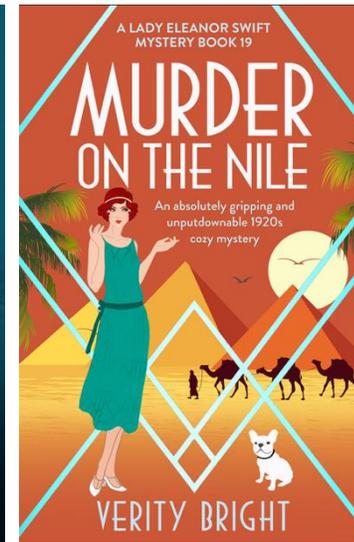
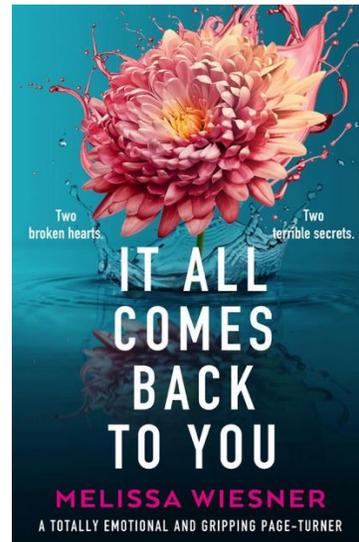
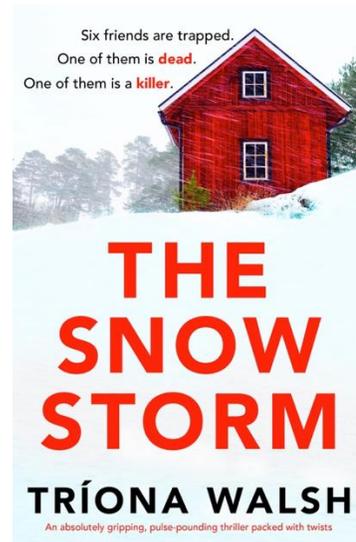
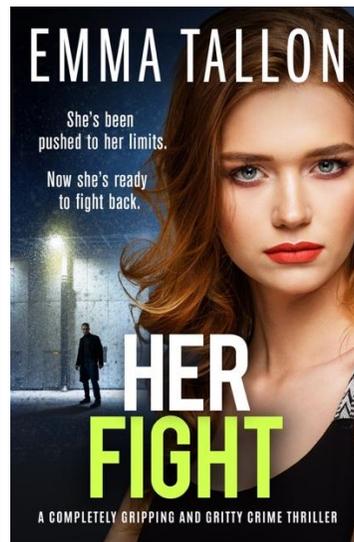
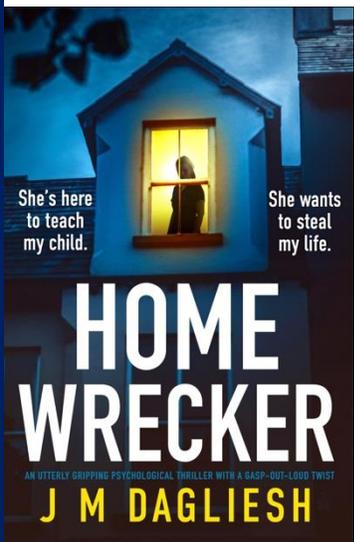


# Bookouture

## HIGHLIGHTS FOR FILM/TV RIGHTS



# Welcome to our book-to-screen catalogue

Film, TV and stage rights are handled by Rights Director, Richard King. Richard has previously handled film/TV rights for both Orion and Little, Brown publishing groups and now handles these rights exclusively for Bookouture.

In 2023 Richard won Rights Professional of the Year at the British Book Awards.

Please contact Richard for any more information or to arrange to a meeting.

[richard@bookouture.com](mailto:richard@bookouture.com)



*bookouture*

**THRILLERS AND  
SUSPENSE**

# THE PASTOR'S WIFE

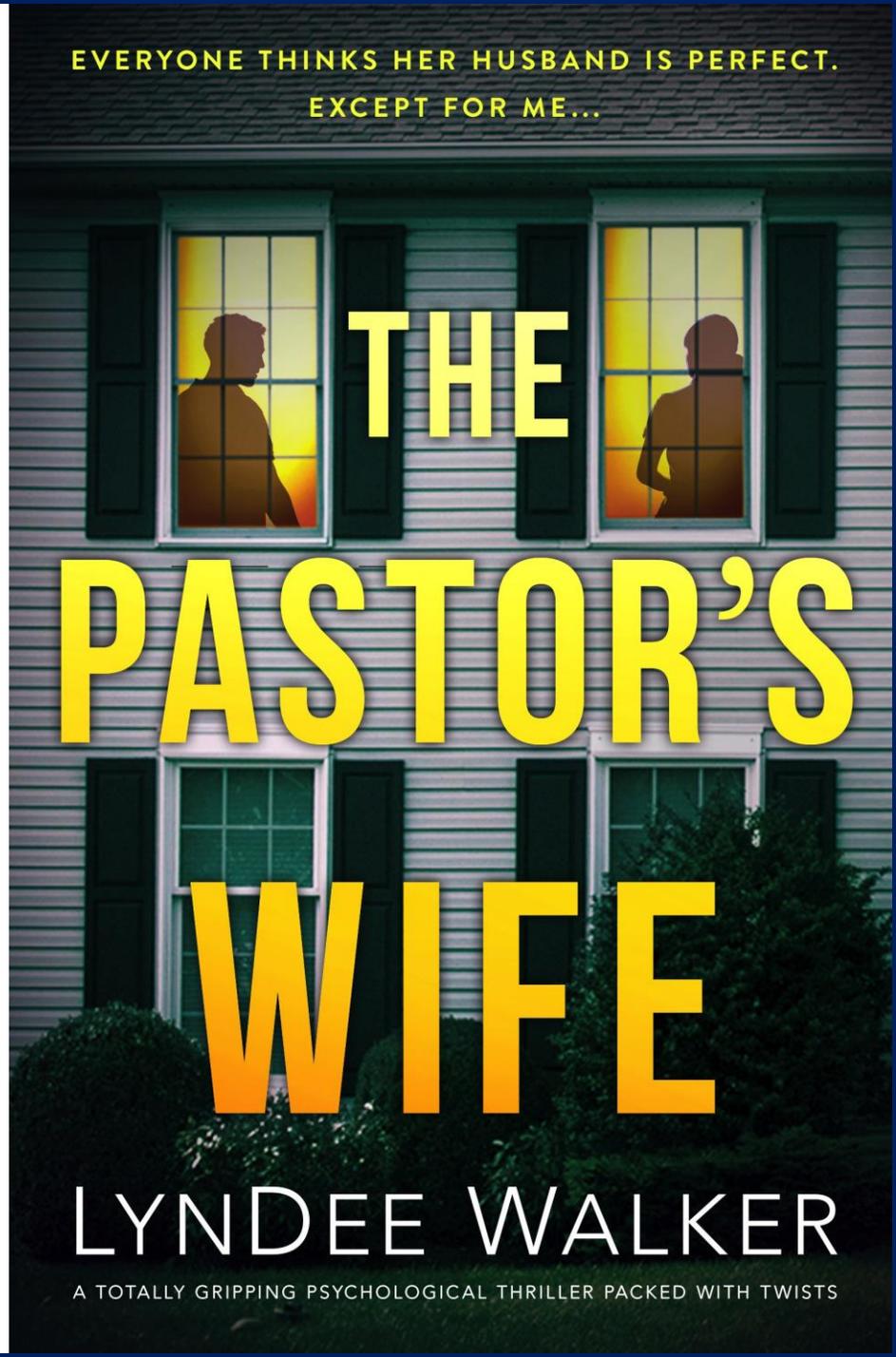
LynDee Walker

pub date: 16 June 2025

**THE PASTOR'S WIFE** is set in a remote Appalachian mountain town, Whitney Falls, where the handsome and charismatic new pastor, Tim McClatchy, is in the most powerful position of influence over this highly conservative and Christian community. The book focuses on his glamorous and aspirational wife, Mary, and a young down-and-out blow-in called Martha, who is scraping a living in the local grocery store and living in the seedy local motel. The two women come into each other's lives unexpectedly when Martha has a minor car crash outside Mary and pastor Tim's house when delivering their groceries, and Mary helps her and ultimately takes her under her wing, encouraging her to become Tim's secretary at the church. It quickly becomes clear to Martha that the enviable life Mary and Tim are living has its tensions, and when Martha starts to suspect Tim of cheating on her new friend Mary, she strives to resolve it before it breaks apart the good thing that she finally has going on. Meanwhile, Mary, desperate for a baby and likewise suspicious of her domineering and hypocritical husband of straying, employs her own strategies to shut it down before they risk losing their powerful position within the local community. God knows they've had to move enough times already...

Both Mary and Martha are fascinating and psychologically complex characters, and we couldn't take our eyes off their somewhat uncomfortable interactions as they try to suss out each other's intentions, all the while both desperately clinging to the hope of meaningful friendship in their different ways and for unclear agendas. As it gradually becomes clear that there is more to the pastor than Martha could ever have imagined she finds herself embroiled in a web of deceit to rescue her new friend Mary, but in doing so risks resurrecting ghosts from her own past that she will do anything to outrun.

EVERYONE THINKS HER HUSBAND IS PERFECT.  
EXCEPT FOR ME...



# THE PASTOR'S WIFE

LYNDEE WALKER

A TOTALLY GRIPPING PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER PACKED WITH TWISTS

# THE FUNERAL

Helen H. Durrant

pub date: 14 May 2025

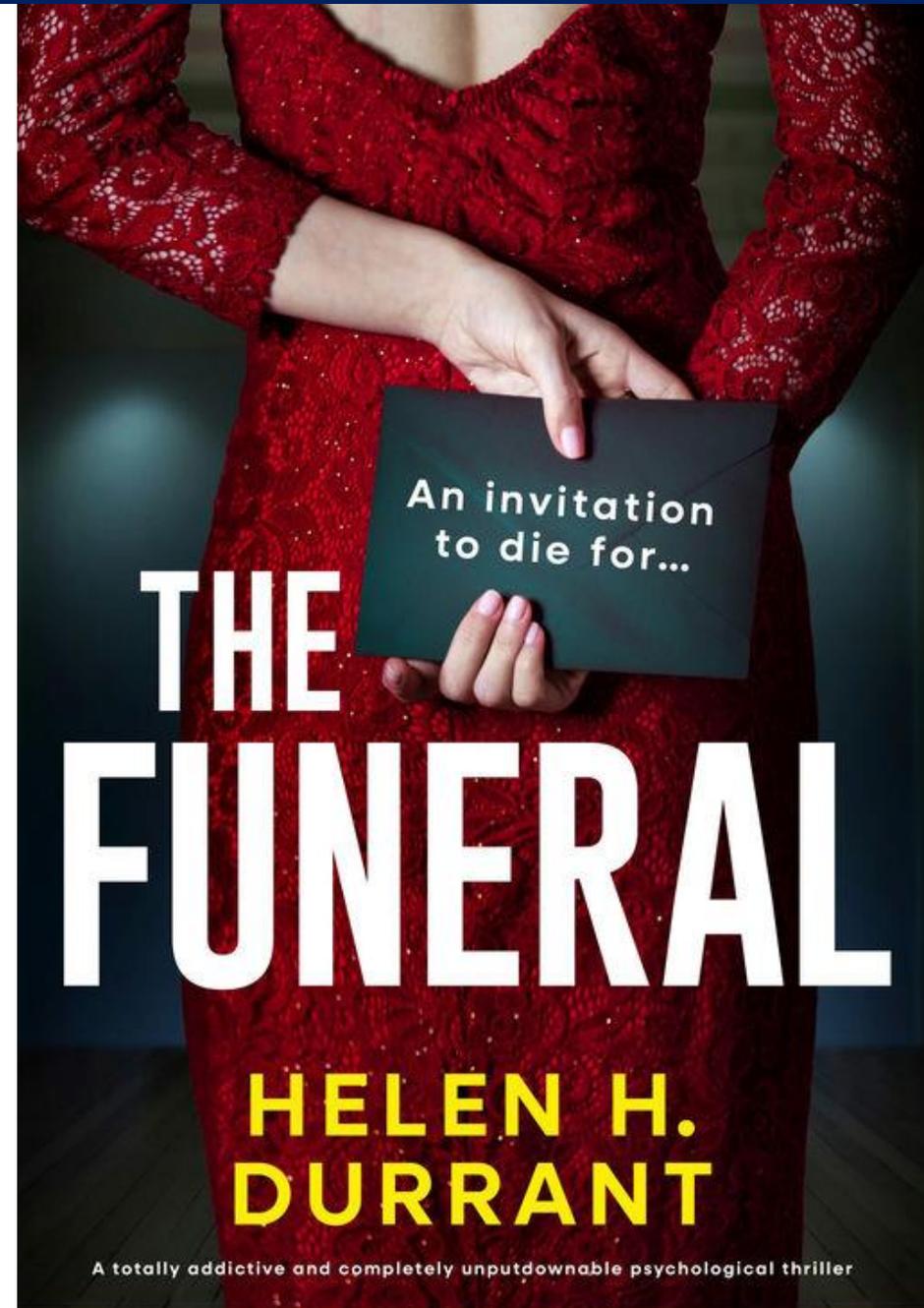
Helen H. Durrant is an Amazon number one bestselling author and we are delighted to be publishing her first ever psychological thriller. It's an exciting new chapter for Helen as she takes her page-turning crime narratives and super twisty plots to a new genre.

In this book, our protagonist receives and invite to a funeral with no name, but an insistence that she be there. Intrigued by the mysterious invite, she heads to the funeral only to discover her own name on the coffin. It's a name she hasn't used for many years. Nobody is supposed to know who she is, or what she did, so who invited her to the funeral and what do they want?

## What readers are saying about **The Funeral**:

'Absolutely loved this!... I was hooked from the beginning... kept me guessing until the end and beyond!... it's a must-read!' NetGalley reviewer, ★★★★★

'I couldn't put it down! It kept me guessing and frantically turning the pages! Wow!... kept me on pins and needles for this whole book. I loved it!... drew me in immediately I couldn't put it down!... Love, love, loved it!' Arcreviews\_by\_m, ★★★★★



THE INTERNATIONAL MILLION-COPY BESTSELLER

# HOMEWRECKER

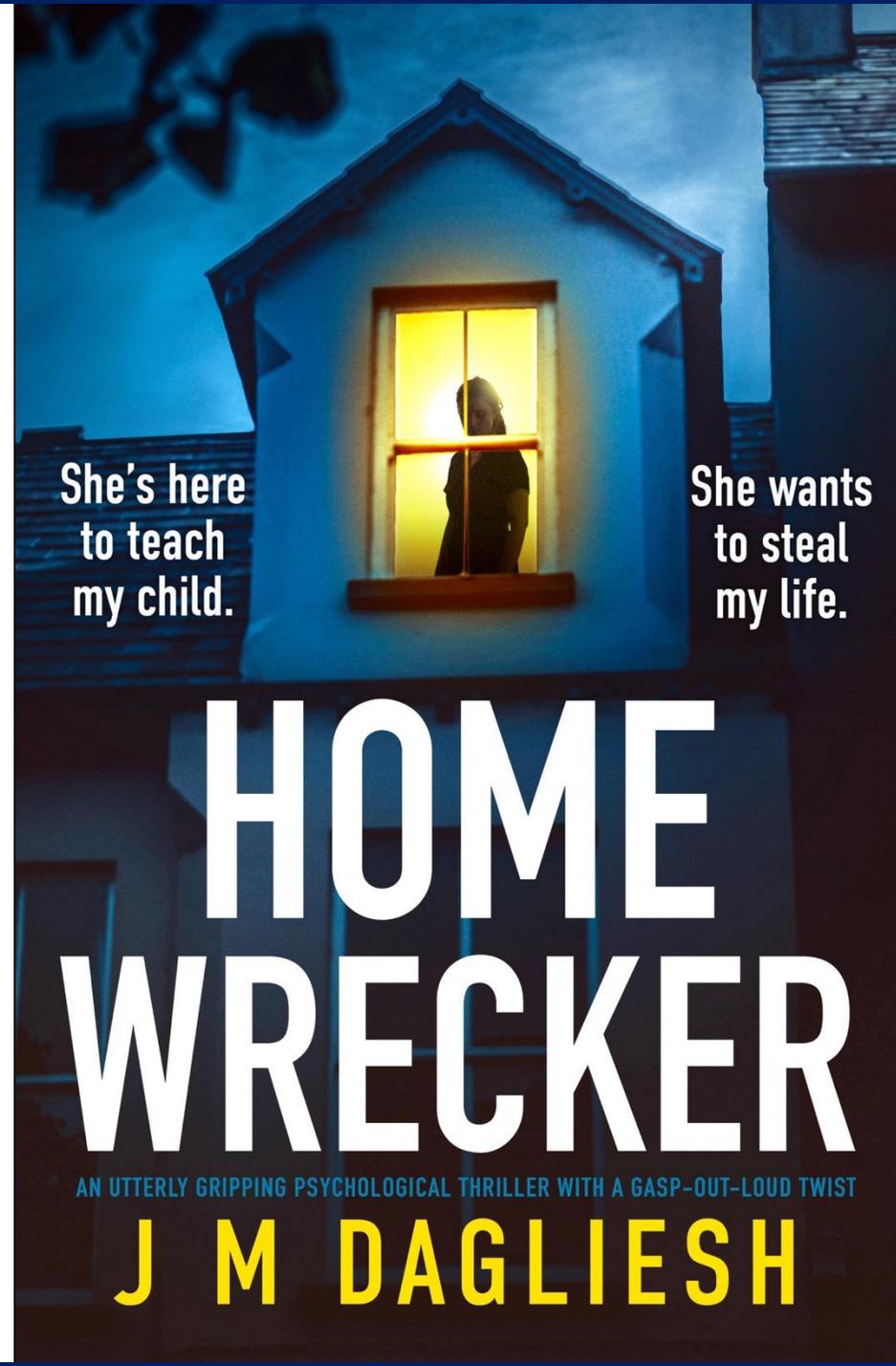
J M DALGLIESH

pub date: 8 August 2024

**We are delighted to have signed Amazon bestselling author J M Dalgliesh for four psychological thrillers publishing in 2024 and 2025, starting with sure-fire hit *Homewrecker*.**

*Homewrecker* centres on a fallen-on-her-feet British TV presenter, Sophie, and her family who invite a live-in tutor into their upscale London home to help get their troubled twelve-year-old daughter back on track, and back into school. But Sophie's anxieties and troubles at work are bleeding into her home life and she can't shake the feeling that their new houseguest, the too-good-to-be-true tutor Deanna, is becoming too involved with her daughter and her husband. Or is it all in her head? But what's worrying Sophie the *most* is that she has seen all this before, and the last time this happened *she* was the interloper within a seemingly-perfect family, and she knows all too well how that turned out... Is history repeating itself, and what will happen to Sophie if it does?

**Think a London-set answer to Freida McFadden's *The Housemaid*, where everything is MUCH more sinister than it first appears, mixed with the *Rebecca*-like ghosts-of-the-past of Colleen Hoover's *Verity* (but without the sex!) and the unputdownable page-turning qualities of both, and you have *Homewrecker*!**



# FAMILY DOCTOR

J M DALGLIESH

pub date: 2 January 2025

*I have three days to kill a patient. If I fail, my daughter will die...*

As the only doctor on a stunning remote Scottish island, I finally feel safe and happy. Here, nobody knows about my troubled past except my teenage daughter Lauren. As a single mother, it's just the two of us now, and Lauren is my world.

Caring for every person on the island from birth to death, I know all their fears and secrets. But they don't know mine, and for the sake of my daughter, I must keep it that way...

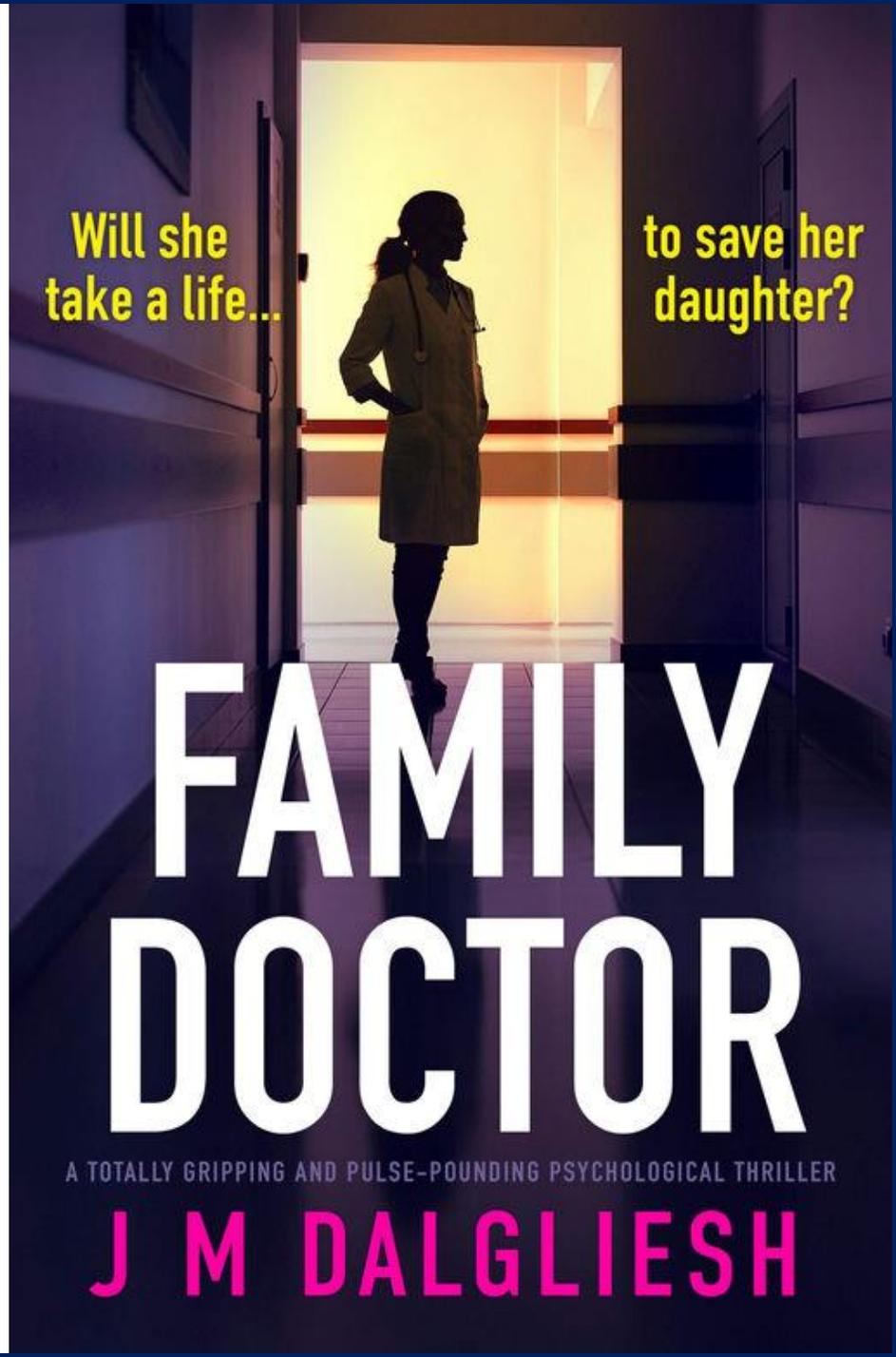
Everything is going perfectly until I am sent a link to a live video stream of my beautiful daughter Lauren, her wide blue eyes terrified. And there's a voice:

'Three rules. Three days.  
You must murder one of your patients.  
You must not tell another soul.  
You must not get caught.  
If you fail, your daughter dies...'

