# Blackbird 2019



Discovering Outstanding Authors

2/ 25 Earls Terrace, London W8 6LP +44 (0)7816 491189 editor@blackbird-books.com www.blackbird-books.com



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#### The Lonely Hearts Crime Club by Tanya Bullock

An elderly resident of an inner-city tower block is brutally attacked and left for dead. Her neighbours, a pregnant alcoholic, a vulnerable youth, a failed actress and a cameraman with a dark secret, are thrown together in their search for answers. Misfits and loners, they are forced to confront uncomfortable realities about themselves and each other, as their investigation leads them towards the devastating truth.

> Contemporary Fiction | Crime & Mystery Print & eBook coming April 16th 2019

### Vive La Difference: More Notes From Rural France by Susie Kelly

The French dream continues to work its magic. Sometimes funny, sometimes sad, sometimes frustrating and occasionally mad, like any good dream, life in rural France continues to be unpredictable and often surreal. More notes about the country Susie Kelly lives in and loves, from the author's blog and diaries.

> Travel | Humour eBook coming Summer 2019

### Cats Through History by Christina Hamilton

Some of our most distinguished historical public figures in literature, art and politics have fallen love with cats. Ranging across the centuries from Cleopatra to Warhol, Hamilton unveils surprising, interesting and some downright astonishing stories about famous owners and their cats.

Pets | Reference Print & eBook coming Autumn 2019



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#### A Chiswick Affair by Diane Chandler

Secrets and lies do not a happy family make

Anna Bond, 44, is floundering. Tiger Mum to tricky teen Sophie, now slipping through her fingers, and loyal wife to big sociable Ollie, whom she no longer trusts, what does she do next with her life? Having once been a confident career woman, after 16 years as a housewife, Anna now finds that her mind is chattering and her soul is searching. For what matters. Then Jack walks into their lives, bringing joy and a fresh purpose to the whole family. But when deceit inveigles its way in, the smoke and mirrors soon have them all enmeshed. A tangled web of secrets and lies, through which they are hurtling towards a devastating climax.

Third novel by the winner of the 2016 People's Book Prize for Fiction.

Contemporary Fiction Print & eBook coming winter 2019



#### Bluethroat Morning by Jacqui Lofthouse



Fiction

Paperback published by Bloomsbury 9780747553212 | Literary Fiction | UK & Commonwealth print rights held by Bloomsbury | US & translation print, audio and digital rights are available |eBook first published by Blackbird May 2018

A first digital edition of Jacqui Lofthouse's literary international bestseller (100,000+ copies sold) originally published in 2000 by Bloomsbury in the UK and De Bezige Bij (Holland), Bluethroat Morning is a literary mystery ripe for rediscovery by the booming psychological thriller audience.

Alison Bliss, celebrity model and writer, walks into the sea on a 'bluethroat morning'. In death, she becomes an even greater icon than in life. Six years later, husband Harry is still haunted by her suicide. In order to move forward into a new relationship, he must first relive the past.

**Jacqui Lofthouse** began her career in radio production and media training. In 1992 she studied for her MA in Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia under Malcolm Bradbury and Rose Tremain. Her novels have sold over 100,000 copies in the UK, the USA and Europe and have been widely reviewed. Jacqui has taught creative writing in a broad variety of settings from City University to Feltham Young Offenders Institution. In 2005, Jacqui founded The Writing Coach, a coaching and mentoring organisation for writers (www.thewritingcoach.co.uk). She is currently working on her first YA novel and returning to actor training at Identity School of Acting.

A thriller full of twists and turns that keeps the reader guessing. Every word is magical, almost luminous.' - The Daily Mail

A classic tale of longing.'- Time Out

A moving read, threaded through with mystery and excitement.' - Good Housekeeping Magazine

'There are many elements to savour in this novel... best of all, Lofthouse has a fine eye for the bleak Norfolk landscape and how it both reflects and affects characters' moods.'

- Tracy Chevalier, author of Girl with a Pearl Earring



#### Moondance by Diane Chandler



Fiction

B&W | B Format | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 352 | ISBN 9780995473522 | Contemporary Fiction | Published November 2016 | £7.99 Distributor: Gardners IVF could create a baby but could it also destroy a marriage?

Bittersweet, at times funny, and always emotionally raw, this is by far the most moving and honest novel you'll ever read about IVF and its impact on a marriage.

How can you long for someone who doesn't exist?

Cat has always been in control of her life. Happily married to Dom, but flying high as a political lobbyist, she dismisses his desire to start a family ... until she herself is ready. But what if it is then too late?

Complex and selfish, intelligent and open, if she is to succeed in having that elusive child, Cat must battle through gruelling fertility treatment and the emotional strain it places on her marriage. By her side, Dom, easygoing and ever the optimist, finds that he too risks being run ragged by their journey. Both are forced to come to terms with their longing for a baby against the blitz on a relationship tested like never before.

**Diane Chandler** won the People's Book Prize for Fiction 2016 with her first novel, *The Road To Donetsk*. She worked first as a political lobbyist in Brussels, and then at the European Commission for several years, where she managed overseas aid programmes in Ukraine just after the fall of communism. Ukraine soon worked its way into her heart, and she travelled there extensively. Back in London, when Diane married and her

daughter was born, she was able to pursue her passion for writing in those few hours she could snatch.

