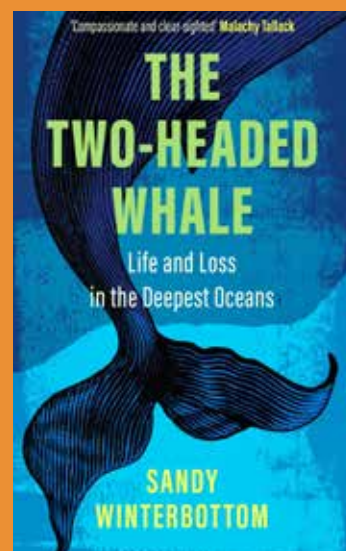
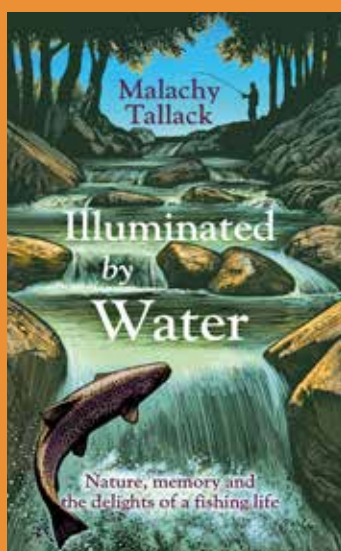
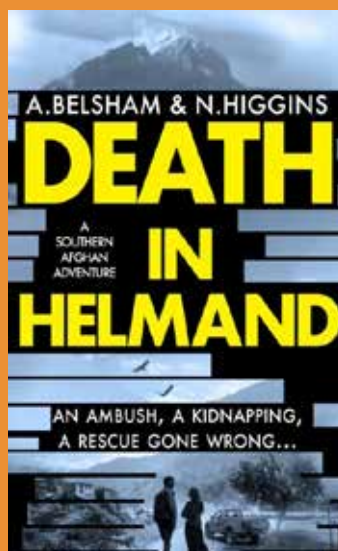
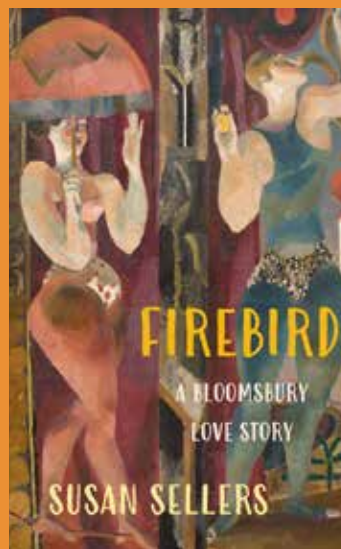
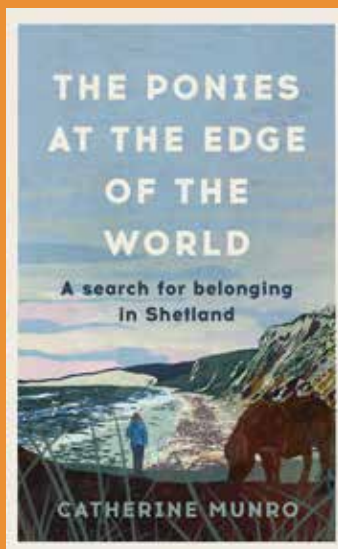




Jenny Brown Associates

# RIGHTS CATALOGUE AUTUMN 2022



[jennybrownassociates.com](http://jennybrownassociates.com)

# Welcome

We have been a literary agency based in Edinburgh since 2002. With the help of scouts and sub-agents, we sell rights to publishers all over the world. We are particularly known for representing writing from Scotland, including literary fiction, crime writing, and narrative non-fiction, and books for children and young adults.

Our bestselling and award-winning authors include crime writers such as Alex Gray (Little,Brown, series sales over 1 million copies) and Alison Belsham (*The Tattoo Thief* sold in 14 languages), non-fiction writers like Shaun Bythell (*Diary of A Bookseller* sold in to 25 languages), Saltire Book of the Year winner Kathleen Jamie, and children's writers and illustrators such as Chris Edge, Jonathan Meres and Alison Murray.

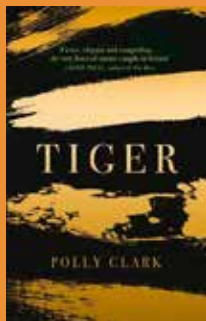
**Rights Director:** Andrea Joyce – [afgjoyce@gmail.com](mailto:afgjoyce@gmail.com)

## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS WHERE WE HAVE SOLD WORLD RIGHTS

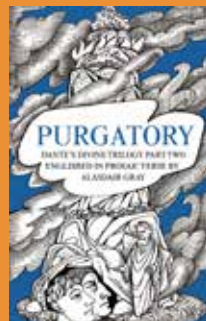
*(please refer to publisher)*



Trapeze



riverrun



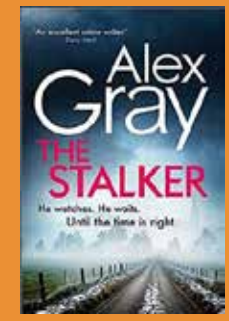
Canongate



Profile



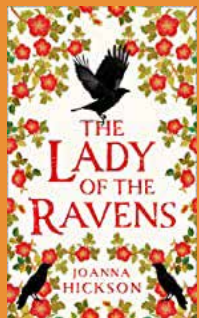
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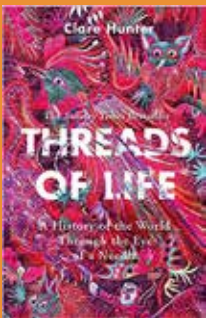
Sphere