A jaw-dropping psychological thriller from multi-million copy bestseller J M Dalgliesh. This utterly addictive, pulse-pounding read is packed with twists you'll never forget. Perfect for anyone who loves Freida McFadden, Gone Girl and The Girl on the Train.

Will she  
take a life...

to save her  
daughter?



# FAMILY DOCTOR

A TOTALLY GRIPPING AND PULSE-POUNDING PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER

J M DALGLIESH

# THE HOSPITAL

LESLIE WOLFE

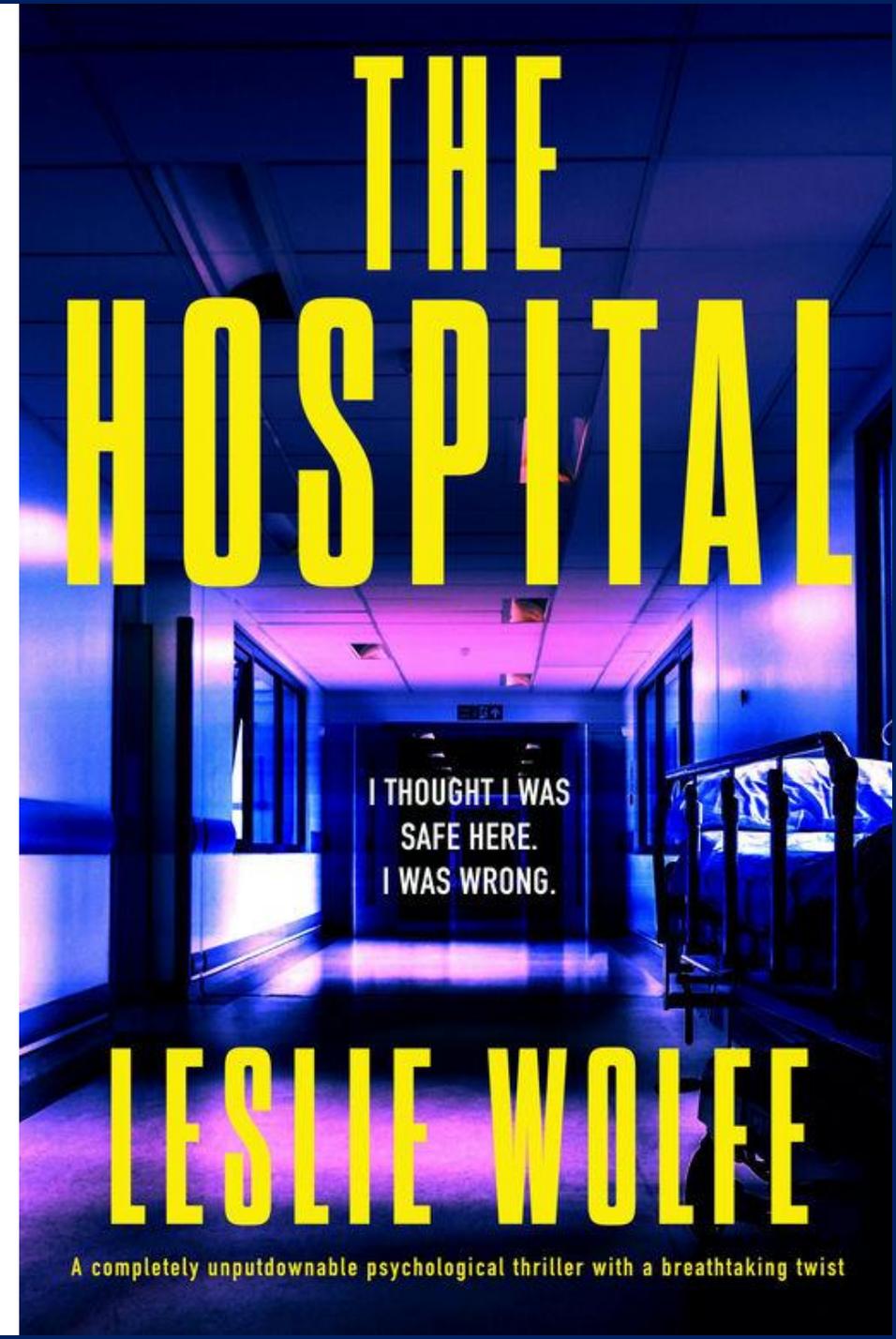
pub date: 24 May 2024

This is the latest novel from the psychological thriller sensation Leslie Wolfe. Her first standalone book with Bookouture, *The Surgeon*, was a massive success from publication, reaching no.1 in the UK Kindle chart and the top 50 in the US. It has now sold 110,000 copies and seen 55 million pages read on Kindle Unlimited. Her second novel, *If I Go Missing*, published in January, hit the top 100 in both the US and UK, and has now sold 12,000 copies and 5 million pages read. Both books are being published by Grand Central in the US.

*The Hospital* is a return to the medical theme and has a blistering hook: Emma wakes up, blind and immobile in a hospital bed. She cannot remember what happened, and only knows that someone hurt her. But as time passes, she starts to wonder if she's really in a hospital at all...

Through flashbacks we learn more about Emma's career as an actress in Hollywood and the uneasy relationship with her movie director husband, Stephen. Piece by piece she starts to put her other memories back together and she remembers the stalker who has derailed her career and now her life. Trapped in her hospital bed, Emma needs to remember what happened just before her attack, before her stalker returns and claims her for good...

One thing she knows for certain: she can't trust a word that anyone says...



# THE SURGEON

LESLIE WOLFE

pub date: 8 March 2023

The heart-racing story about a brilliant surgeon, Anne Wiley, with an immaculate track record, who realises with heart-stopping certainty that the patient on the operating table in front of her is the same man who visited evil upon her family years before and who was responsible for her sister's death.

Minutes later she pronounces him dead.

***The Surgeon* was a huge success from publication, reaching no.1 in the UK Kindle chart and the top 50 in the US. It remained in the US top 100 for over three months post-publication, and is now published in print in the US by Grand Central. Sold in 12 languages.**

**#1 UK Kindle Store bestseller!**



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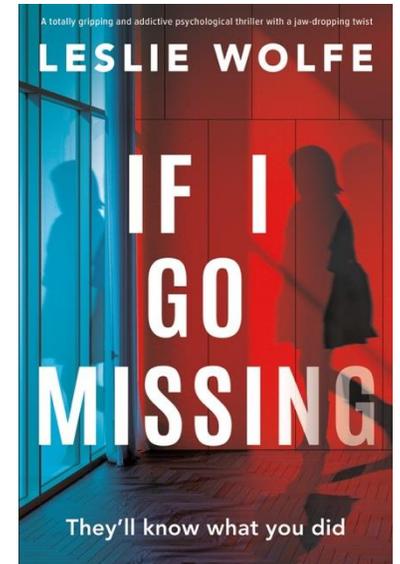
# IF I GO MISSING

LESLIE WOLFE

pub date: 2 January 2024

The premise centres on the trend where people create folders of useful information in case they disappear: dental records, fingerprints, DNA. When Alanna's neighbour and old friend Chloe vanishes, she leaves a folder behind containing clues to a secret that Alanna cannot allow to be revealed. Alanna must uncover what has happened to Chloe before the police do to protect her own life and her deepest secret being revealed, but is the folder reliable, or is it a trap?

**Filmic in its execution, packed with jaw-dropping twists. This is an intelligent, razor-sharp and slick psychological thriller that is perfect for TV adaptation.**



# HER HOUSEKEEPER

SAMANTHA HAYES

pub date: 11 November 2024

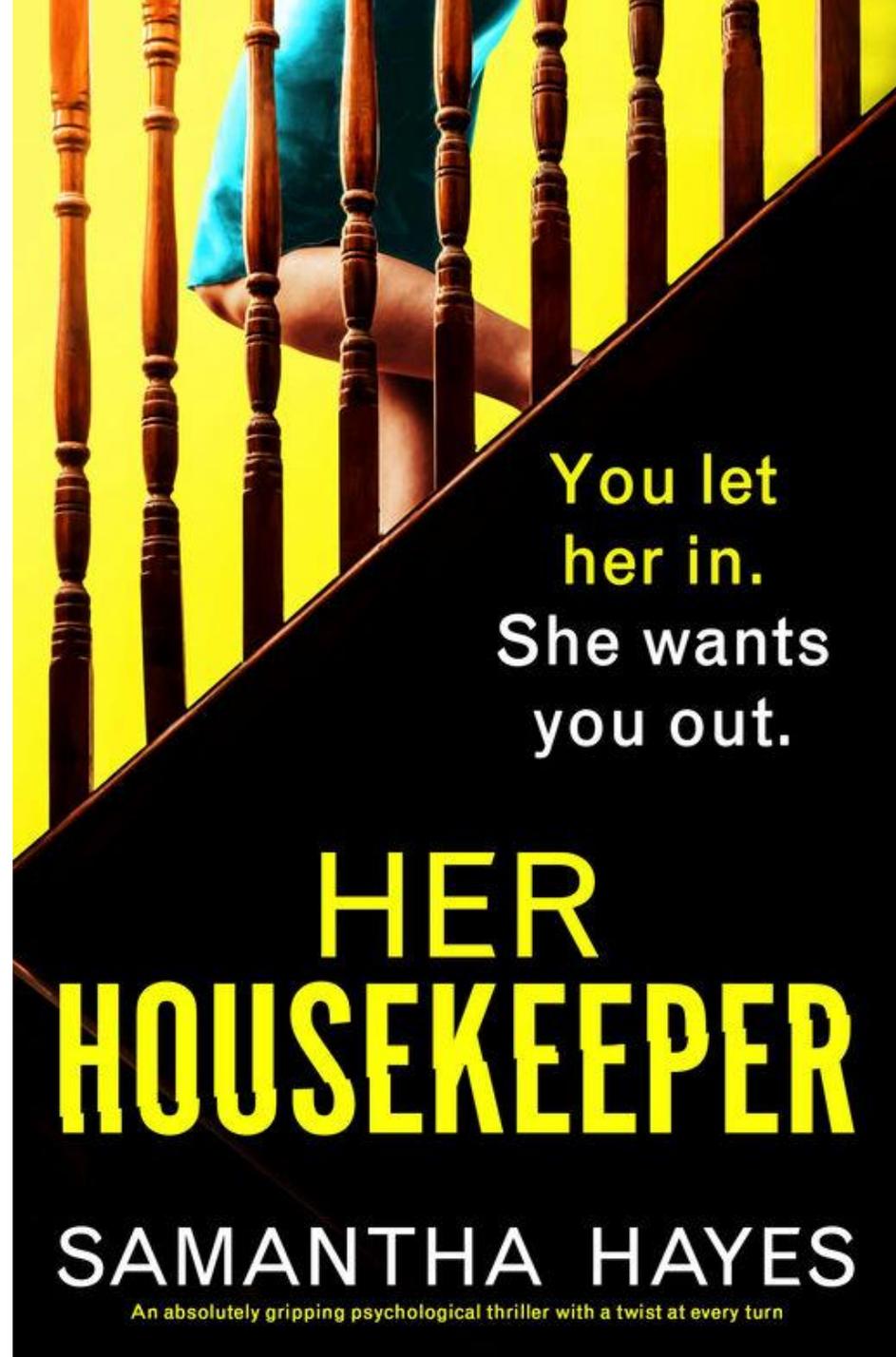
*I clean, I tidy, I fold.  
I listen, I watch, I lie...*

*I told her I was the housekeeper, and why wouldn't she believe me? What I lack in experience, I make up for in hard work. I do my best to keep this enormous house neat and stay on top of laundry. She's a doting mother and a devoted wife, and I'd do anything to please her.*

*I fuss over her darling children, offering to take them off her hands when she's looking frazzled. And when she returns home to find my bags in the hallway, she gives me a room when I tell her I have nowhere else to go. She's so trusting, she always has been.*

*I thought she would ask me to leave the moment she caught me rooting through her belongings. Does her perfect family know her secrets? Does she know what I'm looking for, and why I'm really here? And once I find it, will she realise too late she's in unimaginable danger? Or should I be the one running for my life?*

**An absolutely gripping psychological thriller from an Amazon No.1 bestselling author. Strap yourself in for a totally twisty page-turner that will leave you gasping for breath. Fans of *The Housemaid*, *Gone Girl* and *The Girl on the Train* will be flipping pages all night long!**



You let  
her in.  
She wants  
you out.

# HER HOUSEKEEPER

SAMANTHA HAYES

An absolutely gripping psychological thriller with a twist at every turn

# THE FAMILY ACROSS THE STREET

NICOLE TROPE

pub date: 6 August 2021

***The Family Across the Street* is one of Bookouture's biggest sellers ever and has now sold over 450,000 copies since publication and published into 6 foreign languages.**

Everybody wants to live on Hogarth Street, the pretty, leafy avenue in the peaceful suburbs of Sydney. The new family, the Wests, are a perfect fit. Katherine and John seem so in love and their gorgeous five-year-old twins race screeching around their beautiful emerald-green lawn.

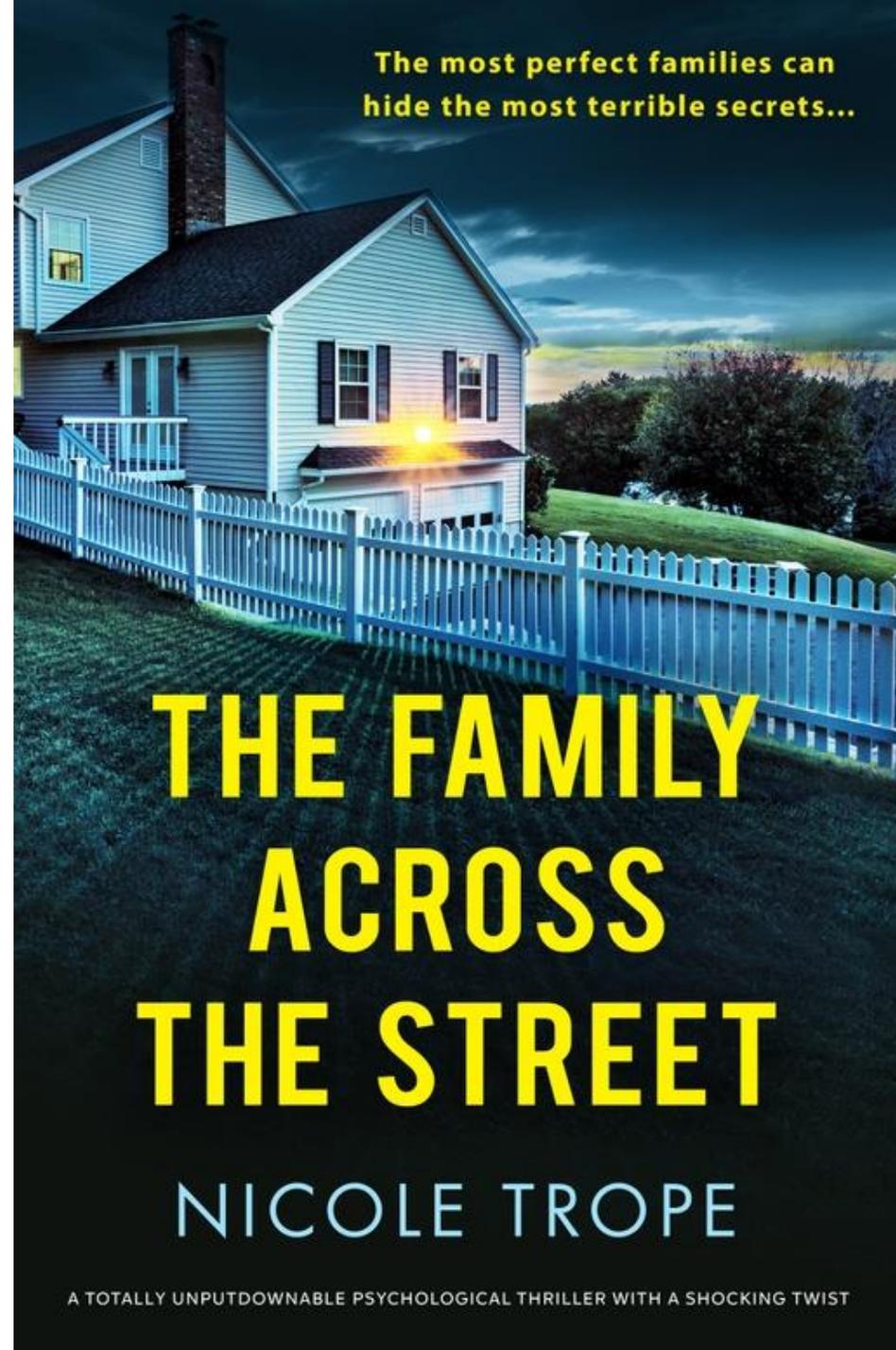
But, every family has secrets, and on the hottest day of the year, a tragedy unfolds behind their closed doors. To the oblivion of the neighbours, a lone gunman is holding the family hostage, and none of the Wests knows if they will ever get out alive.

As ex-con delivery driver, Logan, arrives that morning needing a signature for a new laptop, he is rejected by a nervy Katherine West who refuses to open the door. Covered in violent tattoos – which bely Logan's troubled past from which is desperate to escape – he initially assumes it is fear of him that caused the terse exchange. But the more he ponders it, the more he realises he can't leave it alone. Something is wrong.

And Gladys, the well-meaning but nevertheless interfering next door neighbour, who spends her days caring for her unwell husband Lou and giving him a running commentary on the neighbours' comings and goings, wonders why the West children haven't left for school yet...

The truth is about to come out, and as the dawn chorus is split by the wail of sirens, one by one the families who tried so hard to welcome the Wests realise that Hogarth Street will never be the same again.

**An utterly gripping character-driven suspense thriller, which breathes life into its four main characters who are all vividly realised and their pasts explored. It also brilliantly challenges themes such as external vs internal perception, breakdown of marriage, and how much the sins of the parents may be visited on their children. Perfect for fans of Lianne Moriarty.**



The most perfect families can  
hide the most terrible secrets...

# THE FAMILY ACROSS THE STREET

NICOLE TROPE

A TOTALLY UNPUTDOWNABLE PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER WITH A SHOCKING TWIST

# NOT A GOOD ENOUGH MOTHER

NICOLE TROPE

pub date: 12 August 2024

*Have you ever looked at those mothers who seem to be perfect – with sweet little children, a full-time job, a beautiful home – and thought: am I not good enough? Ava has. She's desperate to become just like them. That's exactly why I'm here...*

*'Don't worry, I'm here to help!' I say with a big smile. I can see the relief in Ava Green's face. She has two beautiful children, a charming husband and a high-flying job. But there is so much stress in the lines around her eyes. She worries she isn't good enough. I understand.*

*Before she knows it, I've cleaned the kitchen and offered to babysit her two little girls. It's not why she hired me, but I like to go above and beyond. I'm just glad she didn't check my application too carefully. Because even before we met, I made sure I knew everything about Ava and her lovely little family...*

*Her husband never helps out. He takes phone calls at strange times. He's hiding something – and Ava is close to breaking point. Those poor children.*

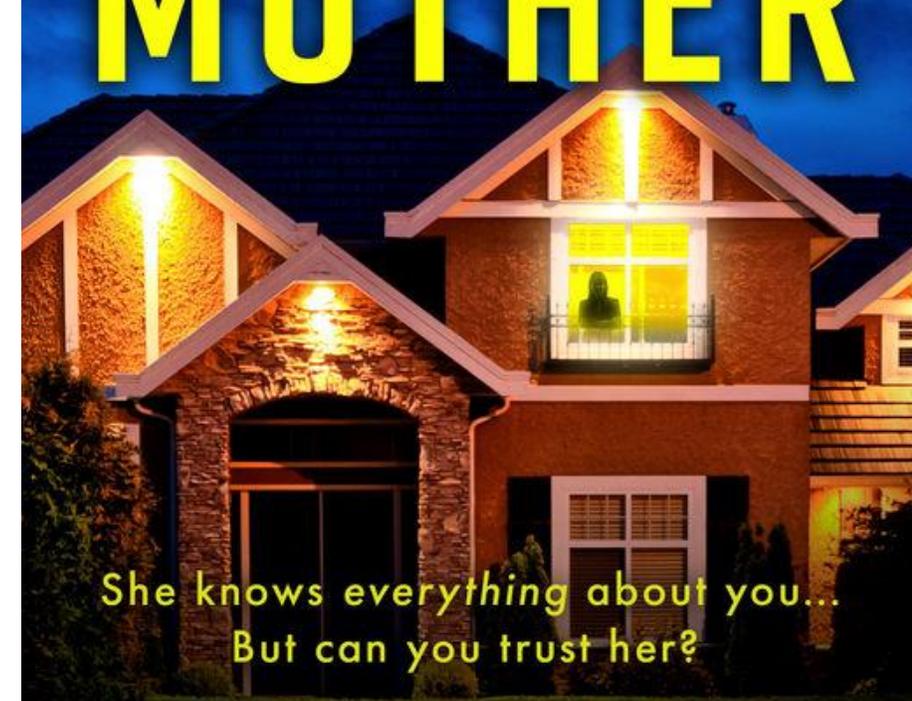
*But everything will be okay. I have plans for Ava. She just has to trust me...*

**Ava's character will resonate with thousands of women who recognise their own struggles, and the burning questions the author sets up about Grace from the beginning are super compelling.**

**A completely addictive psychological thriller that will have you gasping at the final twist. Fans of Shari Lapena, Lisa Jewell and The Perfect Marriage will be reading late into the night.**

A COMPLETELY ADDICTIVE AND GRIPPING PSYCHOLOGICAL THRILLER

# NICOLE TROPE NOT A GOOD ENOUGH MOTHER



THE INTERNATIONAL MILLION-COPY BESTSELLING AUTHOR

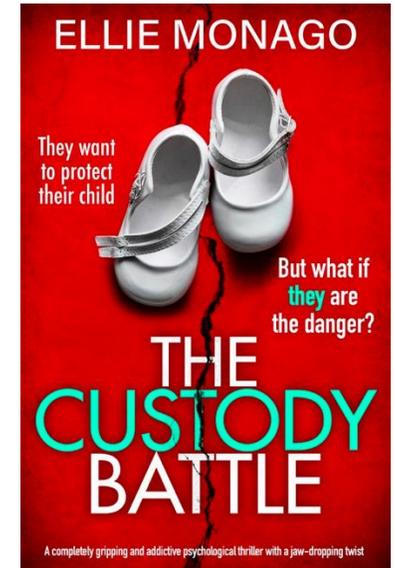
## THE CUSTODY BATTLE

ELLIE MONAGO

pub date: 21 February 2024

A smart suspense read about a brutal custody battle that ends in murder. Californian-based uber-rich couple Greg and Madeline both want a painless custody agreement for the sake of their 10-year-old daughter, Lola. But their rift lies deeper than they would like to believe and as the process develops, their divorce proceedings (and the various others involved: lawyers, therapists, counsellors, so-called friends) find an insidious way to drive them further and further apart until they are sworn enemies both out for blood - and all they can get, whatever the cost, even murder...

