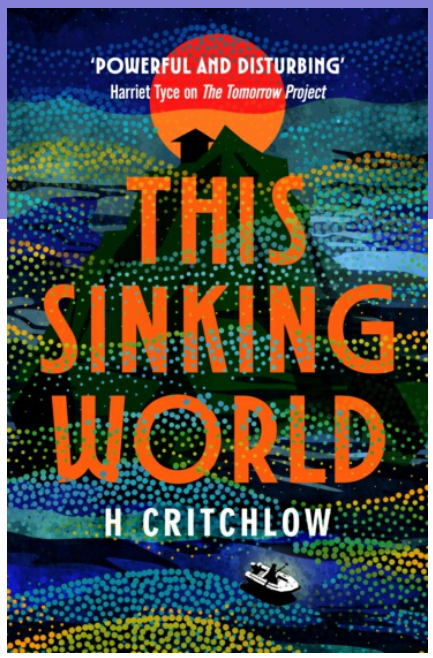
This Sinking World

A haunting and heart-wrenching novel for the end of the world

H Critchlow



Catastrophic sea level rises force survivors to build a fragile island settlement in Scotland. But when a community member is killed they must faces a brutal truth: the greatest threat to humanity isn't the water – it's each other. Perfect for fans of Emily St John Mandel and Julia Armfield

THE PITCH

- **GENRE DEMAND:** Taps into the surging appetite for high-concept speculative fiction with crossover appeal. Fans of Stuart Turton and Emily St John Mandel
- **COMMERCIAL SUCCESS:** H Critchlow (writing as Heather Critchlow) brings proven sales performance in crime fiction and multiple Scottish Book of the Year nominations
- **CRITICAL SUCCESS:** *The Tomorrow Project* was described as **'A triumph of storytelling' Clare Leslie Hall** and 'Powerful and disturbing.' **Harriet Tyce**

THE BOOK

The rain starts one day, and it doesn't stop. Water levels rise to unfathomable heights. As global floods tear the world apart, Robert flees London for the Scottish highlands. Along the way, he rescues those he can, including a tiny, fragile girl. Years later, that child has grown into Delia. She watches, aghast, as their island community begins to crumble under Robert's increasingly erratic rule.

A modicum of peace remains until Delia falls for a young man from a nearby waterborne colony. Many welcome the presence of newcomers and hope of an alliance. Then a shocking murder shatters the trust between the two groups. The presence of a killer in their midst is unthinkable, but it is the chilling reality they all must face.

With no law left in their drowned world, the survivors must serve as judge and jury. In search of the truth, Delia uncovers secrets that make turning back impossible – leaving her to bear the burden of condemning one she loves, and irrevocably altering the course of their lives.

THE AUTHOR

H Critchlow grew up in rural Aberdeenshire. Her short stories have appeared in fiction anthologies and she is the author of a bestselling crime fiction series. She lives in St Albans.

QUOTES

'Gripping and immersive, a spellbinding look into a hauntingly plausible, drowned-world future, where survival and humanity collide. **It interrogates the ways in which our human failings shape and reshape the very structure of society, posing intriguing questions about accountability and**

Pub Date: **10 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835980729 / 1835980724**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **320 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835980729**

Thema: **Speculative fiction, Science fiction: apocalyptic and post-apocalyptic, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Narrative theme: environmental issues / the natural world, Narrative theme: social issues / social problems**

Author Location: **St Albans, UK**

Book Locale: **Scottish Highlands**

AI Last Updated: **05 November 2026**

redemption, all while being an engrossing page-turner of a story' *Tammye Huf*

'I was swept away by this apocalyptic tale. A chilling reality, not so dissimilar to our own, and a future, coming upon us fast. **A terrifying portrait of a brave new world, written with beauty and heart**' *Sam Holland*

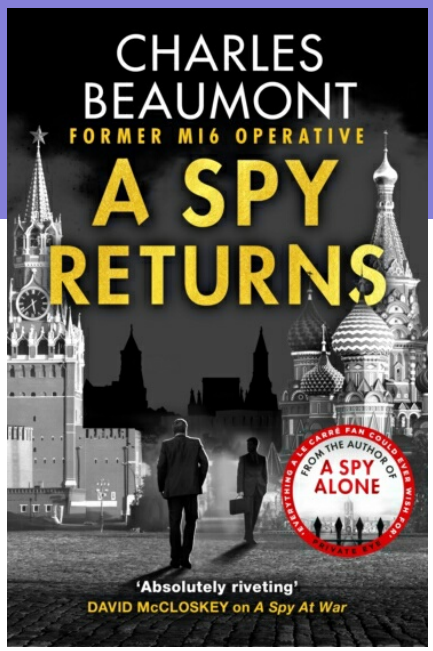
'A dystopian novel with the pull of a murder mystery. Critchlow's writing is so atmospheric that **I could feel the damp creeping in**' *Eleanor Ray*

'A rare book with touches of grace and hope that far extend beyond these pages. There are moments you'll carry with you... **a thing of beauty and has the power to remind us of the humanity in our own world**, as we follow the sinking of another' *Rachael Blok*

A Spy Returns

The electrifying espionage novel from the former spy and author of A SPY ALONE

Charles Beaumont



The gripping and prescient third novel from former MI6 operative Charles Beaumont, pulling back the curtain on the murky world of modern espionage...

THE PITCH

- **HIGHLY ACCLAIMED SERIES**: *A Spy Alone* and *A Spy at War* received rave reviews across the board, including: *'Accomplished and notably timely' FT* Best books of summer 2025, a *Times* Book of the Month, and endorsements from David McCloskey and I.S. Berry, among many others
- **TOPICAL AND PRESCIENT:** *A Spy Returns* offers the reader a glimpse into mindset of the Kremlin and imagines a grey zone attack by Russia on the UK, exposing the nefarious elements weaponising the desperation and fears of thousands for their own political agenda
- **AN ESTABLISHED READERSHIP:** *A Spy Alone* has sold 100k units across all formats to date. *A Spy at War* sold 35k+ units to date

THE BOOK

A terrorist bombing, a migrant crisis, and an insidious plot

It's 1999, and a young Simon Sharman is in Moscow on his first mission as a British spy. He learns of an FSB plot to bomb apartment blocks, killing hundreds of civilians, which will be blamed on Chechen terrorists. On his return to London his intelligence is treated with scepticism. When it proves correct, some in the British Establishment seem to want to bury the story altogether

In 2026, an older Simon is in northern Nigeria, trying to leave the horrors of the Ukraine war, and the betrayals of his 'friends' behind. But even here, the tendrils of Russian influence seem to find him, as the Russian Afrika Korps formerly Wagner Group mercenaries begin operations in the area. Keeping tabs on them, he finds links between the Korps and the people smugglers spiriting migrants into Europe. But why?

