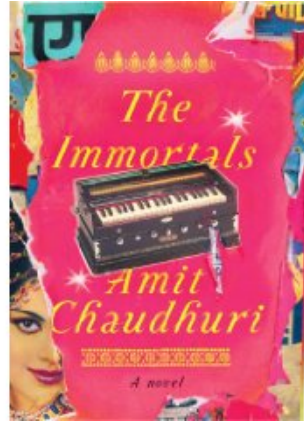


ROGERS, COLERIDGE & WHITE LTD

FICTION: RECENTLY PUBLISHED

THE IMMORTALS by Amit Chaudhuri (PS)



This is a novel about music, and the survival of the artist and the traditional arts in modern India. It is about the intersection between the life of a music teacher, Shyam Lal, in Eighties Bombay, and an affluent family in the corporate world, the Senguptas. Just as Shyam Lal moves towards embracing the possibilities of Bombay, his young student, the sixteen-year-old Nirmalya Sengupta, makes a romantic gesture of denying and rejecting the materialism of that world. The novel explores this tension - at once plangent and comic - between these different visions of the world and the artist's vocation in it.

Praise for THE IMMORTALS: *“Not just a novelist but also a classical singer, academic and critic, Chaudhuri is one of India's most distinctive literary figures. While lesser writers obsess over the heat and dust, he charts the by-ways of the Indian soul. [...] THE IMMORTALS is a memorable work – capacious, multi-faceted but intimate, it is Indian to the core but universal in its implications.”*

Chandak Sengoopta, The Independent

“The lyrical quality of his writing is striking. Sentences seem to drift like smoke, swirl and hang in the air. The imagery is vivid, the humour deliciously oblique.” **The Times**

Music provides the communal magic as well as the communal tension in this graceful tale by a writer whose fiction is as beautiful as a classical ballet. Chaudhuri's charming fifth novel has all the feel of a command performance. This is not one of those novels that had to be written. Instead it reads as if he wrote it because he felt he should, knowing it was wanted – such is the singular allure of Chaudhuri's prose.” **Eileen Battersby, The Irish Times**

“Chaudhuri's exquisite, highly-nuanced, often very funny novel—after all, as unfamiliar to me as NJ is to Bombay—somehow took command of my thinking, my vocabulary, my sense of what's important and what should be. This kind of surrender is rare, and is what I always seek in fiction.” **Richard Ford**

Amit Chaudhuri lives in Calcutta, and is the author of four novels, A STRANGE AND SUBLIME ADDRESS, AFTERNOON RAAG, FREEDOM SONG, and A NEW WORLD, which, between themselves, have won several prizes, including the Commonwealth Writers Prize, the Betty Trask Prize, the Encore Award, the Los Angeles Times Prize for Fiction, and the Government of India's Sahitya Akademi Award. He has also published a book of stories, a critical study of DH Lawrence's poetry, and edited the VINTAGE BOOK OF MODERN INDIAN LITERATURE. He is now Professor of Contemporary Literature at UEA. He is also a musician, and has conceptualised an acclaimed project in crossover music, *This Is Not Fusion*.

Previous novel, A NEW WORLD: **UK:** Macmillan; **US:** Knopf; **France:** Picquier; **Germany:** Blessing; **Holland:** Bzztoh

New novel, THE IMMORTALS: **UK:** Macmillan; **US:** Knopf; **Germany:** Blessing (previously entitled: JOURNEY OF A RAGA)

SPILT MILK, BLACK COFFEE by Helen Cross (DR)



Amir is torn between duty and lust. Urged to join the family business, care for his increasingly demented mother, and, ultimately, choose a wife from a parade of suitable women, he remains a slave to boozy blonde goddess Jackie. An unlikely muse, Jackie has her own problems. Her twelve-year-old daughter Elle is rebelling, cropping her hair and eating organic raisins with perfect Claire, her father's faultless new wife.

In a northern town rife with racial tension and tabloid outrage, *SPILT MILK, BLACK COFFEE* is a hilarious and unlikely love story. A romantic comedy of twenty-first-century multi-cultural Britain, this is an irresistible novel from the prize-winning author of *MY SUMMER OF LOVE*.

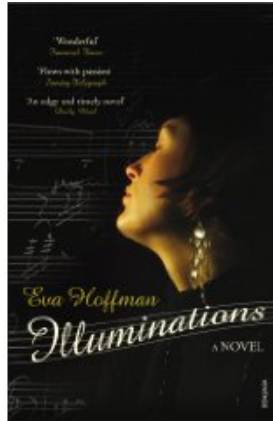
Praise for *SPILT MILK, BLACK COFFEE*: *"Helen Cross has an ability to imbue the everyday world with sensuality and strangeness... a writer to watch..."* **The Sunday Telegraph**
"The setting is contemporary, but there's a timeless feel to this tale of loneliness, greed, and beauty. Cross writes as beautifully as you'd expect." **Daily Mail**
"A very fine look at real people behind tabloid stereotypes ... Jackie is a poor role model but she is fabulous to read about; a character who can barely be contained on the page" **The Times**
"What sets this book apart is Cross's idiosyncratic prose, which shifts in and out of focus, gently disorientating the reader, making the familiar unfamiliar and vice-versa" **Financial Times**

Helen Cross was born and brought up in East Yorkshire. She was educated at Goldsmiths College, University of London and the University of East Anglia. The author of two novels, *MY SUMMER OF LOVE*, which won the Betty Trask Prize in 2002 and was made into a BAFTA award-winning feature film by Pawel Pawlikowski, and *THE SECRETS SHE KEEPS*. She lives in Birmingham.

Previous title, *THE SECRET SHE KEEPS*: **UK:** Bloomsbury; **Italy:** Fandango

New title, *SPILT MILK, BLACK COFFEE*: **UK:** Bloomsbury; **Germany:** DTV

ILLUMINATIONS by Eva Hoffman (GC)
(US title: **APPASSIONATA**)



This fiercely lyrical novel explores the place and force of art in a world riven with violence, the luminous and dark faces of romanticism, and our unspoken need for more than personal meaning.

Isabel Merton is a renowned concert pianist, whose playing is marked by rare intensity. At the height of her career, she feels increasingly torn between the expressive musical realm she inhabits, and the fragmented life she leads as an itinerant artist, with its frequent flights, anonymous hotels and fortuitous, arbitrary encounters.

Isabel then meets Anzor Islikhanov, a political exile from war-torn Chechnya. As their paths cross in several cities, they are drawn to each other both by their differences, and their seemingly parallel passions – until a menacing incident forces her to re-evaluate his actions and her won feelings – and throws her into a creative crisis.

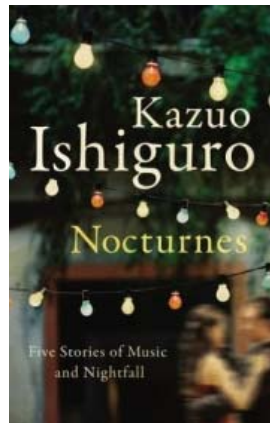
Praise for ILLUMINATIONS (US title: APPASSIONATA): *“The important counterpoint in this intelligent and affecting novel... is the lovely line tracing Isabel’s relation to her playing. Hoffman... writes about music and music- manship with poetry and precision, wit and melancholy.”* **The New York Times Book Review**

“There’s no mistaking the seriousness of the ideas that drive this intellectually sophisticated novel, and just as Isabel must re-examine the aesthetic criteria that have governed her life, so readers may have to reconsider their priorities in the light of a novel that raises questions central to the survival of compassionate values in a threatening world.” **The Guardian**

Eva Hoffman grew up in Cracow, Poland, where she studied music intensively before emigrating in her teens to Canada and then the United States. After receiving her Ph. D. in English and American literature from Harvard University, she worked as senior editor at *The New York Times*, serving for a while as the newspaper’s regular literary critic. She is the author of four books of non-fiction, *LOST IN TRANSLATION*, *EXIT INTO HISTORY*, *SHTETL*, *AFTER SUCH KNOWLEDGE* and a novel, *THE SECRET*. She has also written for many journals and periodicals, and has lectured internationally on issues of exile, memory, Polish-Jewish history, politics and culture. She has taught literature and creative writing at various universities, including the University of East Anglia, MIT and Columbia. She has written and presented radio programmes, and has received the Prix Italia for Radio. Her literary awards include the Guggenheim Fellowship, the Whiting Award for Writing and an award from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 2007, she was appointed Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. She currently lives in London, and works as visiting professor at Hunter College.

