

EVERYTHING WITH WORDS

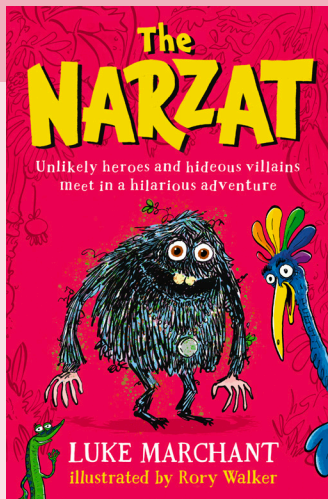


Fiction for Children and Adults **2024**

Everything with Words publishes literary fiction for children and adults. We began publishing fiction for children in 2017 and literary fiction for adults in 2020. Our books have been picked as books of the year by The Times, Sunday Times, Guardian, FT, Observer, Irish Times, and the Telegraph, and won or been shortlisted for prestigious prizes. We publish page-turning historical novels, classic fantasy, comedy, magical realism and bold young adult novels and adult literary fiction. We look for compelling, original writing that sweeps the reader along and characters that leap off the page, touch and surprise.

THE NARZAT

Luke Marchant



Luke Marchant studied English at Creative Writing at Cardiff University. He's worked as a primary school teacher for more than ten years and he's always loved writing.

'I was influenced by the fantasy world-building of Terry Pratchett's Maurice and his Amazing Rodents, the environmental adventures of Nirzanna Farook's The Boy Who Met a Whale, and having a humourous ensemble of characters such as Maz Evans' Who Let the Gods Out?'

A comic debut with captivating fantasy animal characters and a plot full of surprises.

The Narzat lives in the Jumble Jungle Wood with his friends the Looky Lizard (a feisty reptile who communicates through sign language) and the Chatty Chirper (a comically talkative bird who never shuts up).

Little is known about how the Narzat arrived there, but he wears a necklace bearing a meaningful inscription.

The Jumble Jungle Wood is full of animals you'd love to meet because they're fun and friendly but some, like the roaring Ravenoserous are absolutely lethal.

One day two villains arrive, Lord and Lady Snide, armed with guns and a fierce desire for furs and the Narzat's necklace.

'A wonderfully whacky story with bad baddies and loveable underdogs' Rashmi Sirdeshpande

'A Kooky Comic Debut' The Bookseller, May previews

'Wickedly Funny' Mary Rees, Book Craic

'A delightful blend of humour and heart that guarantees to captivate readers of all ages. A must-read for anyone seeking a whimsical escape into an imaginative world where absolutely anything is possible!'

Scott Evans, The Reader Teacher

- Age **6+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **204**

- Illustrations by **Rory Walker**
- Published **May 9th 2024**
- RRP **£7.99**

- ISBN **9781911427384**
- World rights



THE TALL MAN

Mary Cathleen Brown



Mary Cathleen Brown gained a first-class degree in Creative Writing from Birkbeck College, where she received the Michael Donaghy Poetry prize. Her story Owl Eyes came second in the Fish Short Story competition, 2019. Her poems and short stories have been widely published. She comes from Ireland but has lived much of her life in Mexico. She now lives in London.

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **324**

- Illustrated by **Ewa Beniak-Haremska**
- Published **June 6th 2024**
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN **9781911427391**
- World rights

A time slip adventure with a touch of horror. Can the mysterious boy in the cellar escape the Tall Man?

Tom has just moved to an eerily tall house known as the Tall Man's House. Tom hears a boy in the cellar offering a 'special' acorn to a rat, Captain Rat, whom he begs to find the key to his leg-iron.

The cellar is empty but Tom knows that the boy is real and he's convinced that he is trapped in a brutal past and the Tall Man's prisoner. Each time he tries to help the boy, the Tall Man who haunts the house becomes more menacing.

The village is alive with stories about the Tall Man, dead two hundred years but still fiercely alive whenever Tom slips into the past that haunts the Tall Man's house.