Could there be a link between the 1999 bombings, the modern-day migrant crisis, and Russia's increasing 'grey zone' hostile activity in Europe? Is the Russian spy ring at the heart of the British Establishment making its ultimate move?

The explosive conclusion to the Oxford Spy Ring trilogy, as Beaumont once more shines a light on the enemies of democracy and their cynical partners hidden among our elites.

THE AUTHOR

Charles Beaumont worked undercover as an MI6 operative in war zones, on diplomatic missions and in international business. His work spanned two decades and four continents.

Pub Date: **10 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781804364826 / 1804364827**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **320 pages**

Territory: **Exclusive UK, CW, US, CA, PH, non-exclusive Europe, ROW NFS (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781804364826**

Thema: **Espionage and spy thriller, Modern and contemporary fiction: literary and general, Adventure / action fiction, Early 21st century c 2000 to c 2050, Moscow**

Author Location: **Withheld**

Book Locale: **Moscow, Russia; Nigeria; Ukraine; London**

AI Last Updated: **19 October 2026**

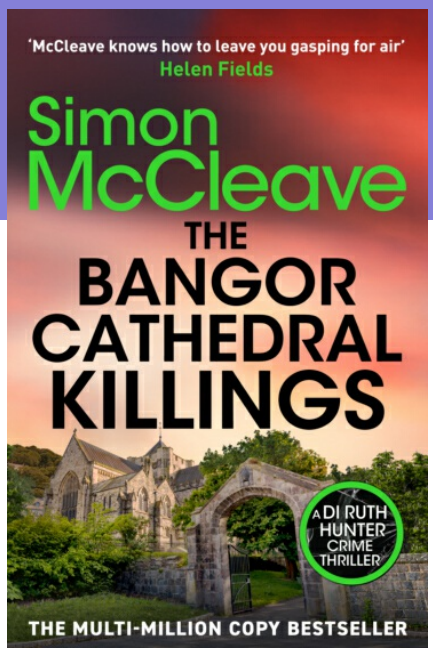
CANELO

20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London,
SW1V 2SA
Tel: 020 7139 2000

The Bangor Cathedral Killings

A Snowdonia Murder Mystery #24

Simon McCleave



An atmospheric murder mystery about broken systems and abuse of power from the multi-million copy bestseller

THE PITCH

- **ATMOSPHERIC BRITISH CRIME:** Set in Bangor, Wales, this novel takes place in and around the moody, imposing background of Bangor Cathedral
- **DARK AND TENSE**: DI Ruth Hunter investigates a historic crime and abuse of power within the church, making for thought-provoking reading
- **WELL-LOVED AUTHOR AND STRONG SERIES:** Readers love Simon McCleave, coming back to the DI Ruth Hunter series book after book and leaving thousands of excellent reviews

THE BOOK

Only one detective can solve this impossible case...

Deacon Alun Griffiths is found murdered inside Bangor Cathedral. Respected by his community and devoted to his family, he appeared to have no enemies.

But as DI Ruth Hunter and her team peel back the layers of Alun's life, they discover there's far more to his story. He paid the price for a terrible injustice from many years ago.

With every new revelation, the line between victim and suspect begin to blur. Ruth must make sure the right person is held accountable - and stopped, for good.

THE AUTHOR

Simon McCleave is a multi-million copy bestselling author. Before writing crime novels, he worked in television and film. He was a Script Editor at the BBC, a producer at Channel 4 and a Story Analyst in Los Angeles. He worked on films such as *The Full Monty* and television series such as the BBC Crime Drama *Between The Lines*. As a script writer he wrote on series such as *Silent Witness*, *Murder In Suburbia*, *Teachers*, *Attachments*, *The Bill*, *Eastenders* and many more.

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835988121 / 1835988121**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **288 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Bar Code: **9781835988121**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: police procedural, Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives, Crime and mystery: hard-boiled crime, noir fiction, Thriller / suspense fiction, Narrative theme: death, grief, loss, Narrative theme: sense of place, Narrative theme: politics / economics**

Author Location: **North Wales**

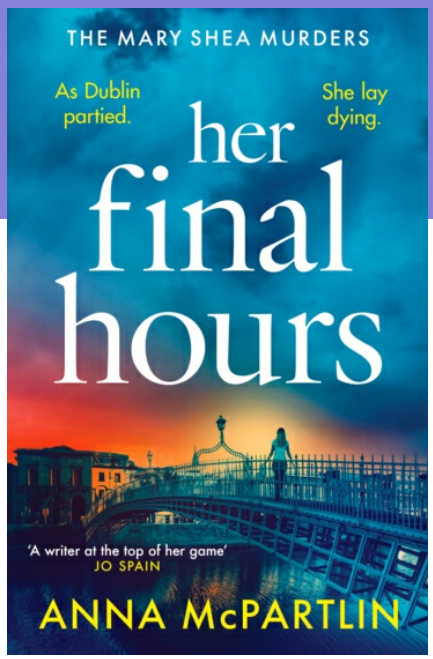
Book Locale: **Bangor Wales**

AI Last Updated: **13 October 2026**

Her Final Hours

An unputdownable Irish crime novel from the international bestselling author

Anna McPartlin



The incredible new book from Anna McPartlin in the *Mary Shea Murders* series.