Constable



HarperCollins



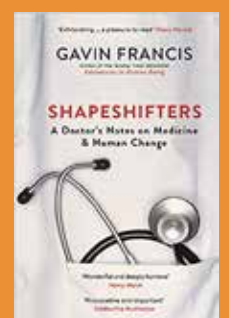
Sceptre



Granta



Bloomsbury



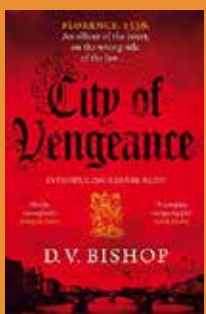
Profile



Canongate



Black & White



Pan Macmillan



Profile



Little A



Hodder & Stoughton



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# Cairn

Kathleen Jamie

**Innovative non-fiction by one of the pioneers of new nature writing**

*'A sorceress of the essay form. Never exotic, down to earth, she renders the indefinable to the reader's ear'* – **John Berger**

*'Kathleen Jamie is a supreme listener ... clear, subtle, respectful, and so unquenchably curious that it makes the world anew'*  
– **Richard Mabey**

*'A book of unparalleled beauty and rare exactness of language'*  
– **Sunday Telegraph**

*'I put the book down again and thought: 'I wonder if I would actually kill to be able to write, or think, like that.'*  
– **Nicholas Lezard, Guardian**

Cairn: A marker on open land, a memorial, a viewpoint shared by strangers. For the last five years poet and author Kathleen Jamie has been turning her attention to a new form of writing. Placed together, like the stones of a wayside cairn, these pieces mark a changing psychic and physical landscape. The virtuosity of these short pieces is both subtle and deceptive. Jamie's intent 'noticing' of the natural world is suffused with a clear-eyed awareness of all we endanger. She considers the future her children face, while recalling her own childhood and notes the lost innocence in the way we respond to the dramas of nature. With meticulous care she marks the point she has reached, in life and within the cascading crises of our times.

Cairn resonates with a beauty and wisdom that only an artist of Jamie's calibre could achieve.



## Surfacing

In this luminous essay collection Jamie visits archeological sites and mines her own memories – of her grandparents, of youthful travels – to explore what surfaces and what reconnects us to our past.



<b>Rights held</b>	Translation
<b>UK Publisher</b>	Sort Of Books
<b>Publication date</b>	August 2023
<b>Pages</b>	200

<b>UK Publication</b>	September 2019
<b>Rights sold</b>	France (La Baconniere), North America (Viking Penguin)

**Kathleen Jamie** is one of Britain's foremost poets and essayists. In 2021 she was appointed Scotland's Makar or National Poet. Her groundbreaking works of non-fiction – Findings (2005), Sightlines (2012) and Surfacing (2019) – are considered pioneers and exemplars of 'new nature writing'. She lives in Fife.

# Free To Go: From Orkney to New Zealand on a motorbike

## Esa Aldegheri



Jenny Brown Associates

ORIGINALS

### Narrative Non Fiction

*'An exhilarating story of freedom and constraint, told with a confident and unwavering verve. This is a journey driven by boundless curiosity, and by the desire for connection – across borders, across languages, across time' – Malachy Tallack*

*One woman's around-the-world adventure- from Orkney to New Zealand – and an exploration of borders, freedoms and womanhood.*

When Esa Aldegheri and her husband left their home in Orkney, Esa didn't know that their eighteen-month motorbike adventure would take them through twenty international frontiers – between Europe and the Middle East, through Pakistan, China and India – many of which are now impassable.

Charting a story of shrinking and expanding liberties and horizons, of motherhood, womanhood, xenophobia and changing geopolitical situations, *Free to Go* examines the challenges of navigating a world where many assume that women ride pillion, both on a motorbike and within relationships. Part around-the-world adventure, part-literary exploration of womanhood, *Free to Go* is about the journeys that shape and transform us.

ESA ALDEGHERI

Free to Go

From Orkney to New Zealand on a motorbike



Rights held

World, Film & TV

UK publisher

John Murray

Publication date

July 2022



**Esa Aldegheri** is a multilingual writer and academic from Italy and Scotland whose non-fiction has been published by Granta, MAP Magazine, Gutter Press, the Dangerous Women Project and others. Her poetry has been read on Radio 4 and Radio Scotland. This is her first book.

# The Two-Headed Whale

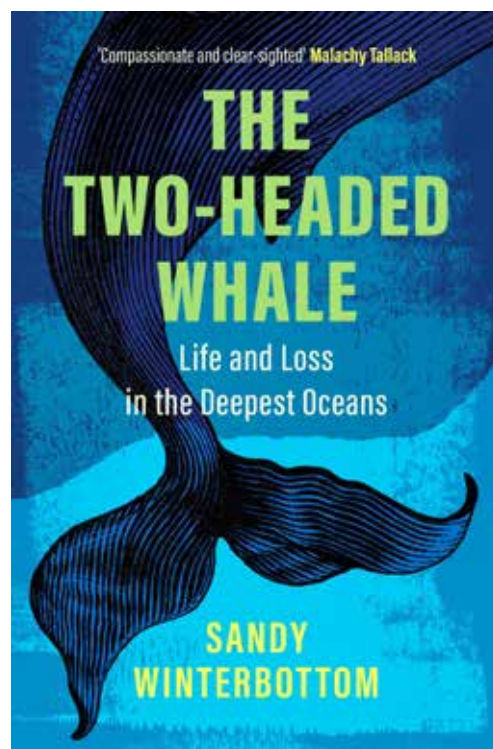
## Sandy Winterbottom

In 2016, Sandy Winterbottom embarked on an epic six-week tall-ship voyage from Uruguay to Antarctica. At the mid-way stop in South Georgia, her pristine image of the Antarctic was shattered when she discovered the dark legacy of twentieth century industrial-scale whaling. Enraged by what she found, she was quick to blame the men who undertook this wholesale slaughter, but then she stumbled upon the grave of an eighteen-year-old whaler from Edinburgh who she could not allow to bear the brunt of blame. There are two sides to every story.

