

Irish Books for Screen 2020



PUBLISHING IRELAND
FOILSIÚ ÉIREANN

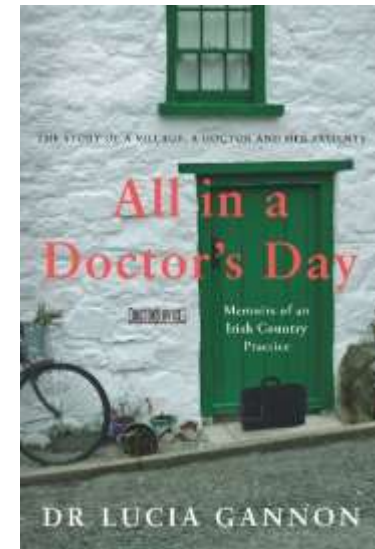
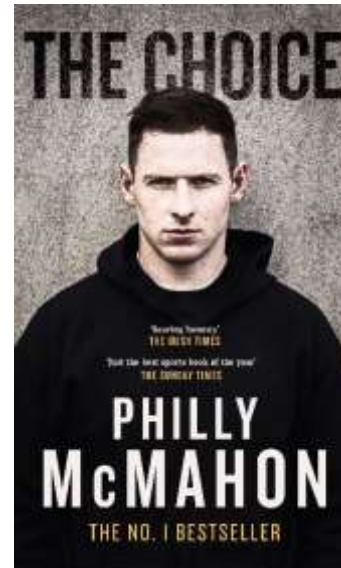
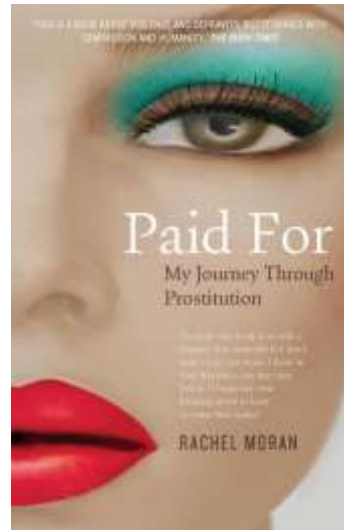
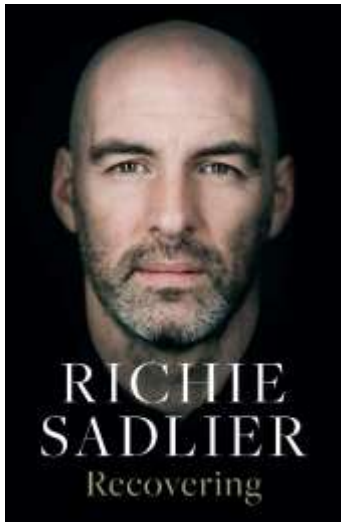
SDGI

Publishers represented

- Gill Books
- Eastwood Books
- Guildhall Press
- Hachette Books Ireland
- Cló Iar-Chonnacht
- Crannóg
- 21st Century Renaissance
- New Island Books
- The Lilliput Press
- Little Island
- The O'Brien Press

True Life Stories

- From heroin addiction, to traumatic childhoods, sometimes our sports heroes have a compelling back story that gives an insight into their incredible drive on the sports field...
- There are also amazing true stories from names we don't know, including the heart-breaking story of a woman's journey through prostitution to life as an Irish country doctor



For rights enquiries contact Linda Murphy at 01 5009520 or lmurphy@gill.ie

Flatten the Curve!



Massive popularity of Joe Wicks as UK's PE teacher during lockdown

Two extremely relatable Irish personalities who are achieving their weight-loss goals by making 'bold food good'

The Daly Dish is fastest selling cookbook in Ireland

The nation is hungry for weight-loss content

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Children's



Hilarious characters and amazing non-fiction, mythical legends and true-life stories, there's something here for every Irish child.



