

**Publishers** 

2023

### Who We Are



#### Jamie Hodder-Williams

Jamie worked in editorial and marketing at Hodder & Stoughton before he became Managing Director, publishing major brands, prize-winners, and bestselling non-fiction authors. As CEO of Hodder, Headline, John Murray Press and Quercus he was a member of the Hachette Board with responsibility for building worldwide publishing strategies. He launched Bedford Square Publishers at the end of 2022.

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#### Laura Fletcher

Over the last 20 years Laura has worked in sales and marketing at Simon & Schuster, HarperCollins Publishers and Hachette UK. Throughout her career she has been fortunate to work with some incredible authors, including Stuart MacBride, Bernard Cornwell, George R R Martin, Sir Billy Connolly, Ian Rankin, Michael Connelly and Miriam Margolyes.

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#### **Carolyn Mays**

Carolyn's publishing career began on Hodder & Stoughton's Sceptre imprint and she was most recently Managing Director of Hodder. Her list is eclectic, from literary bestsellers such as *Cold Mountain* to crime headliners like Sara Paretsky, Peter Robinson and Sophie Hannah and number one bestsellers John Connolly, Jasper Fforde and Jodi Picoult.

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### Anastasia Boama-Aboagye

Anastasia started her career as a Digital marketing executive at a creative boutique, before pursuing her publishing career by undertaking a publishing apprenticeship at Bloomsbury, where she became the marketing and publicity assistant in the Special Interest team and gained invaluable experience. She is passionate about the impact of written words on people's understanding of different lives and experiences and the space books give to amplify lesser-heard voices and stories. Her favourite authors are Jodi Picoult and Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie.

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# Bedford Square Publishers

**Bedford Square Publishers**: an independent publisher of fiction and non fiction, founded in 2022 in the historic streets of Bedford Square, London and the sea mist-shrouded green of Bedford Square, Brighton.

Our goal is to discover irresistible stories and voices that illuminate our world.

We are passionate about connecting our authors to readers across the globe and our independence allows us to do this in original and nimble ways.

The team at Bedford Square has years of experience and we aim to use that knowledge and creative insight, alongside evolving technology, to reach the right readers for our books. From the ones who read a lot, to the ones who don't consider themselves readers, we will find those who will love our books and talk about them as much as we do.

We are hunting for vital new voices from all backgrounds – with books that take the reader to new places and transform perceptions of the world we live in.

No Exit Press: bringing you the very best in crime fiction. From classic detective novels to page-turning spy thrillers and singular writing that just grabs the attention. Our books are carefully crafted by some of the world's finest writers and brought to you by a small but passionate team.

In over 30 years, No Exit Press has published award-winning fiction and non-fiction, including the work of a Pulitzer Prize winner, the British Crime Book of the Year, numerous CWA Dagger Awards, a British million-copy bestselling author, and the winner of the Canadian Governor General's Award for Fiction and the Scotiabank Giller Prize, to name but a few.







# The Knowing

#### Emma Hinds

Whilst working as a living canvas for an abusive tattoo artist in the slums of 19th-century New York, Flora meets Minnie, an enigmatic disabled circus performer who offers her love and refuge in a luxurious townhouse that is home to the intimidating and predatory Mr Chester Merton. Flora earns her keep reading tarot cards for his guests whilst struggling to harness her gift, the Knowing – an ability to communicate with the dead. Caught in a dark love triangle between Minnie and Chester, Flora begins to unravel the secrets inside their house. Then at her first public séance in the infamous cathouse Hotel du Woods, Flora hears the spirit of a murdered boy prostitute and exposes his killer, setting off a train of events that leaves Flora fighting for her life.

Beautiful, intoxicating and full of suspense, *The Knowing* is a story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, of how women survive and weaponise trauma.



Royal HB £16.99 ebook £9.99 11 January 2024 BCN ex Can US: The Soho Agency Bedford Square Publishers

# After You Were Gone

#### Vikki Wakefield

In a busy street market, Abbie lets go of six-year-old Sarah's hand. She isn't a bad mother, just exhausted. When she turns around, her daughter isn't there.