THE PITCH

- **INTERNATIONAL SUCCESS:** Anna McPartlin is an international bestseller and a former Richard & Judy and Simon Mayo Book Club pick for her bestseller *The Last Days of Rabbit Hayes*
- **MULTI-INDUSTRY SUCCESS:** Anna works is a scriptwriter and has worked on shows such as *Holby City*. The second of her New Zealand crime TV series *The Gone* is being filmed now
- **AN IMPORTANT VOICE:** *Her Final Hours* handles the mistreatment and disempowerment of women in Ireland with sensitivity and grace

THE BOOK

What really happened to her?

Newly arrived in Dublin city, Garda Mary Shea is eager to impress her boss, major crimes lead Matt Foley. He took a chance bringing her into his team and she wants to prove her mettle.

When a woman's battered body is found in the Wicklow mountains, Mary faces the assumptions and prejudices about the victim's fate that she hoped she'd left behind in County Kerry. She has to dig deep for answers, but the greater challenge is winning Matt's faith in her.

An emotionally charged police procedural story set against the backdrop of 1980s Ireland, from international bestseller Anna McPartlin.

THE AUTHOR

International bestselling author Anna McPartlin had her first novel published in 2006. In recent years she has turned her attention to scriptwriting for TV serial dramas featured on BBC UK, RTE Ireland and A&E America. She lives in Ireland with her husband and dogs.

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835982471 / 1835982476**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **352 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835982471**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: police procedural, Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives, Thriller / suspense fiction, Crime and mystery: hard-boiled crime, noir fiction, Historical fiction, Narrative theme: health and illness, Narrative theme: death, grief, loss, Narrative theme: politics / economics, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Narrative theme: social issues / social problems, Narrative theme: sense of place, Family life fiction / Stories about family**

Author Location: **Dublin, Ireland**

Book Locale: **Dublin, Ireland**

AI Last Updated: **04 November 2026**

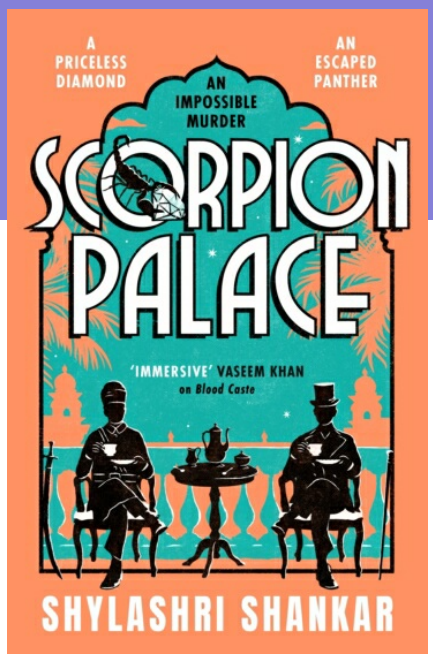
CRIME

20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London,
SW1V 2SA
Tel: 020 7139 2000

Scorpion Palace

A thrilling crime mystery set in Victorian India

Shylashri Shankar



A Christie-esque historical crime novel set in Victoria India from a rising star of the crime genre

THE PITCH

- **IN THE STYLE OF AGATHA CHRISTIE:** *Gosford Park* meets *And Then There Were None* in Victorian India
- **A RISING STAR:** Shylashri was invited to attend both Harrogate and Bloody Scotland festivals in 2025 around the launch of *Blood Caste*
- **AN INCREDIBLE PERIOD OF HISTORY:** A fascinating, deft and timely examination of the consequences of British colonial rule in India around the time of the independence movement

THE BOOK

A stolen diamond. A murder. No way out. The killer is still among them…

Hyderabad, India, 1895. At the magnificent Falaknuma Palace, an eclectic group has been gathered to witness the sale of a legendary diamond. Among them are a scientist, a monk, a clairvoyant, a garden designer and a railway magnate. When the host suddenly can no longer attend, Chief Inspector Soobramania – Soob – is asked to host the weekend's events.

Meanwhile, a new arrival from Scotland Yard brings devastating information that makes Chief Inspector Wilberforce, of the British Residency Police, question everything he thought he knew about Soob, and they set out to arrest him.

When a torrential monsoon hits the palace, cutting it off from the city, the guests have no way to leave. When a guest is discovered dead, there is only one thing that is certain. The killer is still there…

An edge-of-your-seat whodunnit that tests the boundaries of trust and loyalty in the face of imperialism, with a wicked sting in the tail…

THE AUTHOR

Shylashri Shankar is an award-winning author, researcher, food historian, and political scientist. Her non-fiction book, *Turmeric Nation: A Passage Through India's Tastes*, received the AutHer Award for best nonfiction in 2021. Her debutBlood Castewon the 2022 Spotlight First Novel Award and was also longlisted for the 2022 CWA Debut Dagger. She lives in New Delhi with her husband and cat.

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835982105 / 1835982107**

Price: **£10.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **384 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Bar Code: **9781835982105**

Thema: **Historical crime and mysteries, Crime and mystery: police procedural, Classic crime and mystery fiction, Thriller: serial killers, Historical adventure fiction, Historical fiction, Hyderabad**

Author Location: **New Delhi, India**

Book Locale: **Hyderabad, India**

AI Last Updated: **20 October 2026**

Ex Ever After

A trope-twisting second chance romance

Maddie Hazen



Turns Hallmark movie tropes on their heads for fans of Victoria Levine, Katherine Center and Laurie Gilmore

THE PITCH

- **UNIQUE HOOK WITH A CLEVER TWIST ON CLASSIC TROPES:** Answers every question you've ever had at the end of a Hallmark movie - what happens after the female lead moves out of the city to marry the Christmas tree farmer?
- **US-BASED AUTHOR WITH A MARKETING BACKGROUND:** Maddie's BookTok is growing having received over 4k likes and she is an experienced marketer who is happy to do events and bookshop promotions
- **SECOND CHANCE ROMANCE ON THE RISE:** Following the success of Emily Henry's book turned film, *People We Meet on Vacation*, this popular trope is gaining traction among readers, so our exes reconnecting in this book will have strong appeal

THE BOOK

Phoebe quit her stressful city job and neglectful boyfriend, Elliot, to return to her small hometown, reconnected with her high school sweetheart, Mikey, now a Christmas tree farmer, and got her hallmark film "happily ever after." But what happens after the film credits stop rolling?