Definitely a book that someone who is starting fertility treatment MUST pass on to their family and friends so that they understand what a hellish journey IVF is.' - My Fertility Specialist Magazine

<sup>•</sup>Diane Chandler, your book is truly amazing. Together, we can make a difference. Knowledge is power. Making IVF safer.' – Geeta Nargund, Head of Create Fertility Clinics

*Diane Chandler has created a masterpiece in wrapping a highly sensitive, emotive storyline with scenes of warmth and humour.* - KraftiReader



www.blackbird-books.com

#### The Road to Donetsk by Diane Chandler



Fiction

A gritty love story that brings Ukraine vividly to life: from the beautiful lilacfilled city of Kiev and the ski runs of the Carpathians to the dangerous depths of the Donetsk coalmines and the chilling ghost town of Chernobyl

It is 1994 and an idealistic Vanessa Parker enters the world of international aid, bringing with her youth and passion to do good in the 'Wild East' of Ukraine after the sudden collapse of communism. In a world where millions of dollars can either wash away in a moment's corruption, or turn around the lives of the neediest, Vanessa is forced to pit her own naive desire to make a difference against the chaos of a country and people in transition.

Winner of the People's Book Prize 2016



B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 390 | 2nd Edition ISBN 9780995473546 Published Nov 2016 | Contemporary Fiction | [First Published Jan 2015 9780993092244]  $| \pounds 11.99/\$17.99$ Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

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daughter was born, she was able to pursue her passion for writing in those few hours she could snatch.

A touching love story that illuminates the aid business. Compelling and enjoyable.' - Clare Short, former Secretary of State for International Development

'Lifts the lid on aid.' - Lynn Curtis, Literary Consultant

'A loving tribute to Ukraine; Diane Chandler's writing made me smell and taste the country as if I were there.' - Goodreads



### The Modigliani Girl by Jacqui Lofthouse



Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 314 | ISBN 9780993092213 | Contemporary Fiction | Published Jan 2015 | £9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

#### A deceptively light satire on the modern writing and publishing world

Anna Bright never wanted to write a novel. At least, that's what she tells herself. But a chance encounter with a famous novelist and a surprise gift of an art book cut a chink in Anna's resolve. The short, tragic life of Modigliani's mistress, Jeanne Hébuterne, becomes an obsession and before she knows it, she has enrolled on a creative writing course in the Greek islands, is writing about a fictional Jeanne and mixing with the literati.

**Jacqui Lofthouse** began her career in radio production and media training. In 1992 she studied for her MA in Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia under Malcolm Bradbury and Rose Tremain. Her novels have sold over 100,000 copies in the UK, the USA and Europe and have been widely reviewed. Jacqui has taught creative writing in a broad variety of settings from City University to Feltham Young Offenders Institution. In 2005, Jacqui founded The Writing Coach, a coaching and mentoring organisation for writers (www.thewritingcoach.co.uk). She is currently working on her first YA novel and returning to actor training at Identity School of Acting.

An unusual, fascinating and multi-layered novel. Beautifully written.' - Al's Books & Pals



#### That Special Someone by Tanya Bullock



Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 238 | ISBN 9780993307003 | Contemporary Fiction | Published Jan 2015 | £9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

A poignant, witty story of a mother's quest to help her learning-disabled daughter find love

Jaya, 18, is growing up. To Izzie's alarm, all her daughter wants from life is to get married and have babies. Which creates a moral dilemma for Izzie. How she can continue to protect Jaya whilst at the same time letting her go?

Life as the single mum of a learning-disabled daughter in a small town in the West Midlands is tough. But the boundless love between Izzie and her beautiful, sparky daughter is reward enough in itself, fuelling the energy she pours into fighting her child's corner who 'isn't disabled enough' for much professional help. With little prospect of meaningful employment or continuing education, Izzie wonders if perhaps finding Jaya a 'suitable husband' via an arranged marriage wouldn't be so crazy.

**Tanya Bullock** is a college lecturer, writer and award-winning filmmaker. She lives in the West Midlands with her husband and two young children. As a filmmaker, she has gained local recognition, including funding and regional television broadcast, through ITV's First Cut scheme; two nominations for a Royal Television Society Midlands Award, and, in 2010, a Royal Television Society Award in the category of best promotional film. In 2008, she directed a short drama, *Second Honeymoon*, which was screened at the Cannes Film Festival.

'Local author's debut novel manages to combine a sensitive subject with Black Country Humour.' - 'Waterstones Loves', Waterstones, Walsall



#### Homecoming by Tanya Bullock

FROM THE FINALIST OF THE PEOPLE'S BOOK PRIZE 2016

Fiction



#### Tanya Bullock

B&W | 5 x 8 in or 203 x 127 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 86 | ISBN 9780993307065 | Contemporary Fiction | Published April 2016 | £6.99/\$10.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners Quite possibly the strangest romance ever told

All that mattered to Rosie, all that had ever really mattered, was that she loved Tom and he loved her.

When a mysterious sequence of events unfolds, their love is put to the test.

With a shocking secret hanging heavily over their relationship...

With circumstances conspiring against them at every turn...

Rosie and Tom find themselves caught up in the biggest battle of their lives.

Will their demons ultimately consume them? Or will love conquer all in the end?