ILLUMINATIONS: UK: Secker & Warburg; **US:** The Other Press (US title: *APPASSIONATA*.); **Romania:** Curtea Veche

NOCTURNES: Five Stories of Music and Nightfall by Kazuo Ishiguro (DR)



In a sublime story cycle, Kazuo Ishiguro explores ideas of love, music and the passing of time. From the piazzas of Italy to the Malvern Hills, a London flat to the 'hush-hush floor' of an exclusive Hollywood hotel, the characters we encounter range from young dreamers to cafe musicians to faded stars, all of them at some moment of reckoning.

Gentle, intimate and witty, this quintet is marked by a haunting theme: the struggle to keep alive a sense of life's romance, even as one gets older, relationships flounder and youthful hopes recede.

Praise for NOCTURNES: *“Five poised, playful first-person reflections bringing Ishiguro’s idiosyncratic sense of humour to bear on dark subjects such as mortality, wasted opportunities and unfulfilled dreams.”* **The Times**

“These stories come up on you quietly, in Ishiguro’s strangely weightless style... but then haunt you for days... These little pieces could only be the work of a great composer.” **The Evening Standard**

“Each of these stories is heartbreaking in its own way, but some have moments of great comedy, and they all require a level of attention that, typically, Ishiguro’s writing rewards.” **The Observer**

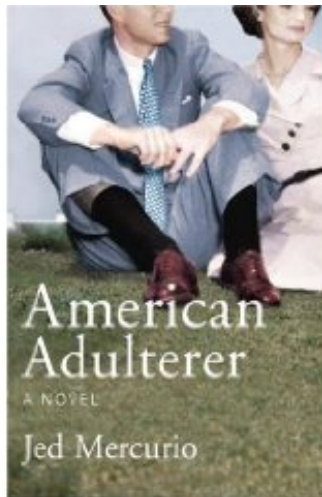
“His prose is notable for what, in music, would be described as upper partials- intervals that resonate after a note is struck. One turns away, thinking the narratives one-note. Yet they resonate long after the book is set aside.” **The Daily Telegraph**

“... left me simultaneously gasping in admiration and shaking with laughter.” **The Sunday Telegraph**

Kazuo Ishiguro was born in Japan and came to Britain at the age of five. He is the author of five previous novels, including WHEN WE WERE ORPHANS, which was shortlisted for The Booker Prize, and the Booker Prize-winning THE REMAINS OF THE DAY, which was later translated into an award-winning film. His work has been translated into 36 languages

NOCTURNES: **UK:** Faber (pub May 2009); **US:** Knopf; **CAN:** Knopf; **Brazil:** Companhia das Letras; **China:** Shanghai Translation House; **Croatia:** Ljevak; **Denmark:** Gyldendal; **Estonia:** Varrak; **Finland:** Tammi; **France:** Editions de Deux Terres; **Germany:** Blessing; **Greece:** Kastaniotis; **Holland:** Atlas; **Israel:** Hakibbutz Hameuchad; **Italy:** Einaudi; **Japan:** Hayakawa; **Korea:** Minumsa; **Norway:** Cappelen Damm; **Poland:** Albatros; **Portugal:** Gradiva; **Romania:** Polirom; **Russia:** Eksmo; **Spain:** Anagrama (**Catalan:** Anagrama); **Sweden:** Wahlstrom & Widstrand; **Taiwan:** Linking Publishing Company; **Turkey:** Turkuvaz

AMERICAN ADULTERER by Jed Mercurio (GC)



"The subject is an American citizen holding high elected office, married, and father to a young family...."

From its opening line, AMERICAN ADULTERER examines the psychology of a habitual womanizer in hypnotically clinical prose. Like any successful philanderer, the subject must be circumspect in his choice of mistresses, and employ careful calculation in their seduction; he must suffer extraordinary efforts to conceal his affairs from his wife and jealous rivals. But this is no ordinary adulterer. He is the 35th President of the United States, John Fitzgerald Kennedy.

JFK famously confided that, if he went three days without a woman, he suffered severe headaches. Jed Mercurio takes inspiration from the tantalising details surrounding the President's sex life to imagine an intimate perspective on Kennedy's affairs with Marilyn Monroe, Mafia moll Judith Campbell, libertine Mary Meyer, and his flings with numerous White House staff, including his tryst with a nineteen-year-old intern whose unofficial role was to provide sexual release for the man who was Leader of the Free World during the Cuban Missiles Crisis.

Yet the author never demonises his subject. We receive a moving account of a man not only crippled by back pain, but enduring numerous hormonal and digestive crises, a man overcoming constant suffering to serve as a highly effective Commander-in-Chief, dedicated to an idealistic vision of America. But each affair propels him into increasingly murkier waters. President Kennedy fears losing the wife and children to whom he's devoted, and the office to which he's dedicated.

AMERICAN ADULTERER presents a sympathetic portrait of a virtuous man enslaved by an uncontrollable vice. Through its study of an important historical figure, the novel poses controversial questions about society's evolving fixation on the private lives of public officials, and, ultimately, ignites a polemic on monogamy, marriage and traditional family values.

Praise for new title, AMERICAN ADULTERER: *"A fascinating synthesis of surrogate motive and political vision."* **The Guardian**

"[A] remarkable new novel...[American Adulterer] makes the case that Kennedy's vice is worth studying as the tragic flaw in a genuine hero. The man's wit, courtesy, peacemaking vision and cool judgment are all here, vividly re-created, as well as his courage in the face of near-disabling infirmity and pain.... a gripping and thoughtful novel." **The Sunday Times**

"It's hard not to recommend [t]his book to anyone intrigued by the idea of a necessarily small human being caught by the terrible weight of an office of state" **The Independent**

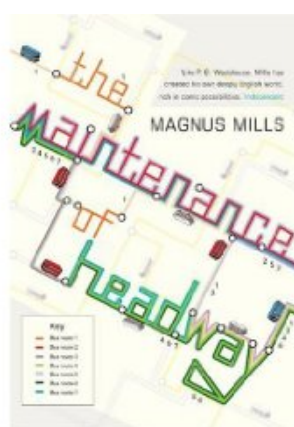
"Jed Mercurio's American Adulterer...is a risky (and risqué) fictional portrait...His reimagining of Kennedy's life in office is as heated and heady as it is human and heartbreaking...and gradually delivers a seductive, intimate, and shattering slant on this hugely popular, wildly flawed, tragically fated leader." **Elle**

Jed Mercurio trained as a doctor and became a full-time writer in 1994 following the success of his semi-autobiographical BBC medical drama *Cardiac Arrest*. His first novel, *BODIES*, was chosen as one of the five best debuts of 2002 by the *Guardian*. He adapted it for television and won the Royal Television Society Award for Best Drama Series of 2005. He published his second novel, *ASCENT*, in 2007

Previous novel, *ASCENT*: **UK**: Cape; **US**: Simon & Schuster; **Holland**: Mouria; **Italy**: Mondadori; **Israel**: Miskal

New novel, *AMERICAN ADULTERER*: **UK**: Cape; **US**: Simon & Schuster (pub October 2009); **Brazil**: Record; **China**: offer; **France**: Belfond; **Holland**: Mouria. **Italy**: Mondadori; **Spain**: Anagrama (previously entitled: *DIARY OF A SERIAL ADULTERER / THE LIFE AND TIMES OF AN AMERICAN ADULTERER*)

THE MAINTENANCE OF HEADWAY by Magnus Mills (DM)



"There's no excuse for being early." So begins Magnus Mills' sixth novel, described by its author as a "learned treatise with swearing."