**With a glamorous Californian setting, compelling characters, SO many talking points, and a (literal) car crash of a denouement, there is lots for readers to dive into here. Think Kramer vs Kramer meets Gone Girl.**



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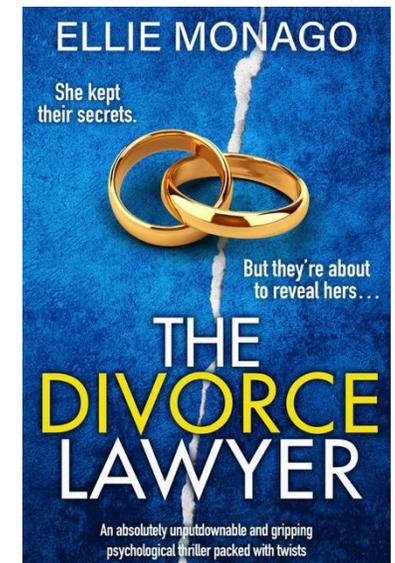
## THE DIVORCE LAWYER

ELLIE MONAGO

pub date: 10 May 2024

This is a clever and twisty standalone thriller set in Silicon Valley about a divorce lawyer who gets caught up in in the web of big tech.

Esther Kahn, the no nonsense divorce lawyer from *The Custody Battle* takes centre stage. She may appear to be sleek, unshakable and professional to a fault, but she always has done what it takes to protect her family... But one of her clients – tech giant boss Peter Tramboni, who also appeared in *The Custody Battle* – the only man she has every represented, is blackmailing her to make sure he wins his custody battle. But everything changes when Peter is suddenly killed, and Esther herself is in the frame, and everything starts crumbling around her. Someone else is threatening to reveal the lengths she has gone to for her family...



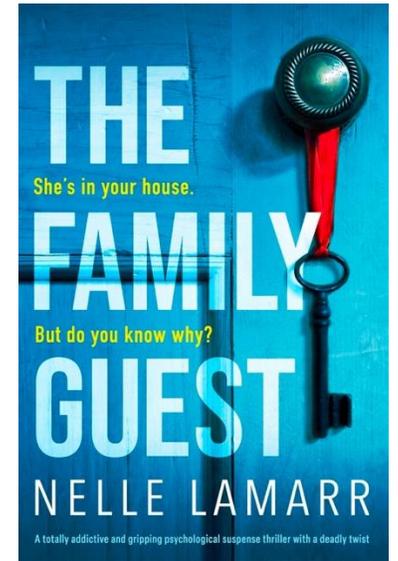
## THE FAMILY GUEST

NELLE LAMARR

pub date: 21 September 2023

**Our international rights hit of last summer, this debut thriller by Nelle Lamarr (who also writes romance as Nelle L'Amour) is now sold in 10 languages, and now a Top 15 Spiegel bestseller in Germany.**

When she arranges for an exchange student from England to stay in their upscale Hollywood mansion for the year, Natalie thinks her family will be pleased. Her household has been grieving since the sudden death of their eldest daughter, Anabel, and Natalie believes that having another teenage girl in the house again is what everyone needs to heal. But as Tanya settles into family life, her similarities to Anabel become uncannier by the day. And as Natalie lies in bed each night, kept awake by her own secrets and a past she has never managed to run from, she can't help but wonder who really is Tanya?



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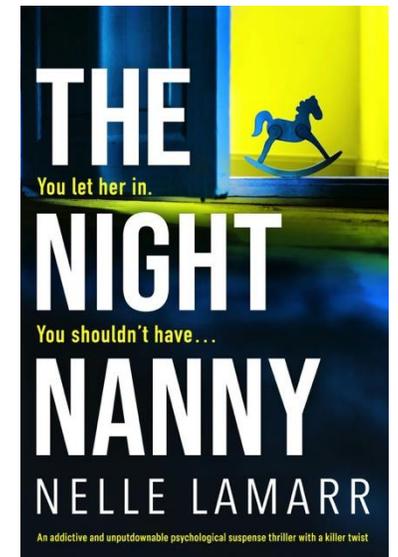
## THE NIGHT NANNY

NELLE LAMARR

pub date: 13 May 2024

In her second psychological novel, Nelle Lamarr writes an addictive, twisty domestic thriller packed with tension and a deadly reveal that you just won't see coming. Desperate for help with their newborn baby, Ava and Ned hire a night nanny called Marley. At first, Marley is the answer to their prayers, and their lives get so much easier that they ask her to move in with them on a full-time basis. But despite how much better their lives are now, Ned and Ava can't shake the feeling that they recognise Marley, they just don't know from where... And when sinister events start unfolding in their house, they must ask themselves - who really is their nanny?

**The totally gripping page-turning psychological thriller with twists that will leave you guessing until the very last page. Perfect for fans of Freida McFadden's The Housemaid, The Girl on the Train and Colleen Hoover's Verity.**



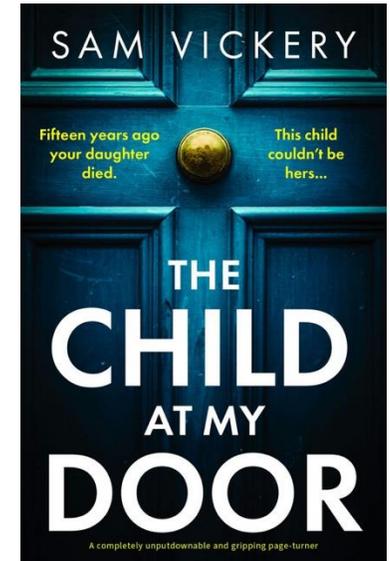
## THE CHILD AT MY DOOR

SAM VICKERY

pub date: 23 January 2024

Chloe thought giving her little boy to her mother, Clarissa, would keep him safe. But her childhood home, where her brother died, surrounded by old friends and dark secrets, is the worst place Tommy could be. Sam Vickery's emotional stories take a tense and twisty turn in this domestic suspense novel, beginning with a woman finding a little boy on her doorstep, who claims to be her grandson. Told my two intriguing perspectives, Clarissa and her daughter Chloe, it's full of deception and red herrings. It's about family secrets and manipulative family members, and will keep you up way past your bedtime with three huge twists at the end.

**Fans of Nicole Trope, Lisa Jewell and Liane Moriarty will be shocked by the family secrets uncovered in this dark and suspenseful novel**



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## THE PERFECT BABY

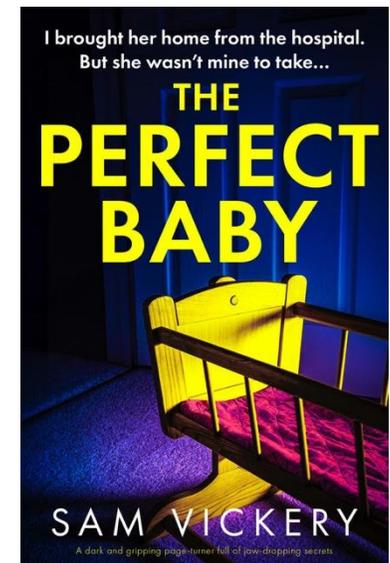
SAM VICKERY

pub date: 27 September 2024

***I brought her home from hospital. But she wasn't mine to take...***

Sam Vickery's previous psychological thriller, *The Child at My Door*, catapulted into the UK top 25 on publication, with exceptional Kindle Unlimited reads and reviews. Her latest is just as hooky and unputdownable, and we have high expectations.

The chilling prologue lets the reader into a secret: at the end of the book someone will steal a baby from hospital. But as we dive into alternative POVs, they'll twist and turn at which one it could be. Is it Maya, the surrogate, who is starting to lose faith in the couple she promised to give her baby to? Or Elise, whose sister is carrying her own unborn baby, but has a dark past? As the two women forge a friendship, multiple twists are revealed as that final hospital scene beckons.



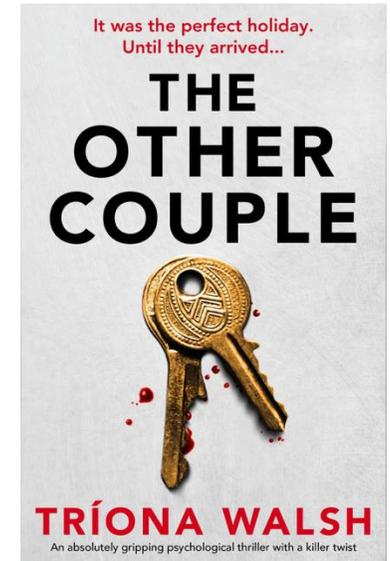
## THE OTHER COUPLE

TRÍONA WALSH

pub date: 28 October 2024

Set in a remote lighthouse cottage by the Irish sea, a couple settles in for the night at the Airbnb to relax and enjoy their secret relationship in private. But when there's a knock on the door in the middle of the night, they are shocked to find another couple standing at the door, drenched from the rain and claiming they rented out the same house. With nowhere else to go at the late hour, they reluctantly invite the couple inside, but soon they realise that these two may not be strangers at all. And when a series of deadly 'accidents' happen on the property, they realise that they may not come back from this trip alive.

This book is packed full of killer twists and lots of brilliant atmospheric flavour, and as always, Triona's writing is stylish and propulsive.



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## THE SNOWSTORM

TRÍONA WALSH

pub date: 2 February 2023

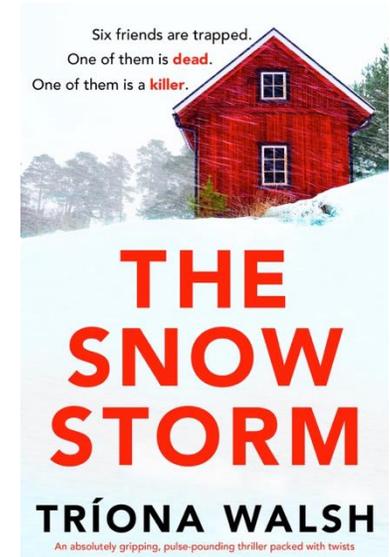
**Six friends are trapped. One of them is dead. One of them is the killer.**

Set on a remote storm-swept island called Inishmore off the Irish coast in the Atlantic Ocean, six friends – all originally from the island, but all gone their separate ways – reunite before New Year's Eve. Tonight, they are honouring the anniversary of the tragic death of Cara's husband Cillian in a boating accident ten years before.

But the day before New Year's Eve, Maura, another one of the friends, is found dead at the bottom of a cliff, murdered. And as a storm descends and they are cut off from the mainland, Cara – who is also the only serving member of the Irish police force on the island – has no choice but to investigate the death of her own friend herself before the storm lifts and the killer can escape from the island.

But as her off-the-record investigation starts to expose the many lies that each of her friends has told, Cara is forced to confront the possibility that one of the group must be guilty of Maura's death. And that it will all eventually lead her back to what really happened to Cillian all those years before...

It isn't just a novel about a murder, and a group of close, lifelong friends infested with secrets and lies, rotting them from the inside out. It's a novel about being an outsider, about loneliness and loss, about tradition and superstition, and how guilt can eat you up.



# THE BABY

A J MCDINE

pub date: 23 April 2024

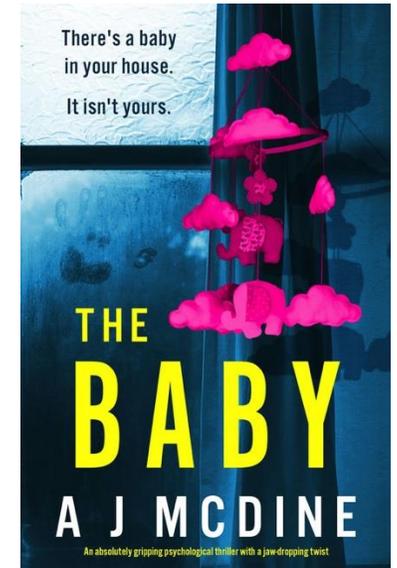
**There's a baby in your house. It isn't yours...**

The day I was told I'd never be able to have a child, my world came crashing down. My husband says he still loves me but I lie awake at night, wishing we could have a family.

One morning, my husband's side of the bed is cold and empty. I hear a noise and head downstairs.

In the middle of the rug in my living room is a wooden drawer. Swaddled inside, with perfect rosy cheeks and beautiful round blue eyes, a baby gazes up at me.

I shiver. It's all I've ever wanted, but this baby is not **mine**...



# THE DOCTOR'S WIFE

DANIEL HURST

pub date: 31 January 2023

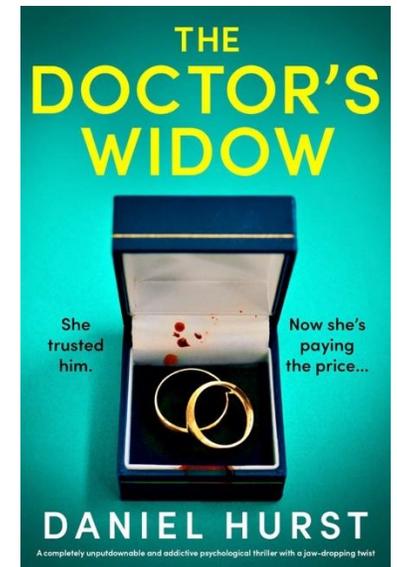
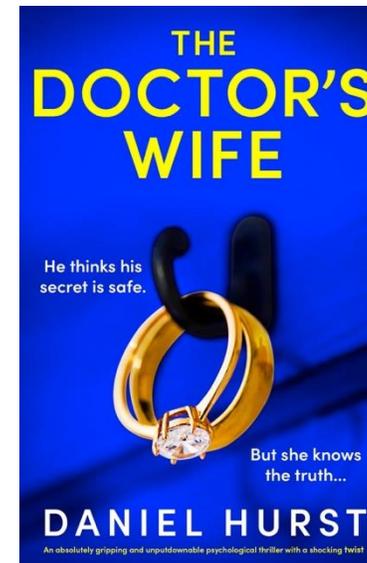
Doctor Drew Devlin thinks his secret is safe. But unbeknownst to him, his wife Fern knows the truth...

On the surface, it looks like they have it all – the perfect marriage, the perfect house, the perfect life. But it's far from the truth.

Doctor Drew Devlin is not the respectable figure he makes out to be. Fern knows that her husband has been lying to her again and he's using the power he has in his job to mess with people's lives, and to get exactly what he wants – no matter who it hurts.

But Doctor Drew Devlin has underestimated his wife, who has had plenty of time, in their big, isolated house, to think about *all* of his mistakes...

**#1 UK Kindle Store bestseller!**



## JUST THE NICEST FAMILY

ALISON JAMES

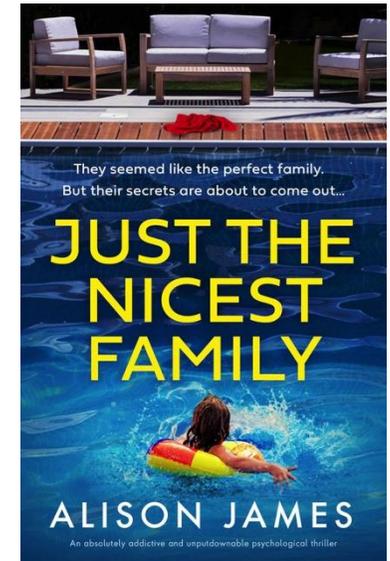
pub date: 16 June 2024

**They seemed like the perfect family. But their secrets are about to come out...**

*I push open the door to the beautiful French villa and my husband and adorable wide-eyed children follow me inside, taking in the breathtaking view. This should be a blissful summer break, filled with sun, swimming and relaxation but the truth is very different. Because my husband has just revealed the real reason we're here.*

*When our friends staying at the sprawling villa greet us on the sun-soaked terrace, I smile brightly and attempt to calm my nerves. If I can just behave normally, everything will be fine. But if any one of the people sitting around the clear, blue pool discovers the truth my whole world could be shattered.*

*So I have to pretend we're the perfect family and I'm the perfect wife – all the while knowing that our lies could destroy us.*



## THE NEW NANNY/THE NANNY'S CHILD

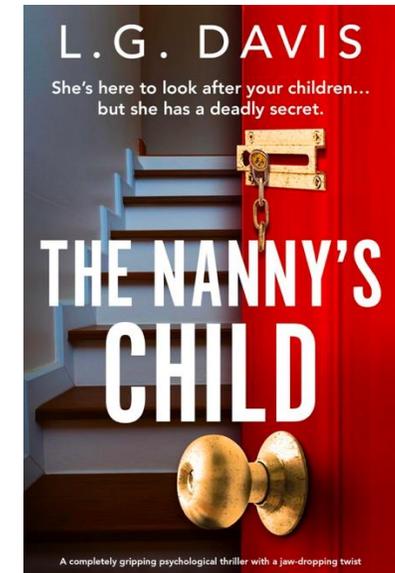
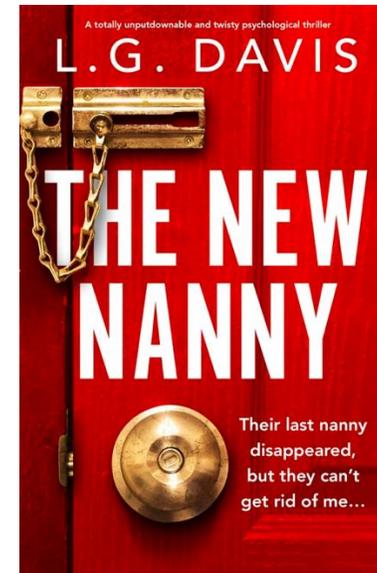
L.G. DAVIS

pub date: 11 September 2023

**'Their last nanny disappeared, but they can't get rid of me.'**

Christa has faked every reference that got her the job as the Mayers' nanny in Austria at their stunning glass home in the mountains. Most people would have run a mile when they met overbearing mother Robin, who says her son Wyatt is not allowed to leave the house. Or when they hear his last nanny disappeared. But Christa is different. She'll never leave. Because Wyatt is her son.

The setting is haunting and isolated and there are several shocking, dynamite twists. Christa is a dark, tortured and addictive character and this is the first in two thrillers featuring her. The cliff-hanger will have you desperate to race on to Book 2, *The Nanny's Child*.



# THE TYLER FAMILY SERIES

EMMA TALLON

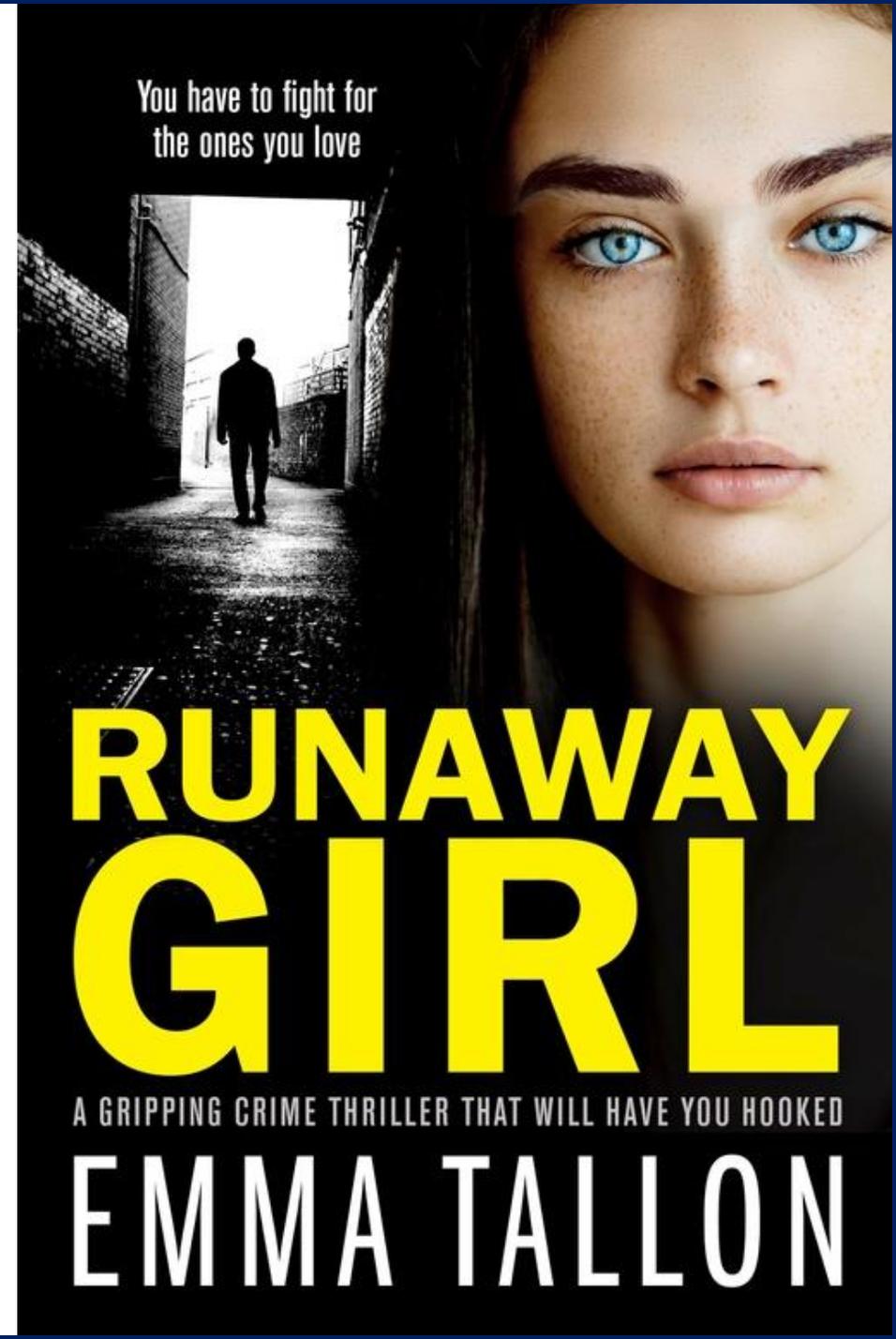
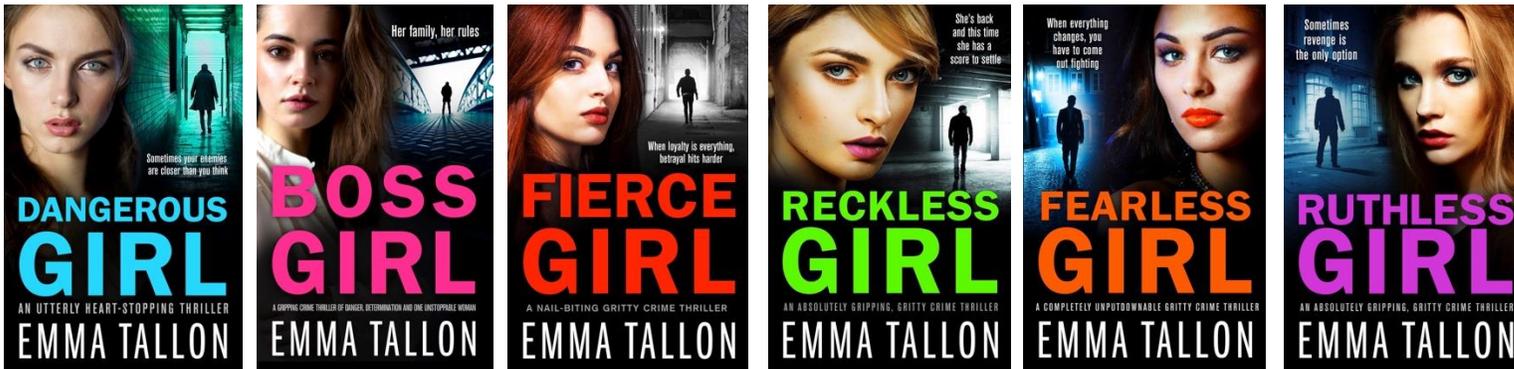
**This totally addictive gritty crime series receives rave reviews from its fans, who madly root for middle-class lost girl Anna Davies, escapee of an abusive marriage, who by the end of the series eventually finds herself running the biggest crime family in London alongside irresistible antihero and gangland royalty, Freddie Tyler.**

Anna has spent years terrified of her sadistic boyfriend. Right up until she runs away in the dead of night, she's frightened he will kill her. And she knows he still will, if he ever finds her...