Can Tom and Captain Rat save the boy in the cellar?

'A chilling, thrilling time-travel mystery. The Tall Man casts a long, dark shadow in this gripping tale. Fantastic Illustrations.'

Phil Hickes, author of *The Haunting of Aveline Jones*

'Charming, whimsical and a perceptive study in loneliness'

Zillah Bethell, *The Song Walker*



THE OTHERS

Sarah Merrett



Sarah Merrett has worked as a librarian and bookseller. She was a finalist for Undiscovered Voices, came second place in Wells Book for Children competition, and was shortlisted for Searchlight Best Novel Opening Award, and longlisted for Bath Children's Novel, Mslexia Children's n WriteMentor children's novel awards.

A historical sci-fi adventure — an epic battle between extra-terrestrials and an evil professor.

Reuben lives in an observatory with his astronomer grandma who is determined to win the Guzman prize, based on a real historical French prize.

This prize was the sum of 100,000 francs, to be given to a person who succeeded in communicating with extra-terrestrials. Mars was ruled out as being too close, and too easy because life definitely exists on Mars!

Grandma has a competitor, the evil professor Pinfield. Reuben isn't allowed to leave the observatory but one day he sneaks out and discovers an alien whom he calls Blue. Professor Pinfield wants to capture Blue and put her in a cage.

Can Reuben save Blue? And who is Reuben and why did Grandma never allow him out of the observatory?

'For those craving a voyage beyond the stars, this tale is an absolute orbit of wonder.' Scott Evans, The Reader Teacher

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **324**

- Illustrated by **Ewa Beniak-Haremska**
- Published **July 4th 2024**
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN **9781911427407**
- World rights



THE LAST BOY

Eve McDonnell



A fantasy ghost thriller set among the stars

From the critically acclaimed author of *The Chestnut Roaster* a magical page-turner inspired by the true story of George Brewster, the last child chimney sweep. Brewster has been sold to a cruel Master Sweep to risk his life up the narrow jungle of chimneys to reach the sky. But Brewster has a SECRET: he's a wizard with numbers and he's predicted a terrifying storm of stars. Upon each star he'll cast his passionate wish to be the last climbing boy EVER. When a powerful woman offers to make his wish come true, Brewster is challenged to do something impossible in return... A WISH FOR A WISH!

'There is magic in these pages...' Helena Duggan

'Wondrous' Pádraig Kenny

'A spectacular adventure. Sumptuous language. History brought vividly to life' Patricia Forde

'Exciting, enthralling and engrossing with a Leviathan size heart' Sinéad O'Hart

Eve McDonnell is an artist and writer. She is the author of *Elsetime* and *The Chestnut Roaster*, a Guardian Best Book of the Year, Times Book of the Week and nominated for the Carnegie.

'Unforgettable'

The Times

'A pacy feast for the senses'

Observer

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **324**

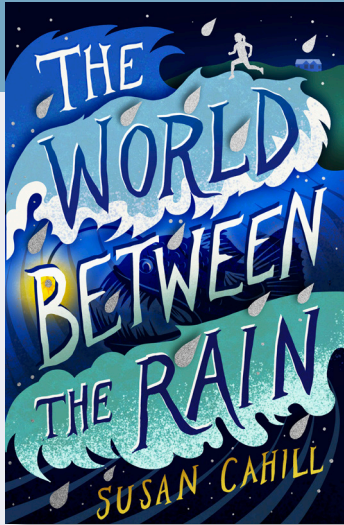
- Illustrated by **Holly Ovenden**
- Published September 12th 2024
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN **9781911427414**
- World rights



THE WORLD BETWEEN THE RAIN

Susan Cahill



Marina has vanished to a world of gods and demons just when her family need her most.

It's the week before Halloween and Marina is about to turn thirteen. Her father died a year ago. Her mother has strangely fallen asleep and no-one can wake her. She is sent to live with her mysterious grandmother, Ursula who tells her that that you can enter a strange world between the ever falling rain in the west of Ireland. Marina enters a haunting watery world full of strange creatures, demons and gods. Meanwhile, in our world a strange sleeping sickness has taken over.

