

# FAIRLIGHT BOOKS 2020 collection



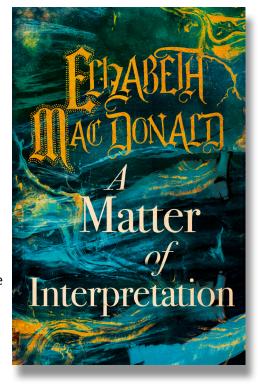
Fairlight Books is a new publisher, launched to celebrate quality writing and promote the best of new and contemporary literary fiction.

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.

# 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.

'A powerful blending of fact and fiction.'

— The Irish Examiner

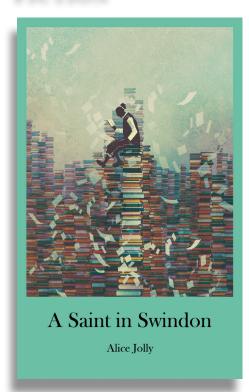
'Elizabeth Mac Donald knows how to grip the reader.'

— The Tablet

MARCH

ISBN: 9781912054725
B Format PAPERBACK
£8.99 | 400pp
26 Mar 20
#MatterOfInterpretation

FICTION



: Written by award-winning author Alice Jolly, and based on an idea by the book lovers of Swindon town, this funny and, ultimately, dystopian tale, reminds us of the importance of literature in an increasingly dark world.

# A SAINT IN SWINDON Alice Jolly

When a stranger arrives in town, with a bulging blue bag and a whiff of adventure, the neighbourhood takes notice. When he asks for his meals to be sent to his room and peace and quiet for reading, curiosity turns to obsession. Each day he stays there, locked in his room, demanding books: Plath, Kafka, Orwell, Lawrence, Fitzgerald, James, Brontë (the eldest), Dickens, Dumas, Kesey – on and on, the stranger never leaving his room.

Who exactly is he?

What is he reading?

And will it be able to save us from the terrible state of the world?

'An insight into a fascinating and inspiring world of reading! '

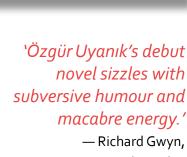
— Debbie Hicks MBE Creative Director, The Reading Agency

# CONCEPTION Özgür Uyanık

Enter Anonymous, a middle-ranking artist rolling between minor shows in New York, London and İstanbul. With his career sliding into obscurity, shamefully forced to consider advertising work to make ends meet, he knows he must break new ground if he is to survive.

With his mother's encouragement, he decides upon his next work of art: an act of self-violation so outrageous, so horrific, the art world will be forced to take notice. But will it be enough to raise him to the ranks of the elite?

Conception is the journey of a sociopath who will do whatever it takes to get ahead; a dark comedy exploring who and what determines the value of art.



- Richard Gwyn, poet and novelist



writer and film-maker. His debut feature film premiered at the 17th Raindance Film Festival. He is currently a PhD candidate in Creative Writing at Cardiff University. *Conception* is his debut novel.

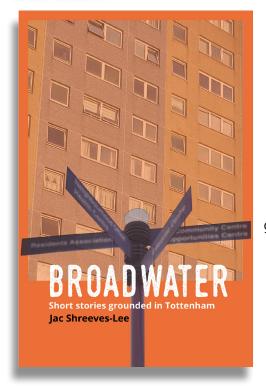
MAY 2020

ISBN: 9781912054206 A Format PAPERBACK £8.99 | TBCpp 4 May '20 #SaintInSwindon

MAY 2020

ISBN: 9781912054879 **B Format PAPERBACK** £8.99 | 272pp 7 May '20 #ConceptionNovel

FICTION FICTION



# BROADWATER Jac Shreeves-Lee

Welcome to Broadwater Farm, one of the most notorious housing estates in Britain. A place where post-war dreams of concrete utopia ended in riots, violence and sub-standard housing.

In this collection of short stories,
Tottenham-born Jac Shreeves-Lee
gives voice to the people of Broadwater
Farm. With evocative language and
raw storytelling, she compassionately
portrays their shared sense of
community. A community with a rich
cultural heritage, comprising over forty
nationalities, generations old.