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Eastwoodbooks.com
Wordwell Group

Crowdfunding the Revolution

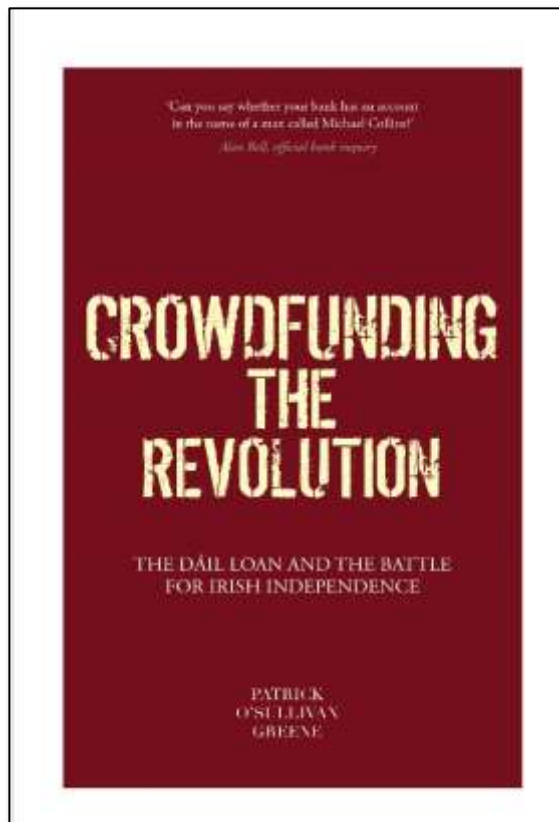
Patrick O'Sullivan Greene

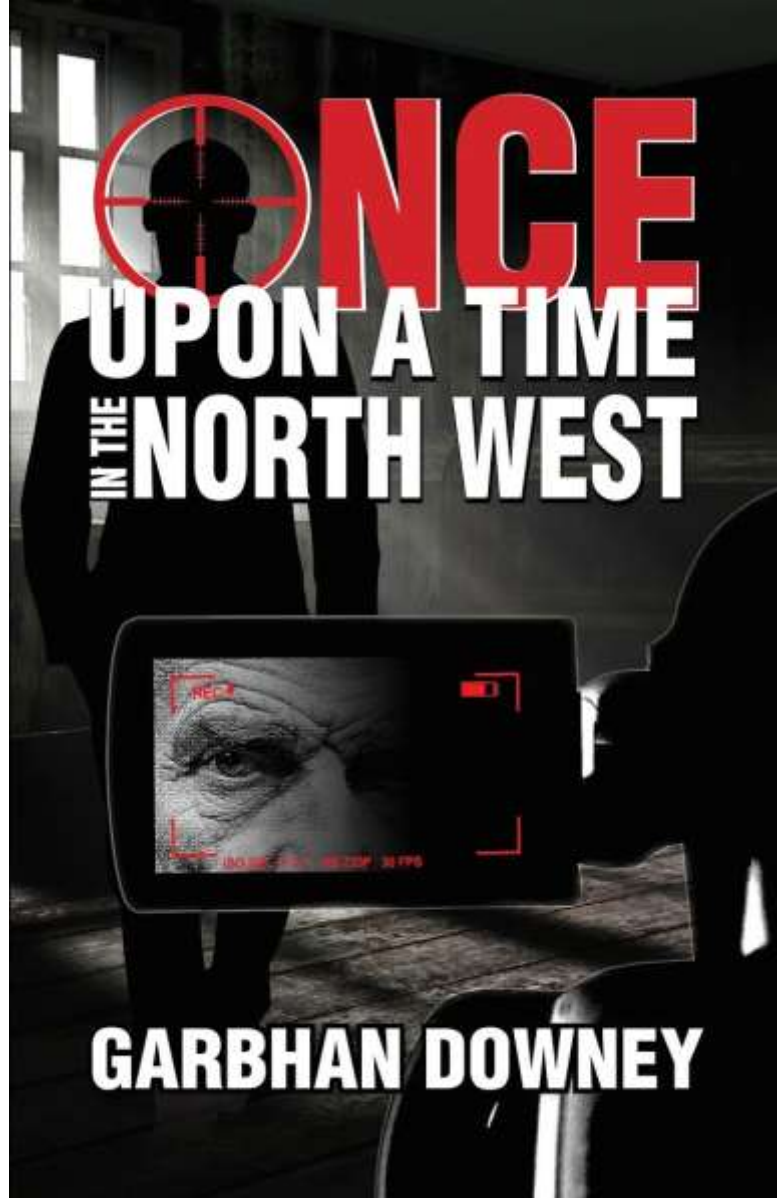
'Can you say whether your Bank has an account in the name of a man called Michael Collins?' – Alan Bell, official bank inquiry.