Three years later, bored of endless dinners with the in-laws and worried about finances - who could have guessed the city paid better? - she takes a remote job with her old DC company. When flown to DC for onboarding, she's unexpectedly paired with Elliot.

Torn between her life with Mikey and resurfacing feelings for Elliot and the city, Phoebe must decide if she's truly a small-town girl or a city woman.

Combines the slow-burn and yearning from *People we Meet on Vacation* with the reinvention of beloved tropes from *Any Trope But You.*

THE AUTHOR

Maddie Hazen lives in Washington, DC and holds an MBA and BSBA in International Marketing. An avid rom-com enthusiast, she loves crafting stories with humour and heart. When she's not writing flirty banter, you can find her reading in cafés, trying out new cocktail recipes, or planning her next trip.

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835988145 / 1835988148**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **304 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835988145**

Thema: **Modern and Contemporary romance, Romance: workplace, Romance: unlikely or unexpected lovers, Romance: love triangles, Romance: unintentional or forced proximity, Romance: enemies to lovers**

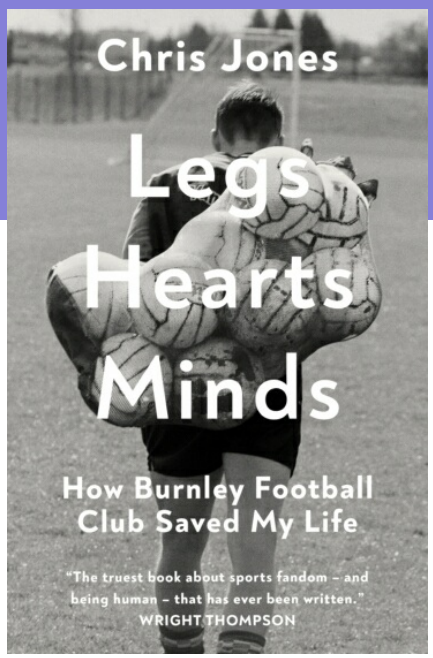
Author Location: **Washington, DC**

Book Locale: **Washington, DC**

AI Last Updated: **09 October 2026**

Legs Hearts Minds
How Burnley Football Club Saved My Life

Chris Jones



A poignant memoir of grief, hope and masculinity, exploring who we become when we care deeply.

THE PITCH

- **REIMAGINES MASCULINITY:** Dismantles the myth of stoic manhood, revealing a narrator whose journey through heartbreak and healing becomes a moving portrait of modern masculinity - flawed, feeling, and human.
- **LOVE LETTER TO FOOTBALL:** A story about how football is not just a sport - it's about who we are when we care deeply - and a celebration of the game's quiet magic: how it binds generations, gives shape to ordinary lives and offers solace when nothing else does.
- **FOR READERS OF:** *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* by Dave Eggers, *The Boy on the Shed* by Paul Ferris and *The Farther Corner* by Harry Pearson.

THE BOOK

Returning home from a work trip, too jet-lagged to fall asleep, Chris Jones opened his wife's laptop to get some writing done. Instead, he found a series of messages that would burn his world to the ground.

In the span of twenty minutes, he lost his wife and his best friend. Overwhelmed by sorrow and often terrifying rage, Jones contemplated suicide. He soon ended up in an emergency room, begging a doctor for help. That was the start of his journey to understand himself, to come to terms with his mistakes, to let go of anger, and to give himself over to something outside of himself: an underdog English football team from an underdog northern town called Burnley.

How does one rebuild a life? Can something as simple as football give someone a reason to live, offering solace and ultimately meaning? In this searing, beautiful memoir, Jones learns who we are when we care deeply. His journey through heartbreak and healing becomes a moving portrait of modern masculinity - flawed, feeling, and profoundly human.

THE AUTHOR

Chris Jones is a journalist and screenwriter who began his career covering baseball and boxing for the *National Post*. He later joined *Esquire* magazine, where he won two National Magazine Awards for his feature writing. His work has also appeared in *The Atlantic, The New York Times Magazine*, ESPN's *The Magazine* (RIP), and WIRED. He has written three books.

QUOTES

'*Legs Hearts Minds* might just be the greatest fan memoir ever written—blazingly honest and sneakily soulful, it finally captures in words the redemptive power of sports.' Franklin Foer, author of How Soccer Explains the World

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835986110 / 1835986110**

Price: **£12.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **304 pages**

Territory: **Exclusive UK,IE,CW; ROW open mkt excluding US,PH,CA (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835986110**

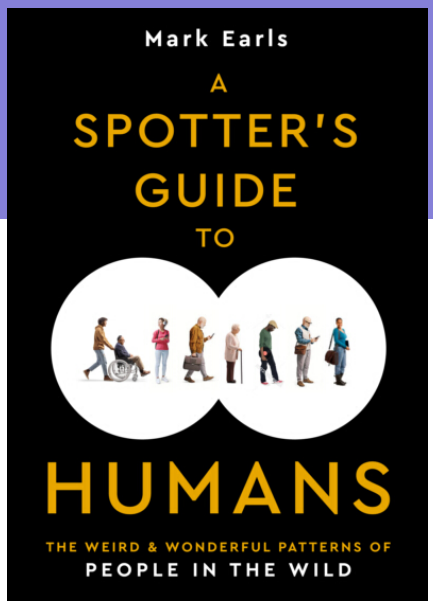
Thema: **Memoirs**

AI Last Updated: **28 October 2026**

A Spotter's Guide to Humans

The Weird and Wonderful Patterns of People in the Wild

Mark Earls



From coffee queues to group chats - discover the hidden patterns of humans in the wild

THE PITCH

- **SMART, PLAYFUL SOCIOLOGY**: Combines behavioural expertise with humour and wit, making complex ideas about human nature entertaining, accessible and fun to read
- **SEE THE WORLD DIFFERENTLY:** Discover the hidden social patterns that shape everyday life through 70 snappy 'field reports', covering everything from coffee queues to office rituals, and gain fresh insight into why humans do what they do
- **FOR READERS OF**: *The Culture Map* by Erin Meyer (16k TCM), *The Book of Humans* by Adam Rutherford (16k TCM) and *The Status Game* by Will Storr (9k TCM)

THE BOOK

Ever caught yourself people-watching and thinking, *what on earth are we doing*?