Ten years since his Booker-shortlisted debut *THE RESTRAINT OF BEASTS* ("the book I wanted to win" wrote the novelist Penelope Fitzgerald, a judge of that year's prize), Mills returns us to a world he knows better than many novelists, describing in his distinct, deadpan way the surreality of work. And this time, it's a world he knows better than anyone: life as a bus driver.

Praise for *THE MAINTENANCE OF HEADWAY*: *'To write one unique book is a rare achievement. The ability to produce several is truly special.'* **The Independent**

"This novel should be required reading for those in charge of our chaotic public transport system."

The Daily Mail

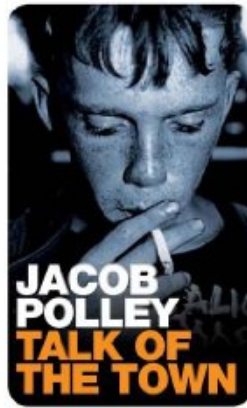
"There is a perfect match between Mills's subject and his peculiar obsessions: the monomaniacal elucidation of the inner workings of systems, and a tenderness towards very British institutions." **The Independent**

Magnus Mills' first novel *THE RESTRAINT OF BEASTS* was praised by Thomas Pynchon as an "Empathic, memorable, defiantly beautiful" and was short-listed for the 1998 Booker Prize, the 1998 Whitbread First Novel Award, the James Tait Black Memorial Prize and won the 1999 McKitterick Prize. His other work includes *ALL QUIET ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS*, *ONLY WHEN THE SUN SHINES BRIGHTLY*, *THREE TO SEE THE KING*, *THE SCHEME FOR FULL EMPLOYMENT*, *ONCE IN A BLUE MOON* and *EXPLORERS OF THE NEW CENTURY*. He currently drives a bus and is learning to play the piano. His work has appeared in over twenty languages.

Previous novel, *EXPLORERS OF THE NEW CENTURY*: **UK**: Bloomsbury; **US**: Harcourt Brace; **Germany**: Suhrkamp; **Holland**: Podium; **Norway**: Cappelen

New novel, *the maintenance of headway*: **UK**: Bloomsbury (previously entitled: *the arch, the circus and the cross*)

TALK OF THE TOWN by Jacob Polley (PS)



We don't always get to choose when we grow up

1986, the last day of the summer holidays, and Christopher Hearsey is wondering why his best mate Arthur has suddenly disappeared, and whether lippy Gill Ross a few doors down might know anything about it.

The great border city of Carlisle is buzzing with rumours following an act of terrible violence, and in order to begin his search Chris must face down his own dread, not only of the consequences of his own actions, but of local big man Bobby Grove, and his psychotic sidekick Carl 'the black' Hole, who is keen to settle an old score.

Populated by a menacing and hilarious cast of characters, and moving from the dark aggrieved streets of the city to the agricultural hinterland of the of the Solway Firth, this is the story of a boy desperate to get out of town, out of a bad situation, even out of his own skin. Written with a moving demotic brilliance, reminiscent of *Huckleberry Finn*, TALK OF THE TOWN is an exhilarating and terrifying odyssey.

Praise for Jacob Polley: *'...harm is something Chris has been aware of from the first; it is the unseen power that has circumscribed his existence, from the way he walks to the look on his face, yet he has never known how intricate and treacherous it really is. It is one of the many achievements of Talk of the Town that, as we read, we hope he will emerge, if not physically unscathed, then at least not so emotionally damaged that he sinks permanently into the grim rictus of cool.'* **John Burnside**

"A fierce cry of talent, raw as a confession and tender as a poem. Polley's language is mercurial, his humour quick and surprising. A moving and unmissable debut." **Chris Cleave**

"Polley unflinchingly patrols the moral borders – and boredom – at which vulnerable young minds might be tipped into violence...TALK OF THE TOWN is about youngsters testing emotional, geographical and temporal limits, dramatically involved in events which unfold in the eerie space between days. Polley's beguiling prose style tests the limits of language, blending lyricism with brutality; juxtaposing tenderness with vicious criminality... rated 5/5" **Independent on Sunday**

Jacob Polley was born in Carlisle, in 1975. Picador published his first book of poetry, *THE BRINK*, in 2003 and his second, *LITTLE GODS*, in December 2006. As well as poems, he has also written the short film *Flickerman* and the *Ivory-skinned Woman* with the director, Ian Fenton. Jacob was selected as one of the Next Generation of British poets in 2004. In 2002 he won an Eric Gregory Award and the Radio 4/Arts Council 'First Verse' Award. He was the Visiting Fellow Commoner in Creative Arts at Trinity College, Cambridge, 2005-07. *TALK OF THE TOWN* is his first novel.

TALK OF THE TOWN: **UK:** Picador

DESIGNS FOR A HAPPY HOME by Matthew Reynolds (PS)



'Design - For Life!'... 'And Live - For Design!' (Magic Mottoes 2 & 3)

Can Interior Design make you a better person? Alizia Tamé believes it can. In this novel she takes you on a journey through the most private Interior of all: her thoughts and feelings. Everyone has heard of her creations - the Bridge Hallway, the Funnel Office, the Dawson House with its sofas that run on rails: now you can experience the life that lies behind them.

Meet her husband Jem - the postmodern potter - who is in many ways her inspiration. Share the thrills and anxieties of juggling family and career. Discover the truth about her partnership with Fisher Paul and Simon Sanders at IntArchitec, the world's most innovative Design practice. Remember that when your world flips upside-down it is sometimes the most surprising people who turn out to be your friends.

For while Alizia has a Design for everything from relationships to work to motherhood, the people who matter most to her refuse to fit. As the gloss she has put on her life begins to crack she realises there may not, after all, be a Magic Motto for everything. And where can she find happiness then?

DESIGNS FOR A HAPPY HOME is the sparkling story of a sometimes impossible, often infuriating but ultimately loveable heroine whose pilgrim's progress through modern marriage is at once funny, poignant and unforgettable.

Praise for DESIGNS FOR A HAPPY HOME: *"A strikingly original and funny novel, which hits its targets with deadly accuracy. I loved the writing and Alizia's voice. She may be breathtakingly obtuse and a monomaniac but she's also a truly endearing character. And Marion - what a familiar monster she is. The whole organisation of the book is superb."* **Helen Dunmore**

"I read this very engaging book in two sittings. The character of Alizia is really original, funny and touching. Why have I never thought of keeping our drawing room furniture suspended from the ceiling when not in use? DESIGNS is a genuinely original piece of writing and one which I thoroughly enjoyed. I am sure the book will do well. It deserves to." **Paul Torday**

"A smart, sparkling read, peeling back layers of Alizia Tamé's seemingly perfect existence to reveal the human truth beneath the surface." **Elle**

Matthew Reynolds is known as a critic and scholar, author of *The Realms of Verse* and of many essays in the LRB and TLS, editor of *DANTE IN ENGLISH* and of Manzoni's *THE BETROTHED*. He spent time in London, Cambridge, Pisa and Paris before settling in Oxford where he lectures at the University and is a Fellow of St Anne's College. He lives with his unruly family in a thoroughly imperfect interior.

DESIGNS FOR A HAPPY HOME: UK: Bloomsbury

THE DEVIL'S MUSIC by Jane Rusbridge (HW)



It is 1958 and the Sputnik satellite has taken a dog up into space; back on earth, five-year-old Andy has a new sister, Elaine – a baby who, his father insists, is ‘not quite all there’. While his parents argue over whether or not to send Elaine away, Andy sleeps beside her cot each night, keeping guard and watching as his mother – once an ambitious, energetic nurse – twists away into her private, suffocating sadness.

