

Twisted Pike

An utterly bewitching British folk horror novel

David Barnett

The Ritual meets Stephen King in this shocking and claustrophobic follow up to *Withered Hill*.

THE PITCH

- A devastating thriller starting like *The Blair Witch Project* and ending with apocalypse
- Will appeal to fans of *Starve Acre*, Ari Aster, *The Watchers* and Adam Nevill
- The fourth book in a collection that links together the events of *Withered Hill*, *Scuttler's Cove* and *Scratch Moss*

THE BOOK

Their arrival could mean the end of everything...

The remote, isolated village of Withered Hill is rocked by unexpected visitors, a film crew hoping to make a low-budget horror movie.

Despite the villagers' misgivings, the small crew insists on staying, desiring to put their plans for the film *Twisted Pike* into action.

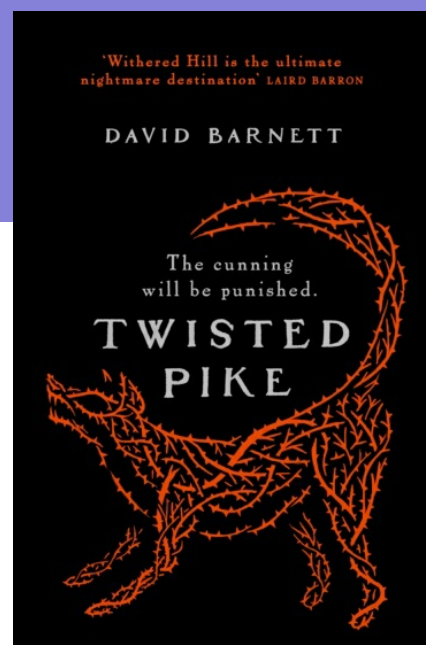
They are not in Withered Hill by accident. But they are not there to make a film. They are there to destroy this cursed place, and all who live there.

The reverberations of their attempts will be felt across the nation, and by the ancient gods who exist beneath the ground, waiting for their chance to rise once again

An utterly bewitching folk horror novel of apocalyptic proportions from the author of the *Withered Hill* universe. Perfect for fans of Andrew Michael Hurley and A.M. Shine.

THE AUTHOR

David Barnett is an author, journalist and comic book writer based in West Yorkshire. He writes in a range of genres for various publishers, works for a wide variety of press outlets including the *Guardian*, *Independent* and BBC, and in comics has written for DC, 2000AD and more.



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835983164 / 1835983162**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **384 pages**

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

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835983164**

Thema: **Contemporary horror, ghost stories and supernatural fiction, Psychological thriller, Occult fiction / Paranormal Horror, Classic horror, ghost stories and supernatural fiction, Urban fantasy, Family life fiction / Stories about family, Lancashire**

AI Last Updated: **22 July 2026**

The Dark Army

P. W. Finch

A medieval historical adventure set against the Third Crusade, following a knight who believes he has made a Faustian bargain, and sold his soul to the Devil...

THE PITCH

- The second novel in a new medieval series from *Sunday Times* bestselling author Paul Finch
- Set during the Third Crusade, in the age of Richard the Lionheart and Saladin
- A gripping historical adventure set across Outremer

THE BOOK

A captive king. A sacred prize. An unstoppable mercenary legion.

As Richard the Lionheart rots in a frozen imperial dungeon, the future of England hangs by a thread.

Knight-Commander Thurstan Wildblood, on Richard's orders, is escorting Melinda of Jerusalem – believed to be a living saint – safely to English shores. Of the band that set out from the Holy Land, only Thurstan, Melinda and squire Pandulf survive.

Barring their way is the ruthless Order of Siegfried, the infamous Dark Army. These black-clad mercenaries sow terror across Europe on behalf of the power-hungry German emperor, who wants the rumoured saint for political leverage.

Thurstan and Pandulf must cut a bloody path through treacherous lands to protect their charge, from the tournaments of Sicily to the war-torn borders of Normandy, before they can sail home.

Yet the commander's greatest battle is within, fighting the terrifying conviction that his blood-soaked soul is already claimed by a demon. Will delivering Melinda safely to England offer a path to redemption?

An edge-of-your-seat medieval adventure set during the Third Crusade.

THE AUTHOR

Paul Finch is an ex-cop and journalist turned best-selling author. He first cut his literary teeth penning episodes of *The Bill*, and has written extensively in horror and fantasy, including for *Dr Who*. He is also known for his crime/thriller novels, of which there are twelve to date, including the Heckenburg and Clayburn series. Paul lives in Lancashire with his wife and business-partner, Cathy.



Pub Date: **08 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781804364475 / 1804364479**

Price: **£10.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **432 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language)**

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781804364475**

Thema: **Historical adventure fiction, Modern and contemporary fiction: literary and general, Historical fiction, Adventure / action fiction**

Author Location: **Wigan**

Book Locale: **The Holy Land; Medieval Europe**

AI Last Updated: **23 July 2026**

Hadrian's Eagles

'Hunter's Ancient Britain is a brilliantly realised world' Simon Scarrow

Damion Hunter

THE PITCH

- One of Canelo's bestselling authors, Amanda has been a core part of our publishing since 2018
- The leading female voice in a genre and period of history dominated by male authors
- A notorious and instantly recognisable landmark from the Roman rule in Britain that will chime immediately with fans of the genre

THE BOOK

A wall to divide a country and spur it on to war

Felix Appius Julianus is brought to Britain in the wake of the disastrous loss of the Ninth Legion Hispana, to command its replacement, the Sixth Legion Victrix.

Centurion Valerius Silvanus, posted to the doomed Ninth and arriving only in time to learn of its destruction, is instead sent to the Sixth to help integrate the remaining soldiers of the disgraced legion.

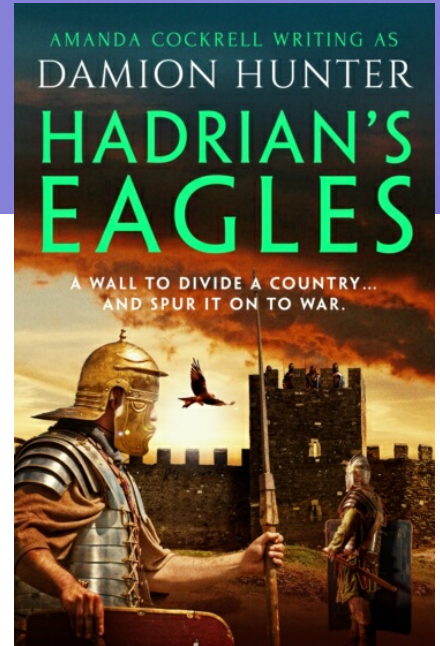
Meanwhile, new Emperor Hadrian, successor to Trajan who extended Rome's borders to their farthest reach, has ordered Britain's frontier pulled back to more a defensible line. A great wall, splitting the island in two, is commissioned.