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'Being someone who truly appreciates beautiful writing, it wasn't hard for me to complete this book in one sitting.' — Read and Seek

'Homecoming is unique. For originality, excellent character development and for living up to the hype, I rate this novella as 5 out of 5 stars.' — Amie's Book Reviews



#### The Lonely Hearts Crime Club by Tanya Bullock



Fiction

B&W | B Format | Perfect Boundon Creme w/Ma@e Lam | Page Count 288 | ISBN 9781916426818 | Contemporary Fic□on/Crime & Mystery | Published April 2019 | £8.99Distributor: Gardners

An elderly resident of an inner-city tower block is brutally attacked and left for dead. Her neighbours, a pregnant alcoholic, a vulnerable youth, a failed actress and a cameraman with a dark secret, are thrown together in their search for answers. Misfits and loners, they are forced to confront uncomfortable realities about themselves and each other, as their investigation leads them towards the devastating truth.

**Tanya Bullock** is a college lecturer, writer and award-winning filmmaker. She lives in the West Midlands with her husband and two young children. As a filmmaker, she has gained local recognition, including funding and regional television broadcast, through ITV's First Cut scheme; two nominations for a Royal Television Society Midlands Award, and, in 2010, a Royal Television Society Award in the category of best promotional film. In 2008, she directed a short drama, *Second Honeymoon*, which was screened at the Cannes Film Festival.



#### The Dream Theatre by Sarah Ball



Fiction

Juvenile Fiction, Adventure; Fantasy & Magic | Published June 2011 | READING AGE GROUP: 8 - 12 |£5.99/\$9.71 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners The golden rule is: if you think it, and believe it, it will happen... Anything is possible in The Dream Theatre

The Dream Theatre is a place where dreams are played out like pictures on the television and you don't need to be asleep to explore it. Packed with laughs, surprises, explosions plus a mystery and a loveable, clever dog, *The Dream Theatre* is a highly original contemporary fantasy adventure story that will appeal to boys, girls and adults alike.

Sarah Ball is a British writer with three novels published by Piatkus Books: Nine Months (2002), Marry Me (2003) and Written in the Stars (2004), all recently reissued by Little, Brown's new sub-imprint Piatkus Entice. She's also had several short stories published including a contribution to the charity anthology Party Animal, a collection of stories from writers such as Marian Keyes and Maeve Binchy. Sarah's novels have been

published in Serbia (Laguna), Russia (Amphora), Portugal (Livros Do Brasil), Norway (N W Damm & Son) and Czech Republic (BB Art). Her YA novel *The Definition Of Us (*Sarah Harris, 2018) is published by Piatkus Books.

'There are echoes here of Alice, of Blyton, of William Mayne and of a number of surreal texts, from Badlidrempt to various Pullman novellas.' – Armadillo Children's Book Magazine



#### In Foreign Fields: How Not To Move To France by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam
Page Count 250 | Travel/Humour/ Biography & Memoir | ISBN
9781916426825 | Published December 2018 | £4.99/£11.99 | Distributor Ingram/Gardners A pick from some of the best bits of the popular travel author's blog diaries reveal the minutiae of expat day to day life in rural France. A must-read for Susie Kelly fans and anybody thinking of, or dreaming of, moving to France.

Living the French dream – vineyards, sunflowers, lavender fields, glasses of wine and platters of fromage. French ladies slender and chic, French men wearing berets and riding bicycles with baguettes clamped under their arms when they are not flirting outrageously, and all the while the sun shines down benevolently upon uniform rows of ripening vegetables. Dreams are strange and unpredictable, and sometimes so is la vie en rose.

Born a Londoner, **Susie Kelly** spent most of the first 25 years of her life in Kenya. She now lives in south-west France with her husband and assorted animals. Susie particularly enjoys exploring the road less travelled, discovering the lives and events of lesser-known places. Susie is the patron of the Charroux Literary Festival.

'Really funny. Up there with Driving Over Lemons and French Fried. Great stuff.' - Goodreads

"There are a handful of authors who will achieve that elusive trick of making you laugh out loud. For me it's James Herriot, Bill Bryson & Susie Kelly." – French Entrée Magazine

T'm a huge fan of Susie Kelly's books... as usual Susie's humour and skill at recounting events in her life during that time period had me laughing out loud.' – Mrs Bloggs' Books



#### Safari Ants, Baggy Pants and Elephants by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

B&W |  $5.06 \ge 7.81$  in or  $198 \ge 129$ mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/ Matte Lam | Page Count 262 | ISBN 9780995473577 | Memoir/ Travel | Published June 2017 |  $\pounds 9.99/\$14.99$ Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

More than 40 years after leaving Kenya, Susie unexpectedly finds herself returning for a safari organised by an old friend. The long-awaited sequel to Susie Kelly's bestselling memoir I Wish I Could Say I Was Sorry.

With her husband Terry, Susie Kelly sets off for a holiday touring the game reserves, but what she finds far exceeds her expectations. In this her seventh travelogue, she takes readers from five-star hotels to luxury tents in the wilderness, and to poverty in Nairobi's slums, describing a journey of joy, excitement, discovery, nostalgia, of new friendships and encounters of the very close kind with Kenya's majestic wildlife. Forgotten memories come flooding back as she revisits the scenes of her childhood and adolescence, so movingly portrayed in her UK, US & Australian Amazon #1 ranking *I Wish I Could Say I Was Sorry*, many of them changed beyond recognition.