Knots keep treasures safe, Andy’s rope-maker grandfather tells him, and so Andy begins to learn: the Carrick Bend, the Midshipman’s Hitch and the Monkey’s Fist. His grandfather recounts stories of the great Harry Houdini and Andy dreams of becoming an escapologist too, practising untying knots and holding his breath underwater in the bath.

When a young painter hired to decorate the family’s house coaxes responses from soft, silent Elaine, he seems to call Andy’s mother back from the grief in which she is lost. And then, at The Siding – the old railway carriage that serves as the family’s seaside retreat – Andy is left in charge of his baby sister on a wind-chopped beach, where he discovers that not all treasures can be kept safe for ever.

Three decades later, when his father dies and his other sister calls him home, Andrew returns from self-imposed exile to The Siding, the place where his life first unravelled. Looking back on the broken strands of his childhood, he tries, at last, to weave them together, aided by his grandfather’s copy of *The Ashley Book of Knots* and the arrival of a wild-haired, tango-dancing sculptor – a woman with her own ideas about making peace with the past.

Praise for THE DEVIL’S MUSIC: “*THE DEVIL’S MUSIC* is that rare thing, a novel that is as bold as it is subtle. It’s a powerful and deeply affecting story of the bond between a mother and her children. It’s also a sharp expose of the devastating effects of the taboos that govern motherhood. The characters are tenderly drawn. The mystery at the heart of the story is compelling. Jane Rusbridge is a brilliant new voice.” **Alison Macleod**

“This intricately structured, brilliantly observed modern take on a family saga is both passionate and moving” **Lesley Glaister**

“Vividly and intensely written” **Jane Rogers**

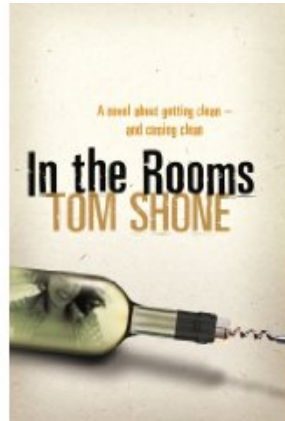
Jane Rusbridge has a gift for evoking both characters and place – THE DEVIL’S MUSIC was pure pleasure to read. Sensuously written and beautifully woven together, the various strands of the story converge in a heartrending - and heartwarming – climax”

Kathy Page, author of *The Story of My Face*

Jane Rusbridge lives on the coast in West Sussex with her husband and children. She taught before returning to education herself as a mature student to read English at Chichester University, where she went on to gain an MA in Creative Writing. For the past ten years she has worked at Chichester University as an Associate Lecturer in English. *THE DEVIL’S MUSIC* is her first novel.

THE DEVIL’S MUSIC: UK: Bloomsbury

IN THE ROOMS by Tom Shone (DM)



You meet everyone in the rooms. When British literary agent Patrick Miller gets sober in New York, the city opens up to him - a place where recovering junkies, pill-poppers and sex addicts rub shoulders with the reclusive author Patrick's been aching to sign up months. Then Patrick meets a beautiful girl with a troubled past from the Hollywood Hills. The only problem is he doesn't have a problem - not with alcohol, not with drugs. Just with that small thing they call the 'truth'. Tom Shone's first novel is a warm, sharply-observed comedy about faking and making it, getting clean and coming clean, making love, and falling in it...

Praise for IN THE ROOMS:

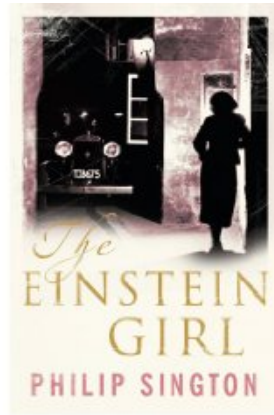
"Tom Shone's cutting comic debut novel... IN THE ROOMS is ultimately a rather forgiving book, pulling its punches and turning in to a romantic comedy about a man who is a schmuck..." **Phil Baker, Times Culture Magazine**

"It is rare for a writer to exhibit such bravery" **Toby Young, Independent**

Tom Shone was born in 1967 in Horsham, England, and educated at Oxford University. From 1994 to 1999 he was the film critic of the London *Sunday Times*. His *BLOCKBUSTER: How Hollywood Learned To Stop Worrying and Love the Summer*, was published in 2004. He lives in New York.

IN THE ROOMS: **UK:** Hutchinson; **US:** St. Martin's Press

THE EINSTEIN GIRL by Philip Sington (PS)



Thirty years after his death, secret correspondence between Albert Einstein and the Serbian mathematician Mileva Marić was opened to public scrutiny. It revealed for the first time the existence of a daughter born to the couple a year before their marriage. Elisabeth Einstein was delivered on or around January 27th 1902, probably in Titel, a village in the then Austro-Hungarian province of Vojvodina. Her fate remains unknown.

Two months before Adolf Hitler's rise to power, a beautiful young woman is found naked and near death in the woods outside Berlin. When she finally emerges from a coma, she can remember nothing, not even her own name. The only clue to her identity is a handbill found nearby, advertising a public lecture by Albert Einstein: *On the Present State of Quantum Theory*. The newspapers instantly christen her 'the Einstein girl'.

Psychiatrist Martin Kirsch little knows that this will be his last case. Determined at any cost to uncover the truth about 'Patient E', he finds professional fascination turning gradually to love. His investigations lead him to a remote corner of Serbia via a psychiatric hospital in Zürich, where the inheritor of Einstein's genius – his youngest son, Eduard – is writing a book that will destroy his illustrious father and, in the process, change the world.

Intricately researched and relentlessly compelling, *THE EINSTEIN GIRL* is a mystery about love and the hunger for knowledge; a dark journey into the psychological hinterland of the 20th century's greatest mind, culminating in an astonishing quantum twist.

Praise for *THE EINSTEIN GIRL*: *"(a) stylish thriller [...] Strands of history and imagination are beautifully woven together."* **The Times**

"A first-rate historical thriller [...] Sington's grasp of period detail is awesome and his writing has a rich, lustrous quality: like being chauffeured in a vintage Bentley, albeit one that can do nought to 60 in three seconds. This is a serious novel with plenty to say about the unhappy affinity between genius and madness." **The Guardian**

"A serious, well-informed and interesting thriller about the private life and family of an undoubted genius. Excellent period setting in Berlin in 1932 and numerous psychological insights- highly recommended." **Literary Review**

Philip Sington is the co-author of six thrillers under the joint pseudonym of Patrick Lynch, selling over a million copies worldwide, and he also co-wrote the stage play *Lip Service*, which premiered at the Finborough Theatre, London in 2000. His first solo novel, *ZOIA'S GOLD*. He lives in London.

Previous novel, *ZOIA'S GOLD*: **UK:** Atlantic; **US:** Scribner; **Greece:** Oceanida; **Poland:** Muza; **Russia:** Eksmo; **Serbia:** Laguna; **Spain:** Alfaguara

New novel, *THE EINSTEIN GIRL*: **UK:** Harvill/Secker; **Brazil:** Objetiva; **Bulgaria:** Ciela; **Germany:** DTV; **Holland:** Luitingh-Sijthoff; **Indonesia:** Serambi; **Korea:** Sallim; **Serbia:** Laguna; **Spain:** Alfaguara, **Turkey:** Alfa

ASK ALICE by D.J. Taylor (GC)



1904. A pretty young woman travels apprehensively across the American prairies; on a whim she makes a bold decision, grabbing her future with both hands. A lonely little boy, growing up a world away between-stairs in an Edwardian country house, has his future decided for him by impending war and an old woman who parcels him off to her eccentric brother in the flatlands of Norfolk.