*The Two-Headed Whale* vividly brings to life the spectacular scenery and wildlife of the vast Southern Oceans, set alongside the true-life story of Anthony Ford, the boy in the grave, as he sailed the same seas and toiled in an industry where profits outranked human life. In this compelling account, Sandy challenges our preconceptions of the Antarctic, weaving in themes of colonialism, capitalism and its link to both environmental and human exploitation. Drawing together threads of nature and travel writing with an unflinching narrative of life onboard a whaling factory ship and the legacy it left behind, *The Two-Headed Whale* leaves us questioning our troubled relationship with the extraordinary abundance of this planet.



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<b>Rights held</b>	Translation, Film & TV
<b>UK Publisher</b>	Birlinn
<b>N America</b>	Greystone
<b>UK Publication</b>	October 2022



**Sandy Winterbottom** spent most of her career working as an academic teaching and researching in geology and environmental mapping and monitoring at Stirling University. In 2010, she left to work in the renewables industry but following a life-changing trip to South Georgia and the Antarctic in 2016, she returned to study and completed the Creative Writing Masters Programme, taught by Kathleen Jamie, at Stirling University. She lives in Dollar. This is her first book.

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# The Pebbled Shore

Sarah Maine



Jenny Brown Associates

1980: the beautiful Scottish estate Rossie has been crumbling since its heir and war hero Archie went missing after the war. Fledgling journalist Eva thinks she recognises his photo: is he Tam, the same man she struck up a friendship with in Newfoundland when she was a child? That man was an outsider in the community, both for his radical views and for living with a native woman. An incident happened involving Eva which led to Tam's wrongful arrest for child abduction, and Eva and her family hurriedly returned to Scotland.

Grown up Eva returns to Newfoundland to discover if Tam is alive and if he wants to be found. She is guilt-laden by that incident when she was a child. She tracks him down, but Archie has his reasons to stay away, his principles about the land and ownership – but also his past illicit relationship with his young stepmother. Eva is unaware that she has been followed by Archie's half-brother who is anxious to find Archie for reasons of his own. And that he wants Archie permanently lost. Back in Scotland, Archie faces up to his family and his inheritance, with dramatic consequences.

A sweeping story about transgression, the long shadow of the past, belonging and second chances, set in Scotland and Canada in 1940s and 1980s.

This is Sarah Maine's sixth novel, and sees a return to the settings and themes of her bestselling debut, *The House Between Tides* (a Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year).

## The Awakenings

*'The Awakenings is an epic timeslip story that had me spell-bound from start to finish...I simply couldn't put it down – brilliant!'*

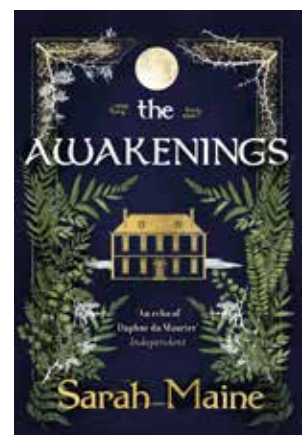
– Christina Courtenay

Yorkshire, 1890 Having lost her father and brothers in tragic circumstances, Olwen Malkon is forced to leave her childhood home to live with her uncle's family. In his chill vicarage, however, she soon fears that she is also losing her mind, as strange dreams take her into the life of Ælfwyn, a woman from a distant past whose fate is overshadowed by menace and betrayal.

<b>Rights held</b>	World, film & TV	<b>Publication date</b>	March 2022
<b>UK publisher</b>	Hodder	<b>Pages</b>	384



<b>Rights held</b>	N America, Translation, Film & TV
<b>UK Publisher</b>	Hodder
<b>Publication date</b>	Summer 2023



**Sarah Maine** is the author of five previous novels, including *The House Between Tides*, Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year, *Women of the Dunes* and *Alchemy and Rose*, both Scottish Books of the Month. She is an archaeologist, lives in York and spends her summers in the Hebrides.

# Sarah Maine Back List



Jenny Brown Associates

## The House Between Tides

Waterstones Scottish Book of the Year, 2018

*"Scotland's Outer Hebrides provides the sensuous setting for [this] impressive debut... [a] beautifully crafted novel"* – **Publishers Weekly**

*"There is an echo of Daphne du Maurier's Rebecca in Sarah Maine's appealing debut novel"* – **Independent**

Harriet Devereux returns to the family home of Bhalla House on a remote Hebridean island estate following the untimely death of her parents. Torn between selling the house and turning it into a hotel, Harriet undertakes urgent repairs, accidentally uncovering human remains. Who has been lying beneath the floorboards for a century? Were they murdered?

<b>Rights held</b>	World, film & TV	<b>Publication date</b>	June 2018
<b>UK publisher</b>	Hodder	<b>Rights sold</b>	Germany (Goldmann), Netherlands (Bruna), ANZ (Allen & Unwin)



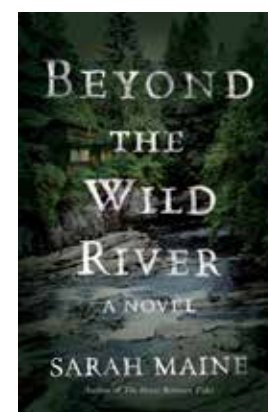
## Beyond the Wild River

*"Main writes beautifully about the wilderness"* – **The Times**

*"Maine's gift of setting the mood shines in her latest novel... Fans of Kate Morton's rich-with-atmosphere novels will feel right at home."* – **RT Reviews**

Scotland, 1893. Nineteen-year-old Evelyn Ballantyre, the daughter of a wealthy landowner, has rarely strayed from her family's estate in the Scottish Borders. An invitation to accompany her father to Canada is a chance for Evelyn to escape her limited existence. In the wild landscape of a new world, far from the constraints of polite society, the secrets and lies surrounding a shocking murder are finally stripped away, with dramatic consequences.

