



Recent and Forthcoming Releases 2024



Title: Second Skin (10 Jan. 2024)
Author: Sue Bentley
Publisher: Joffe Books
Rights: WEL via Joffe Books, all other rights via RCL
Synopsis: **TWO MOONS, TWO HEARTS, TWO SOULS...**

Eighteen-year-old Lady Aledra Jewel-Wing is Drakkoni — a race of shape-shifting dragons who brutally conquered the Esran lands. They are fiercely protective of their pure bloodlines.

Aledra's father is the powerful Lord Commander Artor Jewel-Wing. She was told her mother is dead, but really she was banished for being part-Esran.

Aledra is raised on a remote farmstead, keeping her away from the prying eyes of the Drakkoni court. She is mentored to control her secondskin, which is where her dragon form hides.

Your firstskin is what you allow the world to see and your secondskin is the true expression of your soul.

When war breaks out between the Drakkoni and the Esrans, Aledra is imprisoned and learns the truth about her mother.

She escapes from prison and meets Jubal, an Esran whose family were slaughtered by Drakkoni warriors.

Aledra conceals her heritage and against all odds they fall in love.

Will their love turn to ashes if he finds out who she really is?



Title: Bird Boy (9 May 2024)

Author: Catherine Bruton

Publisher: Nosy Crow

Rights: World Rights Nosy Crow, Film/TV via RCL

Synopsis: From the multi-award-winning author of *No Ballet Shoes in Syria*, comes a story of migration, conservation, healing and hope as a grieving boy forms an unbreakable bond with an injured bird.

After the tragic death of his mother, eleven year old Will is sent to temporarily stay with his uncle in the mountains. After years trapped in a high-rise flat, with only birds for company, Will doesn't know how he'll survive a place like this, but he soon finds solace in the woods, when he's surrounded by birdsong.

With his new friend Omar - a refugee from Afghanistan - Will discovers an osprey nest, with two small chicks inside. He forms an unbreakable bond with the birds, especially the smallest chick, who they name Whitetip. But when tragedy almost strikes again one stormy night, and Whitetip is knocked out of the nest - breaking a wing, Will is determined to save her. Smuggling her down from the mountain, he finds a way to keep her alive.

As Will helps Whitetip to grow and to heal, he finds a strength inside himself that he never knew he had. Maybe, finally, Will can find a way to take flight too...



Title: When We Were Us (7 Feb 2024)

Author: Patricia Caliskan

Publisher: Sapere Books

Rights: WEL via Sapere Books, all other rights via RCL

Synopsis: Is it ever too late to start again...?

Erika Forde has always played second fiddle to her husband David, the famous novelist. But since their son, Matt, left home for university, cracks have started to show in their marriage.

Erika has long had a nagging suspicion that David may not always have been faithful, and now his latest books are starting to wane in popularity causing erratic moods that are affecting Erika.

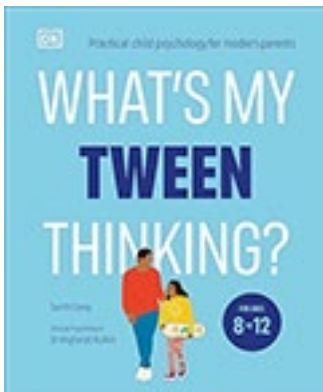
But while David's career starts to dip, Erika's advertising agency is on the up.

Erika's creative genius wins the agency a huge client in Stable Denim, but her life is thrown into turmoil when one of the models cast for the campaign turns out to be her ex-boyfriend, Enzo.

Has Enzo been sent back into Erika's life for a reason? Is it time for her to reevaluate her marriage?

Or should some things be left in the past...?

WHEN WE WERE US is a second chance love story, that shows the ups and downs of family life with buckets of humour and wit.



