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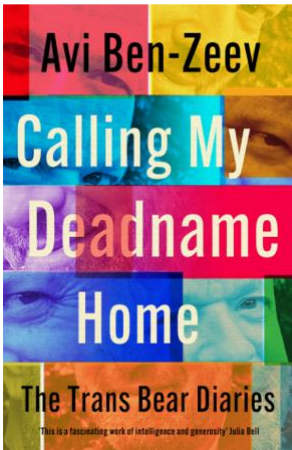
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BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR



Trans Bear Diaries:

Calling My Deadname Home

Avi Ben-Zeev

World, 340pp, Nov 2024

'Early in my gender transition, I tried killing off my female past. But my deadname, Talia, fought back. She kept barging into consciousness, insisting on being seen and integrated into the man I was becoming. This is our story, and it goes beyond gender to explore what it means to come home.' **Avi Ben-Zeev**

'A fascinating work of intelligence and generosity, which gives voice to the synthesis that is necessary to achieve lasting personal change' **Julia Bell**

Brilliantly tackles contemporary gender and other social issues; class, race through the lens of a gay trans man

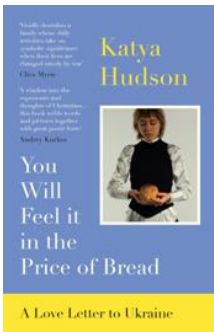
Trans Bear Diaries: Calling My Deadname Home is the story of Avi Ben Zeev's transition from a heterosexual, feminine-looking woman into a bearish, gay man. It explores what it means to come home to oneself with brutal honesty, humour, and self-compassion.

The book follows Avi's journey from early transition (San Francisco, 2003-2008), to later transition (San Francisco, 2009-2014) and then returns to where it all started with his female past in Talia's story (Israel, Italy, USA; 1973-2001) told in third-person. In the last chapter, *Fucking Myself Goodbye*, he makes love to a woman who roleplays Talia, eroticizing and celebrating parts that had once brought shame.

While gender transition takes centre stage, other changes in Avi's life are woven in—from growing up in a working-class right-wing Israeli family and barely finishing high school to becoming a pro-Palestinian activist and avoiding military service by faking madness to receiving a Yale Ph.D.

Avi Ben Zeev is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology at London's Metropolitan University, and a recent Birkbeck, University of London's Creative Writing MFA graduate. Avi received a PhD from Yale in Cognitive Psychology and became a faculty member at Brown University, Williams College, and San Francisco State University where he attained full professorship. In 2022 he moved to London.

He is passionate about applying a psychological lens to memoir and fiction. *Angel*, a chapter from *Trans Bear Diaries* won the 2023 UK's Transgender Short Story Prize. In addition, he edited an anthology, *Trans Homo ... Gasp!*, which was a Lambda Award Finalist, authored nonfiction books, including *Complex Cognition* (Oxford University Press), published high-impact articles, and is a speaker at leading settings (e.g., George Lucas' Skywalker Ranch).



YOU WILL FEEL IT IN THE PRICE OF BREAD: A Love Letter to Ukraine

Katya Hudson

RIGHTS: World inc audio, 120pp, illustrated, Feb 2023

'A window into the experiences and thoughts of Ukrainians...this book welds words and pictures together with great poetic force.' **Andrey Kurkov**

'Hudson vividly describes a family whose daily activities take on symbolic significance when their lives are changed utterly by war.' **Clive Myrie, BBC News**

'A heartfelt memoir that is both celebration and lament'
Caroline Sanderson, Bookseller, Editor's Choice

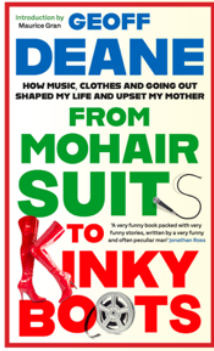
Illustrated throughout with drawings, collage, maps and photos.

Katya Hudson was at university in the UK when Russia invaded Ukraine. Cut off from her homeland and beloved Grandma, Babushka Zhana, she was devastated and moved to record this heartfelt memoir. From Katya's idyllic childhood with her siblings: holidays in Crimea and carefree days working the land at the Dacha; to the sickening impact of Putin's invasion and its effect on Katya, her friends and family – this memoir vividly portrays the cruel impact of war.

Through it all bestrides Babushka, Katya's 'favourite person on earth.' When she is not working in her vegetable garden, she is reading the sexy bits from novels out loud to her granddaughter. But in this last year she has turned her hand to a recipe of a different type - Molotov cocktails - in preparation for an attack on her apartment block.

Combining prose, poetry, collage, maps and illustrations this is a truly immersive memoir – an authentic portrait of the impact of war.

Katya Hudson was brought up in Kyiv by her Ukrainian Mum and British Dad, and Babushka Zhana, her beloved and indomitable granny. She graduated in Summer 2022 from Kingston University and is currently living and working in Paris.



FROM MOHAIR SUITS TO KINKY BOOTS
**How Music, Clothes and Going Out Shaped My
Life and Upset My Mother**
GEOFF DEANE
Introduction by Maurice Gran
RIGHTS: World, 224pp, Nov 2023

‘A very funny book packed with very funny stories, written by a very funny and often peculiar man’
Jonathan Ross

‘London’s riposte to Damon Runyan’ **Tony Parsons**

‘The Missing Link between Micky Flanagan and David Sedaris’ **Kimberley Chambers**

As the lead singer of *Modern Romance* he toured the world, as the screenwriter of *Kinky Boots* he conquered Hollywood, now comes Geoff Deane’s latest act as a brilliantly witty raconteur in his hilarious memoir *From Mohair Suits to Kinky Boots*....