'Startlingly alive and sometimes almost unbearably dark, the truth and humour in this intensely fine and lyrical novel shines a light that is ultimately uplifting.' — Martina Evans, poet and novelist

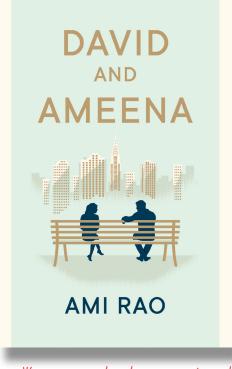
'A voyage both unforgettable and searina.'

— Onjali Q. Raúf, activist and author of The Boy at the Back of the Class DAVID AND AMEENA Ami Rao

Modern-day New York, a subway train. David, an American-Jewish jazz musician, torn between his dreams and his parents' expectations, sees a woman across the carriage. Ameena, a British-Pakistani artist, who left Manchester to escape the pressure from her conservative family, sees David.

When a moment of sublime beauty occurs unexpectedly, the two connect, moved by their shared experience. From this flows a love that appears will triumph above all. But as David and Ameena navigate their relationship, their ambitions and the city they love, they discover the external world is not so easy to keep at bay.

AMI RAO — a British-American writer who was born in Calcutta, India and holds an MBA from Harvard Business School. She has mentored girls of colour for the past twelve years. Ami co-wrote a memoir, Centaur, which was published in 2017 and which won the General Outstanding Sports Book of the Year Award 2018.



'I've never read such an accurate and telling evocation of the additional complications of personal creative expression.'

—Tim Hayward, writer, broadcaster and columnist

'A touching story of multicultural love, desire and achievement with "soul" at its heart.'

— Geoffrey Horton, musician and vocalist

JAC SHREEVES-LEE — born in
Tottenham, England, Jacquelyn
Shreeves-Lee is a widely published
writer of short stories. She currently
lives in Hackney as a clinical
psychologist and magistrate.
Broadwater is her debut novel.

JULY 2020 ISBN: 9781912054572 B Format PAPERBACK £8.99 | 240pp 2 Jul `20 #BroadwaterBook SEPTEMBER 2020

ISBN: 9781912054275 B Format PAPERBACK £8.99 | TBCpp Feb '21 #DavidAndAmeena FICTION FICTION

# Valhalla Alan Robert Clark The tragic story of May of Teck and

'Clark takes an iconic and forbidding figure and transforms her into a passionate, loving and damaged woman.'

her rise to the throne of Britain

- Simon Russell Beale

'Clark writes with intelligence, warmth, bravery and wit about big subjects to do with how we choose to live our lives.'

— Sue Townsend

# VALHALLA Alan Robert Clark

Author of Academy Recommended Walter Scott Prize 2019, The Prince of Mirrors

May of Teck, only daughter of a noble family fallen from grace, has been selected to marry the troublesome Prince Eddy, heir to the British throne. Submitting to the wishes of Queen Victoria and under pressure from her family, young May agrees. But just as a spark of love and devotion arises between the young couple, Prince Eddy dies of influenza.

To her horror, May discovers she is to be married to the brother, Georgie, instead, a cold and domineering man. But what can she do?

From the author of *The Prince of Mirrors* comes this gripping account of the life of Queen Mary, one of the most formidable queens of Britain

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.

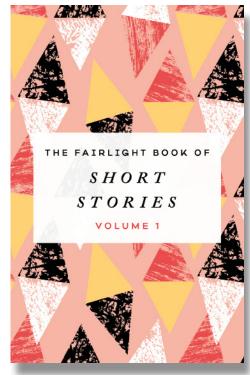
# THE FAIRLIGHT BOOK OF SHORT STORIES (VOLUME 1)

**Various Authors** 

The Best of Modern-Day Short Story Writing

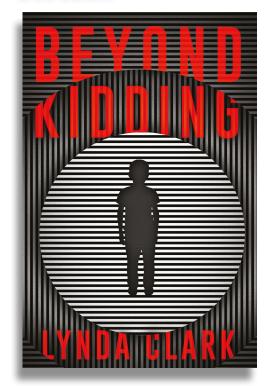
From flash fiction to mini-novelette, Fairlight presents twenty-four of its best short stories from some of the world's most talented new and emerging English language writers.

Chosen from work sent to Fairlight over several years by writers around the globe, this anthology celebrates the art of the short story form: a vehicle with the power to delight, entertain or to transport the reader to another state, another world, another emotion.



Twenty-four stories by twenty-four writers, including various awardwinning short story authors and Women's Prize-longlisted author Sophie van Llewyn.

# SEPTEMBER 2020



# BEYOND KIDDING Lynda Clark

Shortlisted author of BBC National Short Story Award 2019

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...