Title: What's My Tween Thinking (15 Feb 2024)

Author: Tanith Carey and Dr Angharad Rudkin

Publisher: Dorling Kindersley

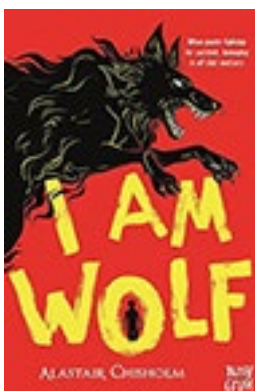
Rights: World Rights Dorling Kindersley

Synopsis: Is the pull towards independence and the start of puberty bringing new challenges for you and your 8-to 12-year-old? The answers you seek are here.

This practical parenting handbook grounded in evidence-based psychology explores the changes in development during the "in-between years". Discover what your tween is really thinking.

Taking 75 recognisable scenarios, parenting author Tanith Carey and Child Clinical Psychologist Dr Angharad Rudkin address real-world concerns that parents of tweens face, from hearing "I hate you" and "just one more game", to friendship clashes, school concerns, body worries, and online safety.

Discover how to stay connected with your tween and lay the groundwork for the teenage years ahead.



Title: I am Wolf (9 May 2024)

Author: Alastair Chisholm

Publisher: Nosy Crow

Rights: World Rights Nosy Crow, Film/TV via RCL

Synopsis: Coll is Wolf.

He lives with his clan on a Construct, a huge technological "creature" driven by the clan's combined willpower. Together they roam their world, fighting other clans and absorbing them into their own.

But when a new and dangerous Construct attacks them, Coll is thrown clear from Wolf and left behind. Now he must survive life on ground and get back to his clan. He is helped by Rieka, a "Tock" who makes the Constructs work. She promises Coll a way to return, but can she be trusted? And what is she really trying to do...?

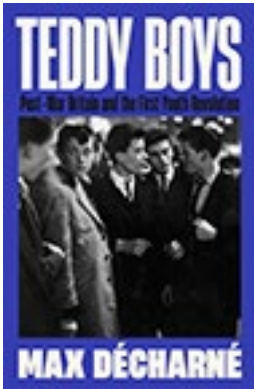
When Coll uncovers the truth, it destroys everything he thought he knew about his clan, the world they live in, and even himself. In a world full of danger, and suddenly without meaning, can he find a way back?



Title: Reek (18 July 2024)
Author: Alastair Chisholm
Publisher: Barrington Stoke
Rights: World Rights Barrington Stoke, Film/TV via RCL
Synopsis: Sparrow lives in the world after the Reek.

The atmosphere is toxically polluted, and Axel Brodie, the tech billionaire behind Zephyr Industries, is cashing in as the only supplier of clean air. Sparrow is struggling to help her family survive until her brilliant inventor friend, Miriam Fenn, comes up with a new form of technology that could break Zephyr's stranglehold on the air supply.

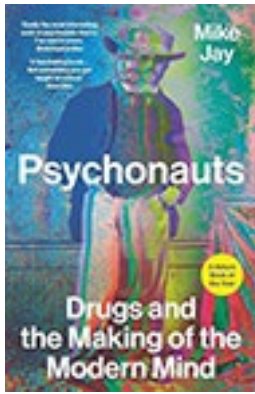
But men like Brodie are hard to defeat, and he will do everything in his power to stop Miriam and Sparrow. Who will triumph in this battle to breathe?



Title: Teddy Boys (25 Jan 2024)
Author: Max Décharné
Publisher: Profile
Rights: World Rights Profile Books
Synopsis: With their draped suits, suede creepers and immaculately greased hair, the Teddy Boys defined a new era for a generation of teenagers raised on a diet of drab clothes, Blitz playgrounds and tinned dinners.

From the Edwardian origins of their fashion to the tabloid fears of delinquency, drunkenness and disorder, the story of the Teds throws a fascinating light on a British society that was still reeling from the Second World War. In the 1950s, working-class teenagers found a way of asserting themselves in how they dressed, spoke and socialised on the street. When people saw Teds, they stepped aside.