Geoff Deane has worked as a fly-pitcher selling out of a suitcase, and flogged suits on Brick Lane market in London’s East End. He was the singer in a much-loved culty punk band the *Leyton Buzzards*, a floppy-haired pop star in *Modern Romance*, a songwriter, and record producer.

He wrote a gay anthem for John Waters drag queen muse Divine, worked as journalist and restaurant critic for style magazines *The Face* and *Arena*, before becoming a successful writer and producer of TV comedy. And then he wrote a couple of films, one of which, *Kinky Boots*, became a Tony Award winning Broadway stage show.

With a cast ranging from local oddballs to international celebrities, Geoff Deane’s unique take on the world is only matched by his extraordinarily rich use of language, with a smattering of Cockney rhyming slang, Yiddish and Polari.

Selecting it as a highlight for October in The Bookseller, Caroline Sanderson said ‘*Muswell Press is – not without justification – touting him as ‘the missing link between Micky Flanagan and David Sedaris’. It certainly made me laugh.*’

Maurice Gran is the BAFTA award winning writer of The New Statesman and many tv shows including *Birds of a Feather*, *Shine on Harvey Moon* and *Love Hurts*.

Geoff Deane grew up in London’s East End. He was a singer in the punk band the Leyton Buzzards before going on to become lead singer in *Modern Romance*. He worked as a journalist on *The Face* and *Arena* and subsequently became a tv and film scriptwriter with credits including *Kinky Boots* and *It’s a Boy Girl Thing*.

Karen McLeod



Lifting Off



A Life in Freefall

**LIFTING OFF
A Life in Freefall**

Karen McLeod

Rights: World, 272pp, June 2024

Winner of the Betty Trask Award for *In Search of the Missing Eyelash*

'LIFTING OFF is an entertaining and at times enlightening read.' *Mail on Sunday*

'Atmospheric and idiosyncratic, this is a memoir that entertains and emboldens.' *Observer*

'[An] absorbing and often hilarious account of the author's 12 years as closeted cabin crew. It's a story of love, creativity, acceptance, and more.' *Bookseller, Editor's Choice*

Brimming with vertiginous loops and extreme globe-trotting. *Lifting Off* is a memoir about flying as cabin crew for British Airways and the profound impact that experience had on Karen MacLeod's life.

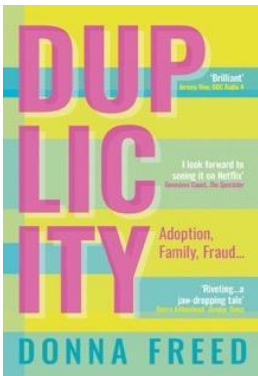
When a colleague suggests to Karen that she should hide her sexuality to make others feel comfortable, she has no idea what the personal cost will be. Having come out as a lesbian, she goes back in. Whilst gay male cabin crew are accepted in the job, gay women are seen as unnatural and forced to hide their true identity. Against a backdrop of exotic locations, hotel bars and nightclubs, Karen slowly unravels as the inability to truly be herself begins to make an impact.

This is a narrative of anxiety with a backdrop of liminal spaces around the globe. It is a story of seeking identity and taking solace in alcohol. It is also about familial ties and the fear Karen has of following in the footsteps of her alcoholic father. Redemption is found in love and creativity: unconventional love for her gay best friend, the rarity and yet transformation of lesbian love, and the impact of her dad's death.

Ultimately this is the story of how Karen finally learned to be herself, to look after herself and to discover her true strength.

In Search of the Missing Eyelash will be reissued simultaneously by Muswell Press

Karen McLeod is a writer, performer, and creative writing tutor. Her debut novel, *In Search of the Missing Eyelash* (Jonathan Cape) won the Betty Trask Award and was shortlisted for the *Best First Novel Award*. Her work has been widely published. Barbara Brownskirt, her comic creation, performs as a stand-up comedian. Karen lives in south London.



DUPLICITY: My Mothers' Secrets

Donna Freed

Rights: World English, 252pp, Nov 2022

'Just the most amazing story, a brilliant story, it's like discovering another world. How incredible to go back and search for your past in that way' **Jeremy Vine, BBC R2**

'A jaw-dropping tale...riveting'. **Decca Aitkenhead, Sunday Times**

'A family scandal straight out of a Hollywood film noir, what a story it is. I look forward to seeing it on Netflix'
Genevieve Gaunt, The Spectator

Donna's birth parents were infamous con artists at the heart one of the US's biggest crime investigations of the 1960s

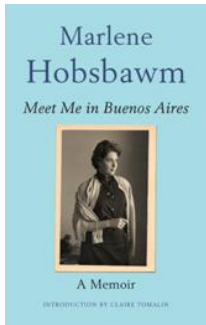
Donna was adopted through the notorious Louise Wise Adoption Service, since exposed as corrupt and unethical.

When her adoptive mother died in 2009 Donna Freed set out to track down her birth mother. What she discovered was truly shocking - she was the daughter of a pair of infamous con artists, at the heart of one of the biggest true crime stories to grip the USA in the 1960s.

Previously redacted records from the infamous *Louise Wise Services in New York revealed that Donna's mother (27, Jewish and single), her father (40, Catholic, married with 4 children), had hatched a plan to defraud an insurance company and run off to Spain to raise Donna. Further investigation revealed that in 1967, Donna's mother, Mira Lindenmaier, faked her own death in a drowning accident off City Island in the Bronx for the double indemnity insurance money.