But the wall cuts across the middle of tribal land and is fiercely resented, and the ghosts, both living and dead, of the destroyed Ninth continue to plague the work, making both men wonder whether there are some things that cannot be kept out...

A gripping tale of the origin of Rome's most powerful landmark in Britain, packed with action and adventure.

THE AUTHOR

Amanda Cockrell, writing as Damion Hunter, grew up in Ojai, California, and developed a fascination with the Romans when a college friend gave her Rosemary Sutcliff's books to read. After a checkered career as a newspaper feature writer and a copywriter for a rock radio station, she taught literature and creative writing for many years at Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia, where she now lives.



Pub Date: **22 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835982006 / 183598200X**

Price: **£10.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **400 pages**

Territory: **World (All Languages)**

Bar Code: **9781835982006**

Thema: **Historical adventure fiction, War, combat and military adventure fiction, Thriller / suspense fiction, Historical romance, Romance in uniform, Historical fiction, Ancient Rome**

AI Last Updated: **21 July 2026**

Bad Dog

A British Crime Thriller

Alex Smith

The explosive second novel in the internationally bestselling DCI Robert Kett crime thriller series.

THE PITCH

- **A STRONG FOUNDATION:** Over 150k reviews on Amazon a 4.6* average rating from ebooks alone
- **PUBLICITY:** Word is already out about Alex but we can make more of this by engaging other crime fiction writers to endorse and make the most of the PR he's had already, ie 'Fresh and ferocious' **James Patterson**; 'A gripping debut' **JD Kirk**.
- **A NEW LANDSCAPE:** With a setting in East Anglia, this diversifies Canelo's print-only offering and brings a new region to the Canelo Crime list. Opportunities to support publication can be found via local events such as Noirwich and Slaughter in Southwold.

THE BOOK

Monsters can come in all sorts of disguises.

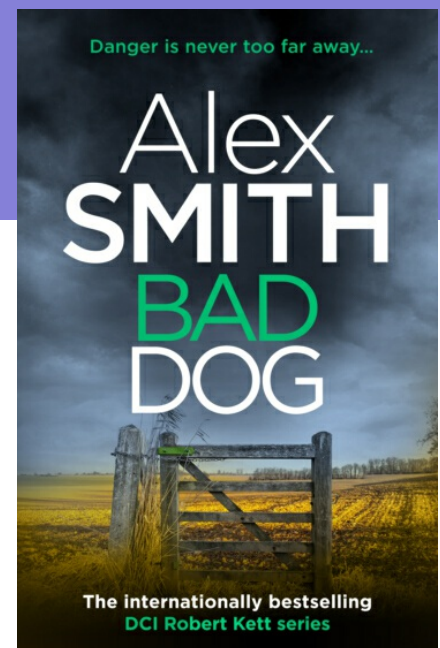
When a young woman is brutally murdered in the Norfolk countryside, the locals blame Black Shuck, a legendary wild dog. There's only one problem: the wounds weren't made by an animal.

DCI Kett is battling a black dog of his own. With his wife still missing, and the injuries from his last case leaving him in constant pain, everything seems impossible – not least looking after his three young children.

But when a second body appears, even bloodier than the last, Kett finds himself on a hunt for one of the most ruthless serial killers the country has ever seen. A killer who may be hunting him too...

THE AUTHOR

Alex Smith wrote his first book when he was six. It wasn't particularly good, but it did have some supernatural monsters in it. His latest books, the DCI Robert Kett thrillers, have monsters in them too, although these monsters are very human, and all the more terrifying for it. In between, he has published fourteen novels for children and teenagers under his full name, Alexander Gordon Smith – including the number one bestselling series *Escape From Furnace*, which is loved by millions of readers worldwide and which is soon to become a motion picture. He lives in Norwich with his wife and three young daughters.



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835986240 / 1835986242**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **304 pages**

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

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835986240**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: police procedural, Crime and mystery: hard-boiled crime, noir fiction, Narrative theme: death, grief, loss, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Narrative theme: sense of place, East Anglia**

Author Location: **Norwich**

Book Locale: **East Anglia**

AI Last Updated: **14 July 2026**

Paper Girls

An Unputdownable British Crime Thriller

Alex Smith

Described as 'Fast and ferocious' by James Patterson, the Alex Smith detective novels are dark, compulsive and utterly gripping.

THE PITCH

- **A STRONG FOUNDATION:** Over 150k reviews on Amazon a 4.6* average rating from ebooks alone
- **PUBLICITY:** Word is already out about Alex but we can make more of this by engaging other crime fiction writers to endorse and make the most of the PR he's had already, ie 'Fresh and ferocious' **James Patterson**; 'A gripping debut' **JD Kirk**.
- **A NEW LANDSCAPE:** With a setting in East Anglia, this diversifies Canelo's print-only offering and brings a new region to the Canelo Crime list. Opportunities to support publication can be found via local events such as Noirwich and Slaughter in Southwold.

THE BOOK

'Insanely addictive and relentlessly gripping. Smith is as good as it gets' **JD Kirk**

They should have been safe, but now they're gone.

In the city of Norwich, fears are running rampant. Young women have gone missing in separate incidents while delivering newspapers. Is this the work of a serial kidnapper?

Detective Robert Kett has just arrived in the area, and has enough troubles of his own to contend with. His wife was snatched from the streets of London – gone without a trace. His three children need his full attention, but his new police colleagues are stumped. Kett agrees to take a look at the evidence, and before long is dragged into the centre of one of the darkest cases of his career.

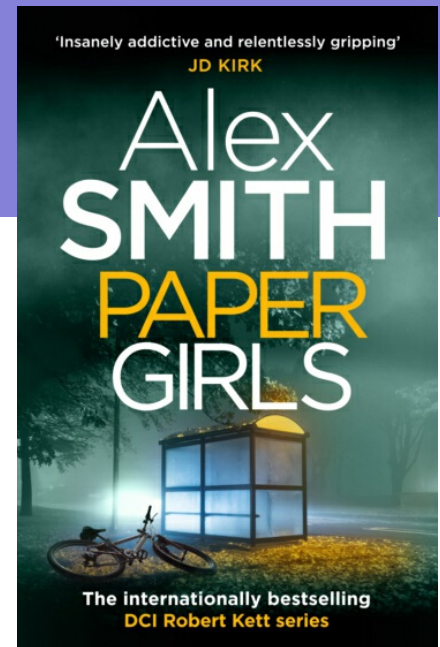
Kett knows what it's like to suffer. If he gets this right, he can save others from such horror. And maybe finally get some answers about what happened to his wife.