Musician and author Max Décharné traces the rise of the Teds and the shockwave they sent through post-war Britain, from the rise of rock 'n' roll to the Notting Hill race riots. Full of fascinating insight, deftly sketching the milieu of Elvis Presley and Derek Bentley, Billy Fury and Oswald Mosley, Teddy Boys is the story of Britain's first youth counterculture.



Title: Psychonauts (Paperback: 27 Feb. 2024)

Author: Mike Jay

Publisher: Yale University Press

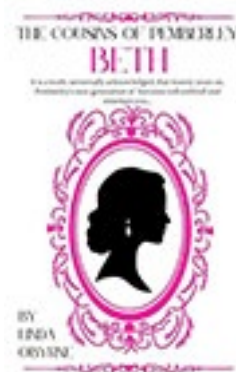
Rights: World Rights Yale University Press

Synopsis: **Until the twentieth century, scientists investigating the effects of drugs on the mind did so by experimenting on themselves.**

Vivid descriptions of drug experiences sparked insights across the mind sciences, pharmacology, medicine, and philosophy. Accounts in journals and literary fiction inspired a fascinated public to make their own experiments—in scientific demonstrations, on exotic travels, at literary salons, and in occult rituals.

But after 1900 drugs were increasingly viewed as a social problem, and the long tradition of self-experimentation began to disappear.

From Sigmund Freud's experiments with cocaine to William James's epiphany on nitrous oxide, Mike Jay brilliantly recovers a lost intellectual tradition of drug-taking that fed the birth of psychology, the discovery of the unconscious, and the emergence of modernism. Today, as we embrace novel cognitive enhancers and psychedelics, the experiments of the original psychonauts reveal the deep influence of mind-altering drugs on Western science, philosophy, and culture.



Title: Beth: Cousins of Pemberley Book 6 (26 Jan 2024)

Author: Linda O'Byrne

Publisher: Spellbound Books

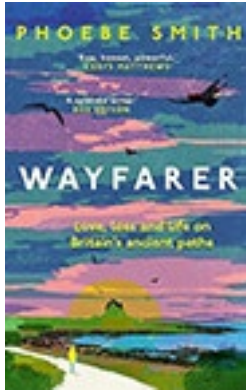
Rights: WEL via Spellbound Books; Translation, Film and TV via RCL

Synopsis: **Many years have passed since the dramatic events of Pride and Prejudice.**

In The Cousins of Pemberley series, we follow a new generation of heroines - cousins with lives as different and interesting as those enjoyed by their mothers.

Beth Bingley: twenty-one, kind and beautiful, dedicated to a life of duty until Fate decrees otherwise.

She must find a new path to follow, but first she has a sister's reputation to protect, at the expense of her own!



Title: Wayfarer – Love Loss and Life on Britain’s Ancient Paths (28 Mar 2024)

Author: Phoebe Smith

Publisher: Joffe Books

Rights: WEL Harper North; Translation, Film/TV via RCL

Synopsis: **A woman’s tale of the transformative power of walking Britain’s ancient pilgrim paths**

On an assignment to walk the most famous pilgrimage in the world – the Camino de Santiago, in northern Spain – Phoebe Smith somehow lost her way.

Having spent a lifetime exploring unfamiliar places, she quit her dream job, ended her long-term relationship and headed home to North Wales to discover the point to... everything.

In her search for answers she found herself – quite by accident – walking some of Britain’s oldest pilgrim paths. And by following these old ways, she ended up confronting past traumas that she thought she had laid to rest.

But while it follows holy trails, this is not a book about religion. From losing her mother as a teenager to surviving toxic relationships, Phoebe offers an unflinchingly honest look at her battle with an eating disorder, depression, and the pitfalls of newfound singledom.

Skilfully weaving together Phoebe’s own story with those of countless travellers past and present, Wayfarer reveals how nature and place can heal past wounds, offering a pathway to salvation she’d never thought existed.