Donna loved her adoptive mother, but was now keen to meet her birth mother and find out how and why her parents abandoned her. How would she feel towards Mira, her 'real' Mom. How has becoming a mother herself impacted on her feelings towards her two mothers? Gripping and fast-paced, this extraordinary memoir is also incredibly moving tackling fundamental questions about motherhood and identity, nature vs nurture.

Donna Freed, a native of New York, is a writer and translator. She has lived in London since 2005. She writes for *The Oldie* and presents the Radio Gorgeous podcast. She appeared on the [Today Show](#) in January last year, prompted by an article in the [New York Post](#) which has revisited Miriam Lindenmaier's story from time to time over the years.



MEET ME IN BUENOS AIRES

Life of a Wife in History

Marlene Hobsbawm

Introduction by Claire Tomalin

Rights: World, x Spain/Argentina Siglo XX1

180pp, Nov 2019

An intensely personal and revealing biography of life with Eric Hobsbawm, one of the 20th Century's most influential intellectuals

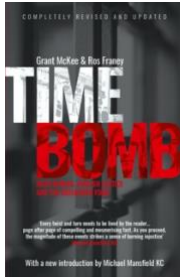
A rich and fascinating life - from pre-war Vienna via an émigré childhood in the UK and on to Italy, the Congo and the US.

At the time of his death Eric Hobsbawm was the most famous historian in the world. He not only wrote history but was witness to it, from Communist uprising in Europe to revolution in Cuba where he was Che Guevara's interpreter. He was instrumental in the birth of New Labour and was also a jazz journalist for the New Statesman. In later years he became a Companion of Honour.

This is the story of his family life. Marlene Hobsbawm grew up in a comfortable middle class Jewish home in Vienna, but that life was shattered by the rise of Nazism. Age five she fled the country with her family and settled in the UK. A talented linguist, Marlene worked post-war for the UN in Italy helping to rebuild the country then on to the war-torn Congo. Returning to the UK she met Eric Hobsbawm. This is the story of their rollercoaster life together much of it spent under the scrutiny of M15.

Marlene Hobsbawm worked for the Foreign Office and the UN before becoming a music teacher. She lives in North London.

Politics/History



Time Bomb: Irish Bombs, English Justice and the Guildford Four Introduction by Michael Mansfield KC

Grant McKee and Ros Franey

COMPLETELY REVISED AND UPDATED

‘Page after page of compelling and mesmerising fact. As you proceed the magnitude of these events strikes a sense of burning injustice’ Michael Mansfield KC

The Guildford pub bombings took place in October 1974. In November 1975 the Guildford Four were convicted of carrying out the bombings for the Provisional Irish Republican Army – IRA. Under severe interrogation by the police the defendants confessed, later retracting those confessions. This is the book that campaigned for their innocence.

- Completely updated edition of the 1988 edition with new material and a fresh introduction to include documents revealing that the police knew who the bombers almost certainly were before the original trial of the Guildford 4.

That the police passed the information to the DPP who chose not to show it to the defence at the G4’s trial.

And the real story-of how Gareth Peirce found Gerry Conlon’s alibi, which had been concealed by Surrey Police.

- New evidence still emerging on the involvement of the Metropolitan and Surrey police

The Guildford Four were convicted on the strength of their own confessions, which they retracted in court. They were given some of the longest prison sentences ever imposed in Britain.

This is the original book that argued for their innocence. Its authors showed that they were victims of the most serious miscarriage of justice in recent British history.

TIME BOMB tells the full story of the IRA bombing campaign of 1974-75 with its startling culmination in the Balcombe Street siege. Among its arguments it presents

- Testimonies from the four men who actually carried out the bombings
- Evidence of deliberate concealment by the Crown of crucial forensic links between Guildford and Woolwich and other bombings
- The expert opinions of three forensic psychologists and a psychiatrist on the states of mind of the accused
- A body of new evidence - previously unheard witnesses and an exclusive disclosure about the circumstances in which one of the four came to confess (Carole Richardson, who we reveal was given pethidine by a police doctor before her first confession)
- The legal opinion of Lord Devlin that the Guildford case was a ‘plain miscarriage of justice’

In the late 80s Ros Franey and Grant McKee, experienced journalists and film makers made two acclaimed and influential TV documentaries which led to the reopening of the case of the Guildford Four.

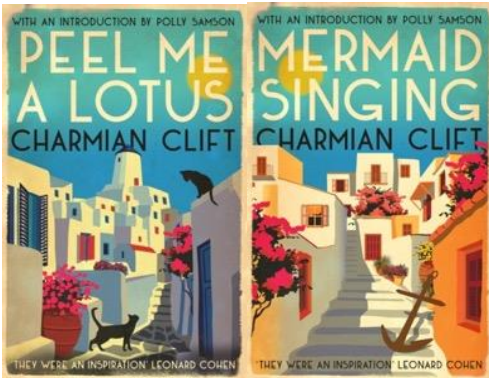
Travel/Memoir

PEEL ME A LOTUS *and* MERMAID SINGING– Charmian Clift

With introductions by Polly Samson

Rights: World ex ANZ, Greece, Spain, Poland

212pp, 2021



‘The Australians drank more than other people, they wrote more, they got sick more, they got well more, they cursed more, they blessed more, and they helped a great deal more. They were an inspiration’

[Leonard Cohen on Charmian Clift and George Johnston](#)

‘Clift’s writing is an honest depiction of the ideal to which we all aspire, to live the dream. What a delight that she should have been discovered again’ [The Times](#)