<b>Rights held</b>	World, film & TV	<b>Publication date</b>	April 2017
<b>UK publisher</b>	Hodder	<b>Rights sold</b>	US (Atria)



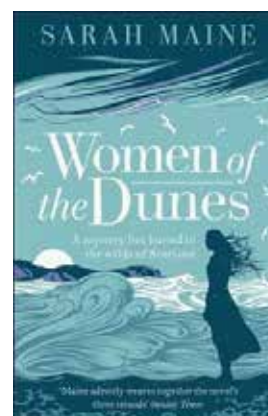
## Women of the Dunes

*"Sarah Maine is a master of Scottish historical fiction"* – **Sunday Post**

*"Maine adroitly weaves together the here strands of her novel"* – **Sunday Times**

On the rugged, sea-lashed coast of west Scotland lies Ullaness: home to the Scottish legend of Ulla, a Viking woman who washed up on Scottish shores centuries ago. The legend will bring the stories of three different women together...

<b>Rights held</b>	World, film & TV	<b>Publication date</b>	March 2019
<b>UK publisher</b>	Hodder	<b>Rights sold</b>	US (Atria)



## Alchemy and Rose

*"Its portrayal of life in a gold rush town is vivid and Rose's story is absorbing"* – **The Times**

*"A gripping page turner"* – **Woman Magazine**

*Alchemy and Rose* was inspired by the last great gold rush on the west coast of New Zealand's South Island in the 1870s.

<b>Rights held</b>	World, film & TV	<b>Publication date</b>	Jan 2021
<b>UK publisher</b>	Hodder	<b>Pages</b>	384



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# Illuminated by Water

Malachy Tallack



Jenny Brown Associates

## Narrative Non Fiction

*'A deep and wonderfully poetic meditation on how nature, landscape and place fit in with modern life'* – **Bookseller**

*'This book offers delight. It will surely have readers looking in the cupboard under the stairs for long discarded fishing tackle. And it also promises happy memories, happy reflection'*

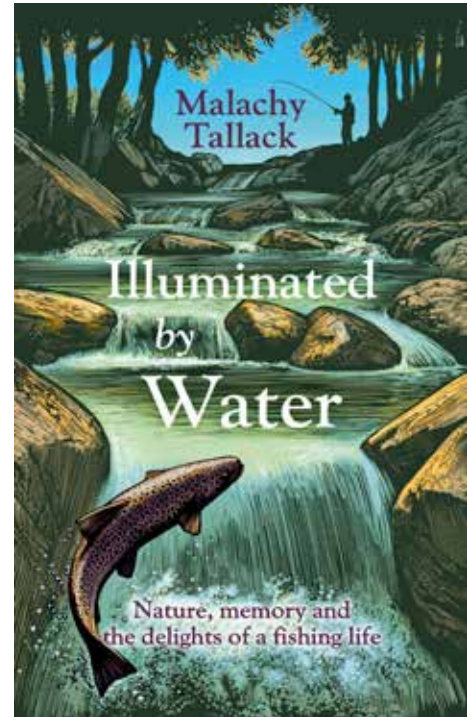
– **Allan Massie, The Scotsman**

*'Captures the true spirit of wild angling. A beautifully drawn and thoughtful book'* – **Will Mallard**

*ILLUMINATED BY WATER* combines memoir, nature writing and reflections on culture and history to examine why angling means so much to so many. It is a book about the author's own decades-long passion for fishing, and how it has shaped the way he sees and thinks about the natural world. That passion is shared and made legible here, not just for other anglers, but for those who have never yet cast a line in the water.

Why is it that catching fish — or even *thinking* about catching fish — can be so thrilling, so captivating, still? Why is it that time spent beside water can be imprinted so sharply in the memory? Why is it that what seems a simple act, of casting a line and hoping, can feel so rich in mystery?

Alternating between place-based and thematic chapters Tallack considers 'wildness', its pursuit and its meanings; the compulsive appeal of tying flies; the ethics of catching and killing; the allure of big fish; and beauty — where it's sought and where it's found. He describes fishing trips to Canada, Shetland, England. Throughout the book, certain topics recur – environmental harm and healing; the relationship between fishing and time; hope, and its manifestations; and the ways in which angling can deepen engagement with the natural world.



**Rights held**

World, Film & TV

**Rights sold**

North America (Pegasus), Germany (btb/PRH)

**UK publisher**

Doubleday

**Publication date**

July 2022



**Malachy Tallack** is the award-winning author of three books: two works of non-fiction ***Sixty Degrees North*** – “a joy to read”, **Telegraph** (Birlinn, Pegasus, Editions Hoebeke/Gallimard, Volcanos Libros, btb Verlag/Random House), ***The Un-Discovered Islands*** “a splendid, wistful book” **Spectator** (Birlinn, Shanghai Insight Media, WBG, Picador, Vega, Planeta) and most recently a novel published in 2018, ***The Valley at the Centre of the World*** “utterly beguiling” **Sunday Times**, (Canongate, btb Verlag/Random House, Bompiani). A second novel, also from Canongate, is forthcoming. His work explores themes of identity, land, community, and the relationships between people and place.