THE AUTHOR

Alex Smith wrote his first book when he was six. It wasn't particularly good, but it did have some supernatural monsters in it. His latest books, the DCI Robert Kett thrillers, have monsters in them too, although these monsters are very human, and all the more terrifying for it. In between, he has published fourteen novels for children and teenagers under his full name, Alexander Gordon Smith – including the number one bestselling series *Escape From Furnace*, which is loved by millions of readers worldwide and which is soon to become a motion picture. He lives in Norwich with his wife and three young daughters. Find out more at alexsmithbooks.com

QUOTES

'Fresh and ferocious' *James Patterson*



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835986226 / 1835986226**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **288 pages**

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

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835986226**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: police procedural, Crime and mystery: hard-boiled crime, noir fiction, Narrative theme: death, grief, loss, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Narrative theme: sense of place, East Anglia**

Author Location: **Norwich**

Book Locale: **East Anglia**

AI Last Updated: **01 July 2026**



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



Three Little Pigs

A British Crime Thriller

Alex Smith

A dark and gripping crime thriller from the international bestselling author.

THE PITCH

- **A STRONG FOUNDATION:** Over 150k reviews on Amazon a 4.6* average rating from ebooks alone
- **PUBLICITY:** Word is already out about Alex but we can make more of this by engaging other crime fiction writers to endorse and make the most of the PR he's had already, ie 'Fresh and ferocious' **James Patterson**; 'A gripping debut' **JD Kirk**.
- **A NEW LANDSCAPE:** With a setting in East Anglia, this diversifies Canelo's print-only offering and brings a new region to the Canelo Crime list. Opportunities to support publication can be found via local events such as Noirwich and Slaughter in Southwold.

THE BOOK

He will find the truth. Even if it kills him.

Five months ago, DCI Robert Kett's wife Billie was snatched from a London street. Five months of no leads, no evidence, and no suspects. Until now.

When a routine police search uncovers a chamber of horrors beneath one of the city's most expensive houses, detectives find a clue that points to Billie's fate, and to the identity of her kidnapper – an enigmatic killer known as the Pig Man.

Desperate for closure, Kett returns to London for his most personal and most dangerous case yet – a case that pits him against a terrifying evil.

THE AUTHOR

Alex Smith has been a writer for almost all his life. He wrote his first book when he was six, and even though it wasn't very good, it was a sign of things to come. He spent most of his twenties and thirties writing horror books for children and teenagers under his full name, Alexander Gordon Smith, including the award-winning series *Escape From Furnace*. Alex lives with his family in Norwich, where he spends half of his time writing and the other half trying to keep up with three girls.



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835986264 / 1835986269**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **320 pages**

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

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835986264**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: police procedural, Crime and mystery: hard-boiled crime, noir fiction, Narrative theme: death, grief, loss, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Narrative theme: sense of place, London, Greater London**

Author Location: **Norwich**

Book Locale: **East Anglia and London**

AI Last Updated: **09 July 2026**

The First Mistake

A dark and gripping Welsh crime drama

Sarah Ward

The next gripping instalment in the Mallory Dawson Crime Thriller series.

THE PITCH

- Set in a small Welsh town, Sarah Ward perfectly captures the beautiful landscape and the tense atmosphere of crime in close communities, keeping readers on the edge of their seat
- Features Mallory Dawson, a former Met Police detective who has been retired through injury, a unique and refreshing take on the crime thriller genre
- Sarah Ward was the Vice-Chair of the Crime Writers' Association and has excellent connections within the crime writing community

THE BOOK

The next gripping instalment in the Mallory Dawson Crime Thriller series.

Old ghosts never rest easy.

When the body of a young woman is found at the festival of Mari Lwyd, Mallory Dawson is called to the scene. But something is different about the murder of Gwennie Jones, something that will dredge up a part of Mallory's history that still haunts her to this day.

Fourteen years earlier, Gwennie's aunt Jaci went missing in London. The investigation — Mallory's first as CID — was a disaster. With accusations of police incompetence still following, the pressure is on for her to get it right this time. Not just for Gwennie, but for Jaci too.

A tense and atmospheric Welsh crime thriller. Perfect for fans of Clare Mackintosh and Fiona Cummins.

Praise for Sarah Ward

'Strongly atmospheric.' Crime Time
'A brilliant Christie-esque page-turner with an amazing sense of location.' Catherine Cooper, *Sunday Times* bestselling author of *The Chalet*
'Entertaining and sophisticated.' My Weekly
'Sharp, elegantly written and dripping with suspense.' J. A. Corrigan, author of *The Nurse*
'Clever and compelling.' Woman's Weekly

THE AUTHOR

Sarah Ward is a critically acclaimed crime and gothic thriller writer. Her book, *A Patient Fury*, was an Observer book of the month and *The Quickening*, written as Rhiannon Ward, was a Radio Times book of the year. Sarah is a former Vice-Chair of the Crime Writers Association, Trustee of Gwyl Crime Cymru Festival and an RLF Fellow at Sheffield University.



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781804369395 / 180436939X**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **320 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language)**

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781804369395**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives, Crime and mystery: private investigator / amateur detectives, Thriller / suspense fiction, Narrative theme: death, grief, loss, Southwest Wales**

AI Last Updated: **21 July 2026**



Leicester Square

An edge of your seat British crime thriller featuring police dogs

Louisa Scarr

A nail-biting police procedural from the PC Lucy Halliday series.

THE PITCH

- A fresh and exciting series which offers a glimpse into the world of police dogs and their handlers, while combining traditional investigative work that readers of the genre know and love
- A gripping missing persons case that soon spirals into a far darker crime which will have readers on the edge of their seat
- Perfect for fans of Jane Casey and Cara Hunter

THE BOOK

A nail-biting police procedural from the PC Lucy Halliday series.

Terror stalks the streets of London.

When a bomb explodes on Oxford Street on Good Friday, the force of the blast brings down a building, trapping dozens under the rubble. The whole capital grinds to a halt.

Teamed with her new explosive detection dog, Otto, PC Lucy Halliday is against the clock to prevent a second tragedy. Meanwhile, DCI Jack Ellis is pulled on to the case too – his former experience in counter-terrorism isn't just a bonus now, it's a necessity.

The race is on. Can Jack and Lucy find the bombers before London is hit again?