Six years later, Abbie is in love and getting married. But her fragile peace is constantly threatened: not knowing what happened to Sarah is like living with a curse.

Then she receives a phone call from an unknown number.

A man claims to know what happened to Sarah, but if Abbie tells anyone or fails to follow his instructions, she'll never find out the truth . . .

An edge-of-your-seat thriller that poses the question: how far would you go to find your child? First adult novel from award-winning Australian YA author.



#### Vikki Wakefield

Journalist Rachel is checking on her elderly neighbour Pop when she recognises the woman accused of the Birrumurra Caravan Park murders where nine people died. Sabine Kelly, the 17-year-old suspected arsonist, escaped custody and has been on the run for 12 years. Hoping to revive her dying career, Rachel offers an exclusive to a trusted contact. But when her looming deadline clashes with her new connection with Sabine, Rachel has to decide how far she can follow her source, and how much she can believe her.

Now 30, Sabine has been keeping the secret of what really happened the night of the fire for far too long. Constantly living in fear has taken too much out of her. She decides to tell the story to Rachel and turn herself in. But things are not going to work out exactly as she's planned...

This compulsively readable, character-driven psychological thriller is a compelling story of small town corruption and big-picture values: love, loyalty, and the vindication of the truth. For readers of Tana French and Chris Hammer.



B format PB £8.99 ebook £4.99

6 July 2023

WEL ex Australia: (Text Publishing)

No Exit Press



Royal hb £18.99 ebook £9.99 9 November 2023 WEL ex Australia: (Text Publishing) No Exit Press



Short royal hb £16.99 ebook £9.99 royal tpb £14.99

3 August 2023

BCN ex Can US: Flatiron

Bedford Square Publishers



B format pb £8.99 ebook £6.99

17 August 2023 BCN ex Can

US: HarperCollins

No Exit Press

# The Continental Affair

### Christine Mangan

Meet Henri and Louise. Two strangers, travelling alone, on the train from Belgrade to Istanbul. Except this isn't the first time they have met

It's the 1960s and Louise is running. From her past in England, from the owners of the money she has stolen – and from Henri, the person who has been sent to collect it. Across the Continent, from Granada to Paris, from Belgrade to Istanbul, Henri follows, desperate to leave behind his own troubles. The memories of his past life as a gendarme in Algeria that keep resurfacing. His inability to reconcile the growing responsibilities of his current criminal path with this former self.

But Henri soon realises that Louise is no ordinary mark. As the train hurtles toward its final destination, Henri and Louise must decide what the future will hold – and whether it involves one another.

Gorgeous writing, European glamour, and an expansive wanderlust: Christine Mangan's *The Continental Affair* is a daring literary caper that is quick on its feet and delightfully surprising.

### Her, Too

#### Bonnie Kistler

Kelly McCann is a fighter. She's fought to build a successful career as a criminal defence attorney, fought for the special needs of her family, and tirelessly fought for her clients. Her specialty is defending men accused of sex crimes – falsely accused, she always maintains. Her detractors call her a traitor to her gender, but she doesn't care: she loves to win.

Kelly's most recent victory is securing an acquittal for a world renowned scientist accused of sexually assaulting his female employees. But the thrill of her victory is short-lived. That very night she, too, becomes the victim of a brutal sexual assault. And almost as horrific as the attack is the fact that she can't tell anyone it happened or who the perpetrator is – not without destroying her career in the process.

Kelly has never backed down from a fight and she's not about to start pulling her punches now. As she joins forces with her rapist's other victims, for Kelly for the first time it's not about winning – these wronged women are out for justice and for revenge.

A quest for justice and revenge in an addictively readable thriller.

### The Blame

### Charlotte Langley

Detective Inspector Erin Crane is assigned to the investigation into 16-year-old Sophie Madson's murder along with her partner, DCI Tom Radley. Over the years they've formed a close professional bond built on mutual trust and a shared contempt for the unscrupulous head of the anti-corruption team. This case will prove a bigger test of their relationship than either of them could ever have imagined.

During the investigation, Tom discovers Erin's biggest secret. But to her surprise, far from driving them apart, the revelation brings them closer together, and Tom and Erin embark on a love affair – despite the risk to their careers and the case.