As Anna starts her new life in London, she falls in with two strangers who will change her fortunes forever. Tanya Smith is a gorgeous stripper with a big heart. And East End gangland baron Freddie Tyler, who is everything Anna's ex-boyfriend was not.

But Anna knows her past will catch up with her. She could be about to lose everything – even her life. But she's a different person now. She's not going to give up without a fight.

**This bestselling 7-book series follows the Tyler family through their various criminal enterprises and through the thick and thin of family life and relationships. Amazing for fans of Martina Cole.**



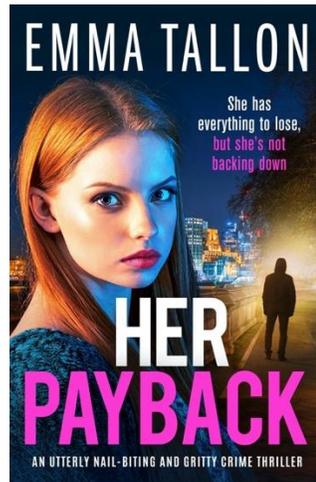
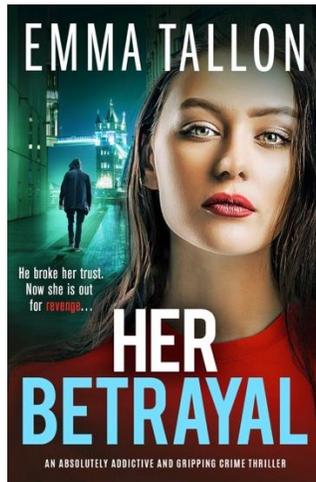
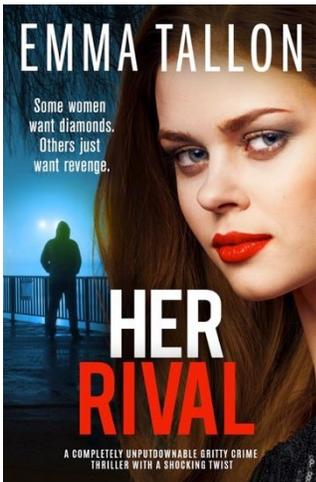
# THE DREW FAMILY SERIES

EMMA TALLON

**Bestselling crime author Emma Tallon's spin off second series introduces her army of fans to the Drew family – a smaller firm than gangland royalty that is the Tylers from Emma's other series – headed up by not-to-be-messed-with Lily Drew and her smart and strong niece Scarlett, who has kept her nose clean so far, but is thrust into a leading role in the family firm when her crime boss father is taken out in a gangland hit. Imagine an East End version of Meadow Soprano stepping up the plate after Tony's death!**

Scarlet's aunt Lily is fierce, straight-talking and a force to be reckoned with. As head of the family firm and queen of the London underworld, she welcomes her niece into the business and swears to help her get revenge – after all, family comes first.

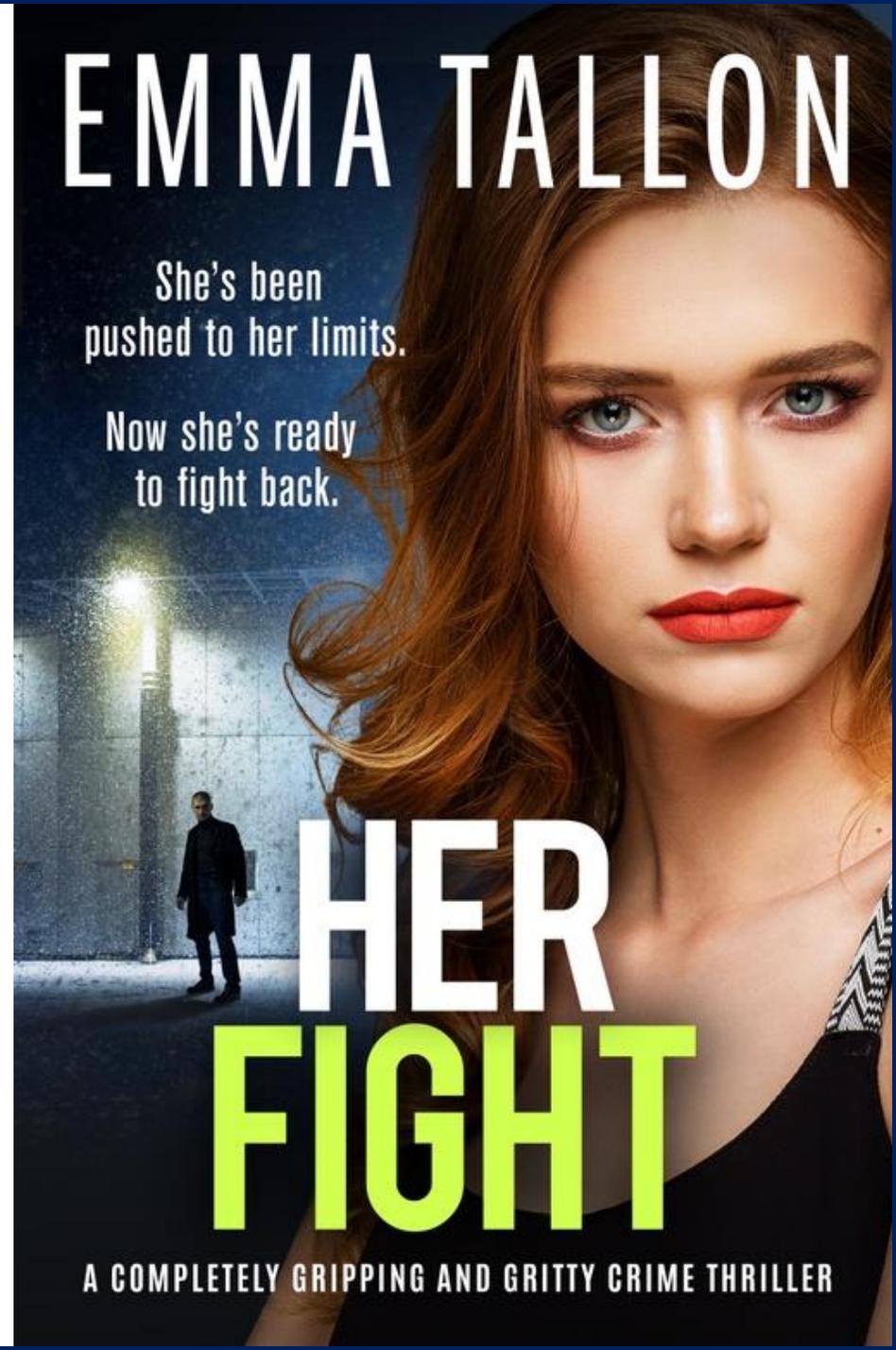
Scarlet soon discovers that the murder is just one part of a plot by a rival firm to take down the entire Drew empire. She stands shoulder to shoulder with her aunt, ready to fight back, but these new enemies are the most dangerous threat the Drew family has ever faced.



# EMMA TALLON

She's been pushed to her limits.

Now she's ready to fight back.



## THE CALL

KERRY WILKINSON

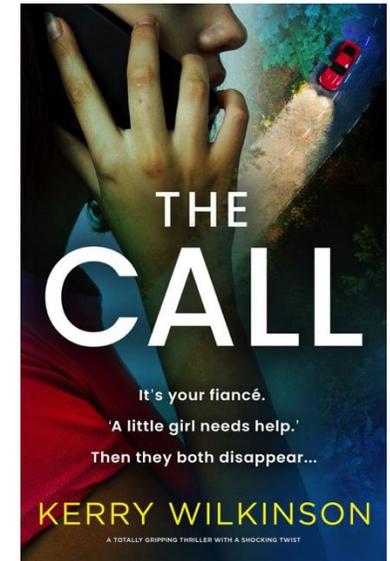
pub date: 17 April 2024

Melody gazes across the rippling lake to the trees on the shore, waiting for her fiancé Evan to arrive so their family holiday can begin. Here in this cabin in a small Canadian island town, there's so much space for their son to play. It's going to be perfect – just like the first time Melody visited as a child. But then a call from Evan shatters her world.

'There's someone in the road. I think it's a little girl. She's covered in mud. Or... is it blood?' His voice becomes distant. 'Are you OK? What's your name?' Then there's a thud.

Evan never arrives to the holiday cabin. Melody, and her son, are terrified and desperate for answers. But with miles of endless, empty forest, and no reports of a missing girl, what hope is there of finding Evan?

The more questions Melody asks of the locals, the more she fears a terrible secret hides just out of sight. And the closer she gets to the truth, the more danger she is in...



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## AFTER THE ACCIDENT

KERRY WILKINSON

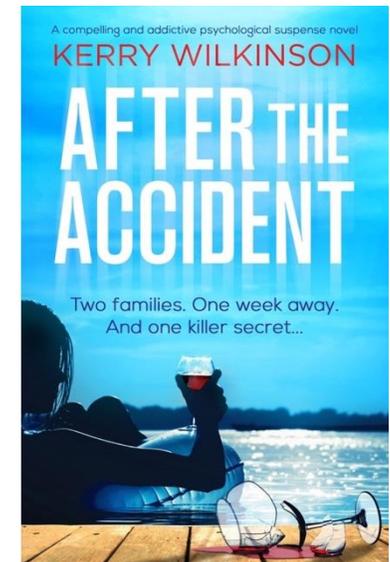
pub date: 31 March 2020

*"On a Friday night two years ago, British businessman Geoffrey McGinley was standing on a cliff, looking out towards the Mediterranean. He was on the island of Galanikos, a place he had visited numerous times in the past. A short while later, his unconscious body was found on the beach below.*

*This book attempts to unravel what happened through the eyes of the people who were there."*

Told entirely in interview transcripts, this original suspense thriller takes you to a beautiful Greek island, under the Mediterranean sun, where two families are enjoying a well-deserved holiday until one balmy evening. When head of the family and wealthy businessman Geoffrey McGinley is found unconscious on the beach, everyone must recall the events surrounding the accident.

Everyone's accounts are different. Who will you believe?



## THE MILLIONAIRE'S WIFE

SHALINI BOLAND

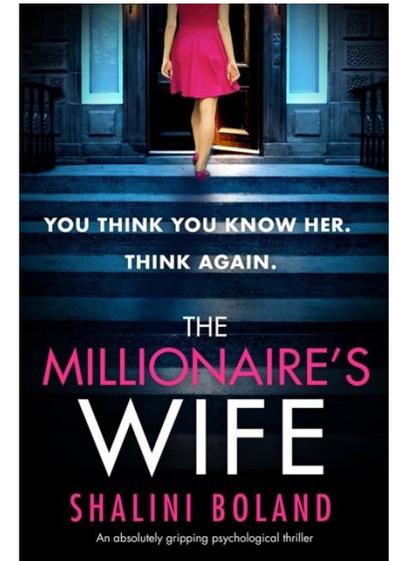
pub date: 21 May 2018

**Twisted student Fin proposes a pact to his girlfriend Anna: to both meet rich partners and kill them off. Years later, Anna has moved on... and married a millionaire... and Fin is going to hold her to that pact, no matter what...**

A few years before, Anna moved from Sweden to England to do her A levels and has a relationship with the most popular boy in school, Fin. But Fin's get rich quick schemes start to take darker and darker turns, and when he proposes that they make a murderous inheritance pact, Anna is horrified and moves back to Sweden, secretly pregnant with Fin's child...

Later, Anna is living in the UK again. She meets Will, who happens to be a millionaire. But it was never about the money. Anna married for love.

Meanwhile, Fin has deliberately married a rich woman and killed her in a speedboat accident. He then sends Anna an email with a picture of the dead woman with a note: *it's your turn next*.



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## THE FAMILY HOLIDAY

SHALINI BOLAND

pub date: 29 March 2022

**Two families. One house swap. A vacation to die for.**

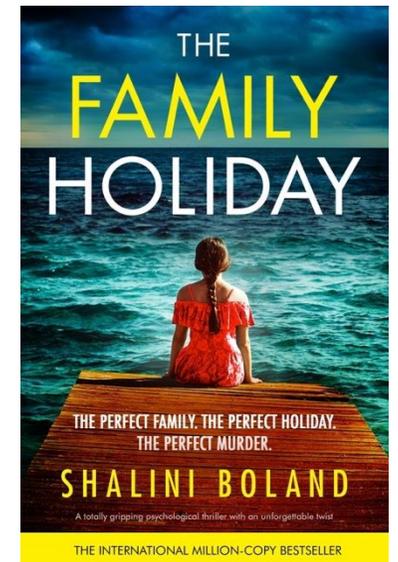
*The white-washed Italian villa is perfect. I thought it might feel odd, living in a stranger's house for the summer, but as my husband and children swim in the infinity pool, I start to relax. And then, in the back of a wardrobe, I find a photograph that shatters everything...*

*Sparkling green eyes, square jaw, lopsided smile. A young man with his arm around a beautiful woman. The picture is old and faded but I'd recognise him anywhere. The man is my husband.*

*But we've never met the family we've swapped homes with and my husband swears it isn't him in the photo. He's lying. We argue on the balcony with the sun setting behind us and I storm out.*

*When I finally calm down enough to go back to the villa to confront him, I find him sprawled across the veranda... dead.*

*Why would someone kill my husband? Am I in danger? And how well did I really know the man I married?*



*bookouture*

**PROCEDURAL &  
COSY CRIME**

A gripping crime thriller that will have you hooked

D.K. HOOD

# DON'T TELL A SOUL

Detectives  
Kane and Alton  
Book 1

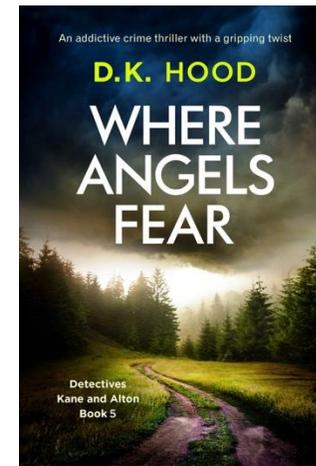
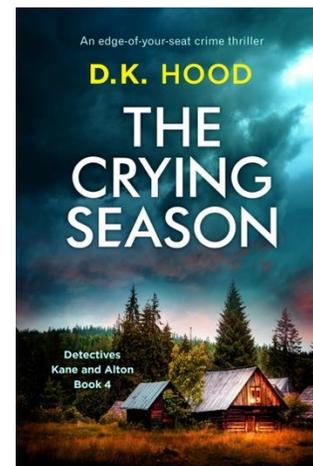
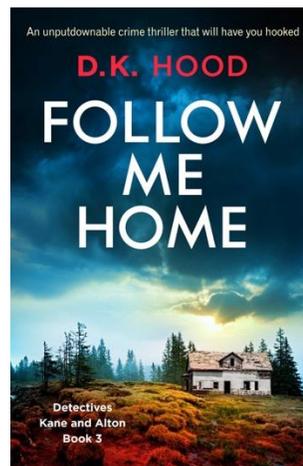
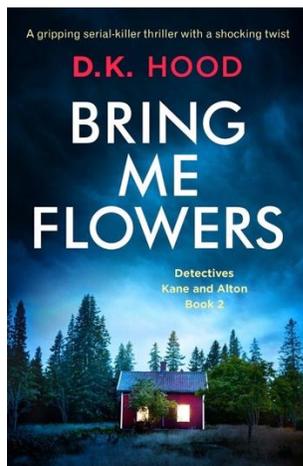


# DON'T TELL A SOUL

D.K. HOOD

This is the first book in the million-copy-selling Kane and Alton series from USA Today- and Wall Street Journal-bestselling author. Set in the fictional town of Black Rock Falls in Montana, this series delivers twisted killers, fast-paced action, and larger-than-life characters, including the unforgettable detective duo Jenna Alton and David Kane – *both* FBI ex-special agents hiding in plain sight in this supposedly sleepy town, both mistrusting of the other, both trying to keep their pasts from catching up with them. Think a procedural, precinct version of Mr and Mrs Smith!

In book #1, after his death is faked by the FBI, ex-special agent David Kane is hidden away on witness protection in the supposedly quiet town of Black Rock Falls as the deputy to the town's sheriff Jenna Alton, who herself also has an FBI background as a special agent – and she has many enemies. The two detectives immediately mistrust each other, but they must work together to catch a killer on the loose in Black Rock Falls – someone who is connected to previous disappearances in the town's history. But Jenna is the one that the killer really wants...



She thought he'd come to save her.  
She was wrong.

# THE NEXT GIRL

CARLA KOVACH

A gripping crime thriller with a heart-stopping twist

# THE NEXT GIRL

BY CARLA KOVACH

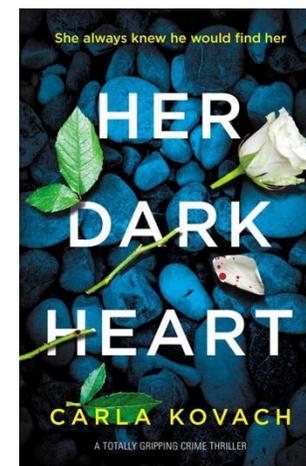
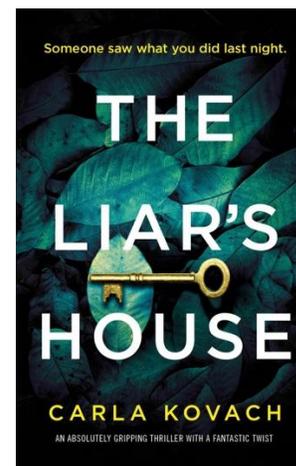
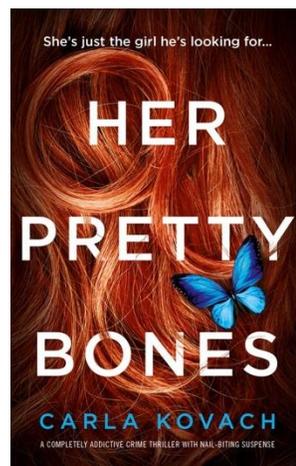
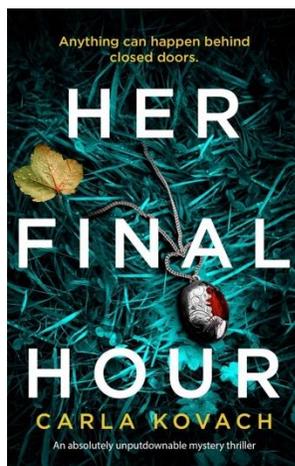
**The Detective Gina Harte series is now up to book 15 and readers keep coming back for more of these concept-forward thrillers, with over 600,000 copies sold across the series.**

The first in the series, *The Next Girl*, has sold over 400k copies and spent five weeks at the top of the UK Apple charts on publication. Deborah Jenkins pulls her coat around her for the short walk home in the pouring rain. But she never makes it home that night. And she is never seen again...

Four years later, an abandoned baby girl is found wrapped in dirty rags on a doorstep. An anonymous phone call urges the police to run a DNA test on the baby. But nobody is prepared for the results.

The newborn belongs to Deborah. She's still alive...

**THE GRIPPING THRILLER EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT – if you like Lisa Gardner, MJ Arlidge or Clare Mackintosh, you will absolutely love this.**



DETECTIVE KAY SHARP  
BOOK 1

# THE GIRL FROM SILENT LAKE

LESLIE WOLFE

A totally gripping and heart-pounding crime thriller

# THE GIRL FROM SILENT LAKE

LESLIE WOLFE

pub date: 19 December 2021

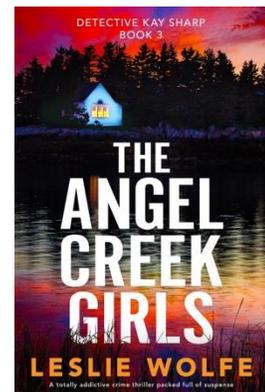
**In this phenomenal first book in the series, former FBI criminal psychologist turned small-town detective, Kay Sharp, returns home to her sleepy home town in the epic mountains outside San Francisco, where not only her own deepest secrets are buried, but also where a serial killer mimicking Native American burial rituals will put her considerable profiling skills to the test.**

Detective Kay Sharp killed her abusive father as a child with a kitchen knife. She and her brother buried his body in the back garden underneath a willow tree. She has carried this burden for the rest of her life, pushing it deep down inside her. Perhaps this is why she became such a brilliant criminal profiler. She knows what it feels like to be a killer.

Years later her brother goes to prison on a trumped-up DUI charge, and Kay is forced to return to her home town of Mount Chester to help him, living in the old family home that harbours her darkest secret. The knife she killed her father with is still missing from the knife block in the kitchen.

But this is not the only reason she has come home. Women are going missing from across the country, some with children in tow – their connection: they are all travelling to Mount Chester. The first body is found presented with all the rituals of a Native American tree burial. Her child is still missing.