Praise for Leicester Square

'Thrilling, tense, and utterly terrifying... Scarr once again proves her mastery of the high-stakes thriller' Heather Critchlow

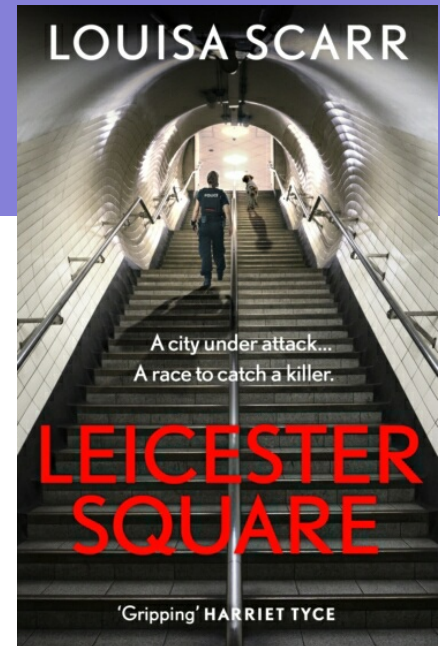
THE AUTHOR

Louisa Scarr studied Psychology at the University of Southampton and has lived in and around the city ever since. She works as a freelance copywriter and editor, and when she's not writing, she can be found pounding the streets in running shoes or swimming in muddy lakes.

QUOTES

'Thrilling, tense, and utterly terrifying... Scarr once again proves her mastery of the high-stakes thriller.' *Heather Critchlow*

'Leicester Square is a **fast paced, heart-in-your-throat thriller that packs a big emotional punch**. If you aren't obsessed with these characters by the end of the book, then you should go straight back to page one and read it again.' *Cressida McLaughlin*



Pub Date: **15 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835985861 / 1835985866**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **384 pages**

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

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835985861**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: police procedural, Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives, Thriller / suspense fiction, Narrative theme: love / relationships, City of London, Central London**

Author Location: **Romsey, UK**

Book Locale: **London, UK**

AI Last Updated: **21 July 2026**



The Love Stunt

The unmissable, epic friends with benefits romance

Lulu Morris

Nurse Hannah and her former crush, now stuntman, Caleb collide in this swoony, Australian-set friends with benefits romance that fans of Carley Fortune and Sarah Adams will adore

THE PITCH

- **FEATURES TRENDING, TOPICAL THEMES:** With films like *The Idea of You*, and book-turned film *People We Meet on Vacation* by Emily Henry taking audiences by storm, readers will love this combination of celebrity escapism and second chance, friends to lovers
- **SUMMER ESCAPIST SETTING:** The Australian setting and all its sunny glory transports the reader making this the ultimate, dreamy read to fulfill all of your travel fantasies
- **WELL-CONNECTED AUTHOR:** Lucy is director of communications for the RNA and has been positively reviewed on Fated Mates, the renowned romance podcast

THE BOOK

The greatest stunt of all is pretending not to care...

Trading a nursing career in London for Sydney, Hannah is finally done with being an anxious side character in her own life. She's living the dream – until reality hits. Her flatmates are terrible, and she desperately needs a job.

Fate intervenes when she runs into her former crush, Caleb, now a famous stuntman. When Caleb proposes a friends-with-benefits arrangement, Hannah sees the perfect chance to finally fulfill her fantasies and implement her new 'live in the moment' philosophy.

When feelings begin to complicate their situationship, they each have realities to confront – Caleb's career is dangerous and he doesn't want a family, and Hannah worries she is falling too fast, as always, and needs to guard her heart. But is a no-strings attached relationship even possible or are they playing with fire?

A gorgeous, spicy romance perfect for fans of Sarah Adams, Katherine Center and Carley Fortune

THE AUTHOR

Lulu Morris lives in Essex, UK, with her husband, two children, and two cats. She is a director for the Romantic Novelists Association (RNA) where she has volunteered for 4 years and has published 10 historical romances for Mills & Boon which have been translated into German, French and Italian.



Pub Date: **22 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835983805 / 1835983804**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **352 pages**

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

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835983805**

Thema: **Modern and Contemporary romance**

Author Location: **Essex, UK**

Book Locale: **Sydney & Gold Coast, Australia**

AI Last Updated: **21 July 2026**



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



Forbidden Puckboy

An off limits best friend's brother ice hockey romance

Saxon James, Eden Finley

A fun and sexy MM ice hockey romance, full of fan-favourite tropes and plenty of tension

THE PITCH

- **A DEDICATED READERSHIP:** Long-term fans of the series are excited to buy their favourite books in print and followers of the authors will be looking for their newest releases
- **MM ROMANCE REMAINS POPULAR:** Queer fiction popularity is still on the rise across booksellers, librarians and readers
- **THE PERFECT RELEASE AS THE NHL SEASON KICKS OFF:** As the new season ramps up activity across Booktok, readers will be looking for their fictional romance fix
- **BOOK SEVEN IN THE SERIES:** Though each book can be read as a standalone

THE BOOK

Never fall for your best friend's brother...

Being in love with his brother's best friend sucks. Worse – Easton Kikishkin has crushed on him since he was twelve years old, and not even becoming an NHL star has made Knox realise he's all grown up now.

That changes when they spend a week together for a charity match.

The Kiki brothers are legendary in the NHL world. Thick as thieves, unstoppable on the ice, and the kind of family nothing can come between. For the last ten years, Knox had hidden his feelings for Easton. Connor is his best friend and when it comes to his little brothers, 'protective' doesn't begin to cover it.

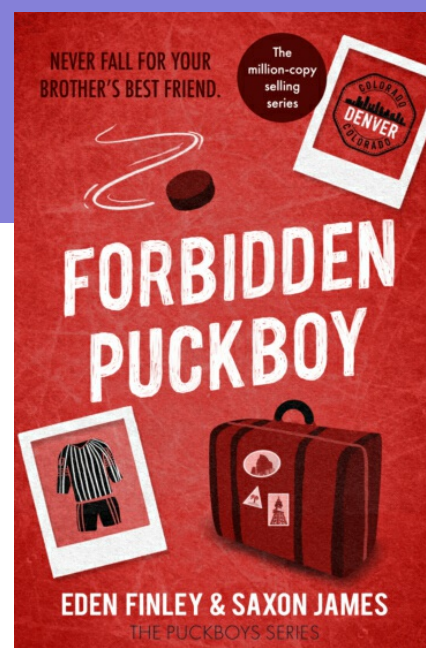
All it takes is one drunken, forbidden kiss for Knox and Easton to realise they can't keep pretending. If Knox doesn't want to lose his best friend, Easton can never be his...