A quarter of a century later, in the brightly coloured world of London high life, Alice Keach is queen among society hostesses. Her face stares from every gossip column. Behind her lie a marriage to a wealthy landowner, and a career as a celebrated actress. But Alice has a secret, whose roots run five thousand miles away to that Kansas train-ride, and a chain of connection with the potential to blow her comfortable existence apart. A half-hearted blackmailer making his way across the Atlantic; a watchful teenage boy observing the birth of a lucrative new colour in a Norfolk pigpen; a Bright Young woman coming to terms with an unsatisfactory marriage; a country house party that ends in tragedy; a sensational murder trial: all these are gathered up in the story of Alice's rise and fall.

Ranging from the Dakota badlands to the drawing rooms of Mayfair, and from the Norfolk back-lanes to the casting couches of the Edwardian theatre, *Ask Alice* is a remarkable novel of concealment, subterfuge and revelation, depth-charged with wit and intrigue, and dominated by its characters' gradual awareness that the choices which confront them have the capacity to change their lives.

Praise for ASK ALICE: *"An elaborate story of fortunes won and lost.... ASK ALICE is above all a meditation on selfhood and memory. Deprived of a past or in flight from it, Alice and others are disconnected from themselves. Lacking roots, they drift on the winds of chance. Following their progress, Taylor assembles a melancholy and absorbing narrative."* **The Guardian**

"An intelligent, absorbing and most enjoyable book." **The Independent**

"Set predominantly in the demi mode of Twenties high society, it is a highly accomplished novel. It is engrossingly plotted, and its depiction of the vibrant decade leading to the 1929 Crash offers an interesting parallel to our own times." **The Mail on Sunday**

"Priestley-esque slices of social observation... This special piece of period realism is very far indeed from being either silly or dull." **The Independent**

"DJ Taylor is remarkably under- appreciated as a novelist...he is a kind of latter- day Graham Swift."

The Telegraph

D.J. Taylor is a novelist, critic and acclaimed biographer. His *ORWELL: The Life* won the Whitbread Biography of the year for 2003. His most recent books are the Victorian novel *KEPT: A Victorian Mystery* (a *Publishers Weekly* book of the year) and *THE CORINTHIAN SPIRIT: On the Decline of Amateurism in Sport* (Yellow Jersey, 2006). He is married with three children and lives in Norwich.

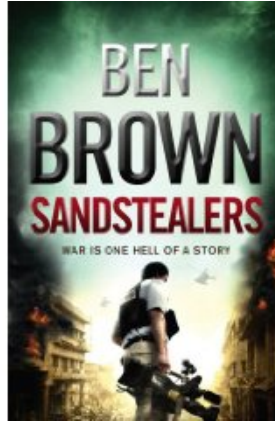
Previous novel, *KEPT*: **UK:** Chatto & Windus; **US:** Harpers; **Russia:** AST

New novel, *ASK ALICE*: **UK:** Chatto & Windus; **US:** Pegasus

ROGERS, COLERIDGE & WHITE LTD

COMMERCIAL FICTION: RECENTLY PUBLISHED

SANDSTEALERS by Ben Brown (DM)



"We live more in a year than most people live in a lifetime." The words of Danny Lowenstein, a journalist for the *New York Times*, apply to him and the cadre of war junkies who group around the international conflicts of the 1990s and early 2000s - from Bosnia, Rwanda and Chechnya to modern day Iraq. Danny's life certainly bears that out when he is ambushed in Baghdad. As his friends - rivals and ex-lovers among them - take in the news, it becomes apparent Danny was set up to walk into the militia's trap - but by which one of the Junkies, and why? Ben Brown's debut is infused with a deep knowledge of modern war and its reporting, but above all, it is a triumphant thriller about the heart and where it takes you.

Praise for SANDSTEALERS:

"Ben Brown has written a powerful novel set against the brutal backdrop of modern war. It is a gripping journey, both thriller and love story, whose real theme is the struggle for tenderness in the face of cruelty." **Fergal Keane, author of Season of Blood: Rwandan Journey**

'Ben Brown has brought his years of experience as Britain's best front-line correspondent to the writing of this novel, and it contains all the excitement and speed and understanding of the world he knows so well' **John Simpson**

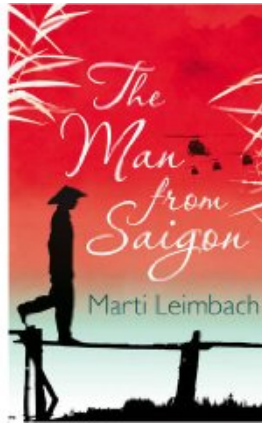
'If his narrative rings so true and reads so vividly, it is because Ben Brown writes as he lives - as someone who has witnessed events most of us dare not even imagine' **Emily Maitlis**

"Brown weaves a thrilling story about a world he knows well taking the reader not just into the battlefield that is Iraq but Sarajevo and Chechnya as well. Prepare yourself for more than one shock because nothing is as it seems in the world created by the author." **Sunday Express, 5 stars**

Ben Brown is a journalist and television news presenter. As a special foreign correspondent for BBC News, he covered a variety of major stories across the globe before moving behind the desk on BBC News 24 in 2006. SANDSTEALERS is his first novel.

SANDSTEALERS: UK: HarperCollins; **Poland:** Amber

THE MAN FROM SAIGON by Marti Leimbach (PS)



1967. Vietnam. Susan Gifford, is one of the first female correspondents on assignment in Saigon, dedicated to her job and passionately in love with an American TV reporter. Son is a Vietnamese photographer anxious to get his work into the American press. Together they cover every aspect of the war from combat missions to the workings of field hospitals. Then one November morning, narrowly escaping death during an ambush, they find themselves the prisoners of three Vietcong soldiers who have been separated from their unit.

Now, under constant threat from American air strikes, helpless in the hands of the enemy, they face the daily hardships of the jungle, living always with the threat of being killed. But Son turns out to have a history that Susan would never have guessed, and which will one day separate her from her American lover. Held under terrifyingly harsh conditions it becomes clear just how profound and important their relationship has become to both of them.

THE MAN FROM SAIGON is an enthralling and beautiful story of trust, loyalty and love set against the background of a devastating war.

Praise for THE MAN FROM SAIGON: *'Emotionally rich, viscerally intense, the novel revisits a familiar terrain but finds ways to see it anew.'* **The Independent**

'Leimbach does an impressive job of evoking the frenetic chaos of Saigon and the claustrophobia and suffocating humidity of the dense jungle, while her story has a vivid immediacy as it flashes backwards and forwards in a deliberately disorienting fashion. The result is intense and gripping.' **The Daily Mail**

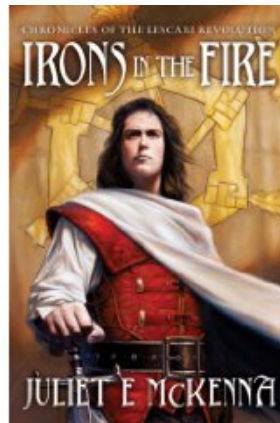
"You might question the ambition of a contemporary novelist electing to set a story in the Vietnam War era, but after you find (as I did) that you simply cannot put down THE MAN FROM SAIGON, you question no more. Leimbach's mastery of place, of the scents, sounds, terrors and sorrows of that time reminded me as perhaps only a great novel can that that we are never done with a war even when it is long over, and that only wars and love endure." **Abraham Verghese, author of CUTTING FOR STONE**

Marti Leimbach is the author of several novels, including the international bestseller, DYING YOUNG (1990), which was made into a major film starring Julia Roberts, and DANIEL ISN'T TALKING (2006), which was published in twelve countries with film rights to Fox 2000. Born in Washington, D.C., she now lives in England and teaches at Oxford University's Creative Writing Programme.