Kay leads a frenzied search to find the other women and children before it's too late. But as more adult bodies are found, she realises perhaps too late that her own past is catching up with her, and in order to save those children, she is going to have to face it to unlock the mind of the most twisted killer she has ever encountered.



# LESLIE WOLFE

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *DAWN GIRL*



## THE GIRL HUNTER

AN ADDICTIVE SERIAL KILLER THRILLER WITH A SHOCKING TWIST

# THE GIRL HUNTER

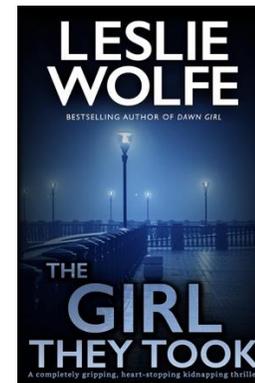
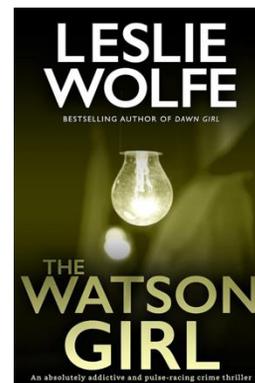
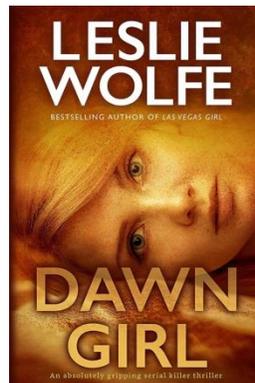
LESLIE WOLFE

Caught in the enigmatic web of an unusual case, Special Agent Tess Winnett races against the ticking clock. A suspected serial killer is on the loose, hunting prey in the depths of the Everglades. Several women have vanished from the Miami coast, leaving only echoes of their existence. The clues to their fates? Locked away in the tortured mind of one survivor, TV celebrity Kiana Bayliss. Does she hold the key to saving them? Or is she the final piece in a terrifying puzzle?

*The Girl Hunter* is a psychological crime thriller that draws readers into the murky waters of a serial killer's mind. Delve into a riveting journey of survival, secrets, and redemption.

This 9<sup>th</sup> title in the digitally bestselling Tess Winnett series is for fans of David Baldacci, Robert Dugoni, and James Patterson will be captivated by Leslie Wolfe's masterful storytelling.

**Bookouture represents the film/TV rights for all 9 titles.**



DETECTIVE JOSIE QUINN BOOK 1

A totally heart-stopping crime thriller

# VANISHING GIRLS



LISA REGAN

# VANISHING GIRLS

LISA REGAN

**One girl was taken. Another girl returned.**

Everyone in the small town of Denton is searching for Isabelle Coleman, a missing seventeen-year-old girl. All they've found so far is her phone, a clump of her blonde hair – and another young girl they didn't even know was missing.

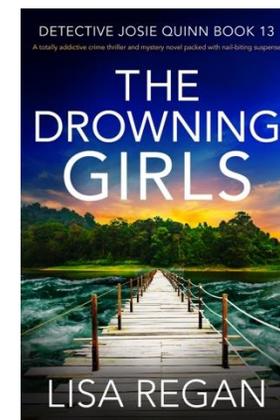
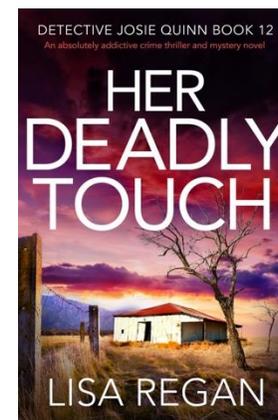
Mute and unresponsive, it's clear this mysterious girl has been damaged beyond repair. All Detective Josie Quinn can get from her is the name of a *third* girl and the flash of a neon tongue piercing that matches Isabelle's.

The race is on to find Isabelle alive, and Josie fears there may be other girls in terrible danger. When the trail leads her to a cold case labelled a hoax by authorities, Josie – suspended from the force for misconduct – discovers a trail of police corruption of the most despicable kind that goes back generations.

Someone in this close-knit town is committing unspeakable crimes. Is there anyone left she can trust? And can Josie catch the killer before another victim loses their life?

**Lisa Regan is a shining star in Bookouture's crown. She is an Amazon, USA Today and Wall Street Journal bestselling author, and in 2021 reached a career landmark of 2 million copies sold across Bookouture's editions of her work alone.**

**Looking for the next *Mare of Easttown*? You've found it.**

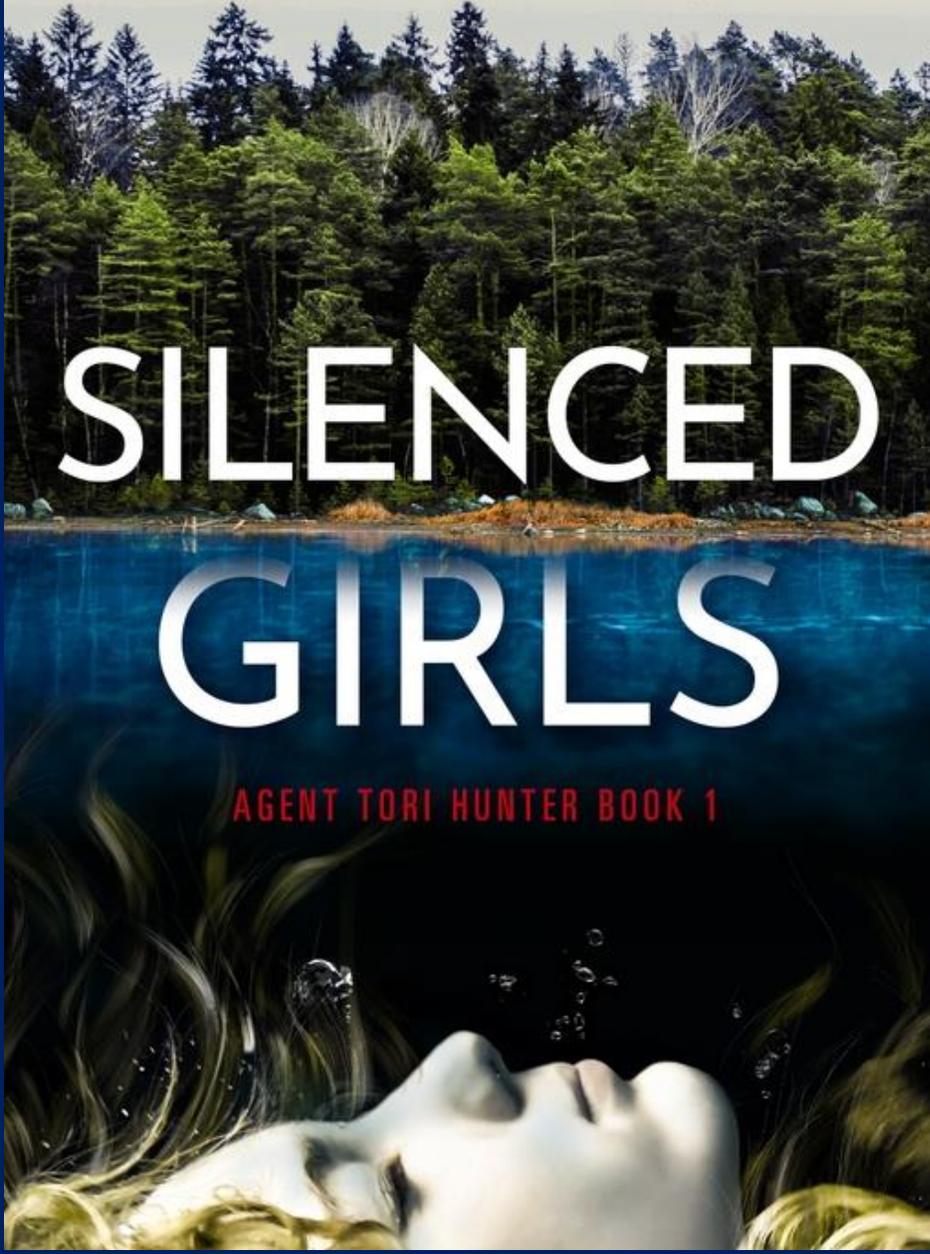


AN ABSOLUTELY ADDICTIVE MYSTERY THRILLER

ROGER STELLJES

# SILENCED GIRLS

AGENT TORI HUNTER BOOK 1



# SILENCED GIRLS

ROGER STELLJES

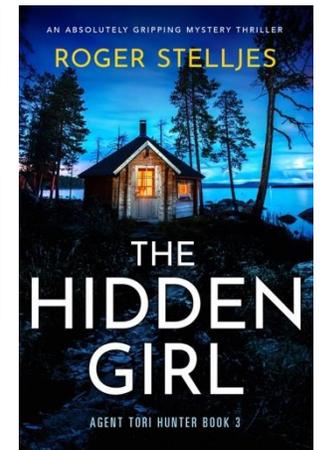
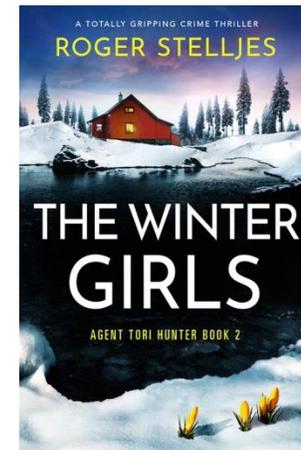
**Guilt has kept FBI Agent Tori Hunter away from her home in Manchester Bay, Minnesota for twenty years, ever since her twin sister disappeared on the Fourth of July, when the girls should have been together. In the years since, living in New York, she has risen through the ranks of the FBI to become one of the bureau's brightest and best kidnap and abduction specialists.**

But when she receives an anonymous newspaper clipping about another missing girl back in Manchester Bay, Tori is dragged back to the past. Just like Tori's sister, Genevieve vanished without a trace, her empty car abandoned on a lonely lakeside road as Independence Day fireworks lit up the sky overhead.

Returning to Minnesota lake country, Tori finds Genevieve's distraught yet politically influential parents desperate for answers. Under pressure to make an arrest, the police have no time for Tori's theories.

Pulled out of the state on another mission to solve a middle-class kidnapping with links to corporate corruption, Tori continues to try and steer the Manchester Bay case remotely. But on returning finds both herself – and Braddock, the local detective with his own past tragedies – in the direct sights of the killer.

When the only suspect is found dead in his isolated cabin, days later another girl's body is discovered bound and strangled in the trunk of her car. The bloodstains surrounding her body belong to Braddock, the one man Tori thought she could trust. Reeling, Tori knows the closer she gets to the truth, the more her own life is at risk. But can she catch this killer before it's too late for Genevieve?



An absolutely gripping crime thriller with nail-biting suspense  
**DETECTIVE JO FOURNIER BOOK 1**

# THE DANCING GIRLS

**M.M. CHOUINARD**

# THE DANCING GIRLS

M.M. CHOUINARD

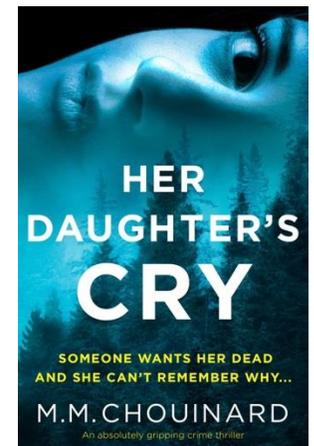
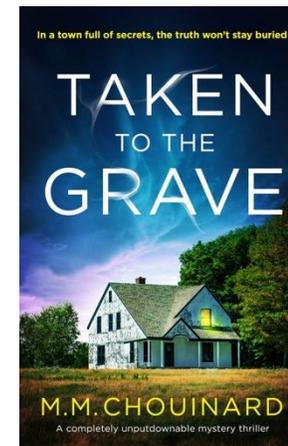
Jo pulled together the victims' pictures. In all cases their arms were askew, in a way that looked like—what? It was like they were freeze-framed in the middle of some action. It was like they were dancing.

When loving wife Jeanine is found dead in a small leafy town in Massachusetts, newly promoted Detective Jo Fournier is shocked to her core. Why leave her body posed like a ballerina? Why steal her wedding band and nothing else? Hungry for answers, Jo questions Jeanine's husband, but the heartbreaking pain written on his face threatens to tear open Jo's old wounds. It's the same pain she felt when her boyfriend was cruelly shot dead by a gang in their hometown of New Orleans. She couldn't get justice for him, but she's determined to get justice for Jeanine's devastated family.

But before Jo can get answers, another woman is found, wedding ring stolen, body posed in the same ritualistic way.

Digging through old files, Jo makes a terrifying link to a series of cold cases. She knows a serial killer is on the loose, but nobody will listen to the truth—not her bosses, nor the FBI. Still, Jo won't let her superiors keep her from stopping the murderer in his tracks, even if it means the end of her career.

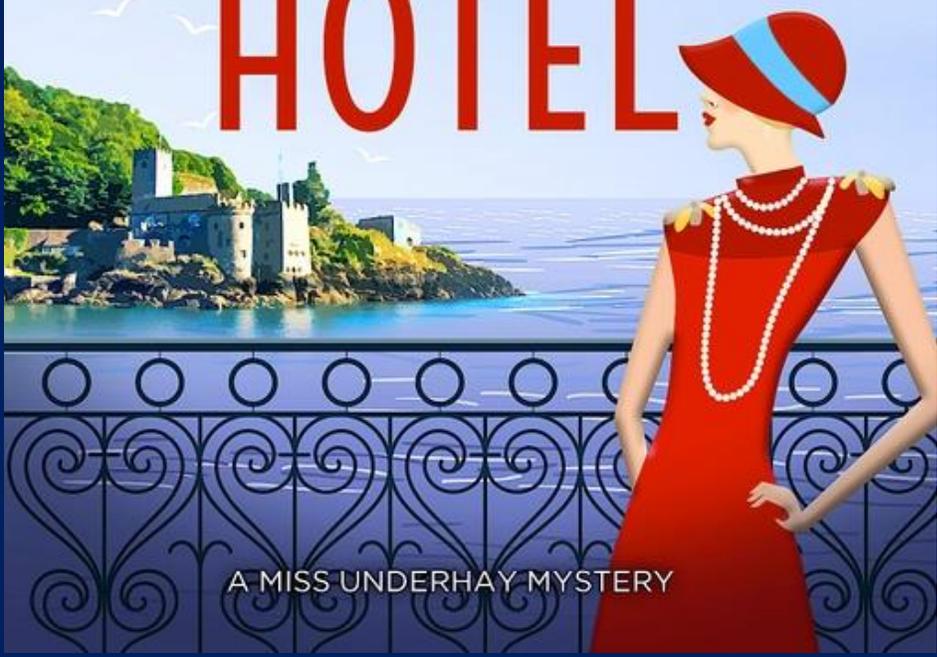
**A USA Today bestseller, *The Dancing Girls* is the first book in an absolutely unputdownable and gripping crime thriller series with 7 entries to date. Fans of Robert Dugoni, Lisa Regan and Melinda Leigh will devour it in one sitting and will never see the massive twist coming.**



A gripping cozy historical mystery

HELENA DIXON

# MURDER at the DOLPHIN HOTEL



# MISS UNDERHAY SERIES

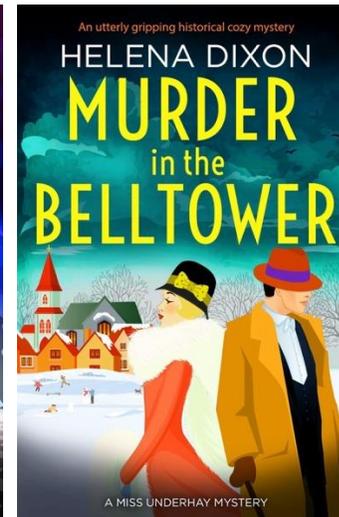
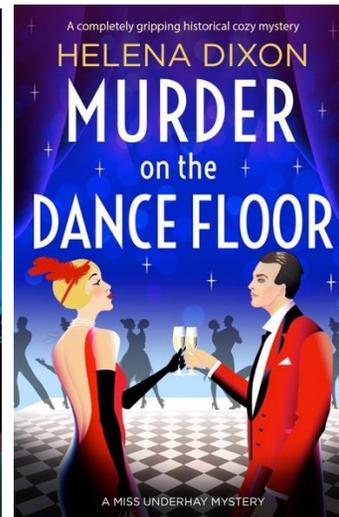
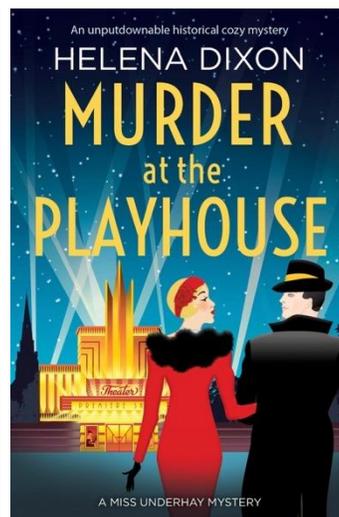
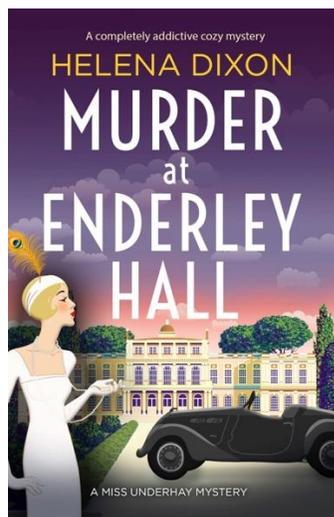
## HELENA DIXON

It's 1933, but Kitty is every bit the modern woman. Having taken on the responsibility of the legacy of her family's ancient and historic hotel on the English coast, all Kitty wants is to keep the hotel running and running well. So, when a body is found not far from the hotel and rooms are ransacked in search of a stolen ruby – that just might have been possessed by her mother before she went missing... – the hotel and Kitty herself are thrown into the midst of a murder investigation that puts her at its centre.

Kitty finds she's up against more than she bargained for when their new head of security, ex-army captain Matthew Bryant, is tasked with protecting Kitty from the building threats against her.

What Helena does brilliantly is sprinkling in these drops of secrets and backstory, that will have you wanting to come back and uncover; Kitty isn't just unravelling the truth behind these murders, but unveiling the truth behind her mother's disappearance more than 10 years prior... Think Netflix's *Enola Holmes* for a slightly older audience!

The role of ex-army-captain Matthew Bryant also makes this series particularly enjoyable and will have readers come back for book after book: there is a burgeoning romance between the two protagonists, who take on co-lead status, ultimately resulting in their wedding later in the series. Joy!



A LADY ELEANOR SWIFT  
MYSTERY BOOK 1

# A VERY ENGLISH MURDER

An absolutely gripping  
cozy murder mystery



VERITY BRIGHT

# LADY ELEANOR SWIFT MYSTERIES

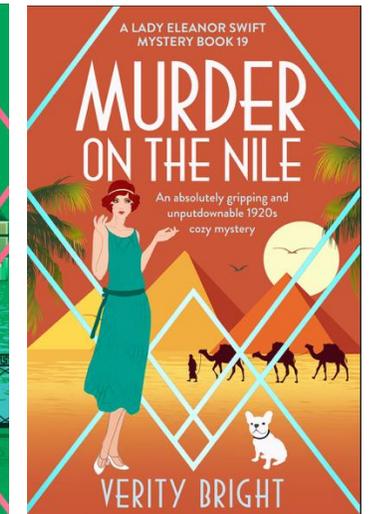
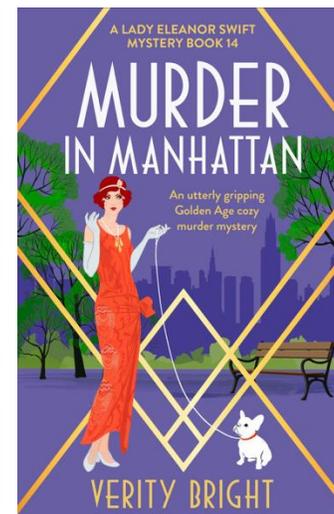
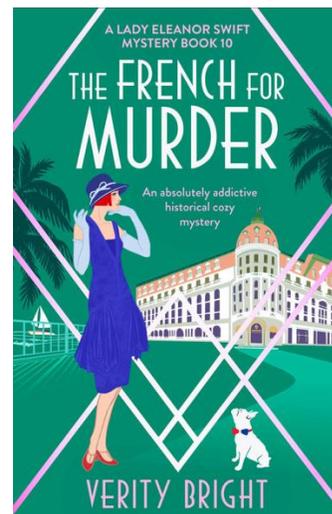
VERITY BRIGHT

Introducing the fabulous and feisty amateur sleuth Lady Eleanor Swift, *A Very English Murder* rivals the very best of golden age crime! Expect plenty of intrepid amateur sleuthing, a crumbling country manor, a brilliant butler worthy of Jeeves himself, afternoon tea, dogs, dastardly crimes and twisty mysteries. These puzzling whodunnits will have you charmed and totally gripped!

Across the series, Lady Eleanor hops all around the globe and murder and mystery is never far behind.

**If you enjoy witty dialogue, glamorous intrigue and the very best of Golden Age mysteries, then you will adore Verity Bright's unputdownable whodunnit, perfect for fans of Agatha Christie, T.E. Kinsey and Downton Abbey!**

**The series has now collectively sold over 400 copies and brought in over £1.4 million in revenue!**



*bookouture*

**ROMANTIC  
COMEDIES**

An absolutely hilarious and uplifting romantic comedy

CATHERINE WALSH



# One Night Only

It's her best  
friend's **wedding**  
and she's next to her  
**one-night stand.**

# ONE NIGHT ONLY

CATHERINE WALSH

pub date: 30 July 2021

**Who could have predicted this? Being at the same wedding. In Ireland. There's a reason one-night stands are one-night stands. You're not supposed to see each other again, especially not when you're the maid of honour, and he's the groom's brother...**

Sarah Anderson has never been more excited about anything in her life. She's going to her best friend's wedding. And not just any wedding. An Irish wedding. Goodbye New York, hello rolling green hills and men with beautiful accents and twinkling eyes.

But Sarah should have known that not all guests are fairy-tale princes...

There's Declan Murphy. Best man. Brother of the groom. And the man Sarah last saw naked.

Is there anything more mortifying than bumping into a one-night stand halfway across the world? Especially as Declan seems determined to embarrass Sarah at every turn. At least when the wedding is over she'll never have to see him again.

But, back in New York, Sarah finds the more she tries to forget Declan, the more she can't shake the thought of that infuriatingly charming smile and the way he wears a tux...

Was he really just for one night only, or might Declan Murphy be The One?

**Prepare to laugh until you cry with this perfect feel-good romantic comedy from the bestseller author of *Holiday Romance* and *Snowed In*.**

An unwanted proposal, a runaway bride...  
A second chance at love?