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With her memoir *I Wish I Could Say I was Sorry*, Susie's African memoirs continue through 2018 as the #1/#2 Kenya Travel books on both Amazon.com and Amazon.co.uk. Susie is the patron of the Charroux Literary Festival.

'The best safari experience you are likely to get, without going on safari!' - French Village Diaries

T've just been on a wonderful safari trip to Kenya! This book more than satisfied my curiosity and thirst for knowledge about African wildlife.' – Mrs Blogg's Books

A wonderful & poignant African safari. Being an animal fanatic I enjoyed learning so much about African wildlife from this book and also the incredible people who care for, and protect it.' – Susan Keefe



### The Spell of the Horse by Pam Billinge



Non-Fiction

B&W | B Format | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 224 | ISBN 9780995473553 | Mind Body Spirit, Memoir/Self-Help | Published Sept 2017 |  $\pounds 8.99$ Distributor: Gardners You'll never look at a horse in the same way again ...

The ability of the horse to sense emotion, energy and spirit goes way beyond what most of the human world realises. This book is a must-read for those wishing to understand the spiritual connection between horses and humans.

When Pam Billinge's mother was diagnosed with terminal cancer, she began to notice the way her horse responded to her emotional turmoil. Thus began an exploration into the spiritual relationship between horses and humans and their infinite capacity to help us heal.

Building on her remarkable discoveries, Pam began her pioneering work as a horse-led coach and therapist. By sharing her own path to redemption through personal tragedy, and other stories of healing inspired by the incredible interactions she has observed between horse and human, Pam puts forward her uplifting insights about the true nature of the horse, setting out some simple principles to help the reader transcend life's challenges.

**Pam Billinge** is a body psychotherapy professional and leadership coach at the top of her game in the UK field of horse-led therapy. Brought up in suburban Liverpool, the first horses Pam fell in love with were ridden by the mounted policemen she would see passing her house on the way to supervise football matches at Anfield. Little did she know, then, how these magnificent creatures would influence her adult life, leading not only to support her through a number of personal tragedies, but also to her pioneering work in horse-led psychotherapy and

coaching.

An enchanting, beautiful book that I was captivated by right from the start. Had me in tears more than once.' – Mrs Bloggs' Books

'Her special affinity & deep respect for horses shines through with every well-written word and every emotional connection.'-Jaffa Reads Too

'Pam writes beautifully. I shall be revisiting the pages of The Spell of the Horse many times and if you're feeling lost in your life I urge you to read it too.' – Linda Hill, Linda's Book Bag



editor@blackbird-books.com

#### Call of an Angel by Patricia O'Toole



Non-Fiction

B&W |  $5.25 \ge 8$  in or  $203 \ge 133$ mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 236 | ISBN 9780995473584 | Biography & Memoir, Mind Body Spirit | Published 2018 |  $\pounds$ 11.99/\$13.99 LARGE PRINT: B&W |  $6 \ge 9$  in or 229  $\ge$ 152 mm | 9780995473591 | Page Count 282 Distributor Ingram/Gardners

What would you do if angels suddenly appeared in your life? Would you keep it a secret? Or tell your family and friends? Your work colleagues? How extraordinary encounters with angels changed the life of an ordinary working mum

Do you believe in angels? You just might after reading what happened to Patricia O'Toole and her two teenage sons. They were living quietly in a remote corner of Ireland when, one day, everything changes. It all starts when Patricia comes across a forgotten, soon-to-expire, gift voucher at the bottom of a drawer and decides to use it. This decision sends the whole family on an unexpected journey of self discovery when they all develop an ability to both see, and communicate with, angels and spirits.

**Patricia O'Toole** lives in rural Ireland with her two sons. *Call of an Angel*, her debut memoir, tells the story of how her life is transformed from an ordinary existence as a working mum to the extraordinary on discovery of a long-forgotten gift voucher and a visit to a local medium.

'The author's passion jumps out of almost every page. As I was entranced, marvelling at the artistic impressions, both visual and written, I managed to overlook a very key point. This is not a work of fiction. It is a true-life story.' – The Cozy Pages

*T really think the quality of the writing raises it above other books that might seem to be of a similar ilk.*' – Being Anne

Wonderful yet down to earth book, considering the subject, from a big hearted and sensitive woman in tune with life and nature. Admirable.' – Goodreads



### La Vie En Rose: Notes from Rural France by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

LA VIE EN ROSE Notes From Rural France Susie Kelly

> eBook | 163 pages Published July 2017 | ASIN: B073BNJDR5

A pick from some of the best bits of the popular travel author's blog diaries reveal the minutiae of expat day to day life in rural France. A must-read for Susie Kelly fans and anybody thinking of, or dreaming of, moving to France.

Living the French dream – vineyards, sunflowers, lavender fields, glasses of wine and platters of fromage. French ladies slender and chic, French men wearing berets and riding bicycles with baguettes clamped under their arms when they are not flirting outrageously, and all the while the sun shines down benevolently upon uniform rows of ripening vegetables. Dreams are strange and unpredictable, and sometimes so is la vie en rose.