The Dáil Loan and the Battle for Irish Independence

The untold story of the secret Sinn Féin bank and the fight for the funds to form the first Irish state during the War of Independence. In 1919, the revolutionary Irish government launched an audacious plan to crowdfund the equivalent of \$25,000,000 from Ireland and the US, to fund a counter-state in open defiance to British rule in Ireland.

- Historical verification through peer review, with editing from the team at History Ireland magazine
- Author is highly experienced, with strong financial background.
- Coming September 2020.





ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE NORTH WEST

Garbhan Downey



www.ghpress.com

A pulsating, fictional history of Ireland across the 20th century, told through the archive of a retired Derry newspaper publisher. An epic, transatlantic journey of war and peace; love and loss; politics, betrayal and redemption. But there are those who want to stop this memoir ever seeing the light of day...

AUDIENCE: Families

CATCHLINE: A US detective must hunt through a century's worth of clandestine tapes to establish who shot a Derry publisher and win the heart of his heir.

SET: Derry, Dublin and Boston.



Contact
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ONCE UPON A TIME IN THE NORTH WEST

Author: Garbhán Downey



www.ghpress.com

Characters

Ally McCloud: 31, Special Agent FBI Ireland Desk, fast-tracking to the top. Lonely, heavy drinker following a broken relationship and his brother's death in Iraq. In Derry to retrieve and suppress an unsanctioned memoir.

Maeve Madden: 29, editor and heir of struggling North West Chronicle, Harvard grad, protective of her family legacy and her grandfather's memoir. Tries not to be bad tempered and impetuous; hides her kindness.

Sean Madden: (1922-2012) Boston-born proprietor of the Chronicle, founded in 1912 by his father, who died in the Civil War. Lifelong peacemaker and secret diplomat known as 'The Bank'. Adopted his granddaughter Maeve after her mother 'Little Mill', a famous reporter, died tragically. Hard but fair. Stubborn. 'The mystery was that no-one shot him sooner.'

Connie Madden: (1896-1980) Sean's mother, American radical, named after Constance Markievicz, her godmother. Distant cousin of the Kennedys. Meets Johnny Madden on a visit to Dublin and stays with the Chronicle after his death.

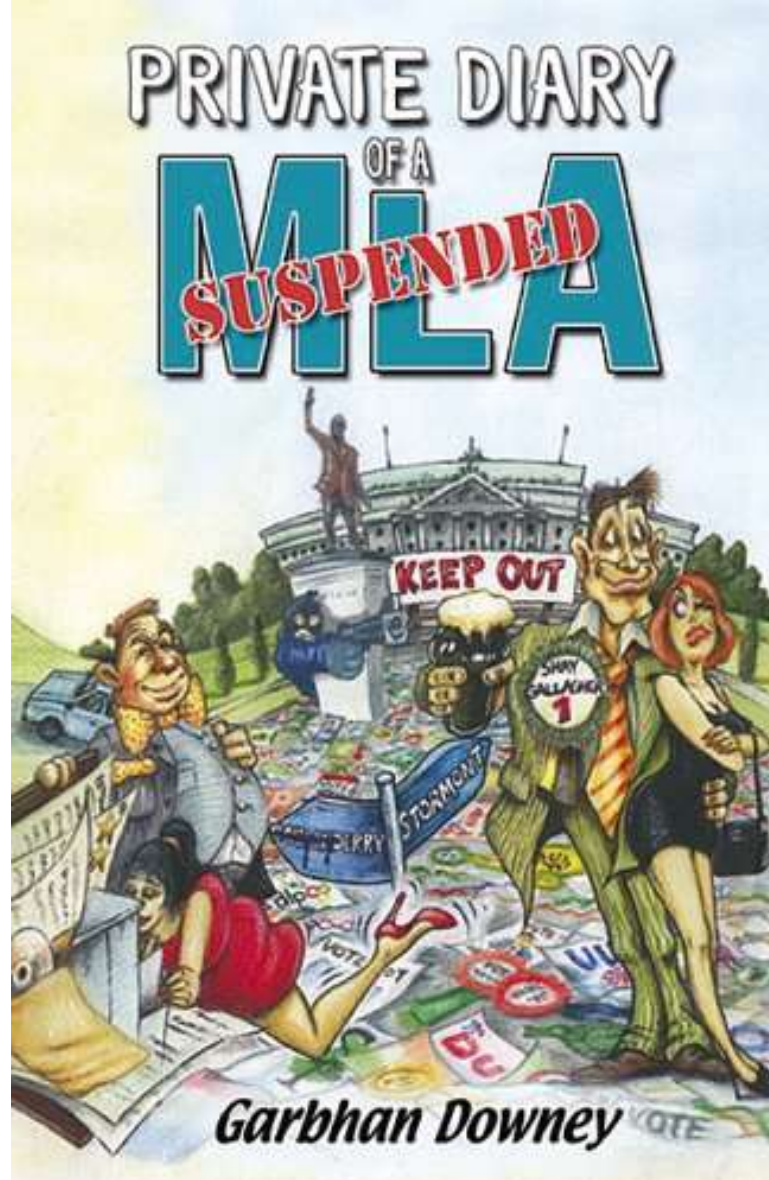
Mo O'Sullivan: 72, chair and former news editor of the Chronicle Group. Sean's companion, Maeve's guardian. Direct, battle-worn, wise.