A haunting fantasy thriller that is also about grief and letting go of the demons inside yourself.

Susan grew up by the sea in West Cork, Ireland. She has lived in the deserts of Saudi Arabia and the frozen winterland of Canada, and now calls London her home.

Obsessed with stories from a young age, Susan decided to study them in university, although secretly she always wanted to be a novelist. Becoming an Associate Professor of Literature instead, Susan taught in universities until she couldn't ignore her own stories clamouring to be told.

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **352**

- Illustrations by **Holly Ovenden**
- Published **October 24th 2024**
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN **9781911427384315**
- .World English Rights



BLACK GABLES

Eibhlís Carcione



Eibhlís Carcione is a children's author and teacher. She is also a bilingual poet who writes poems in Irish and English. She has published three poetry books in Irish and has won many prestigious prizes. She has written hundreds of poems, often about the power of nature, mermaids, myths, magic, and the occasional ghost.

Welcome to the world's creepiest school— Black Gables!

'The school lies at the edge of a dark lake in the village of Black Gables where the hills are haunted by the curlew's call. The school and village take their name from two looming black gables, all that's left of an old workhouse where many died. The walls between the gables are all gone and the gables form a ghostly entrance to the school, standing there like the backs of two stone beasts, all bramble overgrown and the wind whistling through dead windows. And beyond is the Stygian lake with its strange waters that change colours.'

Rosella's mother has lost her memory and her family have returned to Black Gables where she grew up in the hope something will stir her memory. But all is not right at Black Gables—in fact everything is wrong. The Head Teacher, Mr Edge is beyond sinister and he seems to be communicating with the lake ghouls.

Praise for **Welcome to Dead Town Raven McKay**

'Deliciously dark and gorgeously Gothic!' Kieran Larwood
'Compelling' Times, Best Summer Reads
'Prepare to be thrilled, spooked and enthralled'
Irish Examiner
'Gripping' Book Trust
'Readers aged eleven and up will be enchanted'
Literary Review

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **288**

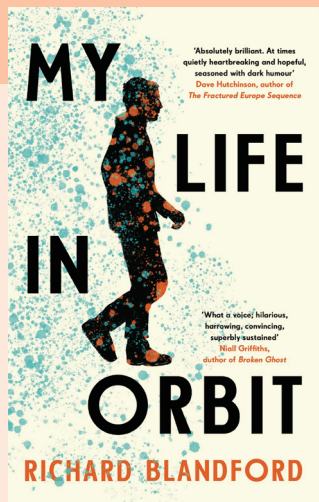
- Illustrations by Holly Ovenden
- Published **October 24th 2024**
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN **9781911427438**
- World English Rights, French rights



MY LIFE IN ORBIT

Richard Blandford



Present and past mingle in this tragi-comic sharply observed cocktail of the unexpected.

Fantasticus Autisticus, his best friend Olly calls him now. He doesn't really get it, but then he's got other things on his mind. There's the weekly haircut, his ritual orbit of the high street, and meeting his grown-up daughter for the first time at two o'clock.

But his day does not go to plan. First he is roped into Olly's haphazard attempt to recover money stolen from his fellow orbiter of the high street, Ahmet. Along the way he bumps into Teigan, who he longs to speak to but can never find the words. And then the nagging voice in his head he calls Daddy commands him to prepare his life story for his daughter. All of it.

And so he remembers. Growing up the only child of a single mother in poverty. The undefinable thing about him that made him different at school. His unlikely escape to university, and the teachings of a nineteenth century mystic.

Along the way, there are moments of both triumph and disaster, of love, friendship, and death. There are comic books (31,284 of them to be precise). And all of it has been leading to this day, when the orbit must break, and everything changes...