# SNOW GOING BACK



EMMA TALLON

A feel-good enemies-to-lovers romantic comedy

# SNOW GOING BACK

EMMA TALLON

pub date: 24 October 2024

Everyone is heading home for the holidays. Everyone except Kate. Having just run away her boyfriend Lance's unexpected proposal (in front of her entire family), Kate was the only person in her office happy to take an unexpected last-minute work trip posting to Boston.

Arriving in the snow-covered, fairy-light-filled city, Kate feels immediately at home. That is until she meets Sam, a cross between a lumberjack and an Abercrombie model standing in the kitchen of her new place. Which also happens to be his home thanks to a work mix-up. Given that it's Christmas and there is nowhere else to stay, they agree to make it work.

But soon it's clear that Sam is not the ideal house mate. From drinking all the milk, turning the hot water off whilst she's showering, and insisting she stay in her room for the entirety of 'game night' with the boys, Kate thinks Sam is the absolute worst. And he thinks the same of her.

When Sam surprisingly comes to her rescue, his frosty exterior finally thaws and when they open up to each other, they realise they have more in common than they thought. But when Lance unexpectedly arrives, Kate's heart is torn. Go home with Lance or spend the holidays with a man she hardly knows, but who could turn out to be the one...

**Opposites attract in this heart-warming and truly laugh out loud enemies to lovers, forced proximity book. If you enjoy Catherine Walsh, Emily Henry and Beth Moran, you will love *Snow Going Back*.**

## THE DO OVER

SHARON M. PETERSON

pub date: 1 August 2022

Meet Perci – recently dumped live on air over the radio. While in the dentist's chair. On New Year's Eve.

Perci is forced to re-evaluate her life at this unexpected upheaval with some New Year's resolutions she can't possibly fail at – though with her mother hellbent on getting her back with her terrible ex, she needs to take matters into her own hands.

So, what's the perfect solution to keep her mother out of her love life? An imaginary boyfriend. At least he was imaginary before Perci accidentally blurts out that her new boyfriend is the hot bad boy neighbour next door, with the razor-sharp jawline and mysterious scar, who now has absolutely no idea they are fake dating. What could possibly go wrong?

*The Do Over* is a warm, delightful, and timeless romance that is seriously like a warm hug from start to finish, with an engaging and funny first-person narrative, that will have you absolutely kicking your legs in delight. It's an ode to all those failed New Year's resolutions, and what it means to learn to love yourself and be loved, without reducing yourself or abandoning what you hold dear.



## THE FAKE OUT

SHARON M. PETERSON

pub date: 5 July 2023

**Our favourite sports rom com of the season, featuring a loveable all-star NFL player and a small-town librarian with oodles of secrets. It's full of our favourite tropes - grumpy/sunshine, fake-dating, only-one-bed - and, yes, it is majorly giving us Travis and Taylor vibes!**

It's not every day you see a new face in Mae's small hometown of Two Harts, let alone one belonging to an annoyingly handsome all-star NFL player. But for some reason Chris Sterns has decided that the library where Mae works is his go-to spot to hide from his mega-fans. Being crowned "world's sexiest man" has done little to curb his confident charm and when Chris somehow ropes Mae into his two-person book club, she can't help warming to his endless positivity.

But when a photo of him stumbling out of a Las Vegas club with a woman in tow is leaked to the press, Mae can't help but question whether his good boy persona is just an act.

And that's far from the only answer Mae's left searching for when Chris suddenly pops the question she's only ever heard in her favourite romance books. Did he really just ask her to marry him?

With her mom's medical bills piling up faster than she can pay them, and with the scandal threatening to ruin everything Chris has worked for; could an engagement be the perfect fake out for them both?



KRISTEN BAILEY

# Am I Allergic to Men?



A completely laugh-out-loud and addictive page-turner

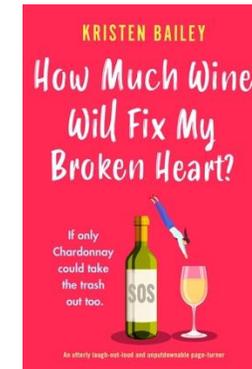
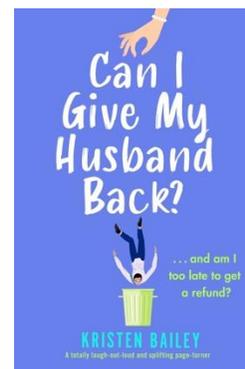
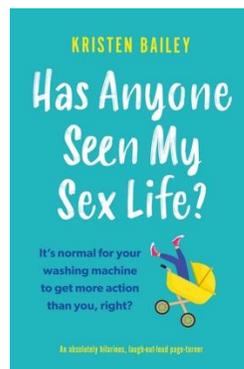
## CALLAGHAN SISTERS SERIES

KRISTEN BAILEY

Meet the Callaghan sisters: Meg, Emma, Beth, Grace and Lucy – all completely different, all with their own challenges and joys. Each laugh-out-loud book focuses on a different sister and the things that modern life throws at them. Now the series is completed by Lucy's showstopper of a story, *Am I Allergic to Men?*, there is no better time to discover these amazing characters. This is streamer TV waiting to happen!

Firecracker Lucy Callaghan – nearly 30, single, and living her life to the absolute max - spends her days as an entertainer at kids' parties dressed as various Disney princesses, trying to make it as an actress, but not quite knowing why she is still doing this at 30. Whereas her 4 older sisters are by now all married with kids. One day, rushing to the next kid's party on her bike (dressed as Elsa), Lucy is hit by a London bus – and the next thing she knows she's waking up from a month-long coma, but has completely forgotten the last decade of her life. As far as she remembers, it is still 2009 and she is 17! She has forgotten all her sisters' weddings and children's births, the bad-news boyfriends and husbands that have come and gone during the missing years, and not to mention her own conquests and escapades. She doesn't remember dramatically dumping her cheating ex-boyfriend when she was 18, she can't believe her school best friend in all the world is no longer in her daily life, and how have her sisters all got so old? And what is this Netflix thing?

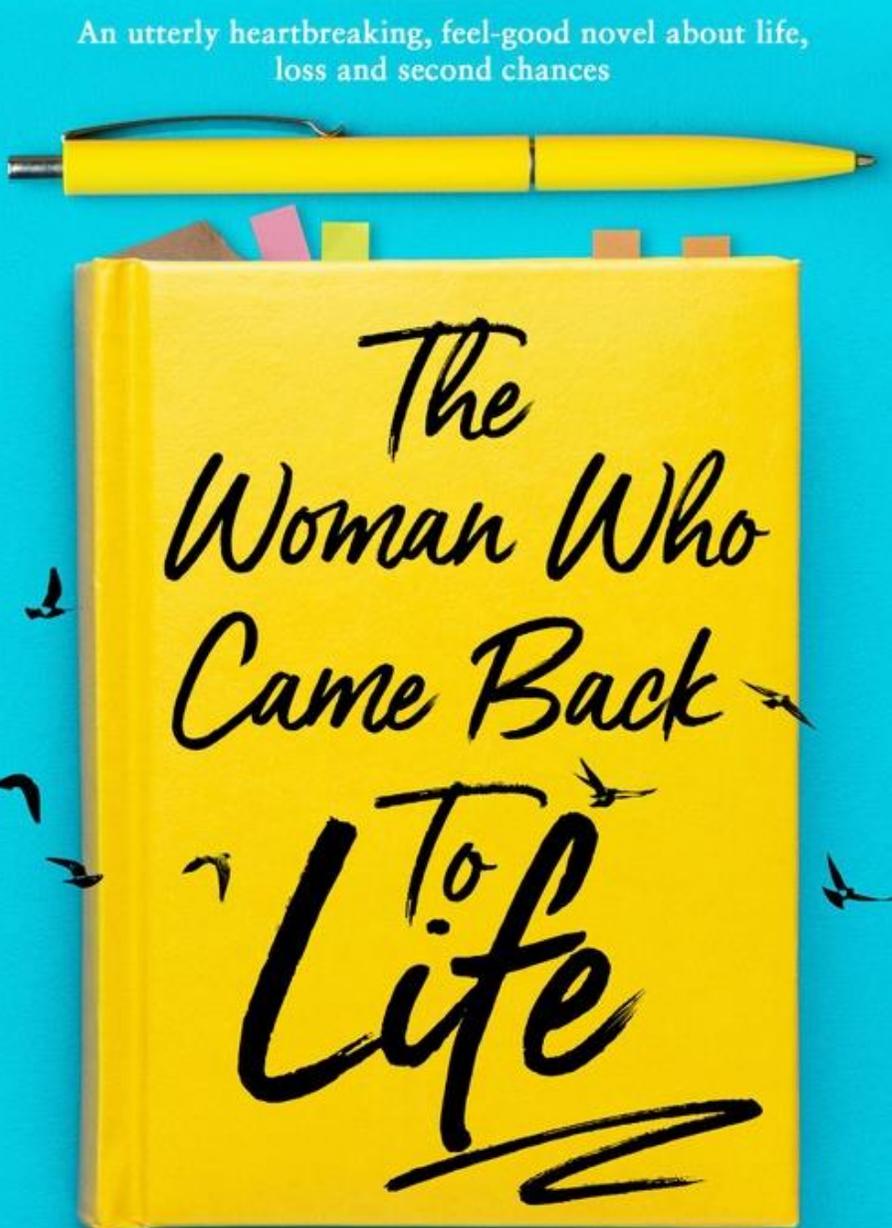
Helped by her four sisters, this is Lucy's journey of self-discovery to remember the last decade of her life. She visits ex-boyfriends, places she has studied and worked, and trawls through her phone contacts list and Facebook. She is both baffled and impressed by the woman she became in the missing years, but at the same time questioning why she doesn't seem to have settled into adult life like her sisters have. Is she allergic to men? To growing up?



*bookouture*

CONVERSATION  
STARTING DRAMA

An utterly heartbreaking, feel-good novel about life,  
loss and second chances



The  
Woman Who  
Came Back  
To  
Life

BETH MILLER

# THE WOMAN WHO CAME BACK TO LIFE

BETH MILLER

pub. date: 5 January 2022

**This beautiful novel about second chances is about a woman who is reunited with the daughter she gave up for adoption when she was sixteen by way of revelations in the coded journals bequeathed to her in the will of her estranged father.**

Pearl Flowers, 52, has retreated from her troubled family life in the UK by moving to a quiet woodland cottage in France with her husband Denny.

And then she receives a phone call that throws her calm world into chaos. Her father, Francis, who she has been estranged from for decades while he raised his second family, has died – and he has bequeathed something in the will specifically for Pearl: a diary written in coded shorthand that only she can understand.

As she begins to decipher her father's diary, Pearl discovers that for forty years he had been thinking of her almost every day. And as she reads on, secrets begin to emerge from the pages causing her to question everything she thought she knew.

The key revelation of the diaries is that Francis has spent years secretly tracking down Pearl's daughter, who was born of her teenage pregnancy and given up for adoption when Pearl was 16. Francis had successfully found this little girl, Carrie, now grown up with a baby of her own, and as his redemptive last act at the end of his life managed to orchestrate a reunion between Pearl and Carrie – a reunion which challenges both women to reconcile their own grief over past losses – to come back to life.

**The novel is beautiful and has so many learnings to take from the journeys of both Pearl and Carrie, as well as from Francis' story. Every character is realised with nuance and depth, and there is a realism to this book that is wonderfully observed. But it is also hugely entertaining. The family dynamics of Pearl and her two brothers, as well as the tension between them and Francis' second family is a blast. The reading of the will where the diaries are bequeathed to Pearl, and all the characters madly scramble over them, is a showstopper.**



# IT ALL COMES BACK TO YOU

MELISSA WIESNER

pub. date: 22 August 2023

**An unforgettable and heart-shattering romance, perfect for fans of Colleen Hoover, Lucy Score and Carley Fortune, that asks: does keeping secrets destroy true love?**

Anna works two jobs to get herself through college and never, ever talks about her family. It's easier to keep her distance from everyone until she can finally leave her old life behind. That is, until chance throws her together with Gabe...

Gabe is top of the class, in a fancy fraternity, and has a big, perfect, warm-hearted family. He is everything Anna is not. Their connection is undeniable. His silver-blue eyes pierce right through her, and he makes her laugh in ways she never thought possible. But Anna would do anything to stop Gabe from discovering her darkest secret, and the real reason she goes home every night to a cold, silent apartment...

When Gabe and his family get close to the truth, Anna runs, vowing to never see them again. But forever is a long time...

Years later. Tragedy brings Anna back to the town she grew up in—a place she escaped a decade ago. When Gabe wraps his strong arms around her, it's like finally finding home.

But when the truth comes out after all these years, will both their worlds come crashing down? Gabe is the one person Anna trusts most: but what if he has secrets, too? And how much pain can two hearts endure, before they are torn apart forever?

**MELISSA WIESNER**

A TOTALLY EMOTIONAL AND GRIPPING PAGE-TURNER

# The Baby Left Behind

He's all  
you've ever  
wanted.

But can  
you keep  
him?

**Jen Craven**

A totally gripping and utterly heart-wrenching page-turner

# THE BABY LEFT BEHIND

JEN CRAVEN

pub. date: 20 September 2023

*Take him. Please forgive me.*

Cate has always wanted children but has been unable to have them. When she sees a baby on her doorstep with a note asking her to take the child, she thinks she is dreaming. Right from the start the central ethical dilemma is raised in this emotional and suspenseful women's fiction – should she take this child? When she does, and the biological mother Jada eventually returns from rehab ready to be a parent, Cate's life is thrown into turmoil. How can she return this child she has grown to love? Exploring split-second wrong decisions with powerful and page-turning prose, this novel moves between Cate and Jada, both trapped in impossible situations.

Exploring issues of parenthood, responsibility and addiction, this dark and emotional women's fiction will have you racing through the pages and feeling for women desperate to love, but being unable to express it in the ways society expects.

**Readers are LOVING The Baby Left Behind!**

"WOW!... Gut-wrenching." ★★★★★  
"Utterly hooked... AMAZING." ★★★★★  
"Brought tears to my eyes." ★★★★★  
"Wow!... Absolutely perfect." ★★★★★  
"I could not put this book down." ★★★★★

*bookouture*

**HISTORICAL  
FICTION**

# THE LAST RESTAURANT IN PARIS

LILY GRAHAM

pub date: 18 July 2022

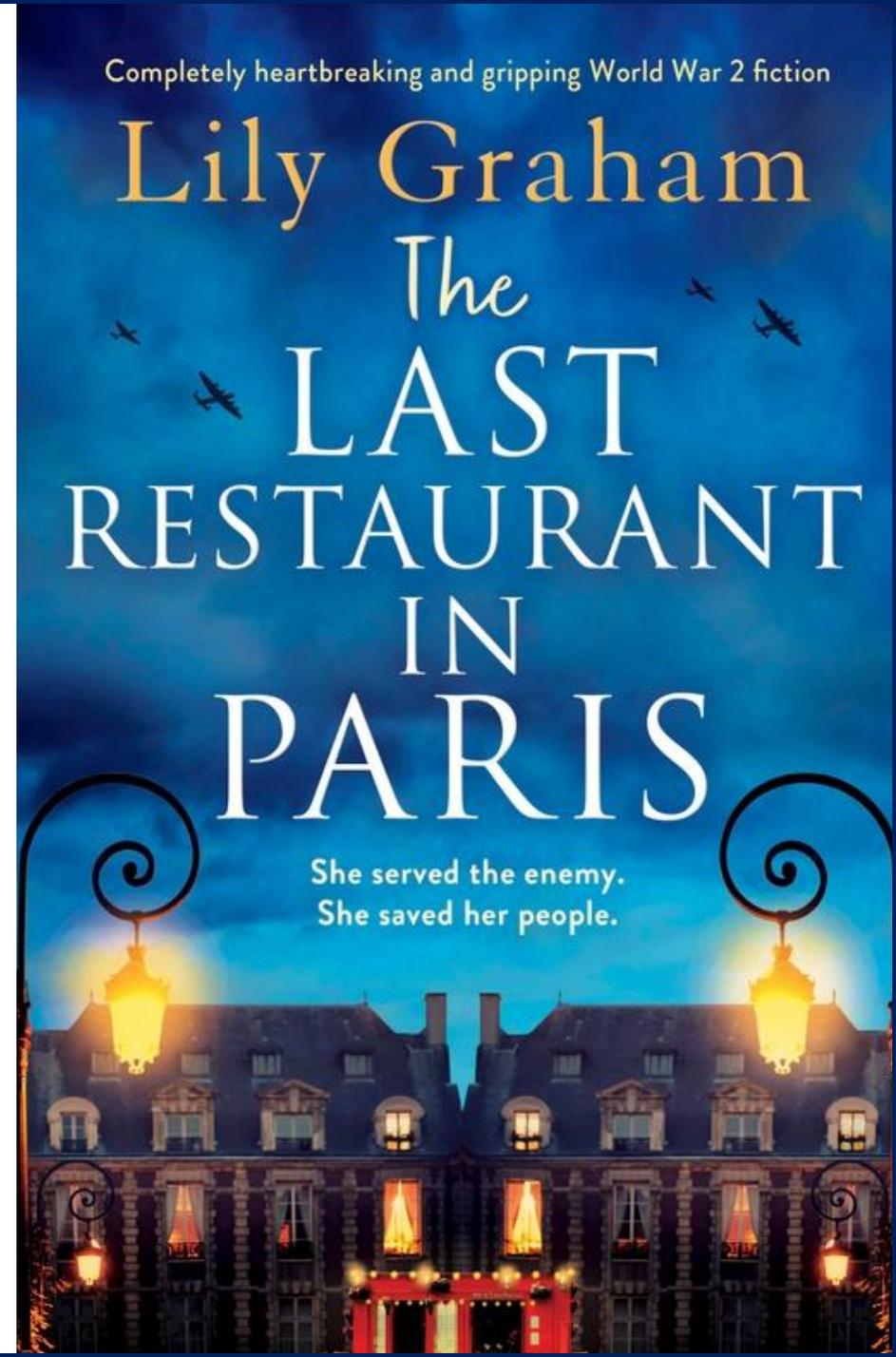
**A haunting and compelling story of love, strength and sacrifice following how a young woman called Elodie, brought up in rural Provence by her kindly grandmother, became 'Marianne', a Parisian femme fatale who infamously poisoned a cafe full of Nazi officials one evening and disappeared.**

The novel opens in the 1980s when Gilbert, an elderly rare book shop owner with ties to Marianne and her restaurant in the 1940s, is sought out by Marianne's granddaughter, Sabine, who has newly discovered her lost legacy and inherited the now long-abandoned restaurant from the grandmother she never knew existed.

Gilbert's own innocent younger brother, Henri, became one of Marianne's victims that fateful night and, now rallied by Sabine who is desperate to uncover her lost legacy, Gilbert and Sabine embark on a journey of historical rediscovery that leads them to Provence where they uncover a childhood romance between a young mute girl called Elodie and an intrepid but introverted young Jewish boy called Jacques, who helps her find her voice, while she helps him spread his wings. It is a love story that will end in tragedy and that will change this family forever.

Elodie's story will sweep readers off to the idyllic Provencal countryside and a bittersweet story of love and sacrifice that can only end in tragedy. As Elodie's story nears the events of the fateful night in the last restaurant in Paris, we see why and how she transforms herself into 'Marianne' and we finally see the whole story, one painful revelation at a time.

**This is sweeping, character-driven historical fiction with just the perfect amount of the melodrama of *Inglorious Basterds*!**



# THE FRENCH HOUSE

HELEN FRIPP

pub date: 4 March 2021

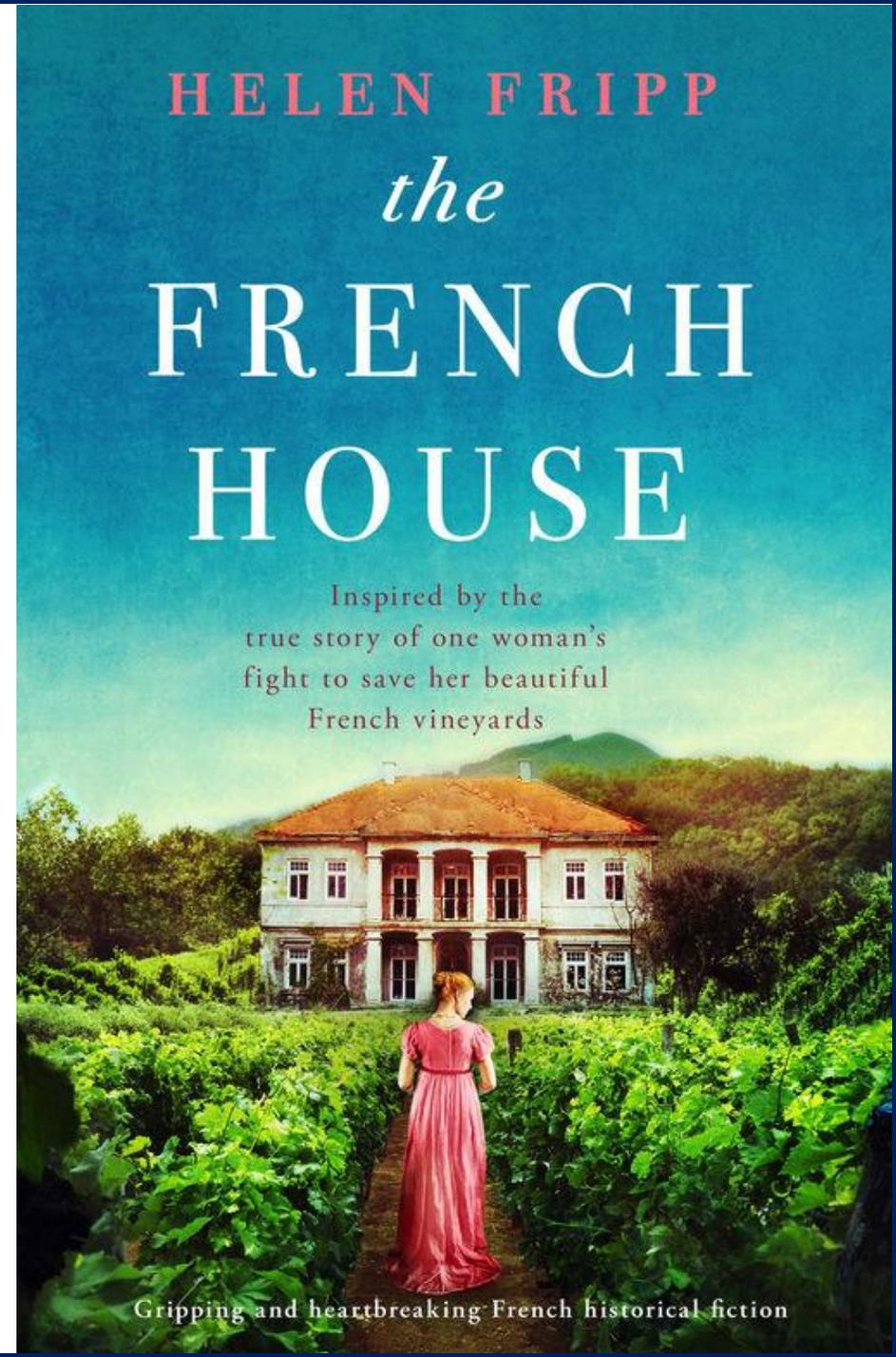
**Inspired by the true story of how Nicole Clicquot blazed her own path to build the world's greatest champagne house: Veuve Clicquot.**

For grieving Nicole Clicquot, saving the vineyards her husband left behind is her one chance to keep a roof over her head and provide a future for her little girl. She ignores the gossips who insist the fields are no place for a woman: but one day, buying fresh croissants at the boulangerie, Nicole is shocked to hear a rumour about her husband. They say he died with a terrible secret. One that brings disgrace on Nicole and turns the whole town against her.

