



FAIRLIGHT BOOKS

2019 collection

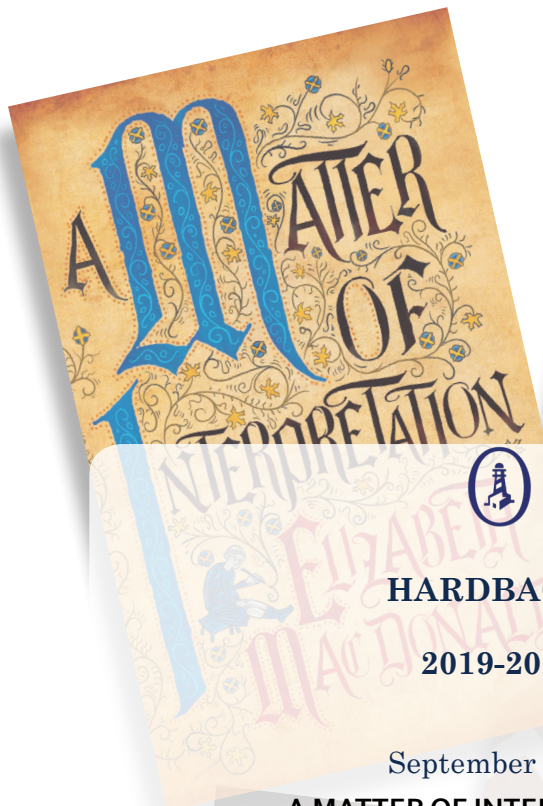
Welcome to the Fairlight Books 2019 catalogue.

Fairlight Books has one aim – to celebrate quality writing and promote the best of new and contemporary literary fiction.

We are passionate about making literary fiction more accessible to readers, through attractive books with illustration-led covers, and by doing all we can to support UK bookshops.



FAIRLIGHT BOOKS
Seriously Good Storytelling



HARDBACKS

2019-2020

September 2019

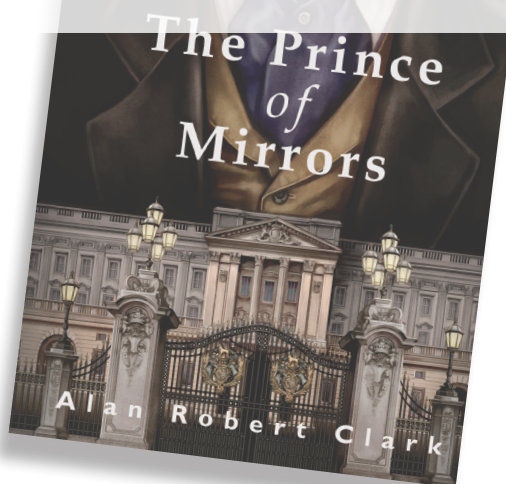
A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION

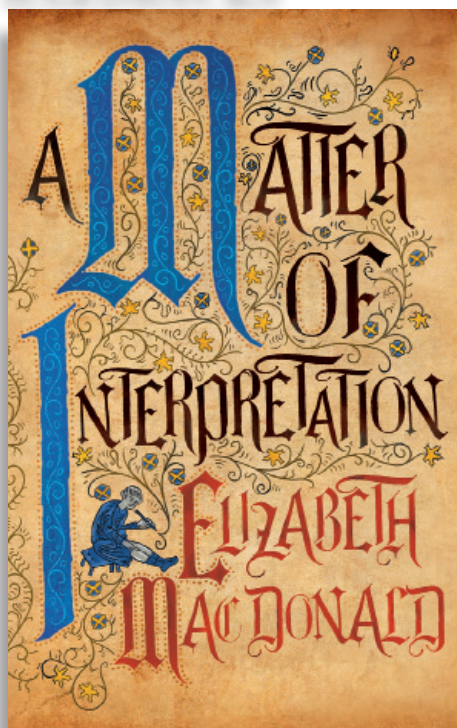
Elizabeth Mac Donald

Early 2020

VALHALLA

Alan Robert Clark





A MATTER OF INTERPRETATION

Elizabeth Mac Donald

It's thirteenth-century Europe and young monk, Michael Scot, has been asked by the Holy Roman Emperor to translate the works of Aristotle and recover his 'lost' knowledge.

The Scot sets to his task, travelling from the Emperor's Italian court to the translation schools of Toledo and from there to the Moorish library of Córdoba. But when the Pope deems the translations heretical, the Scot refuses to desist. So begins a battle for power between Church and State – one that shaped how we view the world today.