‘Clift’s immersive 1950’s memoirs capture the magic, and the menace of Greek island life’ [Daily Telegraph](#)

So Long Marianne, a Canadian/Norwegian TV production featuring Charmian Clift and her family is due to air late 2024

The books that inspired Polly Samson’s *Theatre for Dreamers*, Bloomsbury 2020

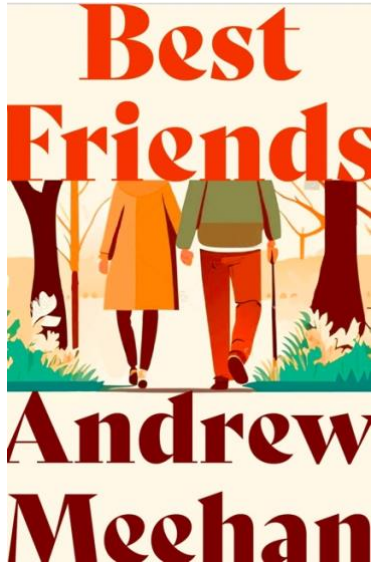
In 1951 the Australian writers Charmian Clift and George Johnston left grey post-war London for Greece with children in tow. Their plan was to live simply and cheaply, to focus on their writing away from the noise and distractions of the city.

The result is two of Charmian Clift’s best known and most loved books. *Mermaid Singing* (1956) and *Peel Me a Lotus* (1959) paint a vivid picture of the characters and sun-drenched rhythms of traditional island life, long before mass tourism descended. Now published in the UK and Australia for the first time in 20 years.

Settling first on the tiny sponge-fishing island of Kalymnos, *Mermaid Singing* relays the culture shock and the sheer delight of their first year in Greece. *Peel Me a Lotus* relates their move to Hydra where they bought a house and grappled with the chaos of domestic life whilst becoming the centre of an informal bohemian community of artists and writers including the then unknown Leonard Cohen who lodged with them, and his future girlfriend Marianne Ihlen.

Charmian Clift (1923-69) was an Australian writer and columnist she wrote two novels, many essays and was a much-loved columnist for The Sydney Morning Herald. She collaborated with her husband, the award-winning writer George Johnston, best known for *My Brother Jack*, on several works.

Fiction



BEST FRIENDS

Andrew Meehan

RIGHTS: World Eng x NA, Audio, May '25, 200pp

'A true original' Kevin Barry

'His writing is exceptional' *Sunday Times*

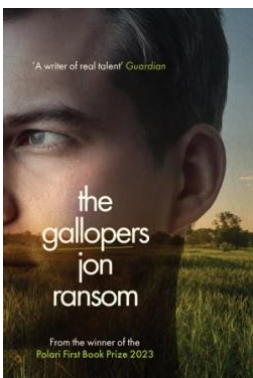
A richly resonant, bittersweet story of late life love with echoes of *Olive Kitteridge* and *Our Souls at Night*.

June cleans houses. Ray is a janitor at the public tennis courts in Dun Laoghaire. After lives spent picking up the pieces, he's not romantic material, and she's not even friend material. When it comes to learning how to be with other people at the age of 70 plus, they are unlikely companions, even more unlikely friends.

Ray looks a bit like Willie Nelson, June looks a bit like Chrissie Hynde. They've never fitted in before and they don't fit in now. They are just regular folk for whom the path towards love has been closed off. As understanding blossoms into friendship, June and Ray find themselves slowly rediscovering the joy that's been missing from their lives for so long.

The right person at the right time....June and Ray, this is your moment.

Andrew Meehan has published three books, *One Star Awake (New Island)*, *Instant Fires (New Island)* and *The Mystery of Love (Head of Zeus)* all of which received glowing reviews. He also writes screenplays and was for many years Head of Development at the Irish Film Board. He teaches Creative Writing at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow.



THE GALLOPERS

Jon Ransom

RIGHTS: Audio, Jan '24, 224pp

Winner of the 2023 Polari First Book Prize for *The Whale Tattoo*

'Very much like Tennessee Williams' *TLS*

'Ransom has written a hypnotic and even more mysterious second novel...This is a lust-drenched, ache-filled gay love triangle of sorts that gnarls into a sly emotional thriller...a whispered howl of a novel' **Guardian**

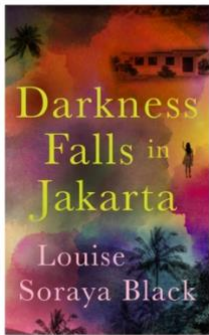
'The Gallopers reads very much like Tennessee Williams...Ransom's writing matches sensitivity with winning boldness and stands out for its emotional honesty' **TLS**

'Tremendous character and flavour...bristles with originality' **Financial Times**

Spanning 30 years, from the green fields of Norfolk in 1953 to London during the AIDS epidemic of the 1980s, this blistering tale follows the lives of Eli, Shane and Jimmy. Three men, united by a devastating secret.

Visceral and mesmerising, **The Gallopers** is a novel of deceit, desire and loss, and a book that confirms Jon Ransom's status as a writer of great talent.