Heartbroken, her reputation in tatters, and full of questions no one can answer, Nicole turns to her husband's oldest friend, travelling merchant Louis. His warm smile and kind advice seem to melt her troubles away. And as they taste her first golden wine of the season and look out over the endless rolling hills, Nicole starts to believe she can turn her fortunes around, and be welcomed back into the local community.

But when Louis avoids her after a long trip abroad, Nicole sees he has secrets of his own... and just as she doubts if he's on her side, she realises how her feelings for him had grown. Desperately torn between her head and her heart, Nicole works day and night on a plan for her future: but to save her home and her little daughter from ruin, she must risk everything...

**Fans of *Chocolat*, *Carnegie's Maid*, *Dinah Jeffries* and anyone longing to sip champagne under the stars will adore this stunning historical read**



# AMERICAN WIFE SERIES

CHRYSTYNA LUCYK-BERGER

pub date: 14 April 2023

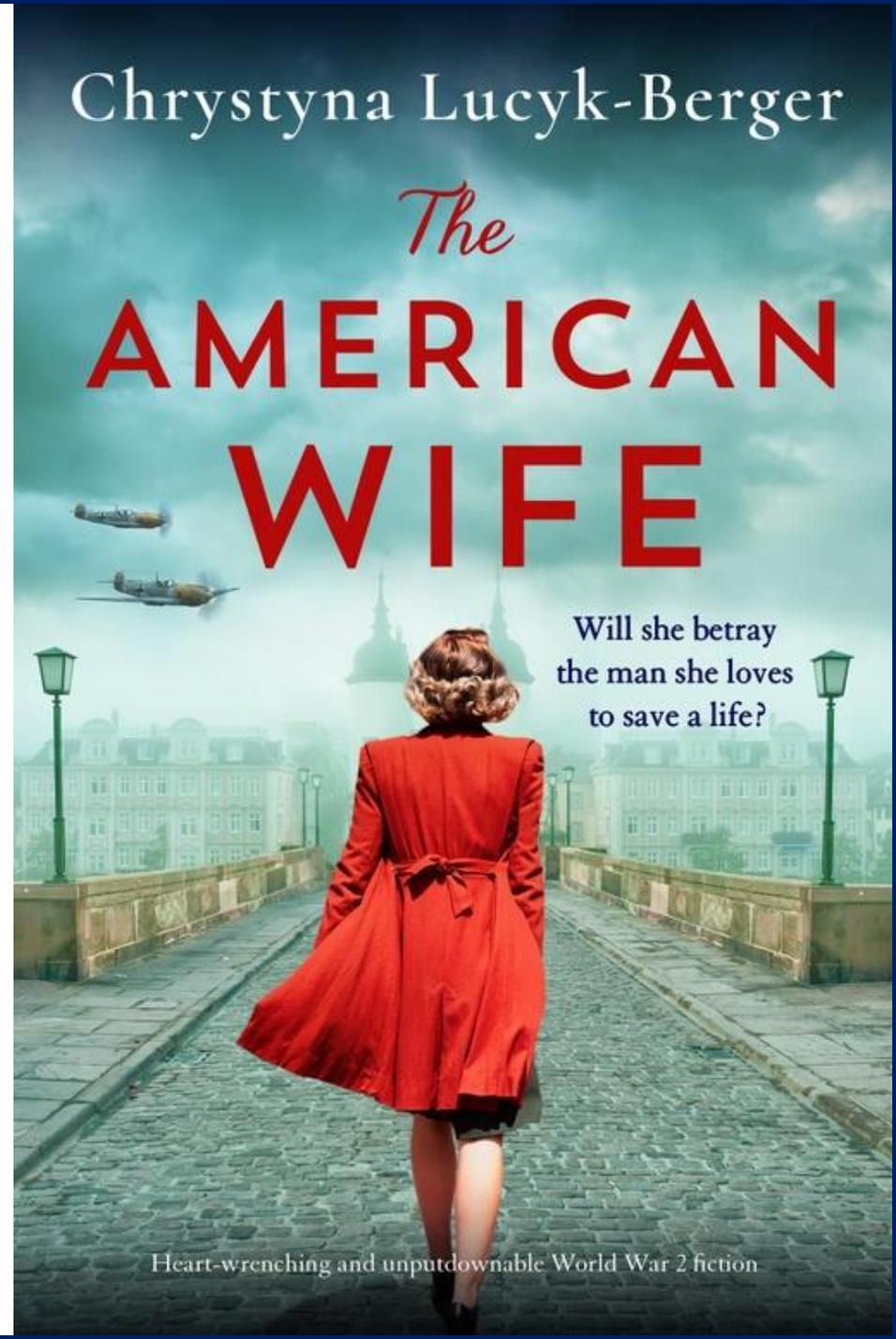
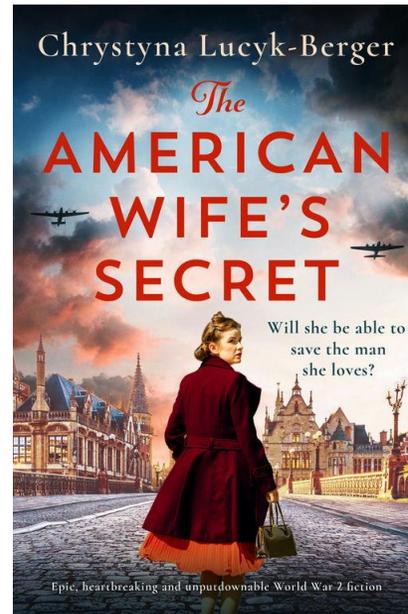
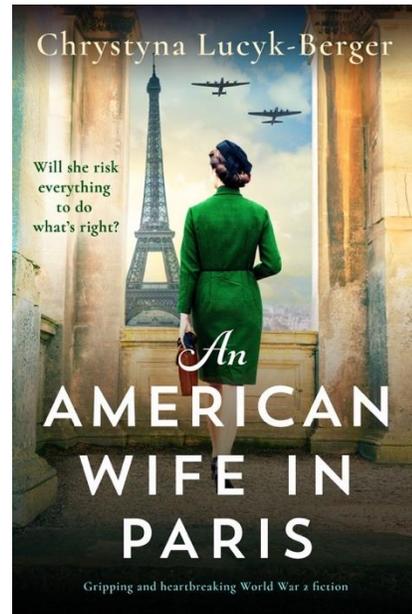
**A gripping and globetrotting historical series about courage, friendship and impossible choices.**

This story opens in interwar Japan where Kitty Larson, an American woman from a politically powerful family is on a diplomatic jolly with her brother and parents, and meets Edgar, an Austrian diplomat that she will later marry and start a new life with in Vienna in 1942.

Kitty realises here that her powerful position means she must choose between saving her new friends from the Nazis, or betraying the man she loves by stealing his papers. Edgar on the other hand, she discovers, may or not be working for the Nazis, who she despises, and only eventually will Kitty learn that he is in fact a British informant.

The first novel in the Diplomat's Wife Trilogy continues with *An American Wife in Paris*, in which Kitty and Edgar move to Paris on a secret mission to rescue as many people from the Nazis as possible, but will result in Edgar's disappearance. The final entry in the trilogy will complete Kitty's transformation from frivolous socialite to vengeful resistance operative and will have readers hooked from start to finish.

**This gripping series is perfect for fans of Kristin Hannah's *The Nightingale*.**



# THE GIRL ON THE PLATFORM

ELLIE MIDWOOD

pub date: 13 October 2021

*“Be brave. Don’t run. Fight.”*

With her eyes tightly shut, tears rolling from under her dark lashes, she felt his lips gently touch her burning cheek. The train on the platform whistled, and he disappeared into the steam.

Berlin, 1939: Libby is determined to start a new life, starting a new job at MGM Studios Berlin. But even in this cosmopolitan city, there’s no escape from Hitler’s brutal regime. And when Libby’s friend vanishes into thin air, she cannot stand back and do nothing...

And then Libby meets Harro and her world tips upside down as they fall desperately in love. But she knows there’s a story behind his cornflower-blue eyes. The whip marks on his back, scars from the SS, tell his secret: he is a resistance fighter.

Harro draws Libby into the world of the resistance, and their life grows increasingly dangerous as they do everything they can to bring about Hitler’s downfall. With each risk they take, Libby is terrified of losing Harro – how will she live without him?

Libby starts to believe that the Gestapo is stalking them – their every move watched, their phone calls recorded. And one day, Harro simply disappears. Her worst nightmare has come true, and she knows that it is just a matter of time before she’s next.

Will they live to see each other once again? Or will everything they’ve risked be in vain?

**Based on a true story, this beautiful novel shows that even when our freedom is stolen, we still have a choice...**

Based on a true story, a totally heartbreaking, epic and gripping World War 2 page-turner

ELLIE MIDWOOD

# THE GIRL ON THE PLATFORM



1939: SHE WILL FIGHT FOR  
FREEDOM, EVEN IF THE  
COST IS HER LIFE...

# A LIGHT IN THE WINDOW

MARION KUMMEROW

pub date: 20 July 2021

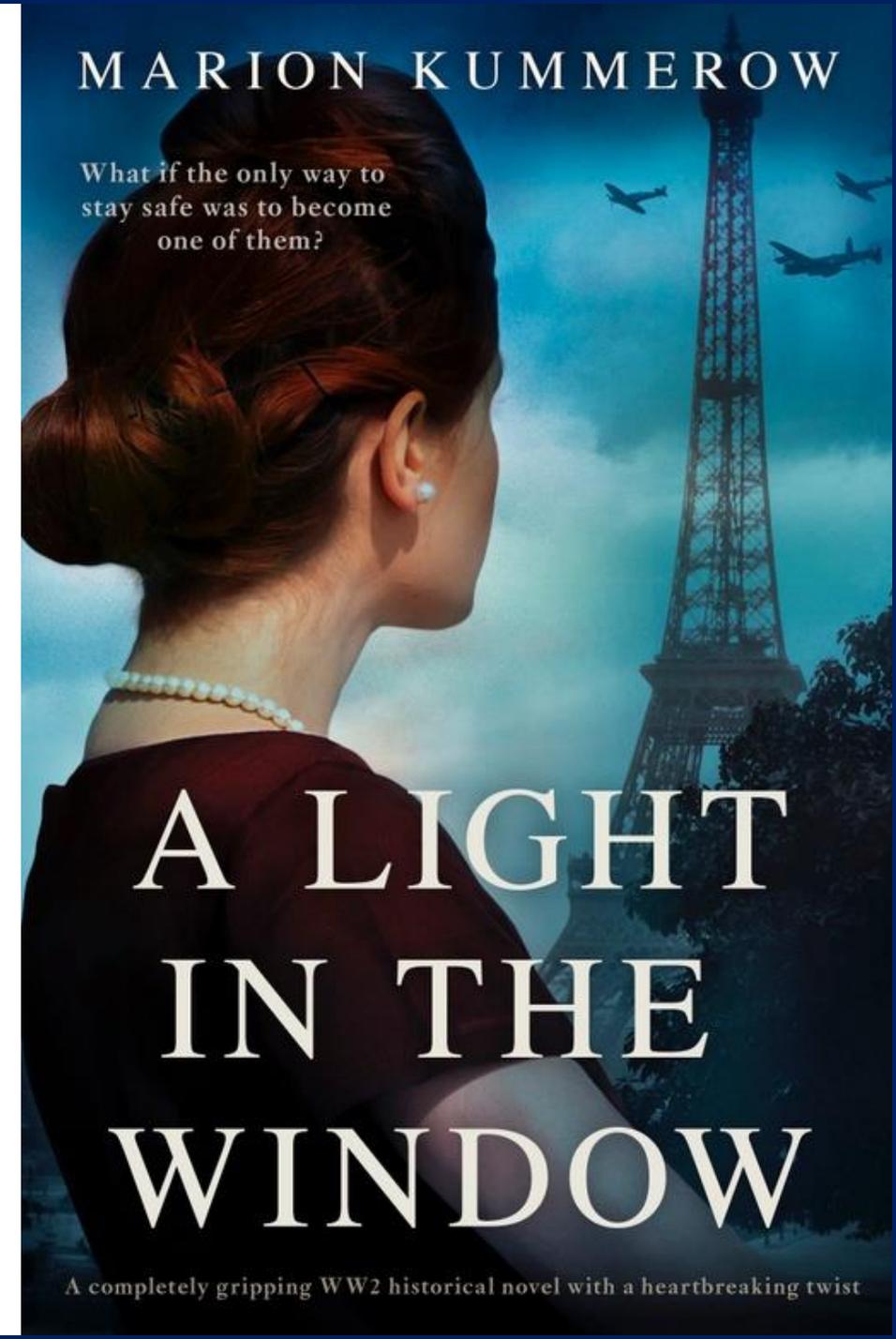
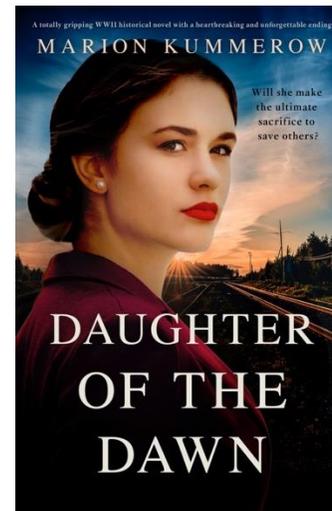
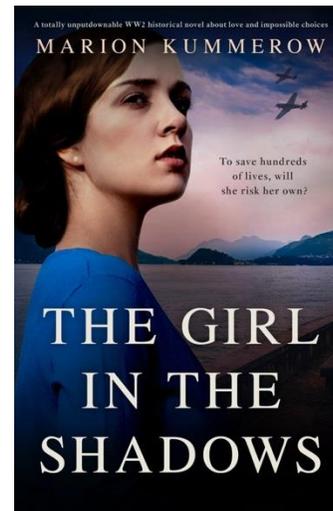
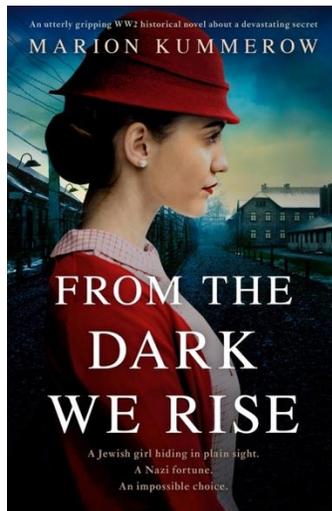
**Berlin, 1941: Margarete Rosenbaum is working as a housemaid for a senior Nazi officer when his house is bombed, leaving her the only survivor. But when she's mistaken for his daughter in the aftermath of the blast, Margarete knows she can make a bid for freedom...**

Issued with temporary papers – and with the freedom of not being seen as Jewish – a few hours are all she needs to escape to relative safety. That is, until her former employer's son, SS officer Wilhelm Huber, tracks her down.

But strangely he doesn't reveal her identity right away. Instead, he insists she comes and lives with him in Paris, and seems determined to keep her hidden. His only condition: she must continue to pretend to be his sister. Because whoever would suspect a Nazi girl of secretly being a Jew?

Can Margarete trust a Nazi officer with the only things she has left though... her safety, her life, even her heart?

**The beginning of a gripping historical fiction series, Margarete's story continues in three sequels, *From the Dark We Rise*, in which Margarete inherits the family's Nazi fortune, *The Girl in the Shadows* and *Daughter of the Dawn*.**



SECOND SKY

**FANTASY AND  
URBAN  
FANTASY**

# BLOODLUST BLUES

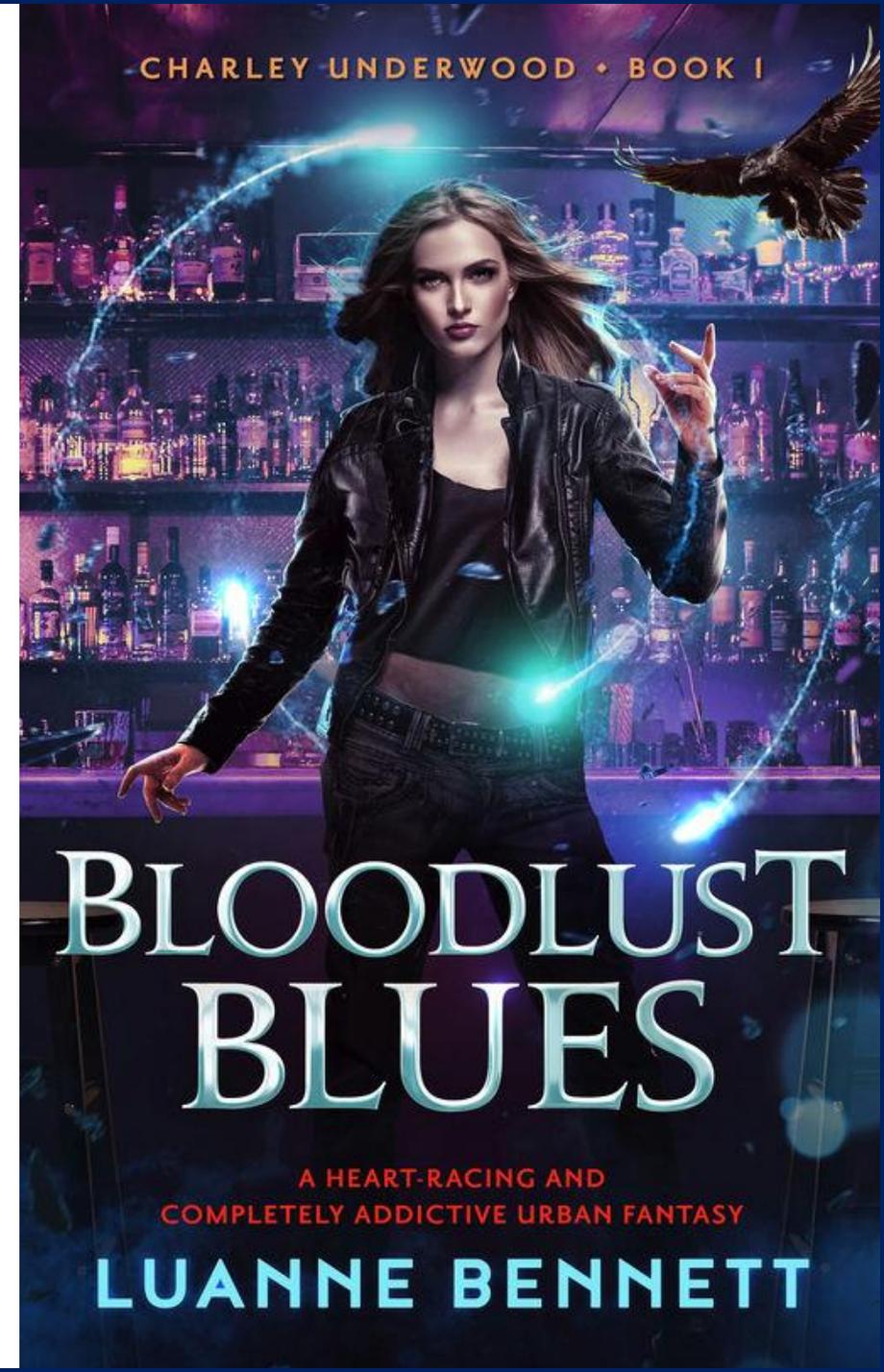
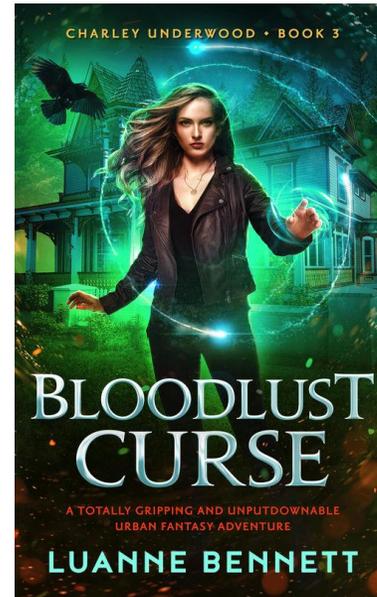
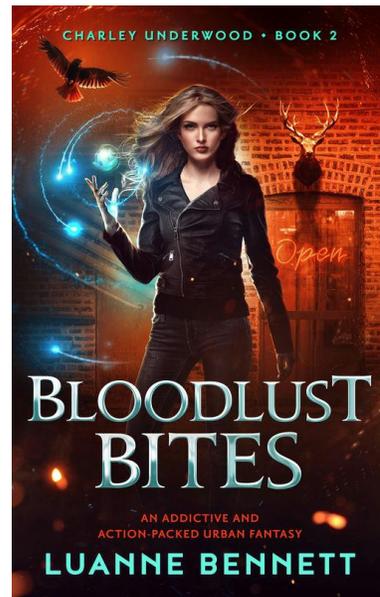
LUANNE BENNETT

pub date: 22 March 2024

In the town of Crimson, where vampires, shifters and witches live uneasily side by side with humans, Charley Underwood's dive bar is open to everyone, so long as they don't make trouble, or ask too many questions about the deals Charley makes in the back room.

When an unsettling stranger opens a restaurant across the street, Charley is immediately suspicious of his charm and how the town seems to fall for it. But as Crimson's residents start to go missing, and more twisted and violent crimes spread, Charley must search for answers and uncover what evil truly lurks within the heart of her community.

This is the start of a brand-new 3-book urban fantasy series, which we will be publishing across 2024-2025



# THE FURY OF KINGS

R.S. MOULE

pub date: 17 May 2023

**Bonds of blood are tested. Armies gather. An ancient magic is stirring.**

In the shadow of Eryispek – a mountain said to have no summit – the kingdom of Erland has known peace for fifteen years.

But when King Hessian's only son is murdered, Erland is plunged into crisis. The new heir is a spoiled fool, but his mother will stop at nothing to secure his claim. The king's mind is failing, and he grows more volatile every day.

Civil war seems inevitable. And none will escape the coming storm.