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"There are a handful of humour authors who will achieve that elusive trick of making you laugh out loud. For me it's James Herriot, Bill Bryson & Susie Kelly." – French Entrée Magazine



#### Love and Justice by Diana Morgan-Hill



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 232 | ISBN 9780993092237 | Biography & Memoir | Published April 2015 | £9.99/\$14.99 Distributor Ingram/Gardners

When Diana lost both of her legs in a traumatizing train accident, she thought her life was over. Instead, she began a journey of self-discovery and a fight for justice

The horror of the accident itself and the re-lived rawness of unimaginable pain will break your heart. The High Court dramas with the shocking, often sexist, behaviour of the rail company and the British 'justice' system will boil your blood with rage. The preoccupations of a beautiful 29 year-old-girl, swaying frequently to love, will melt your soul. The issues surrounding sexuality and disability are explored here with stark, jaw-dropping honesty. What man would ever love her now? Diana's complicated love life will keep you turning the pages as if you were reading the most gripping pot-boiler romance. All told with tremendous humour, charm and heart. For Diana loves to tell stories. Especially true ones.

As featured on ITV's This Morning and BBC Radio 2's Jeremy Vine Show. A US, UK & Australia #1 ranking memoir.

Writing has been at the heart of **Diana Morgan Hill's** working life. She was a press and publicity manager for Brookside, Channel 4's soap opera, and ITN and then became a journalist and editor for a number of TV business publications. After freelancing for the MIDEM organisation, she set up MediaVision, a press, public relations and strategy consultancy. Suffering from catastrophic injuries following a train accident, she then had to refocus and has subsequently worked as a TV presenter, as a chief executive, was MD of a small publishing company, and an assistant producer in TV. Her voluntary work has included positions for the National Wheelchair Tennis Foundation, the Limbless Association, the British Red Cross and the Arvon Foundation. Diana lives in Dorset, by the sea.

A compelling story of how humour, friendship, grace and sheer grit can triumph over unthinkable catastrophe. Diana Morgan-Hill's unflinching memoir is proof that what does not kill us makes us strong.' – Liz Jensen, author of The Ninth Life of Louis Drax

'Full of honesty and charm.' - BookBub

'Diana's story is one of triumph.' - Daily Mail



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#### Tripping with Jim Morrison and Other Friends by Michael Lawrence



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 | Perfect Bound on Creme w/ Matte Lam | Page Count 252 | ISBN 9780993307034 | Biography & Memoir | Published September 2016 | £9.99/\$14.99 Distributor Ingram/Gardners

American artist Michael Lawrence became friends with The Doors singer Jim Morrison when they were both students at UCLA, California. A vivid, impressionistic memoir from the 1960s about an artist's search for beauty, art and identity

A beautiful telling of an extraordinary life that stretches from a magical mystery childhood in Fellini's Rome to the very real avoidance of war and death in Vietnam, accompanied by his enigmatic friend Jim Morrison by way of art, LSD and the 60s counterculture explosion that followed.

Michael Lawrence was born in Los Angeles in 1943, the son of film star Marc Lawrence and screenwriter, poet and novelist Fanya Foss. After he was awarded the Huntington Hartford Fellowship, his life's pursuits were set as an artist and a writer. His art is now exhibited in private collections across the globe, including those owned by Oliver Stone and LACMA, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. Roy Lichtenstein described his artwork as "vibrant, joyous and colourful". His fine, poetic words and funny stories are destined to become equally so, in this coming of age tale like no other.

"The guys from your UCLA days sent me your way, claiming your memories and stories of Jim are among the most important." – Jerry Hopkins, co-author of the Jim Morrison biography No One Here Gets Out Alive

'You have poems inside your head and you have learned to explode them with firecracker tubes of paint.' – Ray Bradbury

'Here is a wealth of impressions.' - Timothy Leary

"This book is a genuine trip, a joyous, inspiring tour of the 60s." – Daniel Klein, author of Travels With Epicurus



### I Wish I Could Say I was Sorry by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

I Wish I Could Say I Was Sorry

SUSIE KELLY

B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 250 | ISBN 9780993092220 | Biography

& Memoir | Published May 2013 |  $\pounds 9.99/\$14.99$ Distributor: Ingram/Gardners Readers will shed a tear at her losses and laugh at her predicaments in this sometimes hilarious, often heartbreaking, true story that gives a moving and often shocking insight in to the earlier life of the much-loved travel author famed for her humour and her honesty

With uncompromising honesty and hints of her usual humour, the author describes emigrating, from post-war London in every shade of grey to the technicolour splendour of Kenya, as part of a dysfunctional family. From profound lows to sublime highs, the one constant is her pony, Cinderella. You may shed a tear at her losses, you will almost certainly be shocked and appalled by what she does for the love of Cinderella.

A US, UK and Australia #1 Ranking Memoir.

Born a Londoner, **Susie Kelly** spent most of the first 25 years of her life in Kenya. She now lives in south-west France with her husband and assorted animals. Susie particularly enjoys exploring the road less travelled, discovering the lives and events of lesser-known places.