Ransom's debut, *The Whale Tattoo*, shortlisted for the '23 Polari Prize, was hailed by *The Guardian* as one of the Debuts of the Year and described Jon as 'a writer of real talent...a powerful new voice of gay working-class life' Uli Lenart in *Attitude* said 'a book of visceral, magnetic, raw pulsating beauty. We haven't read a novel this brilliant since *Swimming in the Dark* by Tomasz Jedrowski.' Jon has since appeared at Edinburgh Book Festival and the Hay Festival 2023. He lives near Cambridge. www.jonransom.com



DARKNESS FALLS IN JAKARTA

Louise Soraya Black

RIGHTS: World English+ audio, Jan '24, 272pp

Virginia Prize winner for Pomegranate Sky

'Very attractive, beautifully written' Fay Weldon

The death of Claire's parents triggers haunting memories of her past life in Jakarta, a time that Claire has been running away from her whole life. Forced to leave the city she loved, and packed off to school in the UK, by her disappointed parents, Claire is racked with guilt about the agonising event she'd become embroiled in.

Twenty years later, with husband and son in tow, she decides to travel back in the hope of finding answers and perhaps forgiveness. Is confronting her past the key to her deliverance?

Louise writes beautifully and her seductive descriptions of Jakarta are mesmerising. Her previous book, *The Water Garden* (2021) was described by Fay Weldon as 'very attractive, beautifully written' and by Ella Berthoud as 'a deeply seductive read'. She has a British mother and Iranian father and spent part of her childhood in Indonesia where her father worked for UNICEF. She currently lives in Ibiza

Crime/Thriller



OUT OF THE DARK

Heidi Amsinck

RIGHTS: World Eng, audio ex NA, April '25, 85,000 words

Vivid...a fresh approach to crime fiction' Joan Smith, Sunday Times

'Page-turningly brilliant... vibrant and expertly penned' Abir Mukherjee

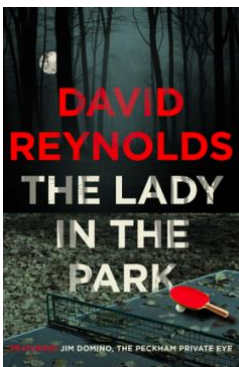
The disappearance of two children, six years apart, triggers a frantic search. Jensen and ex-lover Jungersen are thrown together once more, as they navigate the seedy world of child-trafficking.

Matilde Clausen, 9, vanishes from a crowded playground in the middle of Copenhagen, triggering a frantic search across the city. When a possible link emerges to the disappearance of Lea Høgh, 10, six years ago, DI Henrik Jungersen is thrown back into the nightmare that almost finished his career.

Desperate for redemption, but barred from reopening the old case, Henrik turns to his estranged lover, *Dagbladet* chief crime reporter Jensen, for help. In denial about a big change approaching in her personal life, Jensen throws herself into an investigation reaching deep into Denmark's paedophile underworld.

What really happened to Lea? And where is Matilde? Will Henrik, Jensen, and her troubled teenage apprentice Gustav, escape the darkness that threatens to engulf them, in time to solve the mystery?

Heidi Amsinck is a writer and journalist born in Copenhagen, now living in London. She has written many stories for BBC R4 including The Bellevue Poltergeist series featuring Jensen and currently on i-player. She is the author of three previous titles in the Jensen series: My Name is Jensen, The Girl in the Photo and Back from the Dead



The Lady in the Park

Featuring Jim Domino, the Peckham Private Eye

David Reynolds

RIGHTS: World Eng, audio ex NA, June '25, 82,000 words

'Reynolds is a writer of quiet, calm brilliance' *Daily Express*

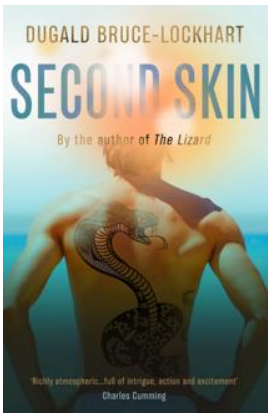
When a woman is found unconscious on a ping-pong table in Peckham's Warwick Gardens, it looks like a case of mistaken identity. Why would anyone want to injure this popular local mum of six? But Jim Domino, retired CID detective turned private eye, keeps asking questions.

As the crime escalates to murder, Domino's investigations take him to the leafy Thames Valley, and plunge him into a dark world of ruthless people-traffickers and drug dealers. How might these sinister activities be linked to the Peckham murder?

Assisted by sharp observations from his six-year-old grandson, Danny, Domino finds that important clues can come from unexpected sources.

The Lady in the Park is about the good in most people, and about love, grief and childhood. The first in an exciting new crime fiction series, it weaves a diverse cast of characters into a twisty immersive plot that will leave readers craving for more investigations featuring the inimitable Jim Domino and his young sidekick, Danny.

David Reynolds was a co-founder of Bloomsbury Publishing in 1986. His non-fiction has been widely reviewed, *Swan River* (Picador, 2001), was shortlisted for the PEN/ Ackerley Prize. He lives in Putney, South London, and knows Peckham well, having spent time there looking after his grandchildren. *The Lady in the Park* is his debut novel and the first in the Peckham Private Eye



SECOND SKIN

Dugald Bruce Lockhart

RIGHTS: World, June 2024, 95,000 words

'Bruce Lockhart has done it again. A brilliant follow up to *The Lizard*' Charles Cumming

'A Graham Greene for today' Helen Lederer

'I am not alone when I say that I have been waiting for this book to hit my desk since turning the final page of Bruce-Lockhart's debut, *The Lizard*. It's genius and a sinfully good read'. --5 Stars Scottish Field

'Much praised...the smells, tastes and surrounds of Greece — and most of all, Haston's simmering desire for Amara — rise off the pages like the heat on a midday beach.' Financial Times, Best New Thrillers

'Thrilling espionage...high octane' Sunday Post

'A May crime cracker...gripping' Crime Monthly

'While his father, grandfather and a great uncle were all secret agents, Dugald Bruce Lockhart was deemed 'unsuitable' for MI6. Instead, after forging a successful career on stage and screen, he's used their real-life stories as inspiration for his gripping thrillers'. Express

'Pleasingly brutal... break out the retsina' The Times

'Accelerates into a fast and twisty thriller' Sun

Five years after a murderous encounter on the island of Paros, Alastair Haston's world is upended by a startling discovery: a son he never knew existed.