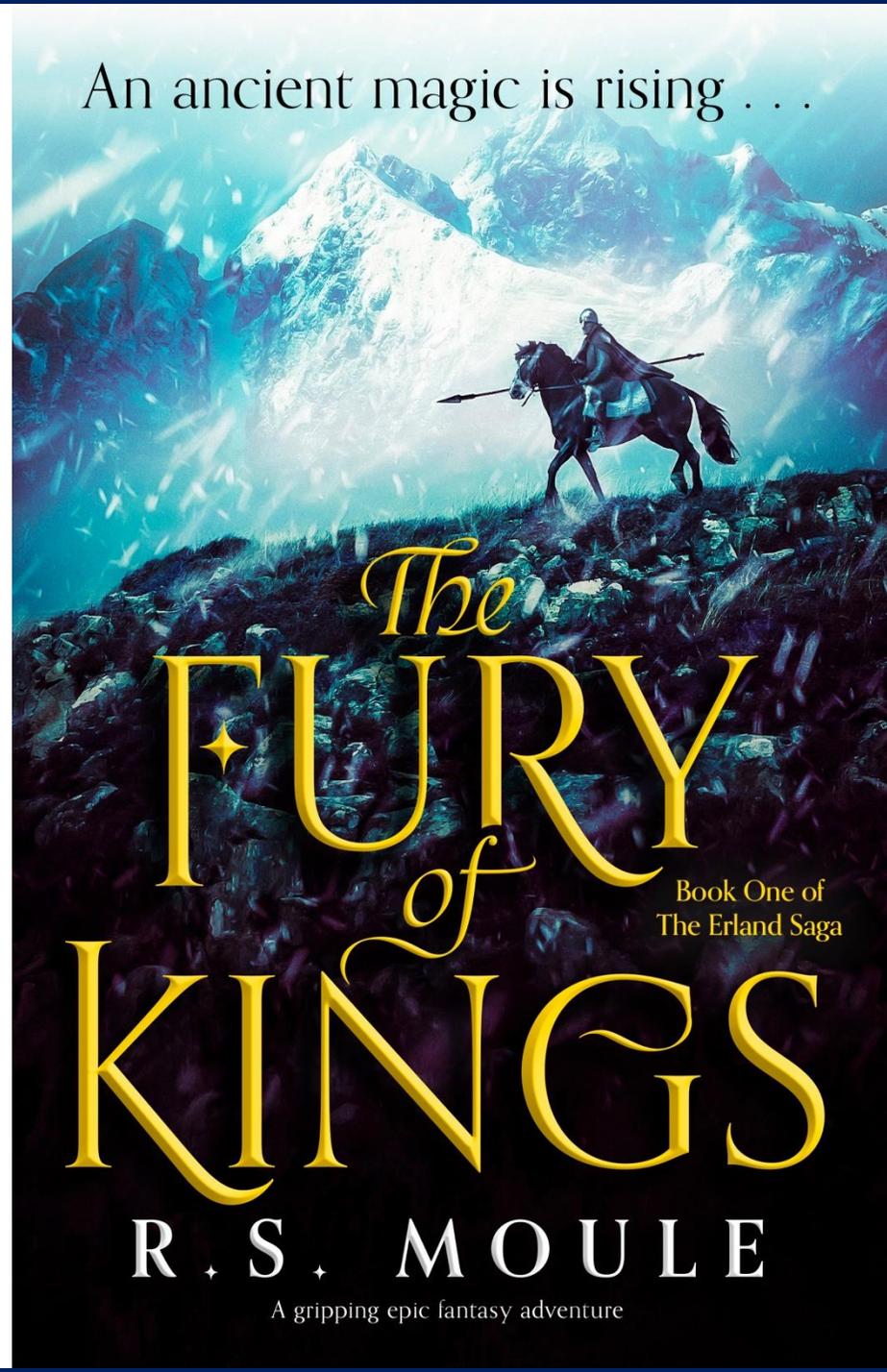
It was Andrick Barrelbreaker, the king's bastard brother, whose victories placed Hessian on the throne. As chaos threatens, and alliances between powerful families break, Andrick must choose between protecting his family from those against them, and taking up arms for a king he barely recognizes.

Andrick's children must also choose their paths. Orsian has always dreamed of fighting beside his father. Now he faces the brutal reality of war. Pherris is haunted by very different dreams – of snow and death and the mountain. Only she can reveal the dark magic that awaits on the slopes above and the mysterious magical disaster that looms...

Every character – fighter, noble or thief – must choose their loyalties and make painful, powerful choices.

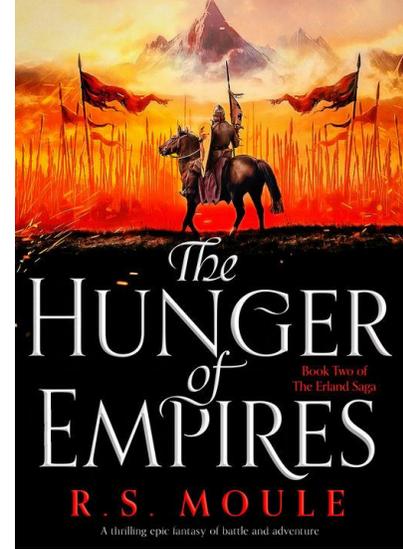
**Enter a world of intrigue, battles and destiny and race through the pages of an epic new series that combines the grit and heroism of Anthony Ryan with the intricate, ever-shifting politics of George R.R. Martin.**

**This is epic fantasy at its finest and is an exciting launch title for our debut SFF list in 2023.**

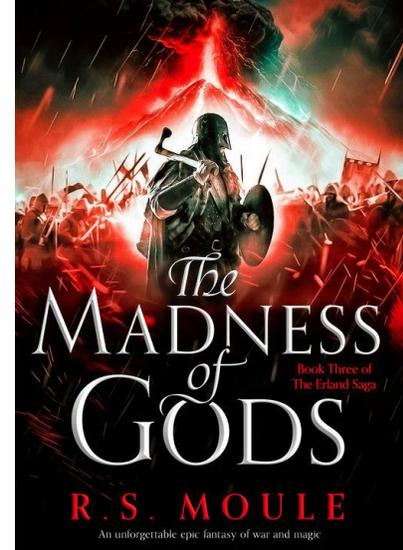


An ancient magic is rising . . .

A ruthless enemy is stirring . . .



Heroes will rise and gods will fall . . .



# HEART OF NIGHT AND FIRE

NISHA J. TULI

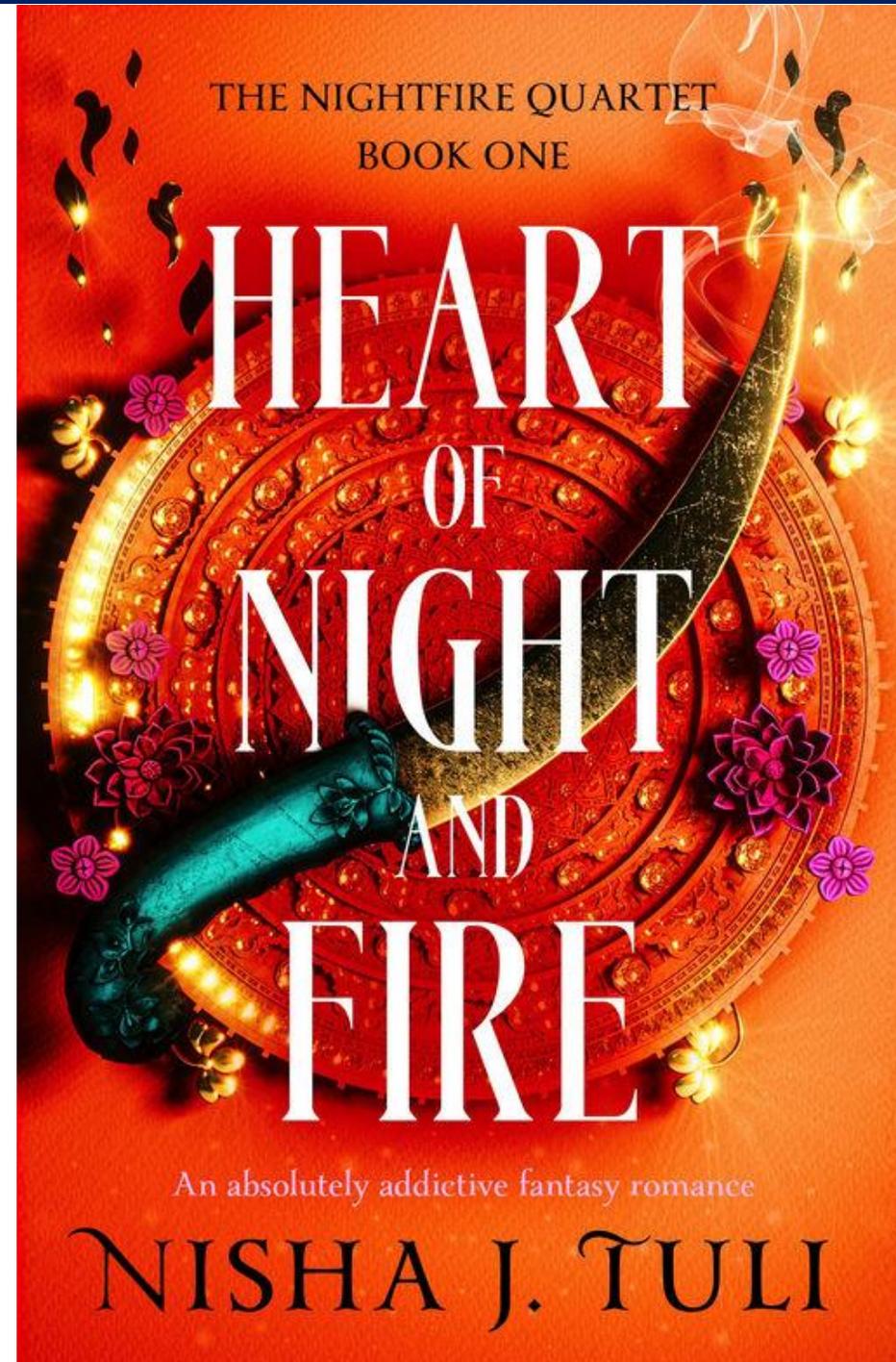
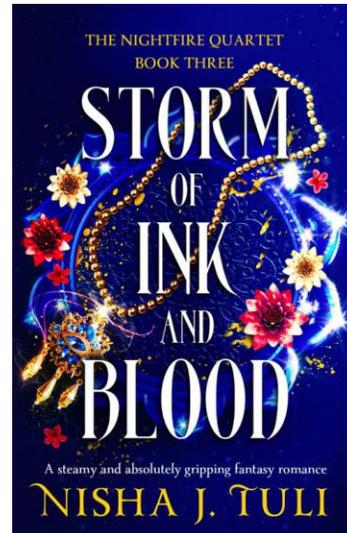
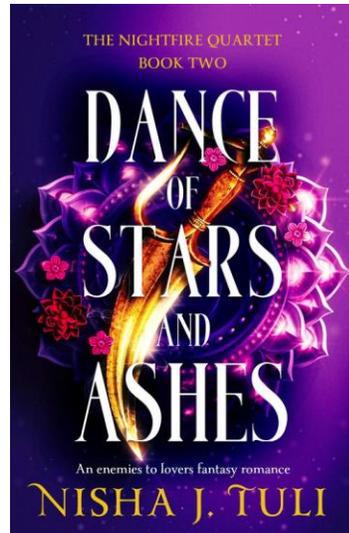
pub date: 15 September 2023

**An irresistible fantasy romance inspired by Indian mythology.**

Zarya escapes to a magical city, hoping to find her family and her past. Instead, she is caught in deadly court intrigues, in battles against demons, and in the allure of two rakshasa nobles – handsome soldier Vikram, and his darker, brooding brother Rabin.

Nisha has achieved self-published success with fairy-tale inspired romance. In this new 4-book series, she draws on her Indian heritage for a fantasy romance that perfectly combines YA readers' passion for myth and the more intense romance expectations of the booming new-adult market.

**Perfect for fans of Sarah J. Maas, Jennifer L. Armentrout and Carissa Broadbent.**



# THE SPIRIT GIRLS

DAWN MERRIMAN

pub date: 9 May 2023

Rylan Flynn has always been able to see what others don't—the restless spirits haunting Ashby, Indiana. She's learned to live with her "gift" but sometimes she longs to escape.

The woods have always been a peaceful place for Rylan. But on a visit to her aunt's cabin, she catches sight of a spirit in the trees. The ghost of a young woman approaches, leading Rylan to her body. With a flood of horror, Rylan realizes that the girl, Celeste Monroe, has been murdered. An outgoing newcomer to town, Celeste had no enemies. Who on earth would want to see her dead?

Rylan's abilities could be the only way to prevent further deaths. But Ashby's handsome head detective, Ford Pierce, has made it very clear that he doesn't want her help. And any unexplained knowledge of the case could make Rylan the perfect suspect.

When another body is discovered and blood at the scene points to Rylan's family, she is more determined than ever to uncover the truth. She must race against time to untangle a web of dark secrets... but can she find answers before the murderer claims another victim?

**A heart-pounding mystery with a touch of romance, *The Spirit Girls* begins a new series of paranormal thrillers.**



# MARCHWOOD VAMPIRES

SHALINI BOLAND

From USA Today bestseller Shalini Boland, comes the addictive Vampires of Marchwood series. Falling in love has never been so dangerous... Shalini Boland's psychological thriller novels have made over £2 million in revenue for the Bookouture list. We're excited to re-launch her Vampire fantasy series under Bookouture's new SFF imprint, Second Sky.

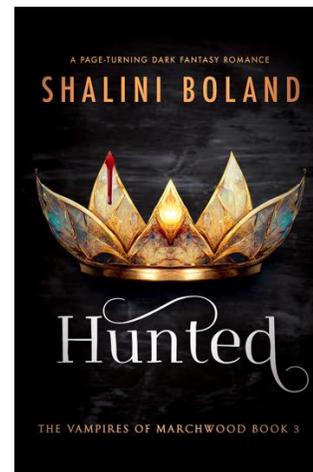
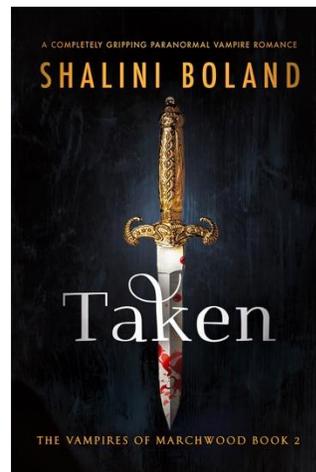
My name is Madison Greene. On my sixteenth birthday, I inherited an old mansion and wealth beyond my wildest dreams. I thought it was a joke, but as I step through the creaking door of the sprawling building, I realise my life in foster care is in the past. I've been chosen and my world has changed forever.

But I wasn't told that Marchwood House hides a secret.

As I explore every inch of the crumbling property, I stumble upon a set of large, dusty boxes in the basement. When I pull back the lid and look down, I find myself staring at the most handsome face I've ever seen. High cheekbones, porcelain skin...

And when he wakes up and locks eyes with me, I realise my heart already belongs to him, even though my head is screaming at me to get as far away from Marchwood as possible. Because I know what he really is.

I never planned to fall in love – but it's too late now. Alexandre has a dark and dangerous past. He needs me and I have to help him. But can a human really save a vampire?



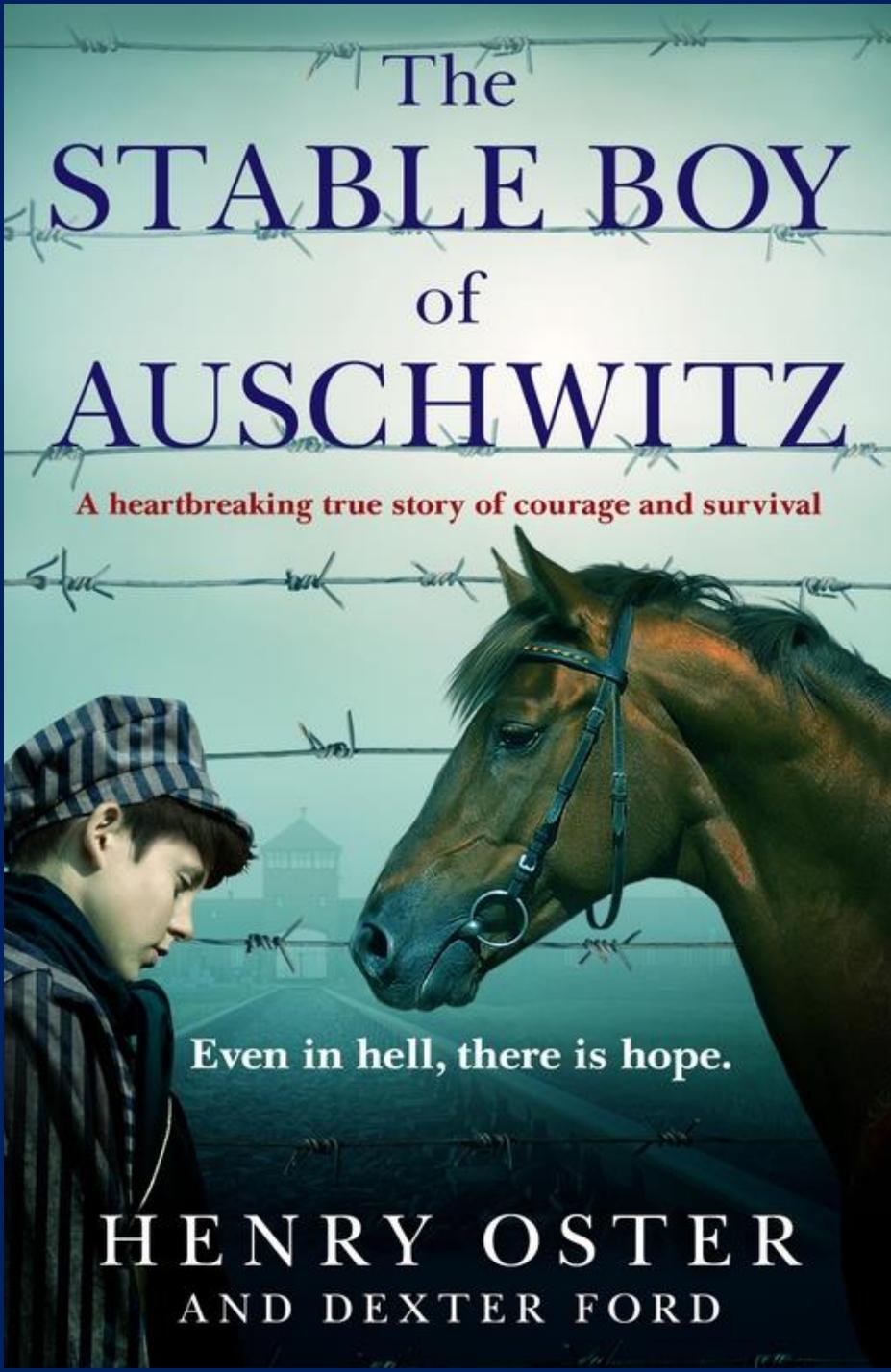
A TOTALLY ADDICTIVE VAMPIRE ROMANCE NOVEL  
SHALINI BOLAND



Hidden  
THE VAMPIRES OF MARCHWOOD BOOK 1

*Thread*

**INSPIRING  
MEMOIR**



# THE STABLE BOY OF AUSCHWITZ

HENRY OSTER AND DEXTER FORD

pub date: 3 April 2023

**A courageous and heart-wrenching memoir by holocaust survivor Henry Oster, co-authored by Dexter Ford.**

Henry was just five years old when Adolf Hitler took power in 1933. One of the 2,011 Jews who were rounded up by the Gestapo and deported from Cologne to the Łódź ghetto, and from there to Auschwitz-Birkenau. Here, in Auschwitz, Henry performed forced labour in the stables, where horses were bred for the German war machine. Henry had to tend his mares, Mutti, Olga, and the stallion Barbarossa from dawn into the night. It was back-breaking labour, but Henry clung to the belief that if he made himself hard to replace, he might just stay alive. With crippling hunger pains, Henry fed the horses each day, knowing that if he were caught pocketing a carrot or cramming some grain into his mouth, he would face the hangman. Through it all – from finding ways to escape being selected for death in the Auschwitz-Birkenau gas chambers, to surviving a machine-gun firing squad, to enduring a brutal death march through the bleak Polish winter – Henry somehow found the strength and the will to keep on going.

Eventually Henry was liberated in 1945, having been moved to the Buchenwald camp, and he was one of only 18 German-speaking Jewish boys to emerge alive from the concentration camps after the war, and one of only 2 survivors of the original 2,011 Jews taken from Cologne. Following a period living in Paris, he later would join his extended family in Los Angeles with no money, no English and no education – yet he rose from the ashes and became an optometrist, with his own practice, and would also speak at schools, colleges and museums about his experiences during the war.

**The creation of this book began in his Beverly Hills optometrist office where one of his many patients was writer Dexter Ford, who noticed the faded, crooked blue-black tattoo on Henry's forearm: B6748. "How did you get that, Henry?" he asked. And so here we have the heart-wrenching and inspiring true account of a little boy who, against incomprehensible odds, after losing almost everything a human can lose, survived to tell his story.**

# COCONUT

A Black girl fostered by a white family in the 1960s  
and her search for belonging and identity



FLORENCE OLÁJIDÉ

'Extraordinarily moving' ABI DARÉ 'Remarkable' ADJOA ANDOH

# COCONUT

FLORENCE OLÁJIDÉ

pub date: 3 July 2021

*'Why am I not white like everybody else?' Nan came and sat on the edge of my bed. 'What do you mean?' A tender finger brushed against my cheek. 'Well, everyone in this house is white. Why am I Black?'*

**A generation of Nigerian children were born in Britain in the fifties and sixties, privately fostered by white families, then taken to Nigeria by their parents.**

**Coconut is the story of one of those children.**

1963, North London. Nan fosters one-year-old Florence Olájídé and calls her 'Ann.' Florence adores her foster mother more than anything but Nan, and the children around her, all have white skin and she can't help but feel different. Then, four years later, after a weekend visit to her birth parents, Florence never returns to Nan. Two months after, sandwiched between her mother and father plus her three siblings, six-year-old Florence steps off a ship in Lagos to the fierce heat of the African sun.

Swapping the lovely, comfortable bed in her room at Nan's for a mat on the floor of the living room in her new home, Florence finds herself struggling to adjust. She wants to embrace her cultural heritage but doesn't speak Yoruba and knows nothing of the customs. Clashes with her grandmother, Mama, the matriarch of the family, result in frequent beatings. Torn between her early childhood experiences and the expectations of her African culture, she begins to question who she is. Nigerian, British, both?

**Florence's story is an unputdownable tale of loss and loneliness, surviving poverty, maltreatment and fighting to get an education. Most of all, it's a moving, uplifting and inspiring account of one woman's self-determination to discover who she is and find her way to a place she can call home. Perfect for fans of Lemn Sissay's *My Name is Why* and Tara Westover's *Educated*.**

# Bookouture

Thread SECOND SKY