'In lush historic prose, Elizabeth Mac Donald leads the reader on a complex journey, where all interactions are tinged with superstition and suspicion.'

—Nuala O'Connor, author of
Becoming Belle

ELIZABETH MAC DONALD – born in Dublin, Ireland, Elizabeth is a widely published writer of short stories, essays and translations. She lives in Italy where she teaches English at the University of Pisa.

SEPTEMBER

ISBN: 9781912054701
Demy Format HARDBACK
£12.99 | 400pp
5 September '19

VALHALLA

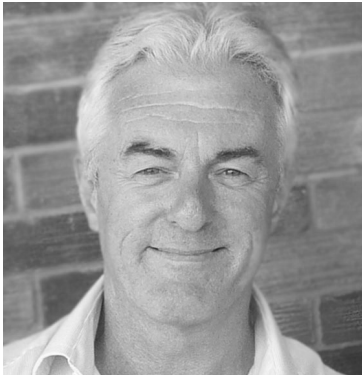
Alan Robert Clark

author of *The Prince of Mirrors*

Following the death of Prince Eddy, his intended wife Mary of Teck becomes instead the consort of his brother Georgie, who was later to be known as King George V.

Born into the lower ranks of royalty, and with neither beauty nor fortune, Mary of Teck never expected to find herself admitted to its highest echelon. Forced to be totally subservient to her husband, Mary lets her true self freeze over, sacrificing the person she might have become to do her duty.

The once warm and witty young girl pays a heavy price for her entry to 'Valhalla'.



*The story of Prince Eddy's
wife that never was...*

EARLY 2020

ISBN: 9781912054169
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Early '20

FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



Antic Lands
WILLIAM SENEVIL

FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



Issue to Bo B
ANTHONY FERNER

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GREGORY BA

FAIRLIGHT

The Fairlight Moderns are a collection of short modern fiction books set in different locations around the world.

Smaller than a novel in both size and length, yet all heavy-hitters in their own right, the novellas are the perfect way to bring literary fiction into our busy lives.

Ideal for book club readers who enjoy fiction with contemporary themes and quality writing, the series is supported with reading notes and author pages on the Fairlight Books website www.fairlightbooks.co.uk.

All novella illustrations by Sam Kalda.

Milton in Purgatory
EDWARD VASS

There Are Things I Know
KAREN B. GOLIGHTLY

Minutes from t
OMAR SA



FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



The House
SARA MARCHANT



FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



The Driveway Has Two
SARA MARCHANT



FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



The Therapist
NIAL GIACOMELLI



FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



The Miracle City
EMMA TIMPANY



FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



Travelling in the Dark
EMMA TIMPANY

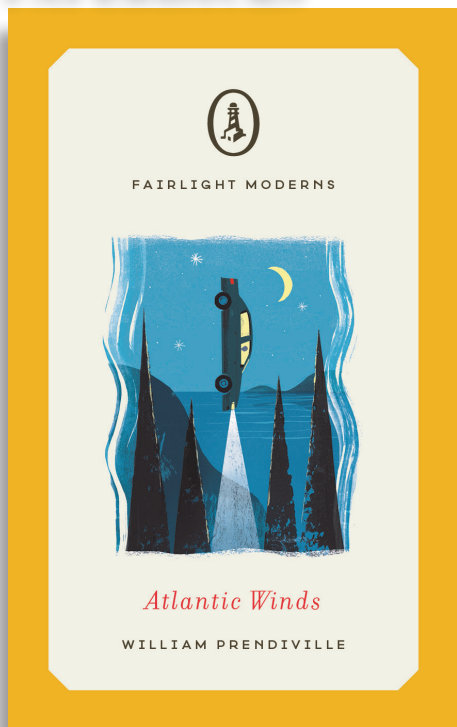


FAIRLIGHT MODERNS



Bottled Goods
NIAL GIACOMELLI





ATLANTIC WINDS

William Prendiville

'There was no proof, but there was small town certainty, which is stronger than proof.'

It's 1970s Canada. The small island community of Bear Lake is awash with rumours of lay-offs and wildcat strikes at the mill. But for young Tom, nothing is more important than hanging out with his best friend, Cormic, except perhaps catching a glimpse of Sasha Donovanovitch, the foreman's daughter.