Humans: we're curious creatures - brilliant, social and just a little bit weird. In *A Spotter's Guide to Humans*, behaviour expert Mark Earls unpacks the odd habits, copycat moments and social quirks that make our species both ridiculous and remarkable. Through witty, insightful snapshots, he reveals the hidden patterns that shape how we think, share, follow and belong.

Why do we copy each other's tastes, queue in perfect lines, or suddenly crave what everyone else is having? What does your coffee order really say about you, and why do music fans always prefer a band's early sound? Are things really changing faster than before, and is the digital world just electric or real?

From office tribes and group chats to online fads and ancient rituals, this is a charming exploration of what it really means to be a part of the Herd. So! Grab your binoculars and settle in for a funny, smart and surprisingly wise ride: this is your field guide to spotting what makes us all gloriously, wonderfully human.

THE AUTHOR

Mark Earls is one of the world's leading voices on human behaviour and creativity in marketing. A former advertising strategist at agencies including Ogilvy and St Luke's, he has spent his career helping brands and organisations spark ideas that spread. His bestselling book, *Herd*, changed how marketers think about influence - showing that people don't act alone, they act together. Mark is a Fellow of the Marketing Society and the RSA, a sought-after speaker and consultant, and author of several ground-breaking books on behaviour and innovation. He lives in London.

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835985809 / 1835985807**

Price: **£14.99**

Format: **216mm x 135mm**

Binding: **Hardback**

Extent: **224 pages**

Territory: **World (All Languages) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835985809**

Thema: **Social and cultural anthropology**

AI Last Updated: **05 November 2026**

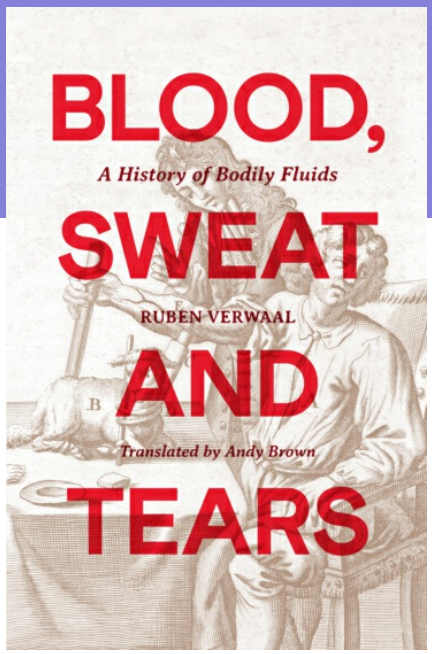
AUGUST

20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London,
SW1V 2SA
Tel: 020 7139 2000

Blood, Sweat and Tears

A History of Bodily Fluids

Ruben Verwaal, translated by Andy Brown



A gloriously gory 'horrible' history of our fractured relationship with our own bodily fluids

THE PITCH

- **UNUSUAL TOPIC:** An engaging, 'horrible' history of the social, cultural and medical perception of fluids in our bodies written with an appropriately dry sense of humour
- **ENGAGING HISTORY:** Traces the story of our love/hate relationship with our own bodies from ancient times right through to modern day
- **IDEAL FOR CULTURAL HISTORY BUFFS**: For readers of *The Body* by Bill Bryson, *Vital Organs* by Susie Edge, *Blood and Guts* by Roy Porter

THE BOOK

Our ancestors didn't just take the piss. They used it too.

The human body leaks. It oozes. It sweats and spits. It bursts, it bleeds and it squirts. Over the history of humanity, our bodies have evolved into sophisticated vessels for survival, leaving a long trail of fluids in our wake.

Whether we're coughing it up or swallowing it down, our bodily fluids are essential to our life and health. Yet, in the past couple of centuries, we have developed a difficult relationship with these fluids: today we find pus, poo and vomit unhygienic and even repellent. But this has not always been the case.

In *Blood, Sweat and Tears*, **Ruben Verwaal** embarks on a deep dive into the story of our bodily fluids, the changing perceptions around them and the practical uses that have trickled down through the generations. Whether it's bile or breastmilk, semen or snot, Verwaal examines how each one of our bodily fluids is dripping with symbolism, mythology and its own rich cultural history.

So the next time you have a runny nose, waxy ears, or sweat through your clothes, remember it wasn't always as gross as you think.

THE AUTHOR

Ruben E. Verwaal is NWO Rubicon Research Fellow at the Institute for Medical Humanities, Durham University, and curator of the medical collections at the Erasmus University Medical Centre, Rotterdam. He specialises in history of early modern science and medicine, material culture, and critical medical humanities.

QUOTES

'A history of the gruesome and the grim. Fascinating.' Sue Black, author of All That Remains

ALSO AVAILABLE

9781835983522 Blood, Sweat and Tears

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835983409 / 1835983405**

Price: **£10.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **320 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835983409**

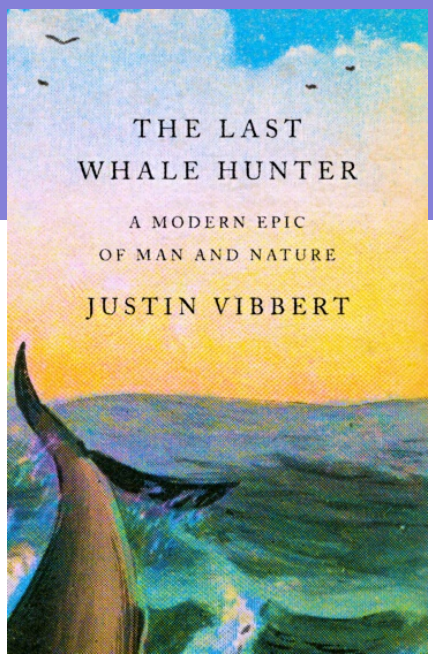
Thema: **Popular medicine and health: the human body, History: plagues, diseases, famines, Human figures depicted in the arts, Human biology, Health, illness or addiction: social aspects**

Author Location: **Durham (UK), Rotterdam (Netherlands)**

AI Last Updated: **28 October 2026**

The Last Whale Hunter
A Modern Epic of Man and Nature

Justin Vibbert



A real-life epic of whale-hunting, personhood and the enduring spirit of survival against all the odds.