Then Erin discovers dashcam footage from a van driver, showing Sophie getting into Tom's car barely an hour before she died. Tom becomes the prime suspect in the murder case and everything Erin thought she could trust begins to crumble...

An incredibly topical police thriller about corruption and misogyny in the institutions that are meant to be keeping us safe. Optioned for ITV by Nicola Schindler (*The Stranger*, *Happy Valley*) at Quay Street.



#### Nicola Gill

Loretta Dunn has her life neat and under control. She's chasing a promotion and marrying a man whose five-year plan aligns perfectly with hers. She's good at avoiding things that make her uncomfortable – parties, excessive emotion, getting hurt.

But then a stranger in an airport asks Loretta to keep an eye on her sleeping child Phoebe... and never comes back.

Loretta knows from that moment that Phoebe's life will change forever. But what she doesn't realise is that so will hers.

The tiny, strange little person in fairy wings will make Loretta learn to play 'poo trumps', get a swimming cap onto a child's head without social services being called, cut toast into Mickey Mouse shapes – and question everything she thinks she knows about herself.

Funny, smart and heart-breaking, a novel with characters readers will fall in love with.



Royal hb £18.99 ebook £9.99

20 September 2023 WEL

No Exit Press



B format pb £8.99 ebook £4.99

7 September 2023 WFI

Bedford Square Publishers



Royal hb £18.99 ebook £9.99 royal tpb £14.99

23 November 2023

No Exit Press

### The Weatherman

#### Royston Reeves

I'm going to tell you about the worst thing that ever happened to me.

Will's a nice guy. So when he takes a shortcut to the tube station after a few beers with his mates from work, he steps out of the way of the man who's staggering towards him. But the man – deliberately – moves back into his path. They knock each other as they pass.

Moments later one is dead and another's life is changed forever. Or is it? There are no CCTV cameras. There was no one else in the out-of-the-way alley. Maybe the world doesn't have to end for Will after all.

But there's always someone watching... and Will's life is about to implode.

Debut suspense novel from a British author that combines hooky concept with fast-paced narrative and will appeal to male readers - for fans of J P Delaney, Riley Sager, T M Logan.



demy hb £16.99 ebook £12.99

12 October 2023 BCN ex Can US: Forge

Bedford Square Publishers

# Mrs Plansky's Revenge

### Spencer Quinn

Mrs. Loretta Plansky, a recent widow in her seventies, is settling into retirement in Florida while dealing with her 98-year-old father and fielding requests for money from her beloved children and grandchildren. Thankfully, her new hip hasn't changed her killer tennis game one bit.

One night Mrs. Plansky is startled awake by a phone call from a voice claiming to be her grandson Will, who desperately needs ten thousand dollars to get out of a jam. Of course, Loretta obliges – after all, what are grandmothers for, even grandmothers who still haven't received a simple 'thank you' for a gift sent weeks ago. Not that she's counting.

By morning, Mrs. Plansky has lost everything. Law enforcement announces that her life savings have vanished, and that it's hopeless to find the scammers behind the heist. First humiliated, then furious, Loretta Plansky refuses to be just another victim.

In a courageous bid for justice, Mrs. Plansky follows her only clue on a whirlwind adventure to a small village in Romania to get her money and her dignity back – and perhaps find a new lease on life, too.

Meet an irresistible heroine in a story perfect for book clubs and commercial fiction readers.

### The Way Back

#### Alice Peterson

Holly's husband died. She's lonely and purposeless. She knows she needs to do something to save herself, and needs to do it quickly. Next thing she knows she's interviewing for a volunteer job at a social enterprise café.

Angus has messed up. He's lost the respect of his family and no longer has any respect for himself. If it weren't for his brother and his friend who run a café, he'd be sleeping on the streets. Angus is about ready to give up – until he meets Holly.

Stacey lives in a homeless shelter. She arrived in London with nothing but an old train ticket, a teddy bear, and the clothes on her back. With no family, no home, no friends, she doesn't know what love is. People scare her. When she meets Holly and Angus at the café, she is terrified of them.