When a tragic accident occurs at the mill, the whole community unites – but in a small town, pointed fingers and hushed gossip can only stir further trouble...

'I read it at a sitting, and then again to savour its rich characterisation and powerful story.'

—Allan Massie, novelist and journalist

WILLIAM PRENDIVILLE is a journalist with a background in copywriting. Born in Ireland, he grew up in Newfoundland and Ontario, Canada. He now lives and works in Paris.

JULY

ISBN: 9781912054787
A Format PAPERBACK
£7.99 | 144pp
11 July '19

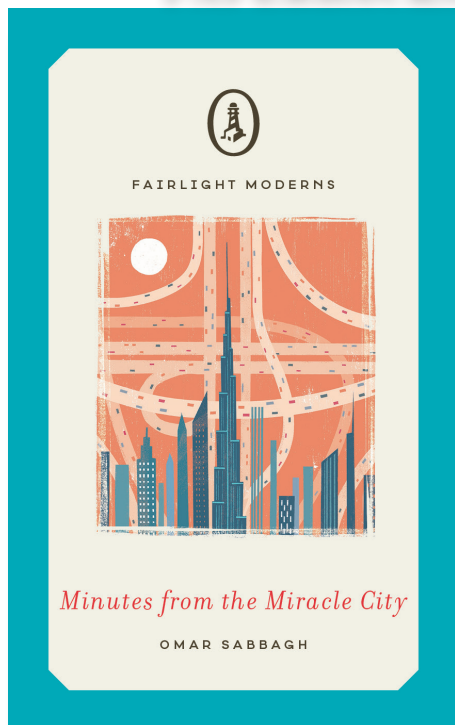
MINUTES FROM THE MIRACLE CITY

Omar Sabbagh

'Even if there was now a Ministry for Happiness in Dubai, she was still unsure of her own.'

Farida, a Moroccan beautician hoping for a fresh start. Hakim, a Pakistani taxi driver whizzing through the streets. Patrick, a Ugandan security guard with aspirations of becoming a writer. Saeed, a respected Emirati journalist just back from London.

Taking place across the last few days of Ramadan, *Minutes from the Miracle City* is a unique retelling of the virtuoso project that is Dubai.



'Sabbagh gives us something we do not expect: a small place packed with complex dwellers.'

—Adnan Mahmutović, author of *How to Fare Well and Stay Fair*

OMAR SABBAGH is a widely published prose and poetry writer, academic and Associate Professor of English at the American University in Dubai. *Minutes from the Miracle City* is his second novella.

JULY

ISBN: 9781912054664

A Format PAPERBACK

£7.99 | 144pp

11 July '19



MILTON IN PURGATORY

Edward Vass

*'I've seen love and loss so many times.
First cuts into the fresh flesh always scar
the deepest.'*

Milton Pitt leads an uneventful life, with a dull job and a secret longing for adventure. One morning, after he is hit by a speeding car, he suffers an out-of-body experience and awakens back in his bedroom. Everything is just the same – that is, except for the bloody footprints leading to the chimney...

Is this his chance to lead a better life?
Was it just a dream?
Or is he simply dead?

In this richly inventive and humorous novella, Edward Vass brings the themes of Dante's *Divine Comedy* 700 years into the future.

.....
EDWARD VASS is a marketing and advertising specialist. He began to experiment with writing and coming up with ideas for stories while teaching English in South Korea. Edward currently lives just outside Brighton with his family.
.....

AUGUST

ISBN: 9781912054367
A Format PAPERBACK
£7.99 | 192pp
1 August '19

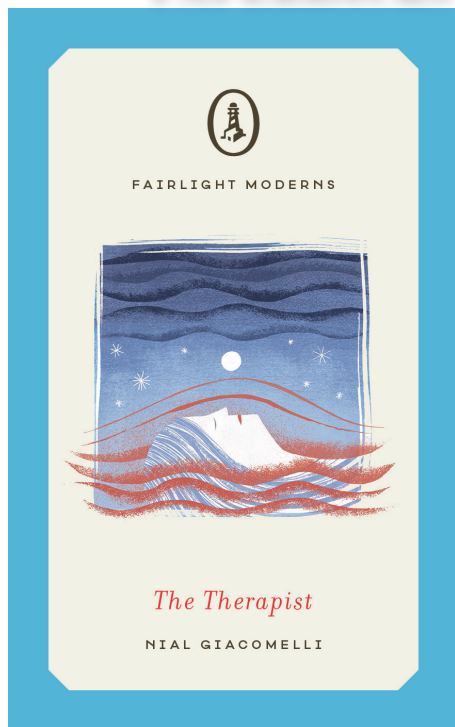
THE THERAPIST

Nial Giacomelli

'I am levitating above the curvature of the earth. Weightless, unencumbered. Flung like a comet out of the atmosphere to drift eternally along the firmament.'