THE PITCH

- **A RIVETING, REAL-LIFE MOBY DICK STORY**: A larger-than-life, weirder-than-fiction maritime adventure, full of captivating characters and relentless tension
- **A NEW SIDE TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEBATE**: Provides much-needed nuance to the debate around environmentalism and conservation
- **EARLY SCREEN INTEREST:** This project has drawn early interest from Robert Downey Jr., Brian Andrew Mendoza, Gregg Bello and documentary filmmaker Sasha Kneller
- **FOR READERS OF***: The Lost City of Z* by David Grann, *Born to Run* by Christopher McDougall, and *The Ship Beneath the Ice* by Mensun Bound

THE BOOK

Deep in the heart of the Caribbean sea, a battle is being fought between man and giant.

Bequia – a volcanic speck of an island in the Lesser Antilles – finds itself in crisis: Chinese-backed infrastructure now stretches from Jamaica to Trinidad, and US developers are following behind with their own luxury resorts. For former fishermen and port workers Nico, Junior, Baby, and Eustace, whale-hunting isn't just about preserving tradition: it's about staying afloat.

The man they sail with is Bruce Ollivierre, local hero and preternatural master of the sea, whose family has hunted whales for generations. In *The Last Whale Hunter*, we join Ollivierre and his crew of economic migrants as they do battle against millionaire environmentalists, crumbling ocean ecosystems, and an ancient foe five hundred times their size.

But with modern empires carving up the Caribbean and just a few days left of the season, Ollivierre must land a whale in order to bring in enough money to keep his people housed and fed. All eyes turn to the 2025 Easter Regatta, where a final, high-risk hunt unfolds in full view of locals, tourists, and Louise Mitchell, the island's most powerful anti-whaling crusader, hell-bent on shutting Ollivierre down for good. Failure could mean death for Ollivierre and his men – and the end of whaling on Bequia altogether.

Evocatively told and astonishing to the very end, *The Last Whale Hunter* is a modern parable of survival and endurance against all odds.

THE AUTHOR

Justin Vibbert is a model, actor, journalist and English instructor at the City University of New York. After years of crime and political reporting for newspapers across the country, he became an embedded freelance journalist profiling the lives of vice criminals. His embedded reporting work inspired the Off-Broadway play *Royal Oak*, now in development as a limited TV series. *The Last Whale Hunter* is his debut book.

QUOTES

'This beautifully written and passionate account takes you on a wildly emotional ride that is at turns tragic, thought provoking, and all too human.

Pub Date: **10 June 2027**
ISBN: **9781835988442 / 183598844X**
Price: **£22.00**

Format: **234mm x 153mm**
Binding: **Hardback**
Extent: **320 pages**
Territory: **Exclusive UK,IE,CW; ROW open mkt excluding US,PH,CA (with restrictions)**
Publicist: **Megan Brown**
Bar Code: **9781835988442**
Thema: **True stories of heroism, endurance and survival, Maritime and nautical trades, Green politics / ecopolitics / environmentalism, Conservation of wildlife and habitats, Boats, Social impact of disasters / accidents (natural or man-made)**
Author Location: **Austin, Texas, USA**
Book Locale: **Bequia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

AI Last Updated: **05 November 2026**

Whatever your stance on the annual whale hunt on Bequia, *The Last Whale Hunter* forces you to confront thorny questions about the value of community and tradition, the meaning of environmentalism, and what we should protect and why.' *Eric Jay Dolin, New York Times–bestselling author of Leviathan: The History of Whaling in America and The Wreck of the Mentor*

'*The Last Whale Hunter* is lyrical, brutal, and thought-provoking. It challenges us to question many of our seemingly unquestionable assumptions in a culture where the precariousness of life often feels like an abstract concept. Plus, it's full of adventure, seafaring voyages, and whales. What's not to like?' *Michael F. Schein, Author of The Hype Handbook*

'The middle-aged man and the sea.

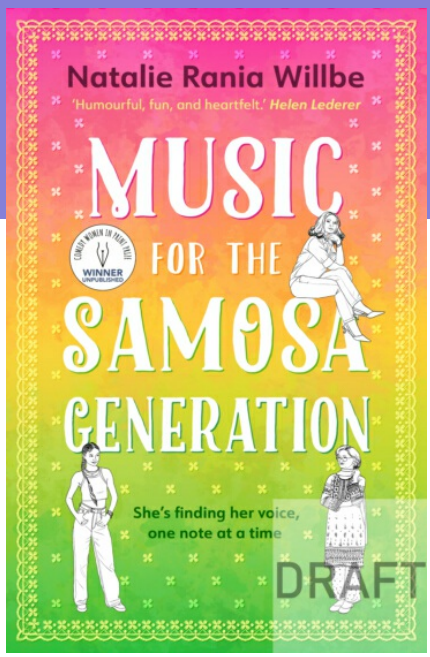
Bruce Ollivierre is a third-generation harpooner of humpback whales on the tiny Caribbean island of Bequia. Whaling by hand (rather than by harpoon gun) is a skill that Nantucket fishermen, who learned it from Indigenous New Englanders, brought to the island in the 19th century. Because the Bequians have always thrown the harpoon from the bow of a sailboat and because their kills are vital to Bequia's economy, the island was given special "Aboriginal" status by the International Whaling Commission, which banned most commercial whaling in 1986. Now, as the U.S. and China contend for dominance in the region, altering its politics and economics with their respective versions of neo-colonialism, it looks like whaling in Bequia will die when it loses Ollivierre, the last person on the island who can handle a harpoon. That is, unless environmentalists succeed in shutting it down first. Vibbert, a journalist and English professor at City University of New York, spent two seasons chasing the elusive whale hunter, who eventually seemed to accept the author under one condition: "If you gonna write about us, you gonna tell it through our eyes, you understand?" Vibbert also writes short stories and plays, and readers may sometimes succumb to the illusion that they're reading a novel by V.S. Naipaul, Graham Greene, or Cormac McCarthy. The narrative is paced and structured like a thriller, the language vivid and hard-boiled: "Waves battered her rocky shore, sheets of earth broke away from jagged ridges, massive manchineel trees dripped with deadly sap, packs of wild dogs tore at one another over carrion washed up on the beach, and Ollivierre stood alone, red-eyed…like a doomed explorer abandoned on the moon."