Tommy 'Bowtie' McGinlay: 48, lawyer, keeper of secrets, former drunk.

E.F. Cunningham: 70, editor of the Londonderry Leader. Entitled and arrogant troublemaker. Bitterly resentful of the Maddens despite his father's great friendship with Sean.

*This is more than a rollicking good yarn...it is the celebration of the character, the humour, the never say die spirit of a city, of a people who never gave in even in the darkest days. **Pat McArt, (Former Derry Journal Group Editor)***
Culture NI

*It combines the virtues of hard-boiled American thrillers, full of splendid one-liners and genuine suspense, with a voluminous family saga with a Dickensian plethora of well-rendered characters. **Sean McMahon, Derry News***



PRIVATE DIARY OF A SUSPENDED MLA

Garbhan Downey

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www.ghpress.com

When party-loving teacher Shay Gallagher is mistakenly elected as an independent republican parliamentarian for North Derry, he thinks he's home in a gravy train. That's before he finds himself in the middle of a deadly spy-game and crossing swords with his only political ally, the indomitable Tyrone unionist Sue McEwan.

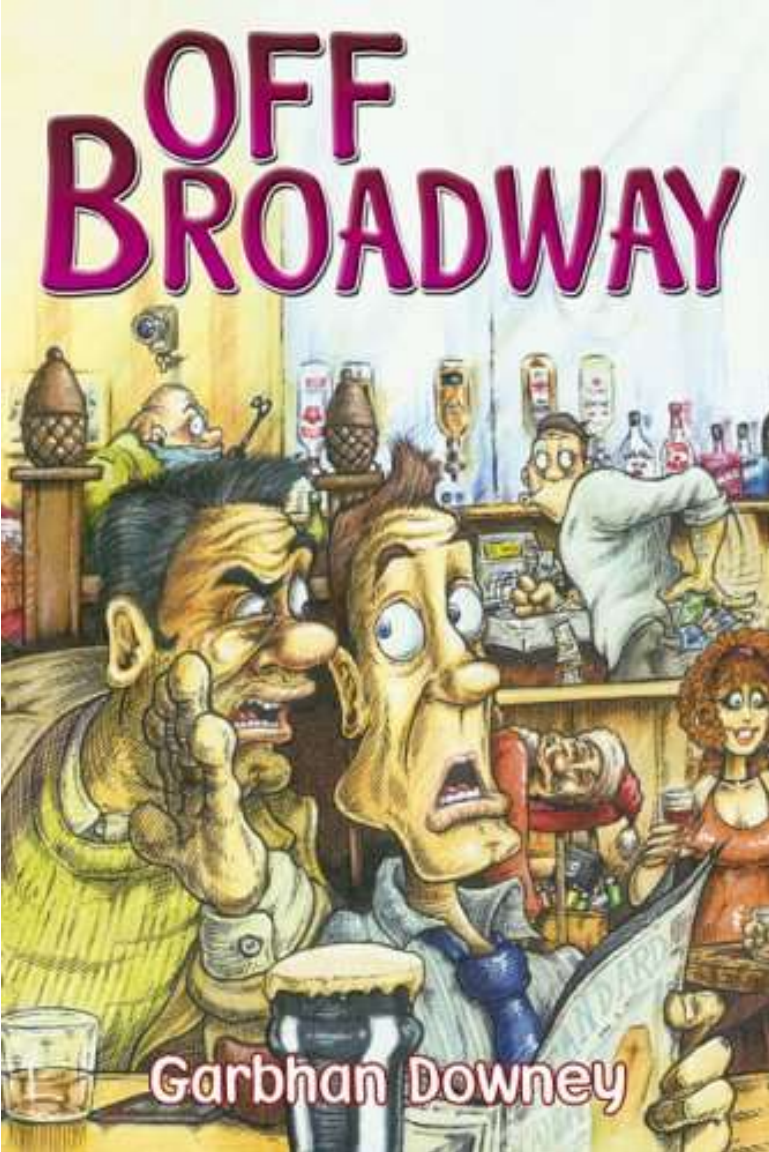
AUDIENCE: Comedy-thriller; family.