In this bittersweet and hauntingly surreal tale, a couple finds the distance between them mirrored in a strange epidemic sweeping the globe. Little by little, each victim becomes transparent, their heart beating behind a visible rib cage, an intricate network of nerves left hanging in mid-air. Finally, the victims disappear entirely, never to be seen again.

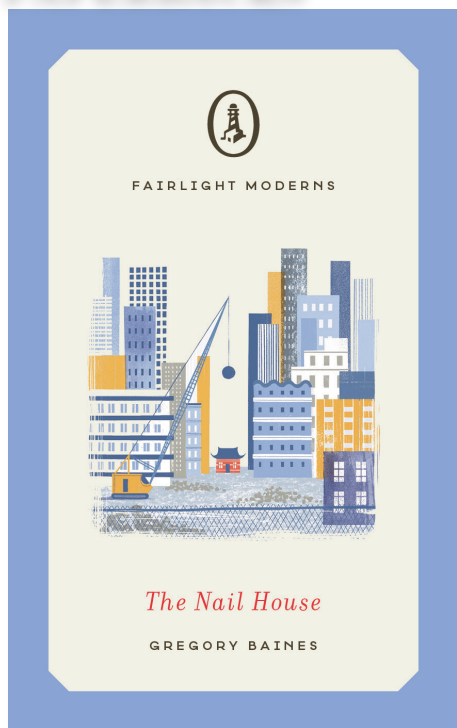
'I dreamt we were at sea,' she says.



NIAL GIACOMELLI was born in England. After living in the States for a number of years, Nial is now back in the United Kingdom where he works as a software developer. *The Therapist* is his debut novella.

AUGUST

ISBN: 9781912054909
A Format PAPERBACK
£7.99 | 176pp
1 August '19



THE NAIL HOUSE

Gregory Baines

*'Life is guerrilla war, a constant struggle.
You have to know when to retreat and
when to attack.'*

Lindon, an Australian project manager with a failed marriage behind him, is lured to China with the promise of a lucrative salary. His task: to solve the problem of a 'nail house', the home of a stubborn old man who refuses to relocate, even as the bulldozers move in and the skyscrapers grow around him.

But as Lindon negotiates with the old man's family, he finds sense where there is none, and love where there is war.

GREGORY BAINES is a short story writer, extensively published in anthologies and online. He has one novel published in China, *Disco Mao*. For many years Gregory lived in China but is currently based in Australia.



AUGUST

ISBN: 9781912054961
A Format PAPERBACK
£7.99 | 192pp
1 August '19

THE DRIVEWAY HAS TWO SIDES

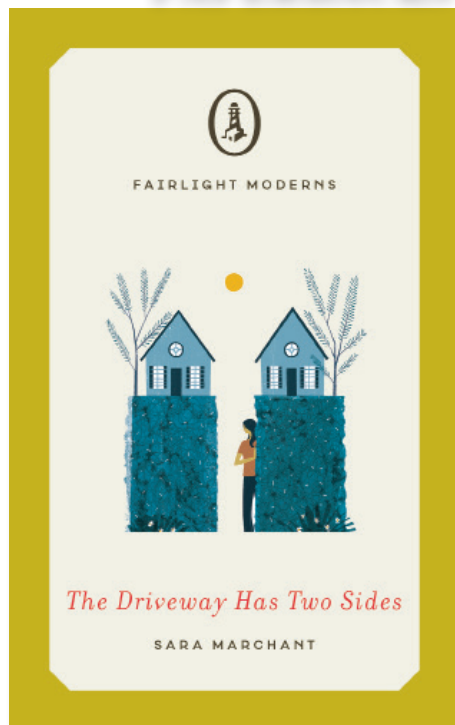
Sara Marchant

'The girl danced with the shovel as she moved the soil. From his upstairs window, the man who shared a driveway could be seen smiling.'

On an East Coast island, full of tall pine moaning with sea gusts, Delilah moves into a cottage by the shore. The locals gossip as they watch her cleaning, black hair tied back in a white rubber band. They don't like it when she plants a garden out front – orange-red *Carpinus caroliniana* and silvery-blue hosta. Very unusual, they whisper.