Evocative portrayal of a dying way of life.' *Kirkus*

Music for the Samosa Generation

An uplifting, relatable read to make your heart sing, by the Comedy Women in Print winner

Natalie Rania Willbe



Winner of the Comedy Women in Print award 2025. Young widow Yasmin is sandwiched between caring for her elderly mother and her rebellious teenage daughter. Can a community choir bring all their voices together?

THE PITCH

- **UPLIFTING AND OPTIMISTIC:** A novel much-needed in the current climate, illustrating positive assimilation and the bonds of community, for fans of *Sandwich*, Jesse Q. Sutanto and Jenny Colgan
- **PRIZE-WINNING CREDENTIALS:** *Music for the Samosa Generation* beat off hundreds of entries to win the Unpublished prize at the Comedy Women in Print awards 2025
- **SKEWERS ZEITGEIST WITH A FRESH NEW PERSPECTIVE:** Explores the Sandwich generation (women raising children while also looking after elderly parents) through the eyes of a first-generation immigrant
- **COMMUNITY CHOIRS IN POPULAR MEDIA:** as well as the popularity of Gareth Malone, James Corden and Ruth Jones are planning a series set around a community choir, to be aired on Apple TV (air date TBC)

THE BOOK

Desi women, we're not like sandwiches. We're samosas!

Full of the same problems as everyone else but we have to keep it all stuffed on the inside!

Yasmin is a fully paid-up member of the Samosa Generation. Caught between looking after her stubborn, elderly mother, a teenage daughter going through a rebellious phase, a career that's going nowhere, all while battling perimenopause, she faces the pressures of the Sandwich Generation, but with added Indian cultural expectation.

When her outspoken mum is banned from yet another seniors' group and the nosy auntyjis in her community gleefully begin gossiping about her daughter, Yasmin fears she's losing control of everything that matters.

When Yasmin's boss tasks her with setting up a charity event, she launches a community choir, wrangling an unlikely group into belting out bhangra beats and pop songs, all while overcoming crippling stage fright and a devious rival choir.

Along the way, Yasmin learns to stop managing everyone else and start trusting them instead. But will she learn that harmony is not about perfection, and more about blending as one?

A beautifully uplifting read about family, friendship and reclaiming your voice that fans of Cathy Bramley and Jill Mansell will love.

Praise for *Music for the Samosa Generation*:

'Humourful, fun, and heartfelt in one glorious go – a wonderfully witty bite at multi-generational co-dependency.' Helen Lederer

Pub Date: **03 June 2027**
ISBN: **9781835986301 / 1835986307**
Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**
Binding: **Paperback**
Extent: **352 pages**
Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**
Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**
Bar Code: **9781835986301**
Thema: **Family life fiction / Stories about family, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Contemporary lifestyle fiction**
Author Location: **Hertfordshire, UK**
Book Locale: **Cambridgeshire, UK**

AI Last Updated: **04 November 2026**

THE AUTHOR

Natalie grew up in a British and Indian three-generation household. She read Law at Oxford before enjoying a career in Advertising. She now combines raising her family alongside volunteering with older people, singing in a choir and spending time with her chickens, including Hennifer Lopez who only speaks Spanish. In 2025 she won the Comedy Women in Print Unpublished Prize.

HERA

20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London,
SW1V 2SA
Tel: 020 7139 2000

One Last Breath

An addictive, heart-racing thriller

N. J. Hatton



A read-in-one-sitting, high-concept thriller for fans of T.M. Logan and Harlan Coben by an author described as 'an exciting new name in crime fiction' by Claire Douglas

THE PITCH

- **ADDICTIVE, HIGH-CONCEPT STANDALONE THRILLER**: Perfectly pitched for the T.M. Logan and Harlan Coben readership
- **A RISING STAR IN THE UK CRIME FICTION SCENE**: N.J. Hatton's debut title was lauded by authors including Liz Nugent ('NJ Hatton is a name to watch'), John Marrs ('A tense, nerve shredding thriller') and Louise Candlish ('Terrifically entertaining')
- **IDEAL FOR SUMMER READING PROMOTIONS**: Tense and addictive, this is the sunlounger read for 2027

THE BOOK

Two missing women. One guilty man.

Tim is woken by police pounding on the front door. He's in the apartment of the girl he's been seeing, Imogen. But she has vanished – and there's evidence of a violent altercation he can't explain. When the police find Imogen's discarded phone and keys and tell Tim the flat belongs to someone else, he quickly becomes prime suspect in a crime he claims to know nothing about.

DI Gina Sherry's investigation reveals an ever-darkening web of mystery and while Tim maintains Imogen was being stalked, all the evidence points to him being the perpetrator.

Tim's only hope of finding the truth is Themis, an underground crusader for justice who works beyond the bounds of law. But when DI Sherry discovers Tim's wife tragically drowned at sea years ago, making Imogen the second woman in his life to go missing, Tim is forced to confront the darkness in his past.

In this deadly game of cat and mouse, where everyone is caught in a labyrinth of lies, will Themis or DI Sherry find the truth …before more lives are lost?

A read-in-one-sitting, addictive and twisty thriller that fans of T.M. Logan and Harlan Coben will love.