CATCHLINE: One man's heroic struggle to survive the Stormont lockout.

SET: Modern-day Derry, Tyrone, Belfast, North Coast.

'The best Northern Ireland political novel of the century' – Sunday Times

'If there is anything good that came out of the suspension of the assembly, it has to be the idea that inspired Garbhan Downey to write this book' – Irish News



OFF BROADWAY

Garbhan Downey

garbhan.d@ntlworld.com



www.ghpress.com

A young newspaper reporter and his solicitor girlfriend try to survive in a Bohemian bear-pit of rampant criminality. Off Broadway is a series of 25 interwoven short stories which take an irreverent look at political, paramilitary and press skullduggery in post-ceasefire Ireland.

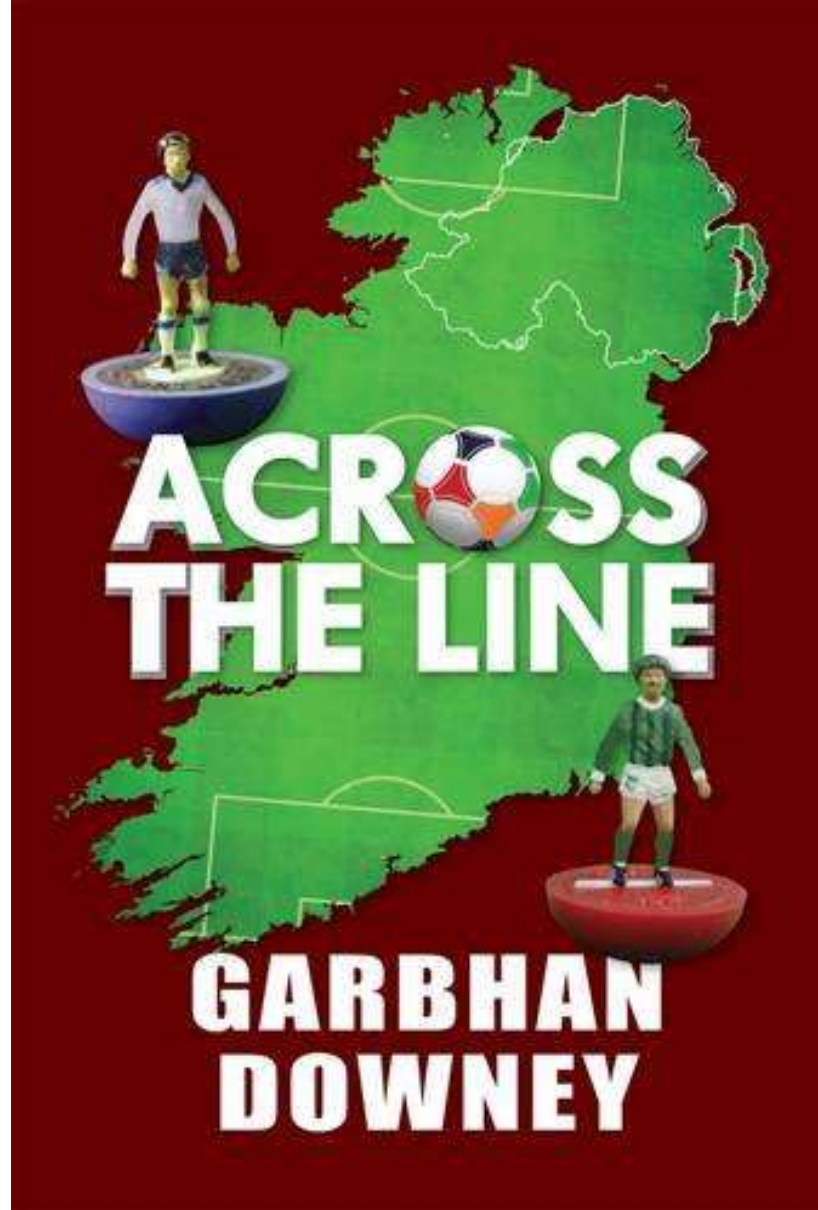
AUDIENCE: Comedy-thriller; Irish

CATCHLINE: You heard nothing, you saw nothing - and if you print anything, we'll set your fiancée on you.