Across the driveway lives a man who never goes out. Delilah knows he's watching her and she likes the look of him, but perhaps life is too complicated already...

SARA MARCHANT is a published author of short stories. She lives in the high desert of southern California with her husband, two dogs, a goat and five chickens.

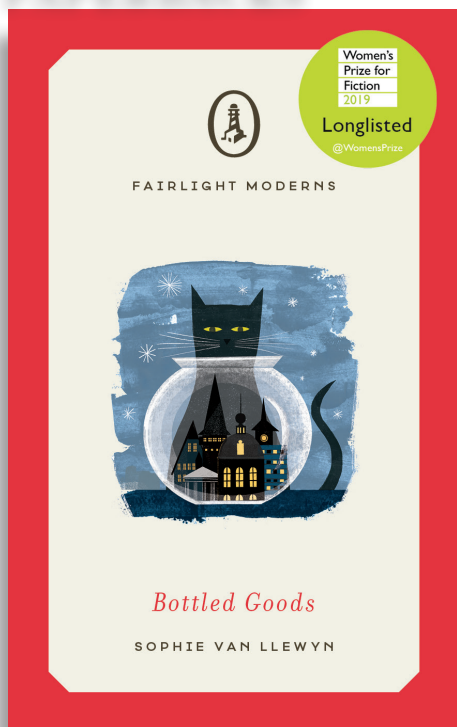


'This story unfolds beautifully, with a balance of mystery and wry insight that keeps you turning the pages.'

—MaryYukari Waters, author of *The Laws of Evening*

OUT NOW

ISBN: 9781912054428
A Format PAPERBACK
£7.99 | 144pp
July '18



BOTTLED GOODS

Sophie van Llewyn

Longlisted for **The Women's Prize for Fiction 2019**, **The Republic of Consciousness Prize 2019** and **The People's Book Prize 2018**

When Alina's brother-in-law defects to the West, she and her husband become persons of interest to the secret services and both of their careers come grinding to a halt.

As the strain takes its toll on their marriage, Alina turns to her aunt for help – the wife of a communist leader and a secret practitioner of the old folk ways.

Set in 1970s communist Romania, this novella-in-flash draws upon magic realism to weave a captivating tale of everyday troubles.

SOPHIE VAN LLEWYN was born in south-eastern Romania. She has published and won awards for her flash fiction and short stories across the UK, Europe and the States. *Bottled Goods* is Sophie's debut long fiction work.

'This stunning debut novella shows us there is no dystopian fiction as frightening as that which draws on history.'

—Christina Dalcher, author of *VOX*

OUT NOW

ISBN: 9781912054305
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July '18

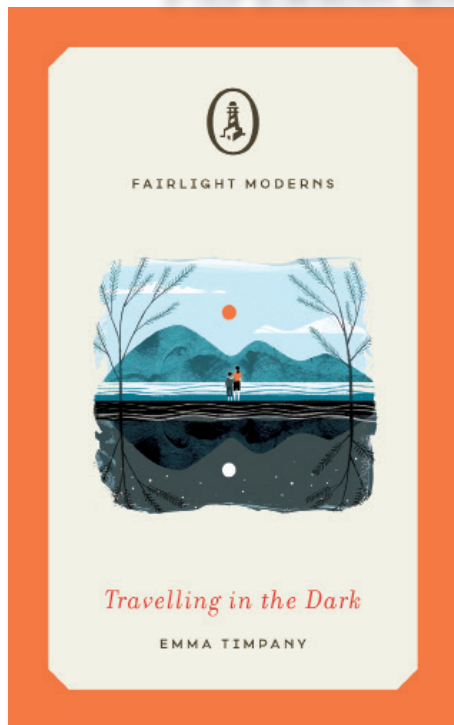
TRAVELLING IN THE DARK

Emma Timpany

'I have travelled to a place that you cannot buy a ticket to; there is no train that goes there, no boat, no plane; there is no map that you can follow to find it; there is no road. It lies on the other side of that circle of light.'

Sarah is travelling with her young son back to her home town in the south of New Zealand. But when debris from an earthquake closes the road before her, she is forced to extend her journey and divert through the places from her youth that she had hoped never to return to.

As the memories of her childhood resurface, Sarah knows that for the sake of her son, she must face up to them now or be lost forever.