The irresistible MM hockey romance for fans of Sarina Bowen and Rachel Reid.

THE AUTHOR

Eden Finley is a bestselling author who writes steamy contemporary romances that are full of snark and light-hearted fluff. She doesn't take anything too seriously and lives to create an escape from real life for her readers. She's also an Australian girl from Queensland and apologises for her Australianisms that sometimes don't make sense to anyone else.

Saxon James is a Top 10 International Bestseller from Australia who writes MM romance to make you smile. Whether you love sports romance or small town, college guys or men getting their second shot at love, Saxon has something for everyone.



Pub Date: **29 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835985250 / 1835985254**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **304 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language)**

Bar Code: **9781835985250**

Thema: **Ice hockey, Colorado, Modern and Contemporary romance, Romance: the rich / famous / powerful, Sports fiction**

Author Location: **Queensland, Australia**

Book Locale: **Colorado**

AI Last Updated: **23 July 2026**



Possessive Puckboy

A forbidden bully ice hockey romance

Saxon James, Eden Finley

A kinky yet tender instalment in the fan-favourite series, with just a hint of bully romance and a brilliant redemption arc for our lead character

THE PITCH

- **A MILLION-COPY SELLING SERIES:** The self-published ebooks have generated over a million reads with fans hungry for beautiful physical copies to keep on their shelves
- **AUTHORS WITH A HUGE FOLLOWING:** Eden and Saxon have amassed tens of thousands of dedicated followers between them who are excited to see their favourite authors' first traditionally published series
- **THE ICE RINK IS HOTTER THAN EVER:** Following the Olympics, ice hockey has never been more popular amongst women and romance readers who are looking for some playful escapism and fantasy fulfilment
- **BOOK EIGHT IN THE SERIES:** Though each book can be read as a standalone

THE BOOK

Can they move forward with so much history between them?

Connor Kikishkin is questioning everything. His best friend and his brother hid their relationship from him. His whole family finds his protective side annoying. And now his NHL team has a new owner – a regrettable blast from Connor's past.

Parker Duchene bought the Colorado team to honor his late father. Emotionally playing with one of his high school tormentors is a nice bonus. But it's a fine line between hatred and obsession, obsession and infatuation...

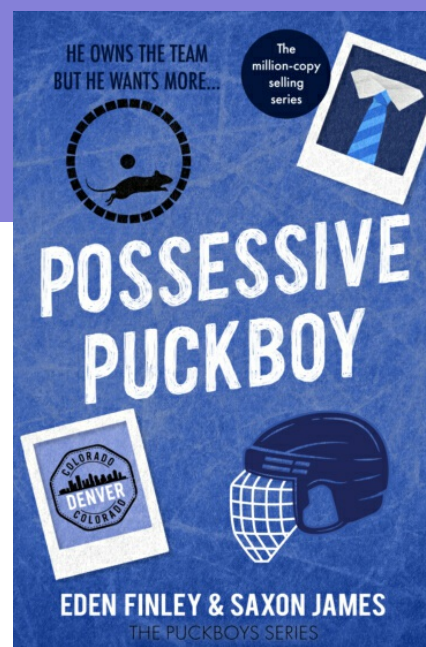
Connor's whole career is in Parker's hands. Can he figure out how to play nice with the new owner and keep his spot on the team? Or is Parker's desire for revenge too much to overcome?

A fun, sexy hockey player x billionaire romance, perfect for fans of The Shots You Take and Emily Rath.

THE AUTHOR

Eden Finley is a bestselling author who writes steamy contemporary romances that are full of snark and light-hearted fluff. She doesn't take anything too seriously and lives to create an escape from real life for her readers. She's also an Australian girl from Queensland and apologises for her Australianisms that sometimes don't make sense to anyone else.

Saxon James is a Top 10 International Bestseller from Australia who writes MM romance to make you smile. Whether you love sports romance or small town, college guys or men getting their second shot at love, Saxon has something for everyone.



Pub Date: **29 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835985267 / 1835985262**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **336 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language)**

Bar Code: **9781835985267**

Thema: **Ice hockey, Los Angeles, Modern and Contemporary romance, Romance: the rich / famous / powerful, Sports fiction**

Author Location: **Queensland, Australia**

Book Locale: **Colorado**

AI Last Updated: **23 July 2026**

Stubborn Puckboy

A heart-warming forbidden friends to lovers, coming out, ice hockey romance

Saxon James, Eden Finley

If you loved *Time to Shine* and *Heated Rivalry*, you'll love this heartwarming, forbidden MM romance

THE PITCH

- **THE PERFECT NEXT READ AFTER *HEATED RIVALRY*:** Featuring a Russian player who must hide his sexuality for his own safety, this novel is perfect for fans of Rachel Reid's beloved characters
- **A GUARANTEED HAPPY EVER AFTER:** Joyful queer storytelling is in more demand than ever as readers seek LGBTQ stories that avoid centring their characters around angst and tragedy
- **HIGHLY MARKETABLE AUTHORS WITH A BUILT-IN READERSHIP:** Eden and Saxon are proactive marketers for their books, having grown a vocal and engaged following across social platforms
- **BOOK NINE IN THE SERIES:** Though each book can be read as a standalone

THE BOOK

Some things are worth waiting a lifetime for...

Once upon a time, playing for the NHL was Colby's dream. But every closeted guy knows you don't hit on your teammate, even if Radimir Novicov is sexy, smart and talented, and even if his gaze lingers longer than it should...

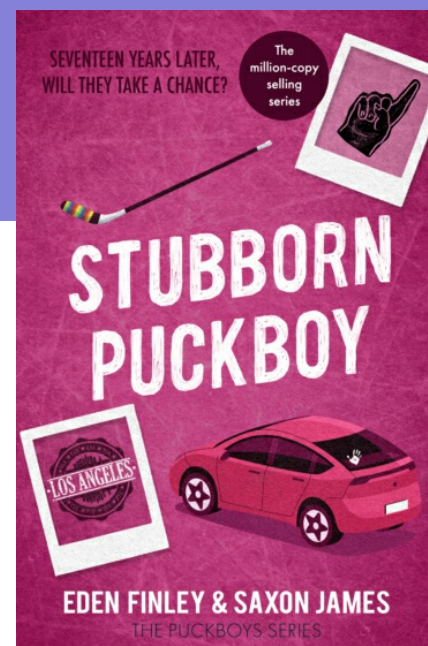
All it took was one drunken close call before their friendship was in tatters and their hockey careers went in opposite directions. Now, seventeen years later, Colby is the new video coach for Novi's team.