Holly, Angus and Stacey are going to turn each other's lives upside down. What they don't know is that strangers can become family. And that love can happen in the most unexpected ways.

Thoughtful, acutely-observed fiction with a strong sense of community and healing – perfect for the post-pandemic world.



#### Alex Coombs

Chef Charlie Hunter's arrival in the beautiful Chilterns is the fulfilment of a long-held dream: to open her own restaurant in an idyllic countryside location. The Old Forge sits on the village green (complete with duck pond and flint-face houses) and seems just the place to create the high-quality cooking she wants to be known for.

But instead of rural peace and quiet and chance to lick her wounds, Charlie finds something ugly stirring under the chocolate box perfection. When a prominent local builder is found dead in suspicious circumstances, she herself, the outsider, becomes a suspect. And the only way to clear her name seems to be to find out who the real killer is.

Luckily she has allies: her student waitress, a kitchen porter making up in muscles what he lacks in brain and a briskly efficient clairvoyant. Utilising all the craft Charlie's learned in kitchens – discipline, timing, preparation and grim determination – she will be as relentless in her quest to bring a murderer to justice as she is in creating the perfect meal.

Quality entertainment for the cosy crime reader who loves their food as much as their reading...



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 7 *March 2024* WEL Bedford Square Publishers



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 23 November 2023 WEL

No Exit Press



Royal tpb £16.99 ebook £9.99 18 January 2023 WEL Bedford Square

**Publishers** 

# The Cancer Companion

### Anne Marie O'Dwyer

Psychologist Professor Anne Marie O'Dwyer wrote the textbook on the psychology of cancer for OUP: this is her book for everyone. The information must, however, be appropriate for you, your cancer and your treatment. In an age of information-overload, 'misinformation' is everywhere, potentially worsening, rather than helping, your situation.

O'Dwyer has almost four decades of clinical experience, more than half of that time spent working directly with patients who have cancer. She provides an integrated biological and psychological perspective, focused on the human aspects of cancer.

With stories from patients and helpful advice to guard against misinformation shame, fear or denial, *The Cancer Companion* is filled with warmth and robust humanity on every page, helping the reader get through the emotional hurdles of diagnosis, treatment, side effects and outcomes.

The definitive, inspirational book to help navigate or avoid the difficulties associated with cancer and its treatment, written for patients, partners, family, work colleagues and even health practitioners themselves.



Short royal £16.99 Royal tpb £14.99 ebook £9.99

9 November 2023 BCN ex Can US: Putnam

Bedford Square Publishers

### Under the Tamarind Tree

#### Nigar Alam

One night. Four friends. Countless secrets.

1964. Karachi. Rozeena is running out of time. She'll lose her home — her parents' safe haven since fleeing India and the terrors of Partition — if her medical career doesn't take off soon. But success may come with an unexpected price. Meanwhile the interwoven lives of her childhood best friends — Haaris, Aalya, and Zohair — seem to be unravelling with each passing day. The once small and inconsequential differences between their families' social standing now threaten to divide them. Then one fateful night someone ends up dead and the life they once took for granted shatters.

2019. Rozeena receives a call from a voice she never thought she'd hear again. What begins as an ask to look after a friend's teenage granddaughter struggling with her own demons grows into an unconventional friendship – one that unearths buried secrets and just might ruin everything Rozeena has worked so hard to protect.

Captivating and heartbreaking, this debut about the echoes of Partition shows the high-stakes ripple effects of generational trauma, and the lengths people will go to protect the ones they love. July–December 2023 No Exit Press

### Without Trace

#### Leigh Russell

As a favour to her partner, DI Geraldine Steel agrees to look into the disappearance of a young woman, only to discover that several other young women have also gone missing locally. They all vanished unexpectedly, without trace.

Then one of the missing women is discovered, unconscious and covered in mud. She dies without recovering consciousness. And Geraldine and her team are faced with an urgent race to find the other missing women before it is too late to save them.

The 20th book in the bestselling Geraldine Steel procedural police series – over one million copies sold.