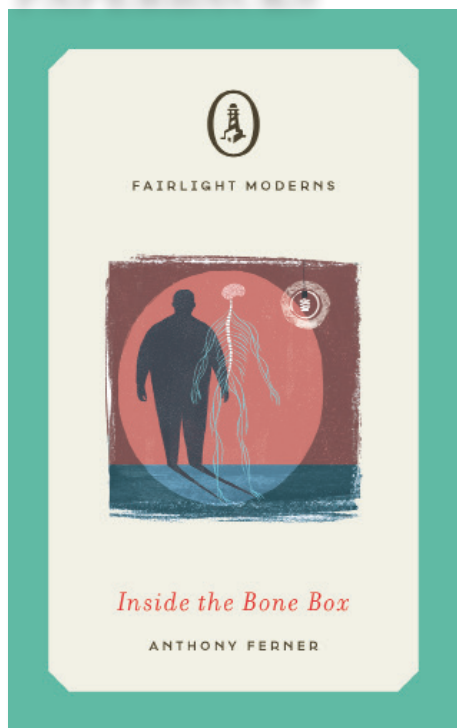
'A tour de force of imagery and emotion.'

—Clio Gray, author of *The Anatomist's Dream*

EMMA TIMPANY is an editor and award-winning author of short story collections. Born and raised in Dunedin, New Zealand, Emma now lives in Cornwall with her husband and two daughters.

OUT NOW

ISBN: 9781912054480
A Format PAPERBACK
£7.99 | 192pp
July '18



INSIDE THE BONE BOX

Anthony Ferner

'As he tiptoed his way through the twisting paths of sulci and fissures and ventricles, he'd play Bach, something austere yet dynamic.'

Nicholas Anderton is a highly respected neurosurgeon at the top of his field. But behind the successful façade all is not well. Tormented by a toxic marriage and haunted by past mistakes, Anderton has been eating to forget. His wife, meanwhile, has turned to drink.

There are sniggers behind closed doors – how can a surgeon be fat? When mistakes are made and his old adversary steps in to take advantage, Anderton knows things are coming to a head...

'Very accurate.'

—Nick Thomas FRCS (Glas), FRCS (Eng), FRCS (SN),
Consultant Neurosurgeon

ANTHONY FERNER is a former professor of international business and is the author of numerous research articles and monographs. He has one other published novella.



OUT NOW

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July '18

THERE ARE THINGS I KNOW

Karen B. Golightly

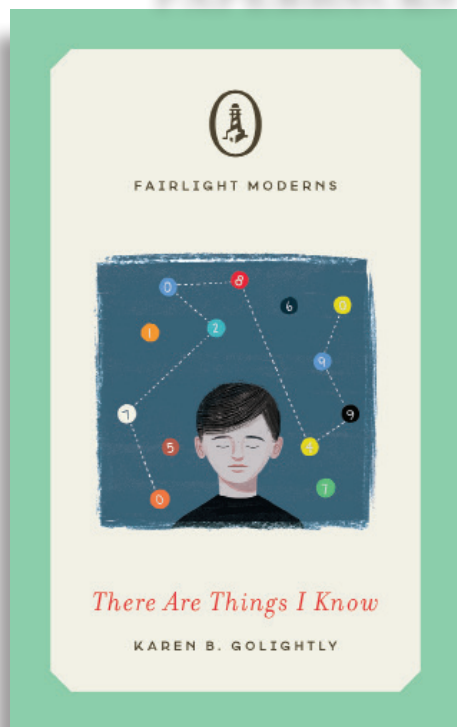
'There are things I know, things I remember, and things that other people tell me.'

Eight-year-old Pepper sees the world a little differently from most people.

One day, during a school field trip, Pepper is kidnapped by a stranger and driven to rural Arkansas. The man, who calls himself 'Uncle Dan', claims that Pepper's mother has died and they are to live together from now on – but the boy isn't convinced.

Pepper has always found it hard to figure out when people are lying, but he's absolutely certain his mother is alive, and he's going to find her...

KAREN B. GOLIGHTLY is an associate professor of English and holds a PhD from Southern Illinois University. Her short stories, poetry, non-fiction works and photography have been published in many international literary and arts journals.



'Pepper proves a tenacious, resourceful hero in his own drama. Immensely readable and sweetly told.'