THE AUTHOR

Nick is an award-winning screenwriter and director who founded and ran his own media company for over fifteen years, where he created short films, drama projects and worked with some of the biggest kids' brands. His work has screened on Netflix, BBC, Sky, and Disney+. Nick is a recent alumnus of the prestigious Faber Academy Writing a Novel course.

Pub Date: **10 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835985434 / 1835985432**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **352 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835985434**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives, Psychological thriller, Crime and mystery: police procedural, Adventure / action fiction**

Author Location: **Worcester**

Book Locale: **London**

AI Last Updated: **04 November 2026**

Love in Development

A slow burn, workplace rivals-to-lovers STEM romance

Connie Kitson



A tension-filled enemies-to-lovers STEM romance set in the corporate tech world, for fans of Ali Hazelwood and Annabelle Slator.

THE PITCH

- **GROWING MARKET ACROSS MEDIA:** A new steamy STEM romance featuring the popular contemporary workplace romance trope, this time in the growing tech market as producers snap up film rights to titles such as *The Love Hypothesis*.
- **BOOKTOK REACH AND POTENTIAL:** Following from her established STEM brand with *The Love Code*, *Love in Development* is perfect for BookTok and trope-led readers, making it ideal for an online/social campaign.
- **AUTHOR CREDENTIALS AND INCLUSIVITY:** Connie has written an accessible and inclusive romance using her own experience as a woman working for a tech, male dominated company, offering a great USP for female readers age 18-30.

THE BOOK

Forced to work together. Hardwired to hate each other.

Cressida Lawler has everything under control: a high-powered job at a tech startup, a boyfriend in finance, and a carefully structured life. But her perfectly ordered world is shaken when Jamie Baxter, a bold new sales director, joins the company.

The pair first clashed two years earlier at a conference, where a fiery public debate left a lasting impression on them both. Now working side by side, every meeting is a battle of wit and one-upmanship.

As late nights and high-stakes projects force them together, their rivalry begins to crack. And when a personal crisis turns Cressida's life upside down, both begin to reveal an unexpected chemistry beneath the tension. But is it their attraction enough to fix the bug in their system?

A STEM enemies-to-lovers workplace romance, set in the ambitious world of tech, for fans of Ali Hazelwood and B. K. Borison.

THE AUTHOR

Connie Kitson has worked alongside developers and within app teams as a digital marketing manager for over ten years, which has honed her ability to translate technical jargon into compelling narratives and provided the inspiration for her STEM romances. Connie's love for romance novels and films – the meet-cutes, the raw exploration of relationships, and that unmistakable fuzzy feeling – has inspired her to bring her own ideas to life, diving into the complexities of love with the same passion and excitement.

Pub Date: **17 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835987537 / 1835987532**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **368 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835987537**

Thema: **Romance: workplace, Contemporary lifestyle fiction, Romance, Modern and Contemporary romance, Romance: unlikely or unexpected lovers, Romance: the rich / famous / powerful**

Author Location: **Surrey, UK.**

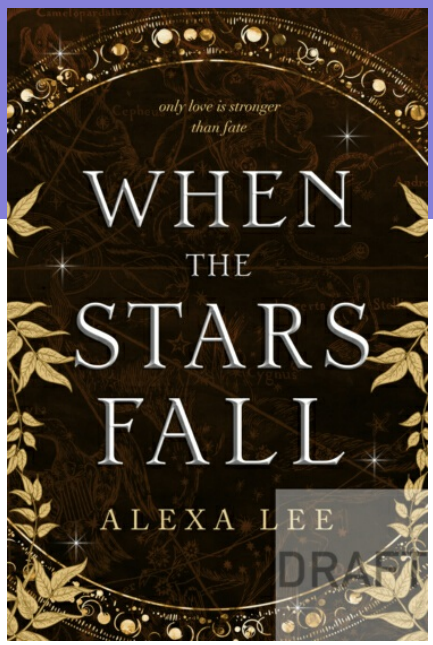
Book Locale: **London.**

AI Last Updated: **02 November 2026**

When the Stars Fall

A forbidden romantasy of divine claims, deadly Gods, and lethal trials

Alexa Lee



A slow burn romantasy fusing dark academia with ancient mythology, for fans of Imani Erriu and Rebecca Yarros.

THE PITCH

- **TARGETED MARKET APPEAL:** Fans of *Heavenly Bodies* by Imani Erriu and Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros will be obsessed
- **AN AUTHOR POISED TO REACH BREAKOUT STATUS:** Alexa Lee was previously published with an audio romantasy series, but this stunningly packaged debut in ebook and print is primed to widen her readership
- **COMBINES ALL THE TROPES READERS LOVE:** Offers cross market appeal with mythological storytelling that couples vengeful Gods with beloved tropes such as enemies to lovers, forbidden love, and forced proximity

THE BOOK

In the kingdom of Imolare, the Gods decide everything.

For Ignet, the stakes have never been higher. Born with the rare skills of pre-empted visions, she is haunted by glimpses of the future. Something that the tyrannical King finds invaluable.

Whether they are gifted in death, knowledge, strength or beauty: some are Claimed by the King and inevitably sent to the deadly Halls of Knowledge for the ultimate test of their abilities. They have all heard the rumours of the darkness that lies behind those walls, and surviving them will not be an easy fight.

Though the king has chosen Ignet for himself, she knows this is not what her future holds. She must bring the king down before it is too late, and luckily for her, the Gods may have shown her the one person who can help…

An otherworldly romantasy debut, blending fate and with forbidden love, for fans of Imani Erriu and Stephanie Garber.

THE AUTHOR

Alexa Lee is a writer, webcomic scriptwriter, and PhD student. Born in Oxfordshire, most of her childhood was spent either devouring books or daydreaming, and now, Alexa writes almost constantly.

Pub Date: **24 June 2027**

ISBN: **9781835988251 / 1835988253**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **384 pages**

Territory: **World (All Languages) (with restrictions)**

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835988251**

Thema: **Fantasy romance / Romantic fantasy**

Author Location: **Oxford, UK**

Book Locale: **Fictional Kingdom of Imolare**

AI Last Updated: **04 November 2026**