Desperate to learn more, he travels to Athens, but his pursuit is intercepted when MI6 intervenes, coercing him into a high-stakes espionage mission – to infiltrate a suspected mafia operation intent on abducting his son,

As the chase unravels across the Mediterranean, Alistair has a chilling revelation, could the spectre of his past be returning to taunt him? Could the answer lie in that fateful, deadly summer on Paros five years ago?

Dugald Bruce Lockhart is an actor who trained at RADA and has worked extensively with the RSC, the National Theatre and the Old Vic. He has appeared in many productions on stage and TV including, *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, *Mama Mia* and *The Crown*. His debut novel, *The Lizard* was published to great acclaim in 2020. He lives in South London with his family.



THE LIZARD

Dugald Bruce Lockhart

RIGHTS: World, June 2020, 320pp

'This impressive debut is written with huge verve, the story twists and turns like a malign serpent'. The Daily Mail

'It is an incredibly gripping tale that is awakened by Bruce-Lockhart's vivid imagination and descriptions of Greece's stifling summers and turquoise waters. Even when the final page had been turned, the last line threw one last curved ball. I await the sequel with anticipation. The Field

**'Wicked, dramatic and dripping in the intensity of summer heat. Australian Women's Weekly
'An impressive debut....this riotous chase through the glories of the Greek Islands is entertaining'
Best Recent Thrillers, Observer**

'This novel is horrible, atmospheric and gripping. The Literary Review

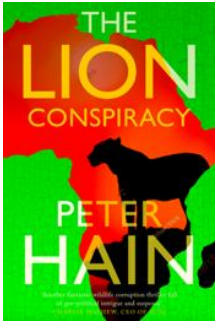
'Reminiscent of Alex Garland's The Beach this is pitch perfect escapism to effortlessly take you away from it all.' Living Magazine

'You'll be swept up in the hedonistic pursuits and the sun-drenched world of sex and drugs, compelling you to finish this book in one go.' --Marie Claire

ONE DEADLY, SUN-DRENCHED SUMMER....Alistair Haston heads off to Greece to track down his ex-girlfriend. Mugged on arrival in Paros, he loses everything. So, when Ricky, a charming Aussie, shows up and offers Alistair a live-in job he accepts with alacrity.

But the job is not quite what he'd expected. Swept along on hedonistic tide of wild parties, wild sex and plentiful drugs, Alistair revels in the pursuit of pleasure. But then the body of a missing tourist is found, and the evidence points to him. As the body count piles up and Haston finds himself on the run, by land and by sea, on a journey more frightening than he could ever have imagined.

Dugald Bruce Lockhart is an actor who trained at RADA and has worked extensively with the RSC, the National Theatre and the Old Vic. He has appeared in many productions on stage and TV including, *The Thirty-Nine Steps*, *Mama Mia* and *The Crown*. His debut novel, *The Lizard* was published to great acclaim in 2020. He lives in South London with his family.



THE LION CONSPIRACY

Peter Hain

RIGHTS: World, March 2024, 320pp

'Brave, riveting and terrifyingly relevant' Sarah Sultoon
'Brilliant, part crime thriller and part political manifesto' Book of the Week *The Sun*

Leading politician and anti-apartheid campaigner turns the spotlight on to Lion poaching in South Africa

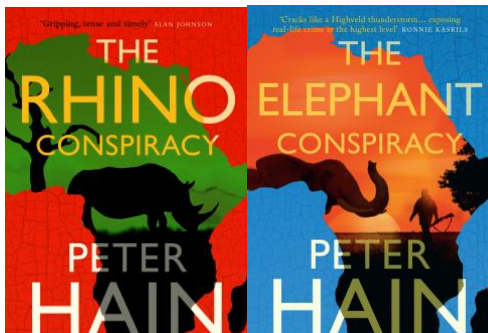
Gripping and pacey, the final book in the acclaimed *Conspiracy* trilogy, grounded in real-life experience, and endorsed by global conservationists.

Having thwarted murderous poachers in *The Elephant Conspiracy*, the Veteran, Thandi and Mkhize are back battling to save lion prides from being killed for their claws, teeth and bones. As the demand for lion parts soars, impoverished local communities are being incentivised to poach, and the fight against this illegal plunder becomes ever more vicious.

Struggling to defeat the international criminal syndicate responsible for poaching, the team find themselves embroiled in mafia-style smuggling, illicit night flights, tense shoot-outs, and an encounter with a protégé of Vladimir Putin.

Peter Hain was brought up in South Africa and moved to the UK when his parents were forced into exile. He was involved with the Anti-Apartheid Movement during the 1970s and '80s. Hain was the Labour MP for Neath 1991-2015 and a senior minister for 12 years in Tony Blair and Gordon Brown's governments. He chaired the UN Security Council and negotiated international Treaties curbing nuclear proliferation and banning the trade in blood diamonds. Hain has written or edited twenty-one books – including *Mandela* (2010), memoirs *Outside In* (2012) and *Pretoria Boy* (2021). His conspiracy series of environmental thrillers have been published to great acclaim.