LYNDA CLARK – an accomplished writer whose stories have been published in a number of anthologies. She won the Commonwealth Short Story Prize for Europe and Canada. Lynda is currently at the University of Dundee as a Research Fellow in Narrative and Play. Beyond Kidding is her debut

'This is a remarkable debut, written with great warmth and wit. By turns devastating and hilarious, Lynda Clark's Beyond Kidding had me from the very start, and it didn't let me go.'

— Sarah Jackson, author of *Pelt* and winner of the Seamus Heaney Prize 2013

'A dark and quirky debut – funny, sad, thought-provoking and unexpected.'

— Emma D'Costa, Commonwealth Writers

#### **OUT NOW**

ISBN: 9781912054848
B Format PAPERBACK
£8.99 | 336 pp
31 Oct '19
#BeyondKidding

# FAIRLIGHT MODERNS

A collection of short modern fiction books set in different locations around the world.



These beautifully designed novellas are perfect for book club reads and come with reading notes available from our website at www.fairlightbooks.co.uk/fairlight-moderns/

**#FAIRLIGHTMODERNS** 

# **FAIRLIGHT**

# **MODERNS**



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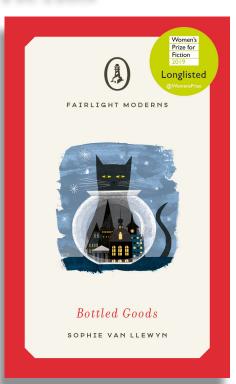


@excusemyreading



@stefiereads

FICTION FICTION



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

— Christina Dalcher, author of VOX

'A lovely, funny, sad and informative book...It almost reads like a Wes Anderson film.'

— Dolly Alderton, author of international bestseller *Everything I Know About Love* 

#### 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.

Now avaliable on Audible

# 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 Dovonovitch, 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...

FAIRLIGHT MODERNS

Atlantic Winds
WILLIAM PRENDIVILLE

Y read it at a sitting, and then again

to savour its rich characterisation and powerful story.'

— Allan Massie, novelist and journalist

'Prendiville's writing lifts the curtain on the contradictions of the human soul.'

— Benoît Breville, journalist, Le Monde Diplomatique

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.

**OUT NOW** 

ISBN: 9781912054305 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 192pp 11 Jul '18 #BottledGoods **OUT NOW** 

ISBN: 9781912054787 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 144pp 11 Jul '19 #AtlanticWinds FICTION



'A weird and wonderful tale, full of violent twists and turns. This surprising debut novella punches above its weight and pulls no punches.'

— Jennifer Rushworth, author of *Discourses* of Mourning in Dante, Petrarch, and Proust

'Smart, funny and an excellent writer, Edward Vass is the ideal guide for a journey into the beyond.'

— Dr Owen Clayton, Senior Lecturer in English Literature, University of Lincoln

# 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-ofbody 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.

# THE THERAPIST Nial Giacomelli

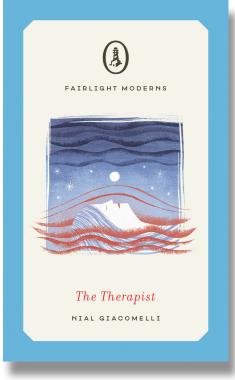
'I am levitating above the curvature of the earth. Weightless, unencumbered. Flung like a comet out of the atmosphere to drift eternally along the firmament.'

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.



'If the population of the world had vanished while I was reading Nial Giacomelli's beautifully observed novella, I'm not sure I would have noticed. It's that good.'

> — Christopher Stanley, author of The Forest is Hungry

> > *`Fearlessly confronting* and challenging us.'

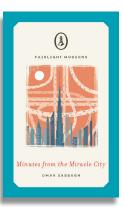
— Dr Meredith Miller, literary critic and author of Little Wrecks

#### **OUT NOW**

ISBN: 9781912054367 A Format PAPERBACK 1 Aug '19 #MiltonInPurgatory

#### **OUT NOW**

ISBN: 9781912054909 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 176pp 1 Aug '19 #TherapistNovella



#### MINUTES FROM THE MIRACLE CITY

#### Omar Sabbagh

Hakim, a Pakistani taxi driver whizzing through the streets. Patrick, a Ugandan security guard with aspirations of becoming a writer. Farida, a Moroccan beautician hoping for a fresh start. 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.