'Absolutely brilliant— at times quietly heartbreaking and hopeful, and seasoned with dark humour.' Dave Hutchinson, Fractured Europe Sequel

Richard Blandford was born in Cardiff and grew up in Southampton. After a period spent studying and teaching Art History in Manchester and Winchester, his first novel, *Hound Dog*, was published in 2006 by Jonathan Cape. Detailing the adventures of a sociopathic Elvis impersonator, it was praised by author Dan Rhodes, who called it 'squalid, raucous and wildly entertaining'. It was followed by the coming-of-age story *Flying Saucer Rock and Roll* in 2008, also published by Cape.

- **Adult fiction**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **304**

- Published **July 4th 2024**
- RRP **£9.99**
- ISBN **9781911427377**

- World rights



NIGHT OF TINY SUNS

Edward King
Literary Fiction



Edward King (not his real name) did active service in Afghanistan. *Night of Tiny Suns* is based on his experience. All royalties from this book will go to a military mental health charity.

'Fact is a poor storyteller. You can be more honest in fiction. It protects. It condenses and encapsulates. But the authenticity of this valley, its characters and the colour of its events, are assured first-hand.

Tensions are already running high between the Taliban and local villagers when a boy is killed

Captain Nick Russell is an advisor to the Afghan National Army and commands a small group of soldiers. When the Taliban co-opt a local youth to assist in seeding improvised mines, they inadvertently turn the villagers against them. The boy is killed by a British missile. His father, a Mujahideen veteran, Gul Khan, blames himself. Bound by the Pashtun honour code to seek vengeance, he chooses to direct his retribution not at the British but at the local Taliban leader, Haji Mansur who gave him twenty dollars for his son's life.

Nick forges a strong, personal bond with Gul Khan. Haji Mansur plans revenge. The climax is brutal as each fails to protect those they care for most. The narrative moves between perspectives with clinical precision, forcing the reader to empathise with all sides..

An intimate account of the shared experience of war; fear, courage boredom, exhaustion, the ugliness of death, the brutal speed of events. A gripping study of conflicting loyalties—to causes, family, lovers, comrades in arms, collective illusions—in which the main characters are haunted by feelings of isolation, flimsy self-esteem, their own past and a sense of honour.

For readers of **The Naked and the Dead** by Norman Mailer; **From the City, from the Plough**, by Alexander Baron, **Rain**, by Barney Campbell.

- Fiction
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **304**

- Published **October 24th 2024**
- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN **9781911427421**

World Rights



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

WELCOME TO DEAD TOWN RAVEN

MCKAY

Eibhlís Carcione



When her parents disappear, 12-year-old Raven McKay is put into foster care in the town of Grave's Pass. It's not an ordinary town. It's a town where the living and the dead live side by side, but few wear their identity on their sleeves.

'Deliciously dark and gorgeously Gothic' – Kieran Larwood

A Times Best Summer Reads 2023

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Illustrations by **Ewa Beniak-Haremska**
- Pages **288**
- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN **9781911427339**
- World English, Italian and French rights

SWEET SKIES

Robin Scott-Elliott



Berlin, 1948. A city besieged. A boy reaches for the sky and dares to dream in a city where betrayal is everywhere.

'Unusually convincing and atmospheric' – Sunday Times

'Alive with atmosphere, action and dynamic dialogue' – LoveReading4Kids

'Immersive, fascinating, transportive' – Hilary McKay

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **288**
- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN **9781911427322**
- World rights

THE KINGDOM OF BROKEN MAGIC

Christine Aziz



A whirlwind of a story with talking tigers, a knitting elephant and a sinister monkey. In the Kingdom of Broken Magic, who can you trust?

'Vibrantly visual, in The Kingdom of Broken Magic Aziz has created a richly-imagined world that fizzles with drama and big themes, and all delivered in an energetic style that will engage 8+-year-old adventure-lovers.' – LoveReading4Kids
Debut of the Month

- Age **7+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Illustrations by **Ewa Beniak-Haremska**
- Pages **246**
- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN **9781911427308**
- World rights

RUNNER HAWK

Michael Egan



Something is happening to Leo, something is happening to his world, but will anyone listen? Leo is running out of time – has he got enough days left to learn how to live love, and catch a killer? Ishiguro's Never Let me Go meets The Catcher in the Rye in this beautifully crafted coming of age love story and fantasy thriller.