Novi has two years left on his contract and he's counting down the days. Because while he's playing professionally, he can't come out. Not with his family still in Russia. He didn't count on Colby Kessinger walking back into his life. The one who made his heart want things it can't have.

THE AUTHOR

Eden Finley is a bestselling author who writes steamy contemporary romances that are full of snark and light-hearted fluff. She doesn't take anything too seriously and lives to create an escape from real life for her readers. She's also an Australian girl from Queensland and apologises for her Australianisms that sometimes don't make sense to anyone else.

Saxon James is a Top 10 International Bestseller from Australia who writes MM romance to make you smile. Whether you love sports romance or small town, college guys or men getting their second shot at love, Saxon has something for everyone.



Pub Date: **29 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835985274 / 1835985270**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **336 pages**

Territory: **World (English Language)**

Bar Code: **9781835985274**

Thema: **Ice hockey, Colorado, Modern and Contemporary romance, Romance: the rich / famous / powerful, Sports fiction**

Author Location: **Queensland, Australia**

Book Locale: **Los Angeles, California**

AI Last Updated: **23 July 2026**

Fight to the Death

Human Stories from the Assisted Dying Debate

Paul Brand

The definitive book on the global battle over assisted dying, exposing the fierce moral, legal and political clashes that define one of the most urgent human rights debates of our time.

THE PITCH

- **Timely:** publication is timed to coincide with the reintroduction of the assisted dying bill to the Houses of Parliament, projected to be in late September / early October 2026.
- **Globally relevant:** existing laws in Canada, the Netherlands and Switzerland are coming under intense scrutiny, there is fierce debate around legalisation in the United States, Australia and many other territories.
- **Expert author:** Paul Brand has unique access to this topic; with a direct line to campaigners, political insiders and extraordinary case studies from around the world.
- **For readers of:** *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt; *Now It All Makes Sense* by Alex Partridge, *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi and *The Premonition* by Michael Lewis.

THE BOOK

Every story in this book begins with a life shaped by love.

Assisted dying is a question that reaches into the deepest parts of us, sitting at the intersection of medicine, morality and personal liberty. For decades, debates around legalisation have played out across the world, even as people on both sides have suffered, struggling with impossibly complex choices.

In *Fight to the Death*, award-winning journalist Paul Brand explores the lives unfolding behind the headlines, collecting true stories from those who stand on both sides of assisted dying: people living with unrelenting pain who long for autonomy in their final days, and those who have lost someone they love to a decision they could not accept.

These narratives are not arguments on either side of a political debate, but lives unfolding – a mother facing the slow erosion of her body, a son believing he made a merciful choice. Brand takes us inside the rooms where those decisions are confronted - in the hospitals, kitchens, courtrooms and quiet late-night conversations.

Honest and unflinching, *Fight to the Death* invites readers to witness, not judge. This is a book about the limits of the human body, the strength of family, and the emotional landscapes no law can ever capture.

THE AUTHOR

Paul Brand is the UK Editor for ITV News and presenter of ITV's flagship Tonight programme. He appears nightly on the Evening News and News at Ten, and regularly on Good Morning Britain, as well as a host on LBC radio. Paul is a six-time Royal Television Society award-winner and in 2022 was awarded Broadcaster of the Year at the London Press Club Awards. He has a social media following of 250,000 across Twitter and Bluesky.

QUOTES



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835985793 / 1835985793**

Price: **£20.00**

Format: **234mm x 153mm**

Binding: **Hardback**

Extent: **256 pages**

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

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd, Megan Brown**

Bar Code: **9781835985793**

Thema: **Cultural policies and debates**

AI Last Updated: **22 July 2026**

'An extraordinarily powerful, important and timely book about one of life's greatest moral dilemmas, told through the prism of people on both sides of the debate in a searingly honest and moving way' Piers Morgan

'This is a remarkable and important book. Paul has brought out the humanity in this issue and he has given us an invaluable insight into those at the heart of the debate who are the ones who matter most. It's profoundly moving, thought provoking and a must read' Lorraine Kelly

'Paul is the most incisive and compassionate journalist working on British television today. He approaches this challenging issue in his typical style, with sensitivity and a determination to bring its complexities into sharp focus' Susanna Reid

'The debate over assisted dying has led to a profound re-evaluation of our values, almost of who we are as a nation. Paul Brand has been the outstanding chronicler of this important story. *Fight To The Death* is essential reading for anyone interested in an ethical and political campaign that is defining our age' Robert Peston



20 Vauxhall Bridge Road, London,
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Tel: 020 7139 2000



The Divide

Seven true stories of compassion and connection, in a world that wants to keep us apart

Maurits Chabot

THE PITCH

- In such a hostile world, stories of connection between opposing sides are important for inspiring hope and changing the narrative
- Chabot's research took him around the world in order to find the most extreme stories, and so this book benefits from a global appeal
- For readers of *The Premonitions Bureau* by Sam Knight, *Rogues* by Patrick Radden Keefe and *Adventures in Democracy* by Erica Benner

THE BOOK

How far is the gulf between you and your enemy? Too wide to cross? Too far to bridge? Or too deep to heal?

All over the world, there are divides: victims and perpetrators; cops and robbers; neo-Nazis and queer communities; Hutus and Tutsis. Whether it is over class, race, sexuality, faith or power, the human race will always find a way to split and separate ourselves into different factions. Sometimes this is necessary for survival, and sometimes it is a matter of personal politics.

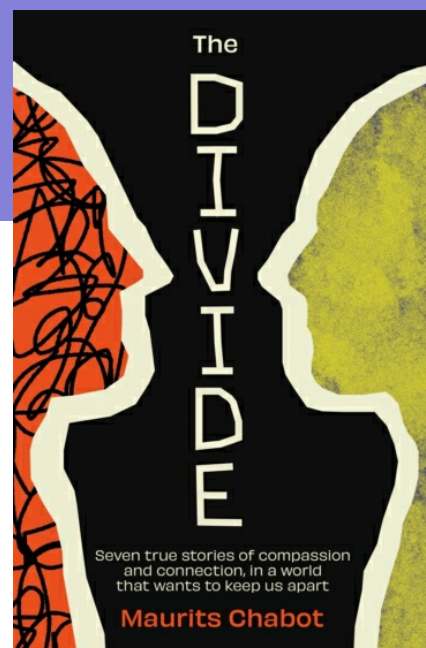
And yet, although the world is more divided than ever, there are exceptions. In what seems to be a miracle of forgiveness, unlikely friendships can form between the people who seem most susceptible to enmity.