Previous novel, DANIEL ISN'T TALKING: **UK:** HarperCollins; **US:** Doubleday / Nan A. Talese; **Canada:** McClelland; **Germany:** Bertelsmann Club; **Holland:** Luitingh; **Indonesia:** Gramedia; **Italy:** Salani; **Korea:** Hyundaemunhak; **Portugal:** Difel; **Russia:** Phantom; **Spain:** Almuzara; **Sweden:** Wahlstrom & Widstrand

New novel, THE MAN FROM SAIGON: **UK:** Fourth Estate; **US:** Doubleday /Nan A. Talese

IRONS IN THE FIRE by Juliet E. McKenna (PR)

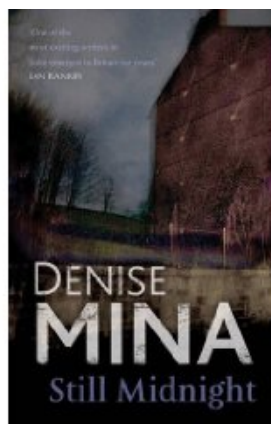


In the war-torn country of Lescar six rival dukes lay claim to the crown of High King. They pursue their ambitions through strength of arms while their duchesses plot strategic marriages. Amoral opportunists seek their fortunes amid the warfare while ordinary folk struggle to raise their crops and families or admit defeat and flee. Now a mismatched band of exiles and rebels agree that enough is enough. Can a small group, however determined, really end such misery? Perhaps. A few falling stones can start a landslide. But who can predict the final outcome, when all the dust has settled?

Juliet E. McKenna has had a long-fascination with myth and history and other worlds since childhood. She studied Greek and Roman history and literature at St Hilda's, Oxford. Her first novel, *THE THIEF'S GAMBLE* was published in 1999, first of the highly acclaimed *TALES OF EINARINN* series. *THE ALDABRESHIN COMPASS* sequence concluded with *EASTERN TIDE*, her ninth book. *IRONS IN THE FIRE* will be the first in a trilogy, *THE CHRONICLES OF THE LESCARI REVOLUTION* series. She is also one of the leading lights of *The Write Fantastic*, a successful authors' initiative promoting the SF&F genre. She lives in Oxfordshire with her husband and sons.

New title, *IRONS IN THE FIRE: UK/US: Solaris*

STILL MIDNIGHT by Denise Mina (PR)



It's a peaceful Sunday evening in suburban Glasgow. TVs are on and dinner is in the oven. But this peace is rudely shattered when a battered van pulls up to the door of one of the somnolent homes and disgorges a group of armed men in balaclavas. They smash into the house and hold the family within at gunpoint and demand millions of pounds. Baffled, the assembled people protest that they don't have access to that sort of money. The attackers kidnap the elderly grandfather and storm off into the night.

Now senior policewoman, Detective Superintendent Alex Morrow, has been summoned to investigate the case. But there are so many mysteries. Who were the men? And why did they think a normal household concealed untold riches. The family is certainly not talking. But as Alex starts to delve deeper, she realises that there are dark secrets all around

Praise for STILL MIDNIGHT: *“Mina is acutely sensitive to characters' mental states, rendering them with a precision which blurs the line between heroism and villainy. At the same time, her prose is both nimble and muscular.”* **The Guardian**

“Like all the best crime writers, Mina can make melodramatic events seem credible because her characterisations and settings are so authentic: if she described Alex sprouting wings and flying to Pluto she would make it plausible. There are probably now as many crime writers in Scotland as criminals, but Mina may be the pick of the bunch” **The Daily Telegraph**

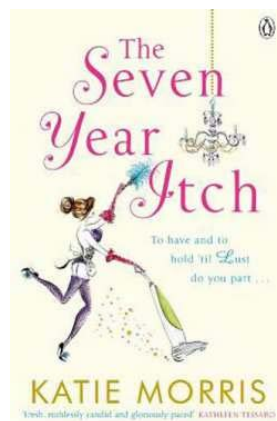
“Mina shakes the tired format of the thriller until all the clichés come out. The final effect of Still Midnight is both unsettling and exhilarating.” **The Independent**

Denise Mina was born in Glasgow in 1966. She is the author of eight novels, including GARNETHILL (1998), the first in the Garnethill Trilogy, for which she won the John Creasy Dagger for best first novel, and the Paddy Meehan series, which consists so far of: THE FIELD OF BLOOD, winner of the 2006 Barry Award, THE DEAD HOUR, which was nominated for a 2007 Edgar Award, and THE LAST BREATH.

Previous novel, THE LAST BREATH: **UK:** Transworld; **US:** Little, Brown; **Finland:** Like; **France:** Lattes; **Germany:** Heyne; **Holland:** Ambo Anthos; **Norway:** Fagbokforlaget; **Poland:** WAB; **Spain:** Roca; **Sweden:** Forum.

New novel, STILL MIDNIGHT: **UK:** Orion; **US:** Little, Brown; **Finland:** Like; **Germany:** Heyne; **Holland:** Ambo Anthos; **Sweden:** Forum
(previously entitled: IN THE STILL SUBURBAN MIDNIGHT)

THE SEVEN-YEAR ITCH by Kate Morris (PS)



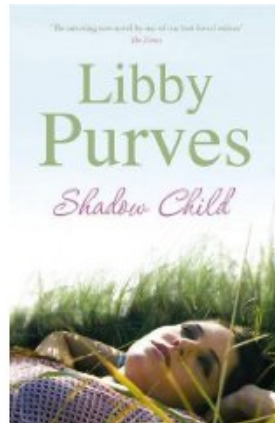
Ellie is stifled by her marriage to Jack, an actor who has just been killed off in the television soap opera he has been starring in for seventeen years, and the demands of her two young children. Having a highly glamorous and confident au pair makes Ellie feel old and inadequate but gives her the chance to open a café with her friend Tilda. But as busy as she is, she can't seem to stop herself fantasising about random, highly inappropriate men, ex-boyfriends, and most of all, life without Jack.

Ellie embarks on a quest to inject more excitement in to her life and marriage, but it will not come without a price. Is there really something - or someone - better out there for Ellie, or is she just facing a classic Seven Year Itch?

Kate Morris is a prolific and respected journalist who has written for many publications including *Tatler*, *Vogue*, *Harpers & Queen*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Saturday Telegraph Magazine*. She wrote a column for *Tatler* entitled 'The Seven Year Itch' which gave her the idea to write a novel with the same title.

THE SEVEN YEAR ITCH: **UK:** Penguin.

SHADOW CHILD by Libby Purves (DM)



There is no right way to deal with the loss of a beloved son. Marion and Tom are doing their dignified best, but their own relationship is taking a battering.

So when a fierce, strange woman turns up and demands to see the dead boy, Marion is almost glad of the distraction. Against Tom's wishes, she determines to find out more about her son's life away from home.

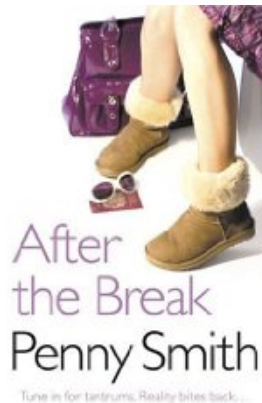
The quest takes her out of her comfortable, conventional world to a shabby office in East London, and a series of shocks. Tom, furious, finds his own solution, and amid scandal, sorrow and exaltation the quiet Middle-Englanders discover that there is more than one kind of family.

Praise for SHADOW CHILD: *"a deeply emotional... always lyrically written novel"* **The Times**
'Through this lively, often funny, topical story of discovery and reconciliation, ultimately of love, Libby Purves touchingly and truthfully explores and extends the conventional idea of family.' **Saga**
'...powerful and painful themes are expertly woven into a thought-provoking, enjoyable and ultimately optimistic novel....Strongly recommended' **The Daily Mail**

Libby Purves is a writer and also a broadcaster who has presented the talk programme *Midweek* on BBC Radio 4 since 1984 and formerly presented the *Today Programme*. She is a main columnist on the *Times* and in 1999 was named the Granada "What the Papers Say" Columnist of the Year, and awarded an O.B.E for services to journalism. She lives in Suffolk with her husband. Her books on family life, *HOW NOT TO BE A PERFECT MOTHER*, *HOW NOT TO RAISE A PERFECT CHILD*, and *HOW NOT TO BE A PERFECT FAMILY* have been widely translated.