A Times & Sunday Times Best Children's Book of the Year 2023

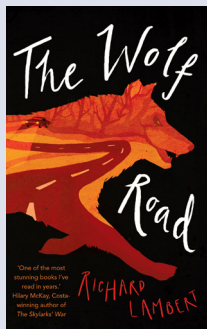
- Age **12+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **320**
- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN **9781911427360**
- World rights



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

THE WOLF ROAD

Richard Lambert



Carnegie longlisted, a Guardian & Times Best Book of the Year. A gripping thriller that is also a tale of loss and grief.

- Age 12+
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages 352
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN 9781911427162
- World rights (rights sold: Russian, Italian, Lithuanian, Korean, simplified Chinese)

SHADOW TOWN

Richard Lambert



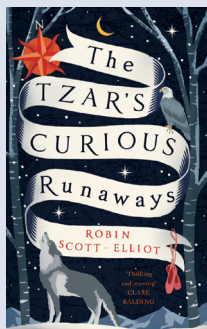
A Times Best Book of the Year. Toby follows his cat Alfred into a spine chilling world of deception and love. A gothic tale.

- Age 9+
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages 356
- RRP **£7.99**

- ISBN 9781911427223
- World rights (rights sold: Russian)

THE TZAR'S CURIOUS RUNAWAYS

Robin Scott-Elliot



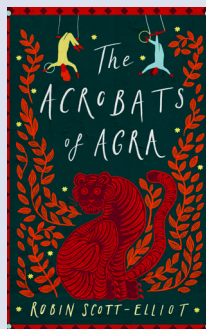
A Telegraph Best Book of the Year. The Tzar – Peter the Great – has died and those who belong to his Circus of Curiosities must fend for themselves. Can they survive?

- Age 9+
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages 304

- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN 9781911427131
- World rights

THE ACROBATS OF AGRA

Robin Scott-Elliot



A Guardian Best Book of the Year. It's the year of the Indian rebellion: 1857, a French Circus is trapped in Agra under siege, can two children save a starving tiger?

- Age 9+
- B-format **Paperback**
- Illustrations by **Holly Ovenden**

- Pages 304
- RRP **£8.99**
- ISBN 9781911427148
- World rights



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

ELSETIME

Eve McDonnell



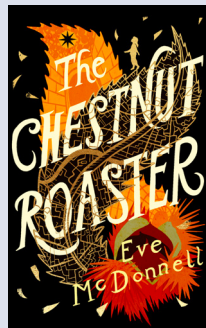
Shortlisted for the Awesome Book Award. There's a flood and twelve people will die. Can two children travel back in time and save them?

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **346**
- RRP **£8.99**

- ISBN **9781911427179**
- World rights (rights sold: German)

THE CHESTNUT ROASTER

Eve McDonnell



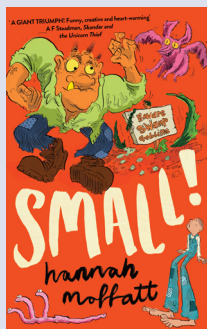
A Guardian Best Book of the Year. Paris 1888. Everyone seems to have suddenly lost their memory of last year. Can Piaf and her brother Luc catch the memory thief? Nominated for the Carnegie

- Age **9+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Pages **336**

- RRP **£7.99**
- ISBN **9781911427292**
- World rights

SMALL!

Hannah Moffatt



A Times Book of the Week . Shortlisted for the Waterstones' Children's Book Prize. Harvey is in a giant world but on stilts. If the giants discover, they'll stomp him into a sandwich!