In *Across the Divide*, **Maurits Chabot** takes us on a journalistic quest from Rwanda, along the border posts of Palestine and Israel, through an art gallery in Oslo and into the American prison system. He investigates how people can grow closer despite wars, ethnic tensions, geopolitical differences and violent actions, and seeks to answer whether there is a limit to our empathy, our understanding, and our ability to *truly* change.

In increasingly divisive times, we must ask ourselves: who is that person across the divide? What is their story? And how far is the distance between us?

THE AUTHOR

Maurits Chabot is a Dutch author and journalist. He began his career in journalism at the age of twelve, writing for a newspaper as a sports reporter. Since then, he has studied at universities in Antwerp, Prague, Amsterdam, Paris, Leiden and Oxford. He has made documentaries for Channel 1 in The Netherlands, as well as writing for *de Volkskrant* for a number of years. In 2022, he published *Over de Kloof* in The Netherlands to great acclaim, followed by *Then We See the Same Stars* in 2026, a book about his experiences on the front lines in Ukraine. *The Divide* (orig. *Over de Kloof*) will be his first book translated into English, and is set to publish globally in Autumn 2026.



Pub Date: **08 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835984178 / 1835984177**

Price: **£20.00**

Format: **234mm x 153mm**

Binding: **Hardback**

Extent: **256 pages**

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

Publicist: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835984178**

Thema: **Ethical issues and debates: Competing or conflicting rights, Social discrimination and social justice, Violence and abuse in society, Cultural policies and debates, History of other geographical groupings and regions or specific cultures / societies / groups / peoples**

AI Last Updated: **22 July 2026**



AUGUST

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



Three Days Gone

A heart-racing, action-packed mystery

Charly Cox

When two girls go missing in the Montana mountains, the unforgiving wilderness might not be the only threat to their safety. Alyssa Wyatt and her squad must find them in the dangerous woods, before time runs out...

THE PITCH

- Dark, disturbing and utterly gripping crime fiction for fans of M.W. Craven and Megan Miranda, as well as viewers of *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*
- Set in the desert terrain of Albuquerque, these books do for New Mexico what the Chris Carter's Detective Robert Hunter series does for L.A.
- The return of Hera's bestselling US detective series - the Alyssa Wyatt books are loved by fans with over 10,000 five-star reviews

THE BOOK

Two missing girls. One powerful family. A killer watching them all.

When fifteen-year-old Brynn Hagen and her five-year-old sister Eveleigh vanish from their uncle's home in the Montana mountains, the search for them becomes a race against time.

Because the girls weren't reported missing for three days.

Detective Alyssa Wyatt of the Albuquerque PD and her partner, Cord Roberts, travel to Montana to assist the Bozeman PD, joining forces with FBI Special Agent Ryker Newlin.

But the deeper Alyssa digs, the more she realizes the Hagen family is hiding something. And their senator father seems more interested in protecting his reputation than finding his daughters.

As the team uncover decades of lies and secrets, it becomes clear someone is willing to kill to keep the past hidden.

Meanwhile, stranded in the unforgiving wilderness, Brynn is fighting to keep herself and Eveleigh alive, while being stalked by a ruthless killer.

With every hour, the odds of finding them alive grow smaller. And if Alyssa doesn't uncover the truth in time, Brynn and Eveleigh may not survive long enough to be found.

If you can't get enough of Karin Slaughter, M.W. Craven or Lisa Gardner, you'll love Charly Cox.

Praise for the Alyssa Wyatt series:

'Charly Cox is top tier!... This is a **series that gets better with each book.**'

(Five stars) Reader Review

'I was hooked from the beginning **and blown away by the reveal!**' (Five stars) Reader Review

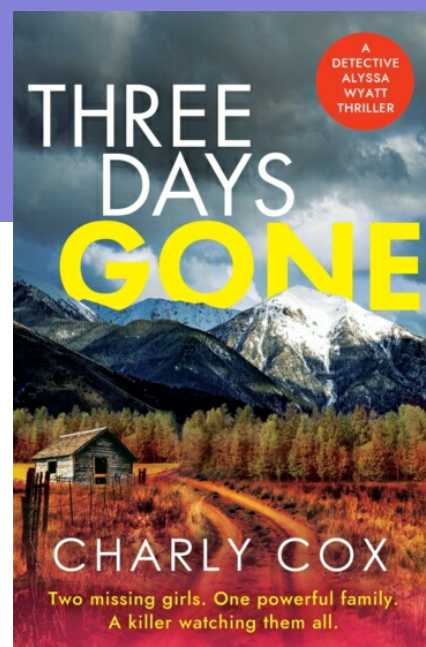
'**So much suspense.** This one keeps you on your toes!... Kept me guessing until the reveal and **it was a shocker.**' (Five stars) Reader Review

'Wow! Could not put it down! **Don't start this one late at night...**' (Five stars) Reader Review

'**Filled with twists and turns** that kept me completely glued to the pages...**fast and relentless.**' (Five stars) Reader Review

THE AUTHOR

Charly Cox was born in the South, raised in the Midwest, and now resides in the



Pub Date: **01 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835985557 / 1835985556**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **368 pages**

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

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835985557**

Thema: **Crime and mystery: women sleuths / detectives, True crime: serial killers and murderers, Crime and mystery: hard-boiled crime, noir fiction, Crime and mystery: police procedural, Thriller / suspense fiction, Violence and abuse in society, Satanism / demonology, Crime and / or mystery fiction, Criminal investigation and detection, New Mexico**

Author Location: **Albuquerque, New Mexico**

Book Locale: **Montana, Northwestern US**

AI Last Updated: **21 July 2026**

Southwest United States. She enjoys jigsaw and crossword puzzles, hanging out with her husband and her spoiled Siberian husky, visiting her son in Arizona, and traveling.

ALSO AVAILABLE

The Hunting Grounds (2025)

9781835983324 Book 6 in Detective Alyssa Wyatt series

Detective Alyssa Wyatt series (7 books in series)



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



The Three

A devastating, compelling historical thriller

Kelsey O'Brien

When dressmaker Matthew falls for aristocrat Henry, he is soon forced into a terrible choice between concealing his forbidden love and saving Henry's wife, Elina.

THE PITCH

- Dazzlingly tense historical novel set in the gay underworld of Georgian London
- Perfectly positioned for the vibrant Gothic and historical fiction market and perfect for readers of queer history
- Fans of Sarah Waters, AJ West and Stacey Halls will adore this

THE BOOK

A *Times* historical fiction round-up pick January 2026

1791. The dressmaker, his lover and his lover's wife. A house full of secrets where danger lies behind every door.

Matthew came from nothing. Now he is a skilled corset-maker adored by high society. But he must hide his true self from prying eyes, seeking love in the riotous underbelly of Georgian molly houses. If outed, he will face the noose.