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I read it in one session. There is humour and there is humanity.' - Goodreads

'A Child Called It meets Out Of Africa in this stunning memoir of a woman's 1950s childhood in Kenya. Filled with candid humor and insights, this authentic tale captures one woman's incredible coming-of-age journey.' – BookBub

Audiobook available, produced by Tantor Media



### Swallows and Robins: The Laughs and Tears of a Holiday Home Owner *by Susie Kelly*



Non-Fiction

B&W | 5.5 x 8.5 | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 272 | ISBN 9780993307010 Travel/ Europe/France | Published Jul 2015 |  $\pounds$ 9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

The true story of the world's worst housewife's attempts to run two holiday homes in remotest France and her love/hate relationship with her guests

As the world's worst housekeeper, running holiday homes wasn't, with hindsight, a sensible idea. But two collapsing buildings on Susie Kelly's land would cost more to demolish than to restore. Thus she became a seasonal landlady. Her summer and winter visitors couldn't, as they say, be made up, though, to spare their blushes some of them have been airbrushed. They brought with them laughter, tears, romance, friendship and occasional madness. And they all left behind jars of jam and pots of pepper. From them Susie learned that you don't need to travel to find adventure. If you run holiday homes it comes to your doorstep. Unfortunately for Susie this included Ivy. The cleaning lady from hell.

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'There are a handful of authors who will achieve that elusive trick of making you laugh out loud. For me it's James Herriot, Bill Bryson & Susie Kelly.' – French Entrée Magazine

'It's absolutely brilliant, it made me laugh - in fact snort out loud - and then cry. Susie is a marvellous writer.' – The Good Life France



### Best Foot Forward: A 500-Mile Walk Through Hidden France by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 220 | ISBN 9780993092275 | Travel/ Europe/France | £9.99/\$14.99 | Published Feb 2015 (first published by Bantam [Transworld] in the UK only) Distributor: Ingram/Gardners AUDIOBOOK: 24 October 2014 ASIN B00OT4VFGG

A touching and inspiring tale of English eccentricity, the Texan pioneering spirit and two women old enough to know better

When Susie Kelly decides, at the age of 50+, on a whim, to trek alone across France from La Rochelle to Lake Geneva, she entrusts her French farmhouse full of assorted animals to a total stranger from San Antonio, Texas. For each of them it will be a life-changing experience. Both will find their resourcefulness and ingenuity tested to the limit as, in their own ways, they explore and enjoy the culture, cuisine and people of Europe's most fascinating country.

Born a Londoner, **Susie Kelly** spent most of the first 25 years of her life in Kenya. She now lives in south-west France with her husband and assorted animals. Susie particularly enjoys exploring the road less travelled, discovering the lives and events of lesser-known places. Susie is the patron of the Charroux Literary Festival.

'What an amazing lady! Perfect for the Francophile, the armchair adventurer, and the lover of good literature for this is surely literature.' – US Amazon Vine Voice reviewer

A book to inspire.'- Good Housekeeping Magazine



#### Travels with Tinkerbelle: 6,000 Miles Around France by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 202 | ISBN 9781916426801 | Travel/ Europe/France | Revised June 2018 |  $\pounds$ 9.99/\$14.99 | Travels With Tinkerbelle is a revision of A Perfect Circle, 2006, pub in the UK only by Transworld Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

#### A driving vacation with a difference

The author and her husband devised a simple plan – to take a tent and the dog and drive around the perimeter of France. Like many simple plans it went wrong before it started and they ended up with two dogs and a campervan named Tinkerbelle. This is their story, as they travel from sandy beaches to snowtopped mountains exploring the diverse cultures, cuisines and countryside making up the country called France.

Born a Londoner, **Susie Kelly** spent most of the first 25 years of her life in Kenya. She now lives in south-west France with her husband and assorted animals. Susie particularly enjoys exploring the road less travelled, discovering the lives and events of lesser-known places. Susie is the patron of the Charroux Literary Festival.

'Reading her books is like listening to relaxing music...'- Goodreads



#### The Valley of Heaven and Hell: Cycling in the Shadow of Marie Antoinette *by Susie Kelly*



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 214 | ISBN 9780993092299 | Travel/ Europe/France | Published March 2011 | £9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

Susie explores the little-known Marne valley, following in the carriage tracks of Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI in their abortive escape attempt from the French revolution

Susie is not a born cyclist, as she discovers within the first five minutes of a journey that will last three weeks. Neither does she look her best in Lycra cycling gear. Whilst her husband whirls along effortlessly, she frequently grinds to a halt and has to be rescued. But the pair keep pedalling, from the glitz of Versailles to the hilly Champagne vineyards, via a hair-raising ride through Paris and through quaint provincial towns and sombre battlefields.

Born a Londoner, **Susie Kelly** spent most of the first 25 years of her life in Kenya. She now lives in south-west France with her husband and assorted animals. Susie particularly enjoys exploring the road less travelled, discovering the lives and events of lesser-known places. Susie is the patron of the Charroux Literary Festival.

A funny and a marvellous insight into French history. I absolutely loved it. I have read all her books now and they are all so interesting, well written and full of humour. More please, Susie, you are truly a wonderful storyteller.' – Goodreads



#### Schizophrenia: Who Cares? A Father's Story by Tim Salmon



Non-Fiction

B&W | 5 x 8 in Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 206 | ISBN 9780993307027 | Biography & Memoir/Medical, Mental Health | Published May 2015 |  $\pounds$ 9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners A deeply moving first-hand account of coping with a relative suffering from a serious mental illness

Better known as a travel writer rather than a mental health care campaigner, Tim tells the moving story of his son's – and thus his own – twenty-year struggle with schizophrenia. He dedicates this frank, no-holds-barred account to all those who find themselves in the same boat, both sufferers and relatives, all of whom, once this bizarre illness strikes, find themselves thrown into a chaotic situation that is always bewildering and often as downright terrifying as it is heartbreaking.