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 31 August 2023 World

# Every HiddenThing

### Ted Flanagan

The last scion of a once-powerful political family, mayor John O'Toole has vastly higher aspirations. When night shift paramedic Thomas Archer uncovers a secret that could wreck the mayor's career, O'Toole is set on silencing him. With bribes, buried secrets, and personal attacks, he wreaks havoc on Archer's life in an attempt to save himself. Archer's troubles continue to mount when a domestic terrorist and militia member who blames Archer for his wife's recent death sets in motion a deadly plan for revenge.

With two forces of evil aligned against him, Archer doesn't stand a chance. But things aren't always what they seem – and he may just have a few tricks up his sleeve in a last gambit to get out alive.

Big city politics, nasty secrets, a dirty cop, and a deranged sociopath set the stage for a riveting journey deep into the urban jungle in this debut urban thriller praised by James Ellroy ('a righteous, hard-charging, bell-ringing, mother-..... debut novel!!!!!').



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99

27 July 2023

BCN ex Can US: Crooked Lane No Exit Press July–December 2023



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99

> 20 July 2023 BCN ex Can US: Putnam



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 26 October 2023 BCN ex Can US: Putnam

### Eternal

#### Lisa Scottoline

What war destroys, only love can heal.

Elisabetta, Marco, and Sandro grow up in Rome as the best of friends despite their differences. Elisabetta is a feisty beauty who dreams of becoming a novelist; Marco the brash and athletic son in a family of professional cyclists; and Sandro a Jewish mathematics prodigy, kind-hearted and thoughtful, the son of a lawyer and a doctor. Their friendship blossoms to love, with both Sandro and Marco hoping to win Elisabetta's heart. But in the autumn of 1937, all that begins to change as Mussolini asserts his power, aligning Italy's Fascists with Hitler's Nazis and altering the very laws that govern Rome. In time, everything that the three hold dear – their families, their homes, and their connection to one another – will be tested in ways they never could have imagined.

A tale of loyalty and loss, family and food, love and war, set in one of the world's most beautiful cities at its darkest moment.

# Loyalty

#### Lisa Scottoline

Franco Fiorvante is a handsome lemon-grower who has toiled for years on the estate of a baron. Franco dreams of owning his own lemon grove, but the rigid class system of Sicily thwarts his ambitions. Determined to secure a prosperous future, Franco will do anything to prove his loyalty. But when the baron asks him to arrange the kidnapping of a little boy, Franco crosses the point of no return, setting in motion the making of the world's first Mafia family.

Gaetano Catalano is an idealistic young lawyer, whose devotion for justice is a calling. Gaetano is a member of the Beati Paoli, a real-life secret society of aristocrats who investigate crime in Palermo, a city riddled with corruption. Gaetano sets out to find the boy and bring him home, but his mission turns to obsession. He risks everything to right the wrong and bring justice to his beloved city.

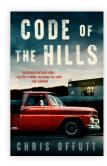
An epic tale of good versus evil, set against the rugged beauty island of Sicily, where lush lemon groves and mouth-watering cuisine contrast with a turbulent history of colonization and corruption. July–December 2023 No Exit Press

# Code of the Hills

#### Chris Offutt

Mick Hardin is back home. He'd planned to touch down briefly before heading to France, marking the end to his 20-year Army career. In Rocksalt, his sister Linda the sheriff is investigating the murder of Pete Lowe, a sought-after mechanic at the local racetrack. After another body is found, Linda and her deputy Johnny Boy Tolliver wonder if the two murders are related. Linda steps into harm's way just as a third body turns up and Mick ends up being deputised again, uncovering evidence of illegal cockfighting, and trying to connect all the crimes.

Acclaimed crime writer Chris Offutt ('Righteous' The New York Times, 'Elegant' Val McDermid, 'I gulped it down' Ian Rankin) returns to the mayhem of the Kentucky hills, in this harrowing novel of family – what we're willing to do to protect and avenge the ones we love.



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 28 September 2023 BCN ex Can US: Grove Press

# Never Walk Away

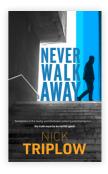
### **Nick Triplow**

A senior civil servant dies in suspicious circumstances. A sensitive file in his possession and evidence of contact with a human rights lawyer lead the authorities to believe him to be a whistle-blower. The sensitive investigation needs a police officer used to operating in the murky world between policing and intelligence.