#### THE NAIL HOUSE

#### **Gregory Baines**

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.



#### INSIDE THE BONE BOX

#### **Anthony Ferner**

Top neurosurgeon Nicholas Anderton is morbidly obese. He doesn't mind the sweats, the sleep apnoea, or that he can no longer see certain parts of his anatomy. Even the sniggers from his registrars won't make him change. But when mistakes are made and the clinical director starts asking questions, Nicholas knows that things are coming to a head...



#### THE DRIVEWAY HAS TWO SIDES

#### Sara Marchant

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 clean, 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... 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...



#### TRAVELLING IN THE DARK

#### Emma Timpany

#### Winner of The Hall & Woodhouse DLF Writing Prize 2019

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.



#### THERE ARE THINGS I KNOW

#### Karen B. Golightly

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 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...

#### **OUT NOW**

ISBN: 9781912054664 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 144 pp 11 Jul '19 #MinutesMiracleCity ISBN: 9781912054961 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 192pp 1 Aug '19 #NailHouse

ISBN: 9781912054541 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 176pp 11 Jul '18 #InsideBoneBox

#### **OUT NOW**

ISBN: 9781912054428 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 144pp 11 Jul '18 #DrivewayHasTwoSides ISBN: 9781912054480 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 192pp 11 Jul '18 #TravellingInDark ISBN: 9781912054602 A Format PAPERBACK £7.99 | 192pp 11 Jul '18 #ThereAreThingsIKnow

# Fairlight's How to... Modern Living Series

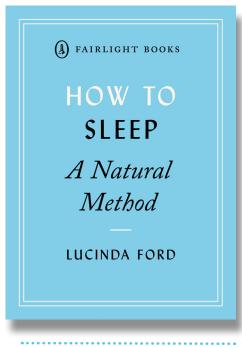
A new health and lifestyle collection

# HOW TO SLEEP Lucinda Ford

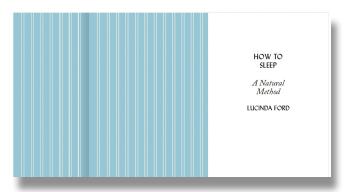
Introducing eight easy-to-use techniques for falling asleep, *How to Sleep: A Natural Method* is an indispensable companion for those who find it difficult to fall asleep and stay asleep.

When sleeplessness becomes a regular occurrence, it can set up a vicious cycle of fatigue, anxiety, and sleepless nights. Finding ways to turn off the racing mind and negative thoughts or stress when going to sleep is an essential step, allowing you to break that vicious cycle and move towards a place of better wellbeing.

The eight simple sleep techniques are designed to calm the mind and allow sleep to come naturally. They are distilled from the best of thinking from the East and the West, including cognitive behavioural therapy, mindfulness and meditation.



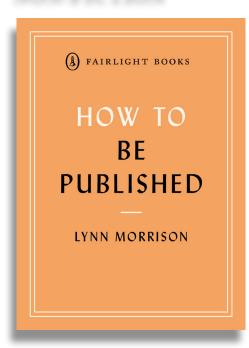
LUCINDA FORD is an author who specialises in Health and Wellbeing.



**OUT NOW** 

ISBN: 9781912054237
PAPERBACK with flaps
£7.99 | 128 pp
2 Jan '20
#NaturalSleepMethods

NON-FICTION NON-FICTION



LYNN MORRISON is a marketing veteran with a career spanning more than twenty years in both in-house and agency roles. She has held management roles in Fortune 100 and FTSE 250 organisations, worked with start-ups and even launched a few herself.

## HOW TO BE PUBLISHED

## Lynn Morrison

Over the last ten years, the publishing sector has changed beyond recognition.

With new technology allowing writers to connect with readers like never before, there has theoretically never been more opportunities to become a published writer. But for anyone looking to venture into today's publishing landscape, it can be a daunting prospect – Should you self-publish? Look for an agent? Go direct to an indie publisher? And what exactly is digital-first publishing?

For the first time ever, Lynn Morrison provides an un-biased guide to the pros and cons of self-publishing versus traditional publishing, along with all the myriad options in between – helping an author find the best path for themselves, their book and their writing aspirations.