SHADOW CHILD: **UK:** Hodder

AFTER THE BREAK by Penny Smith (DM)



Katie Fisher, one-time presenter of breakfast TV show Hello Britain!, nearly has her life in perfect order. She's recovered from her humiliating dismissal, improved her relationship with the drinks cabinet and, most importantly, found a gorgeous new TV producer boyfriend. But her dream job as a chat show host has come to an end and there doesn't seem to be much work around - she's starting to get worried.

Then she's offered a place on Celebrity X-treme - the latest celebrity-humiliating reality show. But is a reality TV programme really a good idea? Will it save her career or be the final blow? And just how tempting are two weeks in a freezing cabin in Norway, with a group of people no one's quite heard of? Very tempting - when the pay cheque is that big.

So Katie takes the risk - along with a Page 3 model, an out-of-work soap actor, an old, failed comedian and some woman who had an affair with a politician. She's soon out of her depth, as scheming producers do everything in their power to get the show they want - it's going to take all Katie's good humour and bad puns to bounce back from this one.

Praise for Penny Smith: *"Penny Smith's debut is such wry, sassy fun she might want to consider giving up the day job"* **Daily Record**

"A comic roller coaster, COMING UP NEXT is exactly the sort of racy summer read you'd expect from the clever, funny, sharp Miss Smith." **The Daily Mail**

"A brilliant darkly comic novel about the fall and rise of a TV presenter. A lot of fun." **Bella**

Penny Smith has worked as a journalist and TV presenter. She has presented the GMTV Breakfast Television News Hour since 1993, and has also worked for Sky News and Classic FM. She also has a regular newspaper column. COMING UP NEXT, her first novel, reached number 7 on the *Sunday Times* bestseller list and has sold over 130,000 copies.

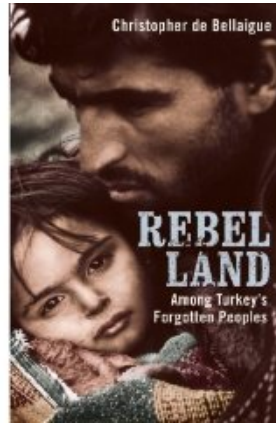
Previous novel, COMING UP NEXT: **UK:** Fourth Estate; **Germany:** Blanvalet

New novel, AFTER THE BREAK: **UK:** Fourth Estate; **Germany:** Blanvalet

ROGERS, COLERIDGE & WHOTE LTD

RECENT NON-FICTION

REBEL LAND by Christopher de Bellaigue (PS)



What is the meaning of love and death in a remote, forgotten, impossibly conflicted part of the world?

In **REBEL LAND**, the acclaimed author and journalist Christopher de Bellaigue journeys to Turkey's inhospitable eastern provinces to find out. Immersing himself in the achingly beautiful district of Varto, a place left behind in Turkey's march to modernity, medieval in its attachment to race and religious sect, he explores the violent history of conflict between Turks, Kurds and Armenians, and the maelstrom, of emotion and memories, that defines its inhabitants even today.

The result is a compellingly personal account of one man's search into the past, as de Bellaigue, mistrusted by all he meets, and particularly by the secret agents of the State, applies his investigative flair and fluent Turkish to unlock jealously-guarded taboos and hold humanity's excesses up to the light of a very modern sensibility.

Praise for **REBEL LAND:** *'This is a fascinating book. De Bellaigue knows the country very well and is alive to the sensitivities of all sides'* **The Telegraph**

'Acclaimed for his writing on Iran, De Bellaigue skillfully steers between the conflicting versions of Turks, Kurds and Armenians, insisting that 'the sinned against also sinned' **The Times**

'A finely written, brave and very personal book' **Orhan Pamuk**

'The book is sure to cause a new skirmish in the history wars de Bellaigue so assiduously avoided, but his critics should pause, at least, to admire the fineness of its prose and the darkness of its heart. It is, in the end, a brilliant literary thriller, an incursion into forbidden territory that is all the more gripping for being true.' **The Times**

'De Bellaigue delivers a comprehensive primer in Turkish political history, told through a densely packed account of the shifting allegiances of Varto's people for and against the Ottoman empire, the republic established by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk, the Armenians and each other, and among their own clans through the 20th century.' **The Guardian**

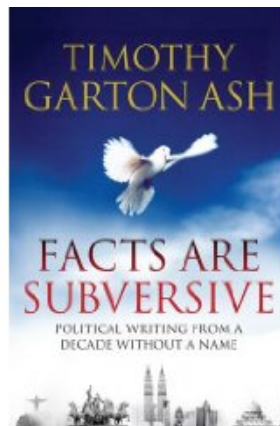
Christopher de Bellaigue was born in London and has spent the past decade in the Middle East and South Asia. He has worked as a foreign correspondent for a number of publications including the *Independent*, the *Financial Times*, the *Economist*, and the *New York Review of Books*. He is the author of *IN THE ROSE GARDEN OF THE MARTYRS: A Memoir of Iran*, which was shortlisted for the 2004 Royal Society of Literature Ondaatje Prize, a collection of essays, entitled *THE STRUGGLE FOR IRAN*, and wrote an introduction for Penguin's edition of Kapucinski's *SHAH OF SHAHS* (2006).

Previous titles: IN THE ROSE GARDEN OF THE MARTYRS: **US:** Harper Collins: **UK:** Harper Collins; **Germany:** Beck

THE STRUGGLE FOR IRAN: **US:** New York Review of Books

New title, REBEL LAND: **UK:** Bloomsbury; **US:** Penguin; **Germany:** Beck

**FACTS ARE SUBVERSIVE: Political writing from a decade without a name
by Timothy Garton Ash (GC)**



"During times of universal deceit," wrote George Orwell, "telling the truth becomes a revolutionary act." For more than thirty years Timothy Garton Ash has travelled among truth tellers and political charlatans to record, with scalpel-sharp precision, what he has found. This book, which collects his work on the first turbulent decade of this new millennium, confirms his reputation as our foremost historian of the present.

FACTS ARE SUBVERSIVE contains Garton Ash's eye-witness accounts of the countries, including Serbia, Poland and Ukraine, making the transition from dictatorship to democracy, and his dispatches from places such as Egypt, Burma and Iran, where that transformation has yet to take place.

A recurring theme, of the book and the decade, is freedom and its discontents. An encounter with the drug gangs of Sao Paulo raises disturbing questions about liberal democracy; his examination of immigration and Islam in Europe challenges the clichés of multiculturalism.

Shorter-essays rub shoulders with in-depth treatments of subjects including Gunter Grass, George Orwell and Isaiah Berlin. FACTS ARE SUBVERSIVE also includes Garton Ash's most recent reportage on the election of Barack Obama and its implications for the world.

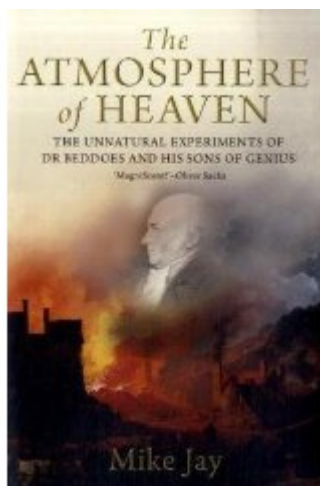
The rigorous and brilliantly written essays in this book, when taken together, address some of the most important questions of our time: what happens to people who have endured long dictatorships when they try and found a theocratic state? How best can freedom from tyranny be won? How are free expression, equality before the law and equal rights for men and women sustained in a society of different faiths and ethnicities? This is history of the present on a scale both panoramic and human: urgent, exhilarating and necessary.