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## Other titles by Malachy Tallack

### The Un-Discovered Islands:

An Archipelago of Myths and Mysteries,  
Phantoms and Fakes

Narrative Non-Fiction

Winner of the Edward Stanford Award

*'A swashbuckling romp through 20 islands of the imagination.'*  
– Scotland on Sunday

*'It's a joy to island-hop through the book'*  
– National Geographic

Now in a stunning new paperback format

From the well-known myths of Atlantis to the more obscure legends of Thule and Antilla, from the islands of pure fiction to others whose existence are still in question, Malachy Tallack has created an atlas of fairytale and wonder.

### Sixty Degrees North:

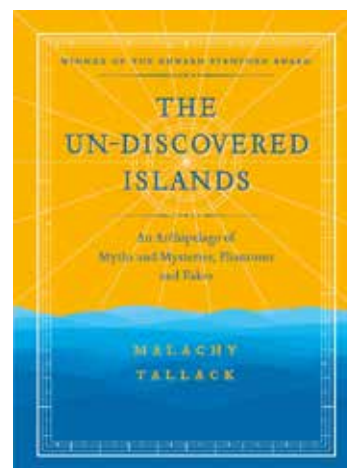
Around the World in search of Home

The sixtieth parallel wraps itself around the lower reaches of Finland, Sweden and Norway; it crosses the tip of Greenland and of South-central Alaska; it cuts the great spaces of Russia and Canada in half. The parallel also passes through Shetland, at the very top of the British Isles. In *Sixty Degrees North*, Malachy Tallack explores the places that share this latitude, beginning and ending in Shetland, where he has spent most of his life.

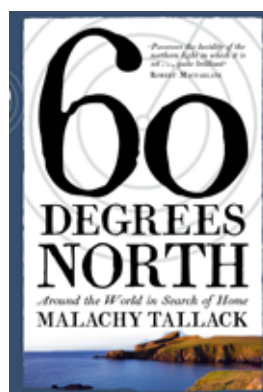
*'The book's real power comes from Tallack's poet's eye'*  
– New York Times, The Season's Best Travel Books

*'A joy to read, its prose as clear as the light on the Greenland ice-cap'* – Daily Telegraph

*'A fine, sensitive writer with an eye for detail and a talent for descriptive prose'* – Herald



Rights held	World, Film & TV
UK publisher	Polygon/Birlinn
Publication date	November 2020
Rights sold	China (Shanghai Insight Media), Germany (WBG), North America (Picador), Norway (Vega), Spain (Planeta)



Rights held	World, Film & TV
UK publisher	Polygon/Birlinn
Publication date	June 2016
Rights sold	US (Pegasus), France (Editions Hoebeke/Gallimard) Germany (btb Verlag/Random House) Spain (Volcanos Libros)

**Malachy Tallack** is the award-winning author of three books: two works of non-fiction *Sixty Degrees North*, and *The Un-Discovered Islands* and most recently a novel published in 2018, *The Valley at the Centre of the World* published by Canongate in 2018. A second novel, also from Canongate, is forthcoming.

# The Ponies at the Edge of the World

Catherine Munro

**Narrative Non Fiction**

*'A striking memoir'* – **The Times**

*'Munro describes the land and animals in generous and poetic detail'* – **Times Literary Supplement**

*'A meditation on connection between humans and animals, and the homes we make in wild places. I was completely immersed'*  
– **Katherine May, bestselling author of Wintering**

*'The Shetland isles and Shetland ponies, the double-down dream, woven with admiration, the narrator's craft, and some healthy, clear-eyed insight. I damn loved it.'* – **John Lewis-Stempel**

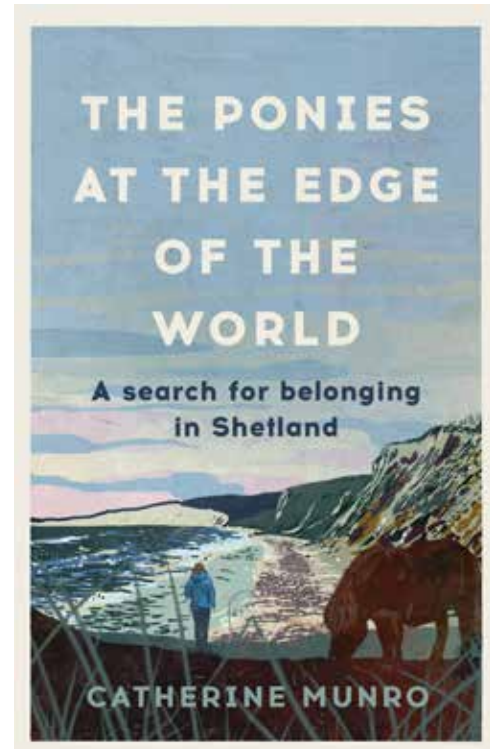
*The Ponies at the Edge of the World* is the story of a young woman's first year living on Shetland. She went to study Shetland ponies, the tiny but hardy ponies which have helped generations of Shetlanders survive their harsh environment, and to research the shared lives of people and animals. But on Shetland she was also to find the home and community for which she had long been searching. She was met with a warm welcome from islanders as she studied their animals, heard their stories, and came to understand their way of life. During the year, on a personal level, she experienced first hope, and then loss through a difficult miscarriage. She attributes her recovery to nature – by walking in Shetland's landscape and by living close to animals, in particular the caddy lamb she raised, and two ponies for which she took responsibility.

The account of the year is marked not only by the changing seasons, but also the high days of the Shetland Calendar – the January Viking fire festival of Up Helly Aa, the simmer dim with its magical light at midnight, the autumn pony sale, a wedding on Whalsay, Christmas and New Year on Shetland.