**Tim Salmon** was one of the original authors of *The Rough Guide to France* and *The Rough Guide to Paris*. For more than thirty years he has contributed to national newspapers and magazines such as *The Guardian, The Independent, The Telegraph, The Times, Time Out* and *Country Life.* Tim is presently creating The Pindos Way, a long-distance hike (with accompanying book and website

www.thepindosway.com) across the mountains of Greece from the northern border to the southern tip.

A riveting read, a proper page-turner. Reduced me, on occasion, to both tears and laughter. We could do better than this.' – Nina Bawden, novelist

*I would recommend this book for care coordinators and those interested in more responsive and engaged services.* – Leonard Fagin, Lecturer, University College London, and Consultant Psychiatrist

A thought-provoking and brutally honest personal account of a father's struggle through the development of his son, Jeremy's, paranoid schizophrenia ... very difficult to put down.' – Declan Hyland, Royal College of Psychiatry



editor@blackbird-books.com

www.blackbird-books.com

#### The Unwritten Places by Tim Salmon



Non-Fiction

B&W 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | ISBN 9780993092206 | Page Count 300 | Travel/Europe/Greece | Published Oct 2014 | £9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

A beautifully-written, intimate portrait of an all but vanished way of Greek mountain life, uninterrupted for thousands of years

The Unwritten Places tells the story of Tim Salmon's mountain wanderings in the remotest corner of Greece in the northwestern borders with southern Albania. After a longstanding, 30-year, friendship with a group of Vlach shepherds, Tim is finally allowed to join their annual Transhumance. His journey with the shepherds and their migrating flocks from the lowland winter pastures to the summer pastures high in the Pindos mountains reads like time travel.

Tim Salmon is the author of several books about Greece and France, including a cook book and a walker's guide to the mountains. He was one of the original authors of *The Rough Guide to France* and *The Rough Guide to Paris*. For more than thirty years he has contributed to national newspapers and magazines such as *The Guardian, The Independent, The Telegraph, The Times, Time Out* and *Country Life.* Tim is presently creating The Pindos Way, a long-distance hike (with accompanying book and website www.thepindosway.com) across the mountains of Greece from the northern border to the southern tip.

'He describes the remote parts of Greece beautifully, and comments hauntingly on their despoliation.' – The Times Literary Supplement

'He has a sensitive and perceptive eye for mountainscape and skyscape, an eye any landscape painter might envy.' – The Anglo-Hellenic Review



#### On Foot Across France by Tim Salmon



Non-Fiction

B&W | 6 x 9 in or 229 x 152 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 386 | ISBN 9781494231538 | Travel/ Europe/France | Published Jan 2014 |  $\pounds$ 9.99/\$14.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

An intimate day by day account of a walk across France, following the old Paris meridian line from the North coast to the South

For 15 years, as Tim travelled the length and breadth of the country writing for *The Rough Guide to France*, the idea for his own, personal journey gradually took shape. It would be nothing to do with cathedrals and history and railway timetables but a subjective, intimate look at the country he had been married to and grown to love and know so well. It would be a slow journey on foot, but he couldn't decide on a route, until, one day, he came across an article about the old Paris meridian line. A charming day by day account of what he saw, heard, thought: landscapes, flower girls, snippets of history, curious encounters and lots of birdsong.

Tim Salmon is the author of several books about Greece and France, including a cook book and a walker's guide to the mountains. He was one of the original authors of *The Rough Guide to France* and *The Rough Guide to Paris*. For more than thirty years he has contributed to national newspapers and magazines such as *The Guardian, The Independent, The Telegraph, The Times, Time Out* and *Country Life.* Tim is presently creating The Pindos Way, a long-distance hike (with accompanying book and website www.thepindosway.com) across the mountains of Greece from the northern border to the southern tip.

'Perfect for the thinking armchair traveller.' - French Village Diaries



#### A London Steal: The Fabulous on-a-Budget Guide to London's Hidden Chic *by Elle Ford*



Non-Fiction

B&W | 5.0 x 8.0 in Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 100 | ISBN 9781484833124 Travel/ Europe/Great Britain | Published April 2013 | £5.99/\$10.99 Distributor: Ingram/Gardners

#### Budget London is the coolest London... if you know where to go.

Elle Ford isn't waiting until she's 40 to be fabulous. A must for all *Made In Chelsea* fans and those wanting to discover an unusual and fun way to explore London.

London is one of the most vibrant, chic, alternative and culturally international cities on the planet. It's also famously expensive. Discover the fashion haunts, shops, cafes, clubs and bars of the smartest young Londoners without having to compromise on style or veer off budget.

One of **Elle Ford's** first interviews was with Lauren Weisberger when she was just 17 and she's continued to spot the on-the-up-and-up ever since. A London Steal, published when she was still at university, Elle has worked as an editor and copy writer for numerous online publications as well as for several London publishing houses. Elle also works as a novel and fashion illustrator. She lives in London.



#### The Lazy Cook: (1) Quick and Easy Meatless Meals and (2) Quick and Easy Sweet Treats by Susie Kelly



Non-Fiction

B&W | 5.5 x 8.5 in or 216 x 140 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 134 | ISBN9780993092251 | Cookery | Published June 2015 | £7.99/\$11.99 Distributor: Ingram/ Gardners

B&W | 5.5 x 8.5 in or 216 x 140 mm | Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 62 ISBN 9780993307058 | Cookery | Published June 2015 | £5.99/\$10.99 Distributor Ingram/ Gardners

Collections of Susie Kelly's simple, meat-free recipes for feeding friends and family.