SET: 1990s Derry & Boston

'A master-stylist ... dammit, you can almost taste the steam off the pages' – Modern Woman

'A viciously funny look at the rise of crookery and roguery in Ireland since the ceasefires' – Woman's Way



ACROSS THE LINE

Garbhan Downey

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www.ghpress.com

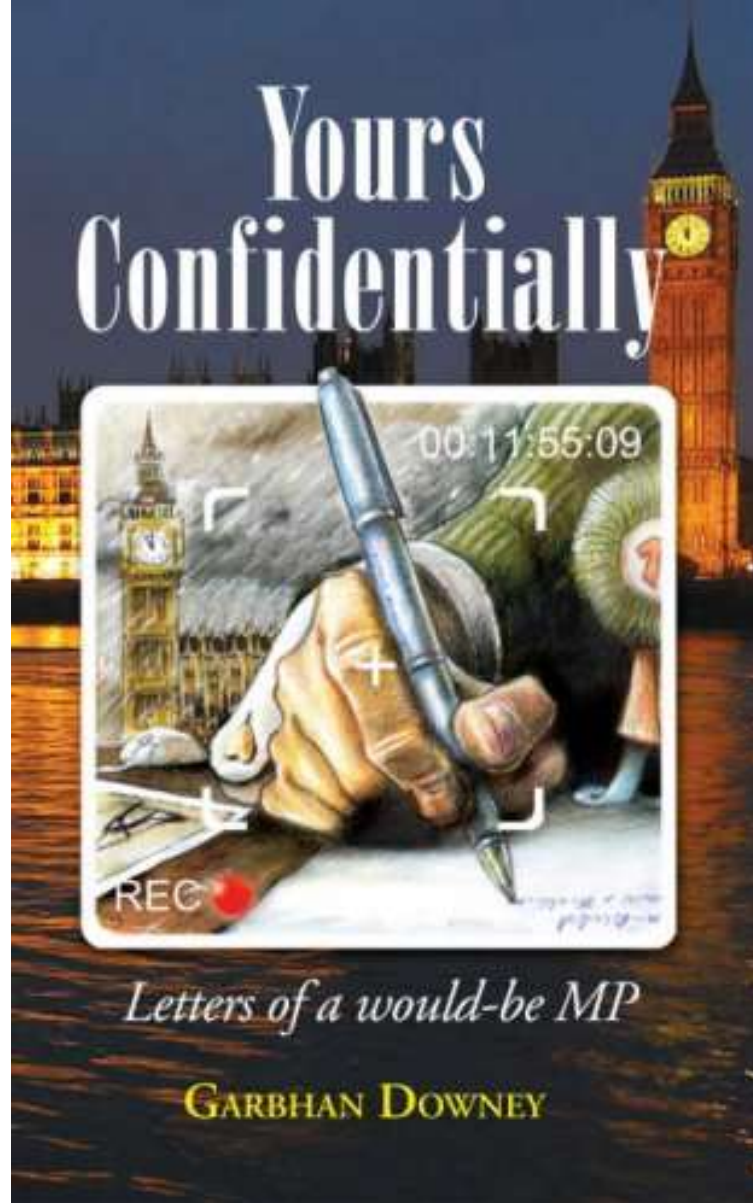
When two soccer-mad, former paramilitaries strike a bet over a summer tournament, what's the worst that can happen? Apart from a full-blown litany of bombings, kidnappings, assassinations, and a lurid plot to blackmail the British Prime Minister into redrawing the Northern border. Rival managers Dee-Dee and Gigi Dunne have but one goal: to try and play fair – and try and stay married.

AUDIENCE: Comedy-thriller; family.

CATCHLINE: Some people think football is a matter of life and death. They're wrong. It's a matter of murder and mayhem.

SET: Modern-day Derry, Belfast & Dublin.