Previous titles: *The Rhino Conspiracy*, 2020, *The Elephant Conspiracy* 2022



Rights: World

Featuring Detective Inspector Stanley Low – belligerent, bipolar and brilliant. A Chinese-Singaporean, educated in London, with a foot in both cities. His mission, to eradicate violent crime wherever he finds it.



UK 2022

Malaysia 2015,

'This impressive police procedural presents an unflattering but authentic picture of the multiracial megacity'
The Times

'Stanley Low is a great character' *The Sun*

'Fast, tough and smart – this is crime fiction to die for' Tony Parsons

MARINA BAY SINS

Detective Inspector Stanley Low – belligerent, bipolar and brilliant. A Chinese-Singaporean, educated in London, with a food in both cities. His mission, to eradicate violent crime wherever he finds it.

Low is having a bad day. His bipolar disorder is ruining another session with his psychiatrist, and when a murdered prostitute and a dead expatriate are discovered at Singapore's most prestigious hotel in the glamorous Marina Bay Sins, he is plunged back into the sordid underworld he was desperate to leave behind. Low goes undercover returning to a world that the city refuses to acknowledge; a world of gambling addiction, crime syndicates, international money launderers, immoral celebrities and corrupt politicians, all living in Asia's cleanest metropolis.

Marina Bay Sins may be the sparkling embodiment of the island's devotion to economic prosperity, yet a corrupt underworld lies within the 'Monaco' of Asia. As Inspector Low gets closer to the

RICH KILL, POOR KILL: An Inspector Low Novel

The second in the Inspector Low crime series, published in Malaysia, 2016, UK 2022

When a foreign worker is found dead in a Singapore back street, few people care. Even the police dismiss the killing as another underclass slaying. Then more victims turn up, all killed with the same weapon and Singapore must come to grips with its first serial killer in decades. The murderer must be stopped.

In desperation, the authorities turn to the one man they loathe almost as much as the killer himself – Detective Inspector Stanley Low. Angry, bipolar and unrepentant, his career is in tatters, but he is also the only man capable of understanding what drives the serial killer. Low must solve the case quickly, stop a serial killer, and save his sanity. The second in the popular Inspector Low series, *Rich Kill Poor Kill* is a dark, disturbing examination of the income divide that exists even in death.

BLOODY FOREIGNERS: An Inspector Low Novel

The third in the Inspector Low crime series, Published UK and Malaysia 2021

London is angry, divided, and obsessed with foreigners. A murdered Asian and some racist graffiti in Chinatown threaten to trigger the race war that the white supremacists of Make England Great Again have been hoping for. They just need a tipping point.

He arrives in the shape of Detective Inspector Stanley Low. Brilliant and bipolar. He hates everyone almost as much as he hates himself. Low is plunged into a polarised city, where xenophobia and intolerance feed screaming echo chambers. His desperate race to find a far-right serial killer will lead him to charismatic Neo-Nazi leaders, incendiary radio hosts and Met Police officers who don't appreciate the foreigner's interference. The Chinese detective is the wrong face in the wrong place. But he's the right copper for the job. London is about to meet the bloody foreigner who won't walk away.

LOST WOMEN: An Inspector Low Novel

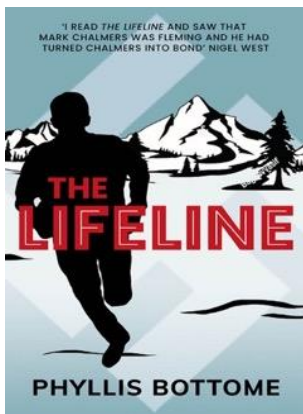
The fourth in the Inspector Low crime series, UK and Malaysia March 2023

Twelve women are found in the back of a truck, dumped in the Essex marshlands. They all have knives but have nothing to say, except Grace. She will only speak to DI Stanley Low.

Brought in to assist with the case Low finds himself dealing with a global trafficking ring and a high-profile billionaire. As one by one his witnesses are killed off, he has no choice but to return to Singapore to examine the darkest corners of the Asian city in his hunt for the traffickers. He must hurry. Another truck is being prepared. Another twelve, vulnerable women are being groomed. Low can only find them if he uncovers the ugliest of truths

Neil Humphreys grew up in Dagenham, UK and went to University in Manchester. He now lives in Singapore, where he writes for many publications and broadcasts on TV and radio. He has published many award-winning children's books, travelogues and several novels.

CLASSIC ESPIONAGE



THE LIFELINE

Phyllis Bottome

Introduction by Miles Jupp and David Stenhouse

RIGHTS: World English inc audio, April 2024, 320pp

'I read Phyllis Bottome's *The Lifeline* and saw that Mark Chalmers was Fleming, and that he had turned Chalmers into Bond' **Nigel West**

'A gifted and entertaining novelist' **TLS**

- The real James Bond - Phyllis Bottome taught Ian Fleming to write
- Available for the first time in 30 years
- Miles Jupp's *The Woman Who Invented James Bond* available on iplayer
- Published 7 years before Fleming's *Casino Royale*

Mark Chalmers, 36, dark haired, athletic, keen on skiing and winter sports, speaks fluent French and German and has a taste for wine, food and women. Sounds familiar?

It is 1938 and as Europe prepares for war Chalmers is rby an old friend at the Foreign Office and introduced to his boss 'B'. Chalmers reluctantly agrees to take on a covert mission for British Intelligence – to parachute into Nazi-occupied Austria and pass on information to a British agent. In case of trouble he is given a suicide pill.