—Marti Leimbach, author of *Daniel Isn't Talking*

OUT NOW

ISBN: 9781912054602
A Format PAPERBACK
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July '18



**FIND
ME
FALLING**



PAPERBACKS

2019

March 2019

FIND ME FALLING
Fiona Vigo Marshall



**BEYOND
KIDDING**

June 2019

THE PRINCE OF MIRRORS
Alan Robert Clark

October 2019

BEYOND KIDDING
Lynda Clark



**THE PRINCE
OF
MIRRORS**

ALAN ROBERT CLARK

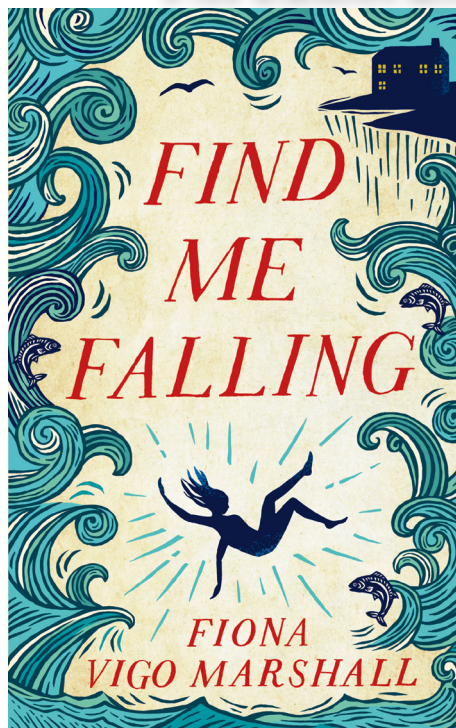
FIND ME FALLING

Fiona Vigo Marshall

'She bought a house where you can hear the sea, murmuring on the edge of consciousness...'

Bonnie, a traumatised concert pianist, finds refuge at the edge of England, in a cliff-top house haunted by memories and broken dreams.

When Dominic, a road sweeper who is visited by neurological hauntings of his own, gives Bonnie a ring he finds on the street, elemental forces are unleashed that neither is able to control.



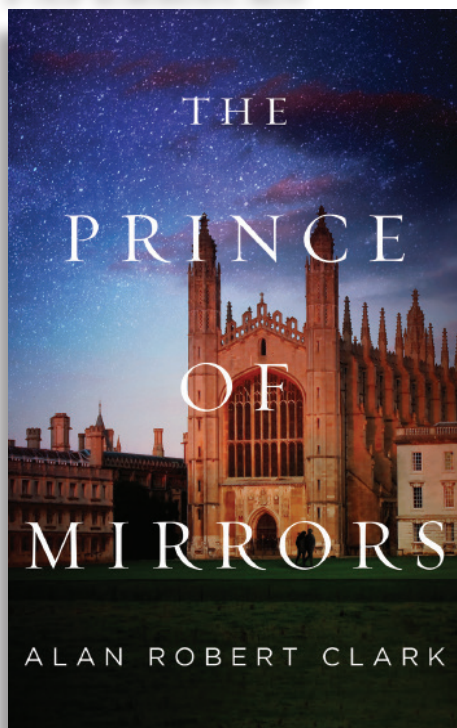
FIONA VIGO MARSHALL is a short story writer who, after winning the V. S. Pritchett Memorial Prize in 2016, turns to long fiction for the first time. She has previously worked as a journalist and a non-fiction publisher.

'The evocation of the eerie alternate realities that are just a few misfiring neurones away for us all stays with the reader long after the last page is turned.'

—Dr Sallie Baxendale, Consultant Neuropsychologist, Department of Clinical & Experimental Epilepsy Institute of Neurology, University College London

MARCH

ISBN: 9781912054220
B Format PAPERBACK
£8.99 | 304pp
7 March '19



THE PRINCE OF MIRRORS

Alan Robert Clark

Included in **The Walter Scott Prize**
2019 Academy's recommendation list

Two men with expectations. One predicted to succeed, the other to fail...

Prince Albert Victor, heir presumptive to the British throne, is seen as disastrously inadequate to be king. The grandson of Queen Victoria, he is good-hearted but intensely shy and, some whisper, even slow-witted.

By contrast, Jem Stephen is a renowned intellectual, a poet and a golden boy worshipped by all. But a looming curse of mental instability is threatening to take it all away.

Appointed as the prince's personal tutor, Jem works to prepare him for the duty to come. A friendship grows between the men – one that will allow them to understand and finally accept who they really are, and change both of their lives forever.