When he falls in love with aristocrat Henry, he is hired as private dressmaker to Henry's wife, Elina, so they can continue their secret affair.

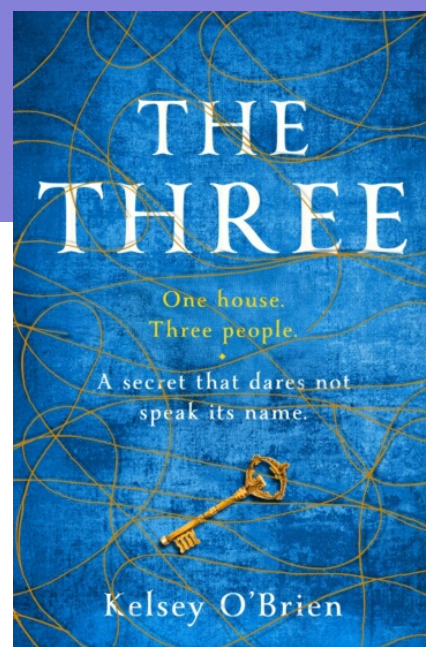
The three live together in uneasy tension inside the huge dark country mansion, and Matthew soon discovers Elina has secrets of her own. Slowly he is drawn into her dangerous world of revolutionary politics.

When the truth about Matthew and Henry threatens to explode their lives, Matthew is forced to make a devastating choice: who does he save? His lover or his friend?

A thrilling and devastating read perfect for fans of Sarah Waters, Jessie Burton and A.J. West

THE AUTHOR

Kelsey O'Brien is a Paris-based writer who tells stories about intriguing figures and hidden moments from the past. Her fiction, reviews, and travel pieces have appeared in print and online.



Pub Date: **08 October 2026**

ISBN: **9781835981498 / 1835981496**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **320 pages**

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

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9781835981498**

Thema: **Historical fiction, Fiction: literary and general non-genre, Historical crime and mysteries, Psychological thriller, 1714–1837 (Georgian period), Historical romance, Narrative theme: love / relationships, Narrative theme: politics / economics, Narrative theme: identity / belonging, Narrative theme: sense of place, Narrative theme: social issues / social problems, Narrative theme: diversity, equity, equality, inclusion, Narrative theme: interior life / psychological fiction, Narrative theme: health and illness, Narrative theme: displacement, exile, migration**

AI Last Updated: **22 July 2026**

Such a Nice Boy

An unputdownable bookclub read about motherhood, toxic masculinity and the manosphere

Rebecca Spargo

A provocative, timely bookclub read for fans of *Adolescence*. skewering the topical issue of toxic masculinity, modern parenting and social media.

THE PITCH

- This year's book club must read - taps into current hot topic of toxic masculinity and violence against girls, from the perspective of motherhood
- For fans of Jodi Picoult and hit Netflix show *Adolescence*
- A gripping, pacy read that will appeal to readers across bookclub and thriller genres

THE BOOK

'Gripping and powerful...a wake-up call for parents of teenagers' Annie Macmanus

Your 15-year-old son stands accused of something terrible. Who is to blame? His friends? Social media? Or, as his mother, is it your fault?

When Amanda finds out her teenage son, Nathan, is accused of being among a group of boys sexually bullying a young woman and causing her to take her own life, she is devastated, and convinced she is to blame. She should have been there more, known more, done more.

As memories of another death, twenty-five years earlier, and the best friend who should still be alive, begin to resurface, Amanda finds herself questioning how much any woman can ever truly know her own son. Has her sweet, good boy really become a young man capable of something so brutal?

As a woman, she wants to see him face consequences: as a mother, she wants to protect her son.

What would *you* do?

An unputdownable bookclub thriller that explores parenting, online culture and toxic masculinity. Fans of *Adolescence*, *The Herd* and *The Slap* will be enthralled.

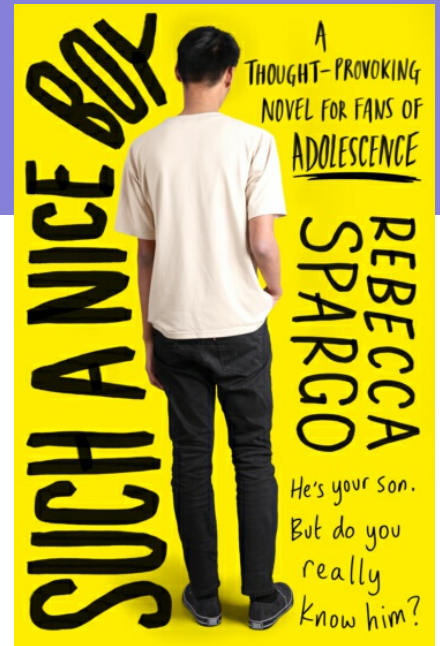
Praise for *Such a Nice Boy*:

'A punchy thriller that will have parents nodding and crying along...Brilliant, sad and urgent.' Chloe Combi, author of *Generation Z: Their Voices, Their Lives*

'This is not just a chillingly believable page-turner. It's an urgent parenting manual.' Jennifer Cox, author of *Women Are Angry*

THE AUTHOR

Rebecca Spargo began her career as a journalist at the BBC before switching into PR. She is now a freelance copywriter and author. An avid consumer of news and current affairs, Rebecca writes compelling book club fiction examining



Pub Date: **08 October 2026**

ISBN: **9780241820735 / 0241820731**

Price: **£9.99**

Format: **198mm x 129mm**

Binding: **Paperback**

Extent: **352 pages**

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

Publisher: **Kate Shepherd**

Bar Code: **9780241820735**

Thema: **Family life fiction / Stories about family, Contemporary lifestyle fiction, Street fiction / urban fiction**

Web Address: **<https://www.waterstones.com/book/such-a-nice-boy/rebecca-spargo/9780241820735>**

Author Location: **Surrey, UK**

Book Locale: **London**

AI Last Updated: **23 July 2026**

some of the most pressing issues facing society today. She lives in Surrey with her husband and two children.

QUOTES

‘Rebecca Spargo takes on one of the most disturbing and urgent issues of our time in this gripping and powerful book. With cleverly plotted interlocking tales of grief and guilt, spanning decades, she highlights how little has changed when it comes to the patriarchy and how women are treated in society at large. It is a cautionary tale, a wake up call for parents of teenagers, a haunting illustration of the challenges parents face in a world of ever evolving technology and smartphones.’ Annie Macmanus, *Annie Macmanus*



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