Chalmers has no intention of committing himself beyond this one job but once he reaches his destination, he finds himself sucked into the cause ,fighting fascism with the Austrian-German Underground - until there is no turning back.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/entertainment-arts-38227724>
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/b084t5dy>

Phyllis Bottome was a highly regarded prolific author in the mid 20th century. With her husband Ernán Forbes Dennis, a former diplomat and spy, she set up a school in Kitzbühel, Austria and it was there, after he was thrown out of Eton, that she taught Ian Fleming to write. Amongst her many bestsellers was *The Mortal Storm* (1937) made into a prescient anti-fascist film which became a Hollywood blockbuster starring James Stewart and Margaret Sullavan. She died in London in 1963.

QUEER LIST



User
Bruce Benderson

World inc audio: ex US/Can/France,
286pp, June 2023

'Establishes Benderson as the most important literary chronicler of New York's lumpen proletariat – in all its polymorphous perversity - since William Burroughs, John Rechy and Hubert Selby Jr' **Newsday**

'User is unmistakably brilliant' **Los Angeles Times**

'Impressive, startling and eerie...hypnotically descriptive and powerfully rhythmic' **Kirkus**

'Benderson's noxious, Baudelairean pen revives bohemia for one last time, in all its destitution and strangeness'
Claude Arnaud, Le Point

A New York City hustler with a special gift for reeling in customers, Apollo, 'a pale skinned mulatto with a mournful mouth' strips at a gay sex theatre in Times Square. He is one of the most seductive and disturbing creations in recent American fiction.

Unflinchingly describing the lives of hustlers, pimps, drug-addicts and transsexuals in 1990s Times Square, **User** speaks with the authentic voice of characters from the edge. This is a world filled with stark, hypnotic eroticism and mined with terrors peculiar to the subterranean city in the hours after midnight.

Bruce Benderson is a novelist, essayist, journalist and translator who lives in New York. He teaches creative writing, urban culture and French literature. He won the Prix de Flore for *The Romanian*.



QUEER LIFE, QUEER LOVE 3 - May '25
ANTHOLOGY

Editors: Matt Bates, Julia Bell

Rights: World, £9.99, 278pp

Anthology 1 – Nov 2021

Anthology 2 – May 2023

'Celebrating queer love...multiple, fleeting, varied' Kevin Brazil, TLS

'Beautiful writing, original ideas and a few surprises' Matt Cain

These collections features voice across all narrative forms with stories, poems, essays, and flash-fiction, capturing the very best of international queer writing today. Please see the contributors list below. This is writing that explores characters, stories, and experiences beyond the mainstream; works that celebrate the fascinating, the forbidden, the subversive, and even the mundane, but, in essence, works that express the view from outside.

Humorous, serious, autobiographical, and revelatory – all aspects of the queer experience are reflected in this sparkling collection.

Contributors Anthology 1:

Rosy Adams Julia Bell Wayne Blackwood Tom Bland Kesiena Boom Libro Levi Bridgeman Cathleen Davies Dale Booton Manish Chauhan Leon Craig Isabel Costello Margot Douaihy Nathan Evans Fox Francis Honor Gavin Andrew F Giles Erica Gillingham Aoife Hannah Sal Harris Kathryn Hemmann Kay Inckle Jonathan Kemp Katlego Kai Kolanyane-Kesupile Debra Lavery Cal Legorburu Fran Lock Len Lukowski Rosanna McGlone Giulia Medaglini Tanaka Mhishi Serge Neptune Claire Orrange Tony Peake Jon Ransom Harry Rey Victoria Richards Richard Scott Marilyn Smith Laura Vincent Paul Whittering David Woodhead

Contributors Anthology2:

Garr Adams Avi Ben-Zeev Martha Benedict Betty Benson Sophia Blackwell Tom Bland Dale Booton Libro Levi Bridgeman Amelia Brown Swithun Cooper Isabel Costello Emilija Ducks Nathan Evans Lukas Georgiou Kath Gifford Rab Green Max Hartley George Hodson Divin Ishimwe Stanley Iyanu Sarah Keenan V.G. Lee Karen McLeod Peter Mitchell Jonathan Pizarro Reanna Valentine Amy Ridler J.P. Seabright Sharon Shaw Ben Skea Marilyn Smith Tom Spencer J.D. Stewart Jerl Surratt Virna Teixeira Brian Thorstenson Piero Toto. Nikki Ummel William Wyld L.E. Yates Adam Zmith

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Fiction

Out of the Dark – Heidi Amsinck, April '25
Best Friends – Andrew Meehan, May '25
The Lady in the Park – David Reynolds, June '25
The Gallopers – Jon Ransom, Jan '24
The Lifeline – Phyllis Bottome, April '24
In Search of the Missing Eyelash – Karen McLeod, June '24
Darkness Falls in Jakarta – Louise Soraya Black, July 24
Lost Women – Neil Humphreys, April '23

Biography

Calling My Deadname Home: The Trans Bear Diaries: – Avi Ben-Zeev, Nov '24
Lifting Off: Life in Freefall – Karen McLeod, June '24
You Will Feel it in the Price of Bread: A Love Letter to Ukraine – Katya Hudson, Feb '23
Meet Me in Buenos Aires: Life of a Wife in History – Marlene Hobsbawm, Nov '19

History/Politics

Time Bomb: Irish Bombs, English Justice and the Guildford Four – Ros Franey and Grant McKee – Sept '24

Anthology

Queer Life, Queer Love 1, 2021

Queer Life, Queer Love 2, 2023
Queer Life, Queer Love 3, 2025