DS Max Lomax is a former Special Demonstration Squad officer – a Special Branch unit dedicated to infiltrating political and extremist groups, a world he thinks he has left far behind, when after enforced leave he is called back into his old world of half-truths and conflicting agendas.

As he digs into the death of the civil servant, Max is obstructed at every turn, forcing him to turn to the people he once infiltrated and betrayed for help. With political reputations on the line, the case becomes less about uncovering the truth, than burying it for good.

A tense, intelligent London-based crime thriller with a gritty political edge for readers of Mick Herron and fans of Sherwood and The Bodyguard.



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99

19 October 2023 BCN inc Can US: Marjacq No Exit Press July–December 2023



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 23 November 2023 BCN ex Can US: Bellevue Literary Press



B format pb £9.99 ebook £4.99 30 November 2023 World

### Ravage and Son

#### Jerome Charyn

Abraham Cahan, editor of the Jewish Daily Forward, serves as the conscience of the Jewish ghetto teeming with rogue cops and swindlers. He rescues Ben Ravage, an orphan, from a trade school and sends him off to Harvard to earn a law degree. But upon his return, Ben rejects the chance to escape his gritty origins and instead becomes a detective for the Kehilla, a quixotic gang backed by wealthy uptown patrons to help the police rid the Lower East Side of criminals. Charged with rooting out the Jewish 'Mr. Hyde', a half-mad villain who attacks the prostitutes of Allen Street, Ben discovers that his fate is irrevocably tied to that of this violent, sinister man.

A master storyteller's tale of crime, corruption and antisemitism in early 20th-century Manhattan, this reflects the lost world of the Lower East Side in a dark mirror.

# A Week on Mount Olympus

#### Peter Murphy

Charlie Walden is the Resident Judge of the Bermondsey Crown Court, where he had hoped for a quiet life, but has found it to be anything but. With the job of balancing the needs of prosecutors, judges, 'Grey Smoothies', the humourless grey-suited civil servants, and the overall needs of a Crown Court he soon finds himself struggling to keep the peace and his own delightful humour.

In this Walden novel after collections of stories, Charlie is faced with a number of topical issues he hadn't anticipated; the harassed judge must tiptoe through a minefield of exasperating cases in order to keep everyone from the cannabis lobby to the anti-slave traders happy with his judgements.

No hope of a quiet life for Charlie then, but, as ever, he picks his way through the issues of the day with satirical good humour, insight and wit.

An entertaining and insightful look at the British court system by a former judge – perfect for anyone who loved Rumpole of the Bailey. Sadly this was his only Walden novel before Peter Murphy's death.

July–December 2023 No Exit Press

### Robert B Parker's Broken Trust

#### Mike Lupica

The beautiful wife of one of the world's richest men, an elusive tech billionaire, comes to Spenser in the hope that he can find out what skeletons lurk in her husband's closet. Though he is a generous philanthropist and loving family man, she is concerned – he has recently become secretive, bordering on paranoid, and she wants Spenser to find out why. As Spenser digs into the billionaire's past, he realises that the man may have done terrible things to rise to the top – but he also may have had good reason to. What he discovers will cause him to question his own views on morality . . . and place him in grave danger.

Over 15 million copies of Robert B Parker's books sold – this latest instalment in the beloved Spenser series is the first to be written by New York Times bestselling author Mike Lupica



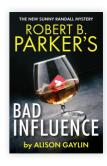
B format hb £18.99 ebook £9.99 5 December 2023 BCN ex Can US: Putnam

# Robert B Parker's Bad Influence

### Alison Gaylin

Sunny Randall's newest client, Blake, seems to have it all: he is an Instagram influencer, with all of the perks that the lifestyle entails – a beautiful girlfriend, wealth, and adoring fans. But one of those fans has turned ugly, and Sunny is brought on board to protect Blake and to uncover who is out to kill him. In doing so, she investigates a glamorous world rife with lies, schemes and ties to Boston's mob.

Boston PI Sunny Randall investigates the dark side of social media.



B format hb £18.99 ebook £9.99

27 June 2023

BCN ex Can US: Putnam



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