most irradiated nature reserve. He has interviewed Stephen Hawking and Jedward. He has been arrested in three different countries. As well as *The Times*, he has written for the *Guardian* and *The Economist*. He was named science journalist of the year for his coverage of the Covid-19 pandemic.

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