This is a lyrical and timely book about community, the connections between people, animals and landscape, rich in stories about Shetlanders and their native animals, and in the wildlife of otters, puffins, fulmars and whales.



**Jenny Brown Associates**



<b>Rights held</b>	World, Film & TV
<b>UK publisher</b>	Rider Books/Ebury
<b>Publication date</b>	May 2022
<b>Rights sold</b>	Netherlands (Noordboek)



This is **Catherine Munro's** first book. She now works as a tour guide on Shetland with her husband and young family.

# The Green Lady

Sue Lawrence



Jenny Brown Associates

## Historical Fiction

*'Brilliantly evokes the lives around Mary Queen of Scots. I loved it.'* – **Elizabeth Gifford**

*'Absolutely captivating...also quite shocking. I highly highly recommend it.'* – **Scots Whay Hae**

*'Beautifully written. Unapologetically portrays these real historical figures in a new light.'* – **Courier**

*'A whirlwind of historic drama and traumatic events'*  
– **Book of the Week, the Dundee Courier**

*'Sue Lawrence brilliantly evokes the lives of the women around Mary Queen of Scots in this fascinating mystery of a missing jewel and a ghost that haunts a beautiful Scottish castle to this day. Beautifully written. I loved it.'* – **Elizabeth Gifford**

Fyvie Castle is one of the most magnificent castles in Scotland. It is also one of the most haunted. Its corridors are stalked by The Green Lady, the ghost of 16thC Lilius Drummond who was married to Alexander Seton, a nobleman twice her age. It is said that he kept her captive and starved her to death to punish her for failing to provide a son and heir. He went on to remarry, and on the night of his wedding, ghostly screams were heard outside the marital bedchamber. In the morning the words 'Lilius Drummond' were scratched into the windowsill – and can still be seen today.

Sue Lawrence weaves a compelling novel around the tragic story of Lilius Drummond, and the times of Mary Queen of Scots, the power struggles in and out of court, the sacrifice made by women for their monarch - and their husbands. But this is also a story about female friendships across generations. Lilius Drummond struck up a lifelong friendship with her husband's aunt, Marie Seton, who had been Mary Queen of Scots' most loyal lady-in-waiting.

In a parallel storyline set in the 1980s, a young student takes a summer job at Fyvie Castle, to escape a toxic relationship with a much older man, and finds herself drawn into the legend of The Green Lady.



<b>Rights held</b>	Translation, Film & TV
<b>UK publisher</b>	Saraband
<b>Publication date</b>	February 2022
<b>Pages</b>	256



Also by Sue Lawrence...

### The Unreliable Death of Lady Grange

<b>Rights held</b>	World, Film & TV
<b>UK publisher</b>	Saraband
<b>Publication date</b>	March 2020



As well as writing popular historical thrillers, including *Down to the Sea*, **Sue Lawrence** is a leading cookery writer. After winning BBC's MasterChef in 1991, she became a regular contributor to the Sunday Times, Scotland on Sunday and other leading magazines. Raised in Dundee, she now lives in Edinburgh. She has won two Guild of Food Writers Awards.

# Death in Kabul

the Mackenzie & Khan series Book 1

A. Belsham & N. Higgins

Thriller

*'Tense, taut and totally authentic'* – D. V. Bishop

*'A cracking action thriller.'* – Marion Todd

**A murdered man. A stolen artefact. A search for justice in a city where violence and corruption rule...**

2003. Kabul has become a frontier city, Afghanistan's fledgling democracy struggling with crime and corruption as NATO coalition troops, gangs and warlords jostle for control. A city where justice is an ideal and security means carrying a gun.

When the body of a British serviceman is discovered in the city's infamous tank graveyard, the Kabul Police reach out for support in their investigation. Alasdair 'Mac' MacKenzie, formerly of the Metropolitan Police, is seconded to the team.

Baz Khan, an Afghan-American investigative journalist, is in Kabul researching a story. Precious antiquities, priceless artefacts of the country's rich history, are disappearing amid the chaos, never to be seen again. Baz is determined to uncover whoever is spiriting them away, to prevent her war-torn country being further denuded for profit. And she has a lead...

The soldier's death was no accident. Why was he so far from the British base in the middle of the night? And alone? As Baz and Mac investigate, they quickly realise they have each stumbled on something far bigger than they reckoned with, and are tossed into the Kabul underworld, where violence and corruption rule.

**A fast-paced, compelling adventure through the streets of Kabul, perfect for Jack Reacher fans.**

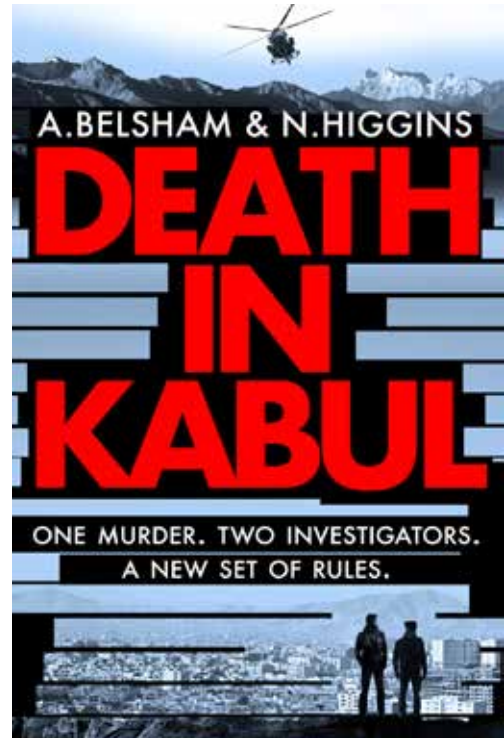


**Alison Belsham** is the author of the internationally bestselling *Tattoo Thief* trilogy (Trapeze), which has been translated into 15 languages and was a No.1 bestseller in Italy. As well as writing crime, Alison Belsham is collaborating with her brother Nick Higgins on an action thriller series set in Afghanistan.