Timothy Garton Ash is the author of eight books of political writing or 'history of the present' that have charted the transformation of Europe over the last three decades, including THE POLISH REVOLUTION, THE USE OF ADVERSITY, HISTORY OF THE PRESENT, and FREE WORLD. He is Professor of European Studies at the University of Oxford, Isaiah Berlin Professorial Fellow at St Anthony's College, Oxford, and a Senior Fellow at Hoover Institution, Stanford University. His essays appear regularly in the New York Review of Books and his weekly column for the *Guardian* is widely syndicated in Europe, Asia and the Americas. He has received many awards for his writing, including the Somerset Maugham Award and the Orwell Prize.

Previous title, FREE WORLD: **UK:** Penguin Press; **US:** Random House; **Bulgaria:** Obsidian; **China:** Oriental Press; **France:** Gallimard; **Czech:** Paseka; **Germany:** Hanser/ DTV; **Greek:** Polis; **Italy:** Mondadori; **Japan:** Fukosha; **Poland:** Znak; **Portugal:** Aletheia; **Romania:** Librom; **Serbia:** Samizdat RDP B92; **Slovenia:** Mladinska; **Spain:** Tusquets

New title, FACTS ARE SUBVERSIVE: **UK:** Atlantic; **Brazil:** Companhia das Letras; **Czech:** Paseka; **Germany:** Hanser; **Spain:** Tusquets

THE ATMOSPHERE OF HEAVEN: The Unnatural Experiments of Dr. Beddoes and his Sons of Genius by Mike Jay (HW)



The stranger-than-fiction story of what happened when medical researchers discovered the unexpected effects of inhaling nitrous oxide.

At the Pneumatic Institution in Bristol, England, founded in the closing years of the eighteenth century, dramatic experiments with gases precipitated not only a revolution in scientific medicine but also in the history of ideas. Guided by the energy of maverick doctor Thomas Beddoes, the Institution was both laboratory and hospital - the first example of a modern medical research institution. But when its members discovered the mind-altering properties of nitrous oxide, or laughing gas, their experiments devolved into a pioneering exploration of consciousness with far-reaching and unforeseen effects.

This riveting book is the first to tell the story of Dr. Beddoes and the brilliant circle who surrounded him: Erasmus Darwin, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, and Robert Southey, who supported his ideas; James Watt, who designed and built his laboratory; Thomas Wedgwood, who funded it; and his dazzling young chemistry assistant, Humphrey Davy, who identified (and tested on himself) nitrous oxide.

Medical historian Mike Jay charts the chaotic rise and fall of the Institution in this fast-paced account, and he reveals its crucial influence...on modern drug culture, attitudes toward objective and subjective knowledge, the development of anesthetic surgery, and the birth of the Romantic Movement.

Praise for THE ATMOSPHERE OF HEAVEN: 'Magnificent!' Oliver Sacks

"Brilliantly researched and written...fans of scientific biography and history of science, as well as history buffs in general, will be engrossed by Jay's marvellous study of an unusual man and the political and intellectual ferment of his time" **Publishers Weekly** (*starred review)

'Enthralling. This is exactly the kind of cross-cultural biography we need. Lively and sympathetic, it restores the renegade Dr. Thomas Beddoes to his rightful place in scientific history, but also to his revolutionary circle of literary friends' **Richard Holmes**

"A superb achievement, blessedly lucid, full of good stories...lively, informative and rich in detail of an extraordinary era...a captivating study of a remarkable man" **Literary Review**

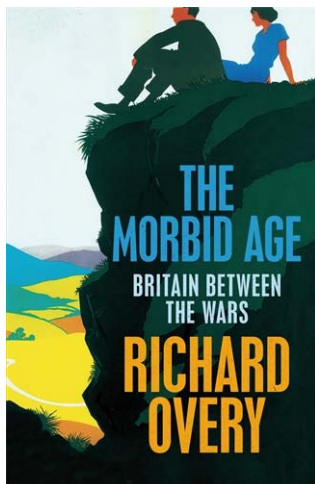
"An arresting study...Mike Jay's challenging biography puts Thomas Beddoes centre stage in the scientific and political ferment of the Romantic era" **Sunday Times**

“A detailed and measured biography...Beddoes’ house was a hive of experiment and revolutionary sympathies” **The Independent**

Mike Jay writes regularly on scientific and medical topics, and a specialist in the history of drugs. His best-known book is *THE AIR LOOM GANG: The Strange and True Story of James Tilly Matthews and His Visionary Madness*, which won the Ken Book Award 2005. He is also the editor of *MEDICAL LONDON: City of Diseases, City of Cures* by Richard Barnett.

THE ATMOSPHERE OF HEAVEN: **UK/US:** Yale University Press

THE MORBID AGE by Richard Overy (GC)



“We diagnosed the disease and its causes with microscopic exactness, but whenever we applied the healing knife a new sore appeared”- Arthur Koestler, *DARKNESS AT NOON*

British intellectual life between the wars stood at the heart of modernity. The combination of a relatively liberal, uncensored society and a large educated audience for new ideas made Britain a sort of laboratory for novel ways to understand the world.

THE MORBID AGE recreates this highly creative but also very strange era – the golden period for such public intellectuals as Aldous Huxley, H G Wells, Sydney and Beatrice Webb, Cyril Burt and Marie Stopes. They commanded substantial audiences, introducing concepts such as eugenics, planetary extinction, planned economies and Utopian living. And although they frequently argued among themselves, they were united by a crushing belief that they lived at the end of a civilization, that ‘Western man’ was doomed.

What seems startling to us now is that these ideas thrived in a country, which had won the World War and remained a stable, successful place, insulated from the traumas that racked some parts of Europe. Disquieting too is that these ideas became common currency *before* the mid-1930s when Nazi Germany began to offer a genuine threat. This morbid intellectual environment was to have a profound effect as the crises over the Spanish Civil War and then Czechoslovakia unfolded.

Richard Overy’s original, entertaining and constantly surprising new book raises a host of questions both about the strangeness of British society and about the frightening power of ideas in a rapidly changing world.

Praise for THE MORBID AGE: *“wonderfully compelling ... never less than a delight to read ... supremely well informed, thoughtful and enjoyable”* **Evening Standard**

“It’s difficult to do justice to the richness of Overy’s account” **Saturday Telegraph**

“It is hard to imagine anyone recording these times more exactly and more intelligently, or with greater insight and scholarship, than Overy has in this book” **Telegraph**

“THE MORBID AGE is history at its best” **Economist**

Richard Overy is Professor of History at University of Exeter. He has published extensively on the history of the Second World War including: WHY THE ALLIES WON; THE AIR WAR, 1939-45; GOERING: THE IRON MAN; THE ROAD TO WAR (with A. Wheatcroft); RUSSIA'S WAR; INTERROGATIONS; THE DICTATORS, which won the Wolfson and the Hessel Tiltman Prizes for history in 2005.

Previous title, THE DICTATORS: **UK:** Penguin; **US:** Norton; **Brazil:** Jose Olympio; **Bulgaria:** Prozorets; **Croatia:** Ljevak; **Czech:** Beta; **Estonia:** Varrak; **Germany:** DVA; **Holland:** De Bezige Bij; **Israel:** Am Oved; **Italy:** Mondadori; **Korea:** Gyoyangin; **Latvia:** Atena; **Poland:** Dolnoslaskie **Portugal:** Bertrand; **Spain:** Tusquets; **Turkey:** Erko

New title, THE MORBID AGE: UK: Penguin (pub May 2009); US: Penguin (pub October 2010, US title: THE TWILIGHT YEARS: The Paradox of Britain Between the Wars)