Susie makes no claims to being a cooking queen. She admits that over the years she has made every cookery mistake possible, including pouring hot oil back into a plastic bottle and watching the bottle melt and flood most of the kitchen. Then there was the great icing sugar misunderstanding ... but in The Lazy Cook she has put together an irresistible collection of the tasty, comfort-food recipes that are enjoyed by her family and friends, spattered with generous blobs of anecdote and humour.

Two of those rare cookery books that won't be left on the shelf, but will mature with well-thumbed age as its pages become patterned with stains of food, wine, cream, butter and all things delicious.

Born a Londoner, Susie Kelly spent most of the first 25 years of her life in Kenya. She now lives in south-west France with her husband and assorted animals. Susie particularly enjoys exploring the road less travelled, discovering the lives and events of lesser-known places. Susie is the patron of the Charroux Literary Festival.

'I have over 100 recipe books and this is in my favourite top 10. I loved this book. Everyday food! Great!' - US reader

She enhances the recipes by enclosing them in entertaining stories which make them memorable. This got me thinking that recipes may be closer to favorite poems or stories that one re-tells rather than science experiments.' - US reader



### Imprints



#### Dark Water by Sara Bailey



B&W | 5.0 x 8.0 in Perfect Bound on Creme w/Matte Lam | Page Count 288 | ISBN 9780995473515 | Published October 2016 | £8.99 An intense portrait of adolescent yearning and obsession from debut novelist Sara Bailey

When Helena returns to her childhood home in Orkney, she is forced to face memories that she has spent half a lifetime running from. Her best friend, the charismatic Anastasia, disappeared after a swimming incident. But what really happened that night by the wrecks?

**Sara Bailey** is a writer, consultant and lecturer who has been working with authors and screenwriters for many years, in Richmond-upon-Thames, Winchester and Southampton. She has a PhD in Creative and Critical Writing from Bangor University.

Her first book was published by Bloomsbury in 2013, *Writing the Horror Movie*, which she co-authored whilst hiding behind a cushion. Recently she has returned to her home of Orkney, the setting of her debut novel,

I couldn't help but be fascinated by this book. It uses the Orkney setting beautifully, and the islands are intertwined with the story of a woman facing the past she'd evaded for years: both in the clarity of the light and the roughness of the sea. It uses suspense and structure with skill... The final scene was brilliantly described. Suspense, sex and selkie girls: irresistible!' – Amy Liptrot, author of The Outrun





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#### Spain, Portugal, Spanish and Portuguese language territories

**Anna Gurguí**, www.annagurgui.com <u>Address</u>: Calle, Hort de la vila, num19, bajos2, 08017,BCN, España <u>Email</u>: annagurgui.literary@gmail.com <u>Tel</u>: +34 678 29 89 93

#### Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia translation rights

**Petra Tobiskova**, www.andrewnurnberg.com/international-offices <u>Address</u>: Andrew Nurnberg Associates Prague, Jugoslávských partyzánů 17, 160 00 Prague 6, Czech Republic <u>Email</u>: tobiskova@nurnberg.cz Tel: (420-2) 22 782 041

#### Thailand and Vietnam

**Pimolporn Yutisri,** www.tuttlemori.com/contactoverseas.html <u>Address</u>: Tuttle-Mori Agency Co. Ltd, P1 Floor., Siam Inter Comics Bldg., 459 Soi Piboonoppathum, Ladprao 48, Samsen Nok, Huay Kwang, Bangkok 10320, Thailand <u>Email</u>: pimolporn@tuttlemori.co.th <u>Tel</u>: +662 694 3026 | <u>Fax</u>: +662 694 3027 | <u>Mobile</u>: +6690 559 5665

#### Indonesia and Malaysia

**Yani Kurniawan**, www.tuttlemori.com/contactoverseas.html <u>Address</u>: Tuttle-Mori Agency Co. Ltd, P1 Floor., Siam Inter Comics Bldg., 459 Soi Piboonoppathum, Ladprao 48, Samsen Nok, Huay Kwang, Bangkok 10320, Thailand <u>Email</u>: yani@tuttlemori-id.com <u>Tel</u>: +662 694 3026 | <u>Fax</u>: +662 694 3027

#### <u>Greece</u>

Michael Avramides, www.oaliterary.com <u>Address:</u> OA Literary Agency, 1 G. Evangeliou Street, Markopoulo, 19003, Greece <u>Email</u>: amichael@otenet.gr <u>Tel</u>: 0030 22990 23409 | 0030 22990 23940 | <u>Fax:</u> 0030 22990 23409

#### <u>Japan</u>

**Miko Yamanouchi**, www.japanuni.co.jp/english <u>Address:</u> Japan Uni Agency, Tokyodo Jinbocho No. 2 Bldg. 1-27 Kanda Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, 101-0051, Japan <u>Email:</u> miko.yamanouchi@japanuni.co.jp <u>Tel</u>: +81 (3) 3295 0301 | <u>Fax</u>: +81 (3) 3294 5173



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2/ 25 Earls Terrace, London W8 6LP +44 (0)7816 491189 editor@blackbird-books.com www.blackbird-books.com



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