- Age **6+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Illustrations by **Rory Walker**

- Pages **224**
- RRP **£6.99**
- ISBN **9781911427278**
- World English rights

SMALL BITES BACK

Hannah Moffatt



The hilarious sequel to Small!

Beware this book contains vampires, were-wolves, zombies and tooth-fairies! Viscount Bloodsucker, vampire in chief, has got a dream. Will he realize it or will Harvey, with the help of some friendly were-wolves frustrate his hopes?

A Sunday Times Book of the Week

- Age **6+**
- B-format **Paperback**
- Illustrations by **Rory Walker**

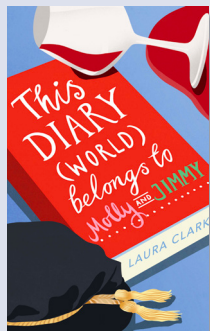
- Pages **226**
- RRP **£7.99**
- ISBN **9781911427346**
- World English rights



RECENT HIGHLIGHTS

THIS DIARY (WORLD) BELONGS TO MOLLY AND JONNY

Laura Clark



BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY meets ELEANOR OLIPHANT IS COMPLETELY FINE.

A story of unpredictable passions, unforgettable characters and the battle of Narvik.

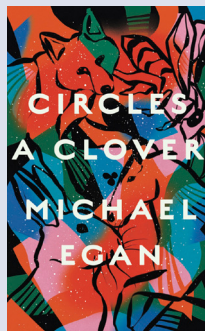
'Hilarious—I couldn't get enough of these characters. Different and moreish'
— Daily Mail

- Adult fiction
- B-format Paperback
- Pages 192

- RRP £9.99
- ISBN 9781911427261
- World rights

CIRCLES A CLOVER

Michael Egan



Kyle Halfpenny thinks she understand her world, but suddenly all unravels in a week of discovery on a mysterious island full of rabbits and wild horses.

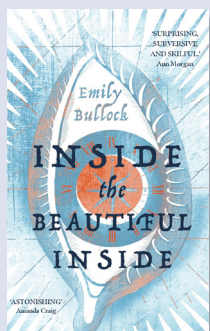
'An intricate and haunting book. There's a dark magic to the world Egan explores.'
— Jenn Ashworth

- Adult fiction
- 216 x 135mm Hardback
- Pages 192

- RRP £14.99
- ISBN 9781911427209
- World rights

INSIDE THE BEAUTIFUL INSIDE

Emily Bullock



ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST meets MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY – an exploration of love, suffering and compassion wrapped into a sensual and lyrical tale of one man's lonely Odyssey.

'Haunting' – Sunday Times, Best Historical novels of the Month

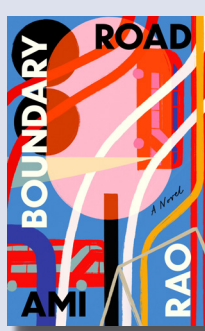
- Adult fiction
- B-format Paperback
- Pages 240

- RRP £8.99
- ISBN 978199427193
- World rights

BOUNDARY ROAD

Ami Rao

Shortlisted for the Jhalak Prize



We are on the 13, heading for Boundary Road. Hardly anyone is travelling light. Everyone has got something to share: love, desires, illusions and often a beguiling, life-affirming lack of restraint when in the company of strangers.

'A fascinating cross section of contemporary multi-cultural London ... An engaging, insightful read.' – Priscilla Morris, author of Black Butterflies

- Adult fiction
- B-format Paperback
- Pages 256

- RRP £9.99
- ISBN 9781911427353
- World rights



Sales

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orders@centralbooks.com

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Review copies

mikka@everythingwithwords.com

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Foreign rights

Children's fiction – Jane Willis

jwillis@unitedagents.co.uk | +44 (0)7824 990 510

Adult fiction – Anna Watkins

awatkins@unitedagents.co.uk | +44 (0)2032 140 800

US & Commonwealth rights – Mikka Haugaard

mikka@everythingwithwords.com | +44 (0)7768 356 753



www.everythingwithwords.com
info@everythingwithwords.com