**Nick Higgins** worked in Afghanistan from 2003 to 2007 as a security advisor on a variety of projects encompassing the UN, private military companies, the US Embassy and others. He has lived in or visited all the locations mentioned in the series.



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<b>Rights held</b>	Translation, Film & TV
<b>UK publisher</b>	Canelo (World English)
<b>Publication date</b>	March 2022
<b>Rights sold</b>	Italy (Newton Compton)

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# Death in Helmand

the Mackenzie & Khan series Book 2

A. Belsham & N. Higgins

Thriller

*'One of the most authentic thrillers I've read for ages.'*

– Robert Scragg

*'A book so atmospheric you can feel the grit between your teeth and the sand in your shoes, Death in Helmand is a thrill-ride race-to-the-finish that had me gripped until the end. A superb read!'* – Louisa Scarr/ De Lange

**One man murdered, another missing. A race against time...**

Helmand, 2004: Afghanistan's most lawless province, where nearly 90 per cent of the world's opium is grown. Pink and lilac poppies flutter innocently in the breeze in fields that stretch for miles and miles along the Helmand River south of the provincial capital, Lashkar Gah. Gangsters and warlords battle for supremacy in the lucrative trade, territories well-known, and fiercely contested.

Well Diggers, an Anglo-Dutch NGO helping the farming community, comes under attack. One man is dead and another man is missing – suspected kidnapped, so head of security Ginger Jameson calls in his old friend Alasdair 'Mac' MacKenzie to help.

But when the expected ransom demand fails to materialise, rumours blossom, creating a web of deceit and a multitude of false leads. Embarking on a rescue mission into the no-go reaches of southern Helmand might look like a major scoop to Mac's girlfriend, investigative reporter Baz Khan, but it puts the whole team in danger. And if they don't find him soon, they won't find him at all...

**From Helmand's shimmering poppy fields to the blistering Desert of Death and the opium bazaars of Bahram Char, where nothing is as cheap as a man's life, this is the gripping sequel to *Death in Kabul*.**

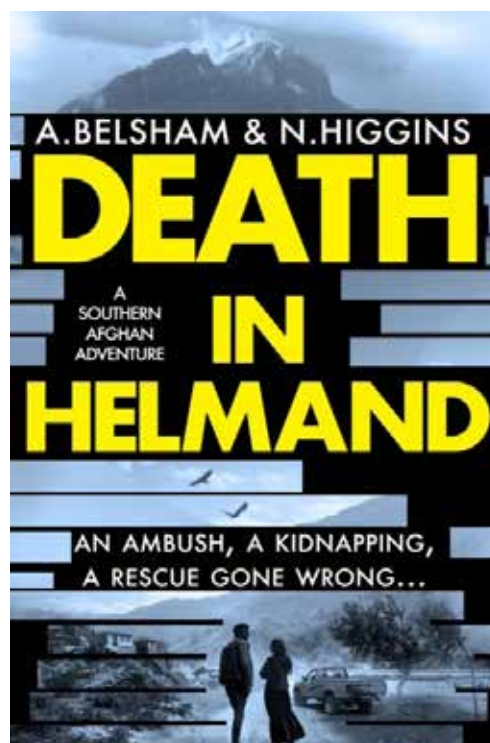


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# Firebird

## Susan Sellers



Jenny Brown Associates

### Historical Fiction

*Firebird is a brilliantly researched and utterly absorbing novel – we are informed, entertained, amused and moved in equal measure. A damn good read!*  
– **Lesley Glaister**

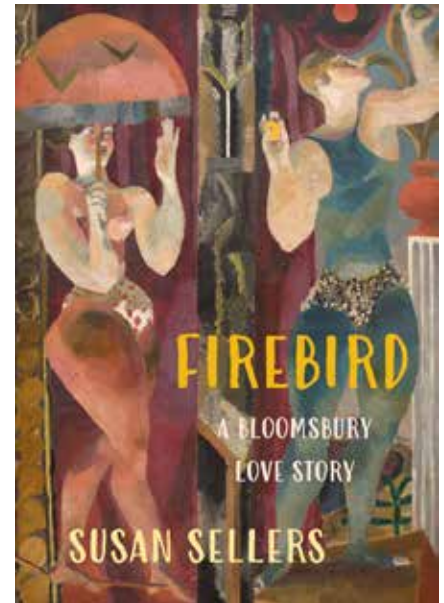
*'A must-read for those interested in the literary history of this period, shedding new light on Bloomsbury lives through deep research and richly imaginative prose.'* – **Noa Leach, Literature Cambridge**

*'Truly one of the most absorbing books I've read in a long time – absolutely brilliant'* – **Dr Mark Banting, The Common Viewer**

London 1921: influential economist John Maynard Keynes, avowedly gay, sees Lydia Lopokova on stage as star ballerina with Diaghilev's Ballets Russes. He is instantly infatuated by the Russian prima ballerina, and she with him, but their courtship is chequered and stormy as Maynard's Bloomsbury friends try to separate them, while Lydia despairs over Maynard's unwillingness to break off his affair with his lover.