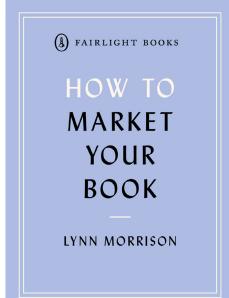
## HOW TO MARKET YOUR BOOK

# Lynn Morrison

These days, regardless of whether a book is self-published or traditionally published, there will be an expectation on the author to take an active role in marketing their book.

Based on a series of interviews with successful authors from both sides of the publishing divide and both sides of the pond, Lynn lays out in detail the marketing strategies that have worked for them, alongside an explanation of how book marketing works based on her own long-standing career as a senior marketing exec.

From developing social media tactics, arranging promotional events and blog tours, to handling press and trying to start viral campaigns, Lynn offers practical advice designed to help an author find a book marketing strategy that best works for them, based on their personal strengths and budget.



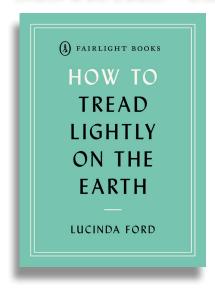
'So, you've written and published...
now what? You read this manual!
It's a fantastic resource for anyone
looking to get their writing in front
of more people. Morrison turns the
overwhelming task of marketing into
bite-size tips and tutorials that
anyone can implement.'

— Stephanie Jankowski, author of Schooled (Page Street Publishing, January 2020)

AUGUST

ISBN: 9781912054565
PAPERBACK with flaps
£7.99 | TBCpp
Aug '20
#HowToBePublished

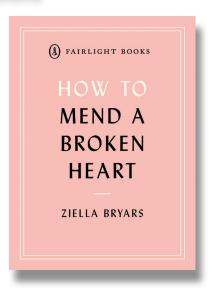
AUGUST 2020 ISBN: 9781912054442 PAPERBACK with flaps £7.99 | TBCpp Aug `20 #HowToMarketYourBook



# HOW TO TREAD LIGHTLY ON THE EARTH

Lucinda Ford

A guide to navigating the ethical choices that beset us each and every day, along with practical advice on coping with our modern-day angst of how best to tread lightly on the earth.

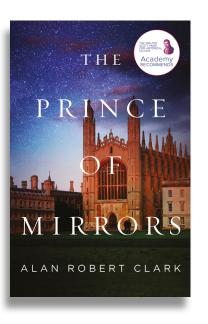


# HOW TO MEND A BROKEN HEART

Ziella Bryars

Based on a series of conversations between Ziella and her neuroscientist best-friend, Ziella outlines the physical impact a relationship break-up has on our bodies and how understanding this can help us heal.

More How to... titles to be announced 2020/2021



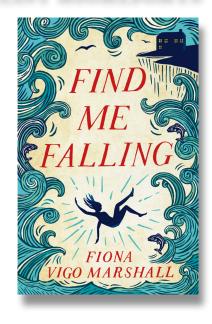
# THE PRINCE OF MIRRORS

Alan Robert Clark

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

'Touching and compelling.'

— Gyles Brandreth, author and TV personality



## FIND ME FALLING

Fiona Vigo Marshall

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

'Marshall's evocation of eerie alternate realities stays with the reader long after the last page is turned.'

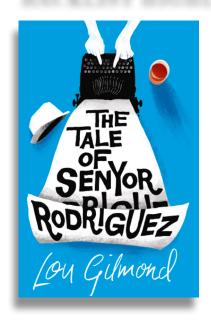
— Dr Sallie Baxendale

# COMING WINTER 2020/2021

ISBN: 9781912054114
PAPERBACK with flaps
£7.99 | TBCpp
Dec '20
#TreadLightlyOnTheEarth

ISBN: 9781912054329 PAPERBACK with flaps £7.99 | TBCpp Jan '21 #MendABrokenHeart **OUT NOW** 

ISBN: 9781912054121 B Format PAPERBACK £8.99 | 352pp #PrinceofMirrors ISBN: 9781912054220 B Format PAPERBACK £8.99 | 304pp #FindMeFalling



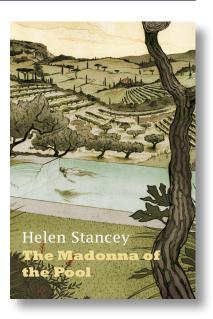
## THE TALE OF SENYOR RODRIGUEZ

## 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 gripping, atmospheric novel, with a brilliant twist.'

— G.D. Sanders, author of *The Taken Girls* 



## 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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www.fairlight books.com

#### **OUT NOW**

## FAIRLIGHT BOOKS