ALAN ROBERT CLARK – previously a copywriter and creative director for several leading London advertising agencies, Alan has ghostwritten and co-authored a number of biographies.

.....
*'The Prince Of Mirrors is
that rarest and most elusive
of things: a joy to read.'*

—Neil McKenna, the author of
Fanny & Stella

JUNE

ISBN: 9781912054121
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20 June '19

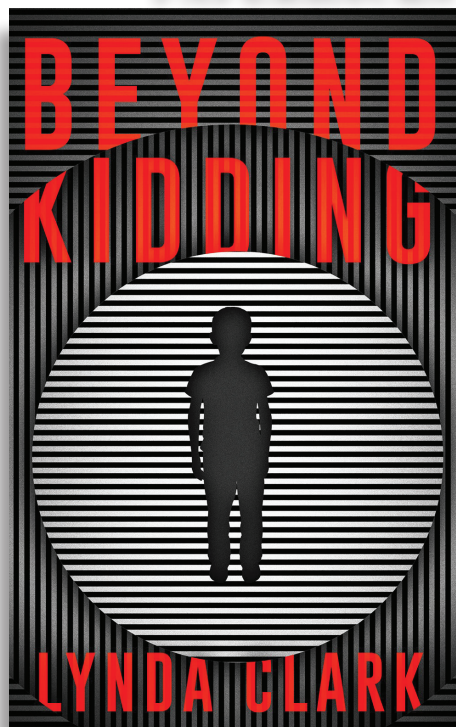
Already available in hardback:
ISBN: 9781912054107
£12.99 | 336pp

BEYOND KIDDING

Lynda Clark

When Robert (or Kidder, as his best friend calls him) decides to impress at a job interview by making up a son, he discovers that maintaining the lie is far harder than he thought – so he invents a story that 'Brodie' has been kidnapped. After all, it's not like they're going to find the fake boy.

But a few weeks later, Kidder receives a call to collect his non-existent son from the police station – a boy who looks exactly like the picture he photoshopped...



...A darkly humorous, genre-bending work of literary sci-fi. Lynda Clark is a new talent to discover for lovers of Kurt Vonnegut and Douglas Coupland.

LYNDA CLARK'S stories have been published in a number of anthologies. She won the Commonwealth Short Story Prize for Europe and Canada. Lynda is currently undertaking a PhD in Creative Writing in Interactive Fiction at Nottingham Trent University. *Beyond Kidding* is her debut novel.

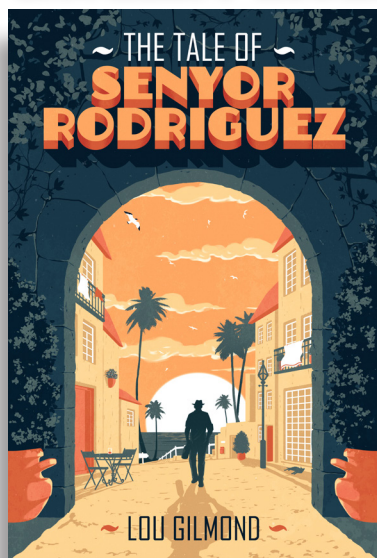
OCTOBER

ISBN: 9781912054848

B Format PAPERBACK

£8.99 | TBCpp

October '19



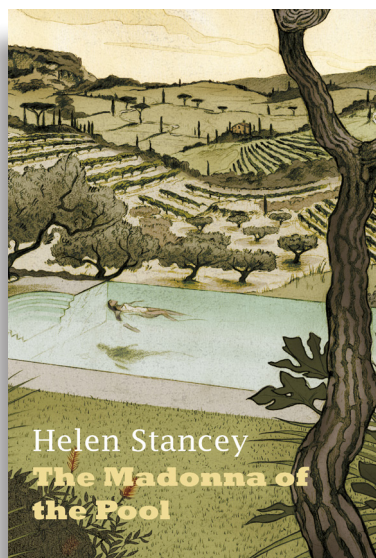
THE TALE OF SENYOR RODRIGUEZ

Lou Gilmond

'Jose Gonzalez smoothed back his hair and straightened his suit as if to present the best memory to my writer's eye.'

'A literary mystery page-turner.'

—Jake Jones, book reviewer



THE MADONNA OF THE POOL

Helen Stancey

'We're clever. We wouldn't be here if we weren't.'

'Stancey has pieced together a collection that feels subtle and truthful to the human experience.'

—The Book Bag

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