Told in three Acts, mirroring the Firebird ballet, this compelling novel tracks the course of this unlikely relationship, and vividly recounts their widely differing backgrounds. Born in St Petersburg in 1891 to a devout Lutheran mother and charismatic drunken father, Lydia became a star pupil at the Imperial Ballet School where she danced for Tsar Nicholas II. The schooldays of the bookish Maynard, on the other hand, were spent winning academic prizes at Eton, a Fellowship at King's College Cambridge, a pivotal role in the peace conferences following two world wars, and books of economic theory that continue to influence policy-makers today.

Though the material derives from extensive research, *Firebird* is a novel, presenting Lydia and Maynard as two dazzlingly original but also troubled characters, while recreating the worlds of 1920's Bloomsbury and the Ballets Russes for readers with vivid, impressionistic immediacy.

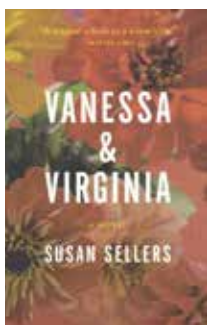


**Rights held** Translation, Film & TV

**UK publisher** Edward Everett Holt (World English)

**Publication date** March 2022

**Rights sold** France (Mercure de France), Germany (btb/Random House)



### Vanessa and Virginia

*'A beautiful haunting novel'* – **John Burnside** / *'Delectable'* – **Publishers Weekly**

In this lyrical, impressionistic account, written as a love letter and elegy from Vanessa to Virginia, Sellers imagines her way into the heart of the lifelong relationship between writer Virginia Woolf and painter Vanessa Bell. With sensitivity, imagination, and fidelity to what is known of both lives, Sellers has created a powerful portrait of sibling rivalry.

**Rights held** World, film & TV  
**UK publisher** On submission (orig Two Ravens 2008)

**Rights sold** France (Autrement), Germany (btb), Iran (Roshangaran), Netherlands (Orlando)

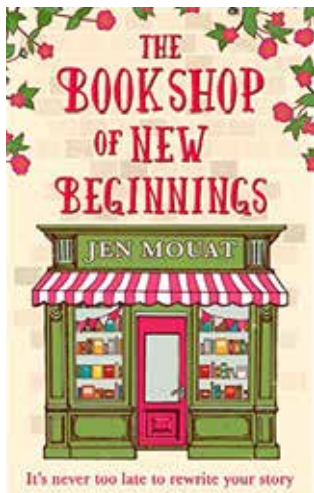
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**Susan Sellers** is an author, editor, translator and novelist. Her novel, *Vanessa and Virginia*, about the intense relationship between sisters Virginia Woolf and Vanessa Bell, was translated into seventeen languages, turned into an audiobook, and adapted for the stage. She is Professor of English at St Andrews University in Scotland.

## The Bookshop of New Beginnings

Jen Mouat



It's always been Emily Cotton's dream to own her own bookshop. But sitting among shelves of haphazardly stacked books in a damp old barn, the reality feels a little different.

Kate Vincent hasn't been back home in six years. But when she receives a desperate email from her childhood best friend begging her for help she doesn't stop to think. Scenes of idyllic holidays with the Cotton family dance in her mind and she books a one-way ticket to Wigtown.

But life for the Cottons isn't all as she remembers and the secrets which once drove Kate and Emily apart are finally threatening to come to the surface. Now as the pair work together to save Emily's failing bookshop – can they too begin a new chapter of their friendship?



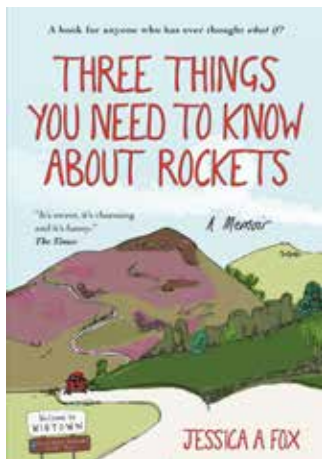
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<b>Rights held</b>	World excluding North America (HQ Digital)
<b>UK publisher</b>	HQ Digital
<b>Publication date</b>	August 2017
<b>Rights sold</b>	France (City), Germany (Thiele), Italy (Leone), Turkey (Marti)
<b>Pages</b>	336

**Jen Mouat** studied Illustration and Printmaking before embarking upon a successful career as a primary school teacher. Idyllic childhood summers spent on holiday in Dumfries and Galloway inspired her love of the Solway Coast, the setting for her first novel.

## Three Things You Need To Know About Rockets

Jessica Fox



The companion to Shaun Bythell's bestselling *Diary of a Bookseller*. This is a book for anyone who has ever thought "What if" - a true story about a woman who dared to follow her dreams...

*'The romantic memoir of the year'*  
– Daily Mail

*'It's sweet, it's charming and it's funny'* – The Times

<b>Rights held</b>	World, film & TV
<b>UK publisher</b>	Short Books
<b>Publication date</b>	New ed 2018
<b>Rights sold</b>	Germany (Bastei Lubbe), Russia (Azbooka Atticus), North America (Simon & Schuster)
<b>Pages</b>	386

Jessica Fox is living in Hollywood, a 26-year-old filmmaker with a high-stress job at NASA. Working late one night, craving another life, she is seized by a moment of inspiration and types "secondhand bookshop Scotland" into Google... Soon, Jessica finds herself halfway across the world, in Wigtown on the west coast of Scotland, working for the handsome but somewhat aloof Euan, owner of "The Bookshop", the town's eccentric cultural hub. As she struggles with the local accent and the pace of life in this remote corner of the world, she realises that she has a lot to do to adapt to life five thousand miles from home.

**Jessica Fox** is a writer and film director. She has consulted for Harper Collins and was a resident storyteller and film director at NASA. Jessica's films have been shown at both US and International film festivals. She heads Mythic Image Studios and divides her time between the US and the UK. *Three Things You Need To Know About Rockets* is her first book.

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