'A superb blend of comedy, political dirty tricks, grisly murder and bizarre twists.' – Sunday World



YOURS CONFIDENTIALLY: Letters of a would-be MP

Garbhan Downey

garbhan.d@ntlworld.com



www.ghpress.com

If you want to stay ahead in politics never write anything down. But when first-time candidate Shay Gallagher's arch-enemy winds up fertilising roses, the budding MP finds himself trapped in a paper-trail of his own making. Gallagher must try and steer a course through a maze of dirty cops, dodgy businessmen and a nasty blackmailer, to, recover his diary, clear his name and regain the trust of his long-suffering fiancée. And then there's an election to win...

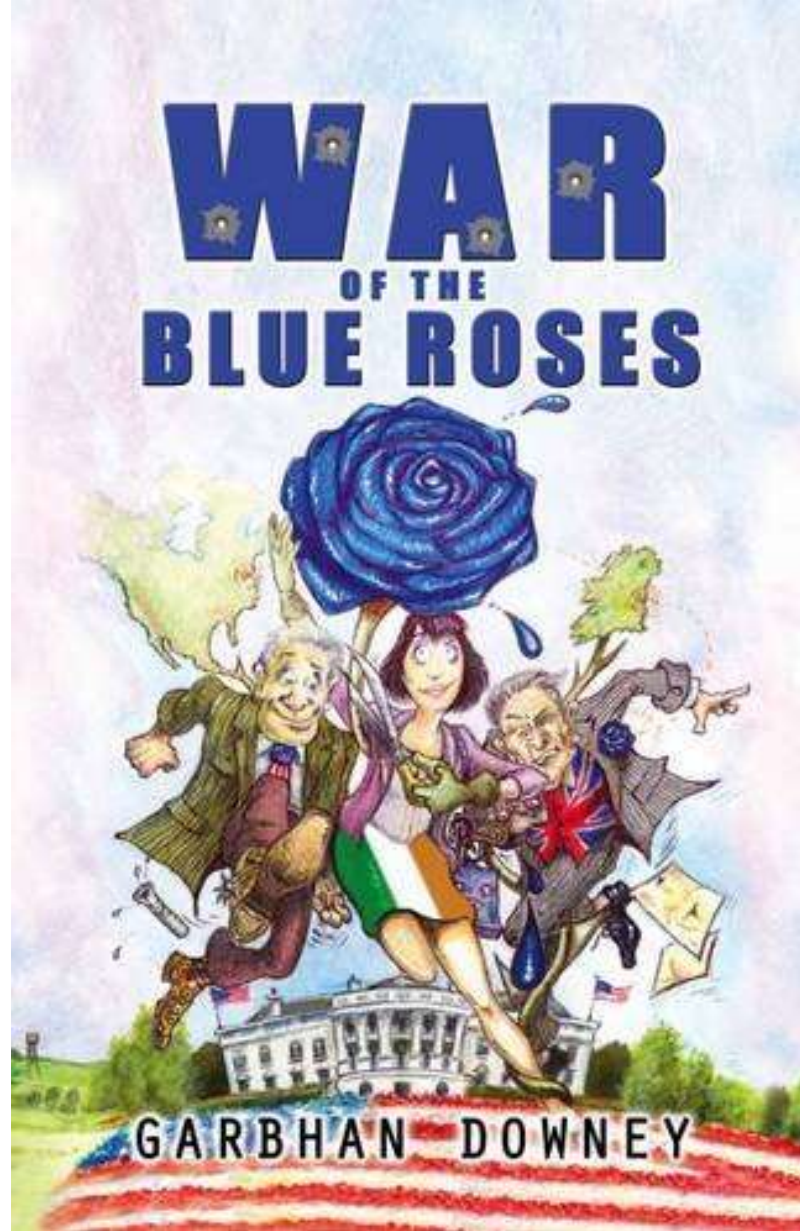
AUDIENCE: Comedy-thriller; family

CATCHLINE: When Machiavelli met Sally

SET: Modern-day Rural Derry, Stormont and Tyrone.

'Sharp, witty and succinct. All I say is, Vote Downey' – Mail on Sunday

'Downey manages to tell a tale with verve and effortless style that knocks my socks off...it's the funniest book I've read this year.' – Verbal: The N.I. Literary Review



WAR OF THE BLUE ROSES

Garbhan Downey

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www.ghpress.com

A gardening competition in a little border village ends up throwing three countries into turmoil when it sparks an international race to grow the world's first blue rose. The Taoiseach is forced to team up with retired paramilitaries to stop British and American interlopers rigging the Mountrose Festival and walking off with a billion-dollar patent.

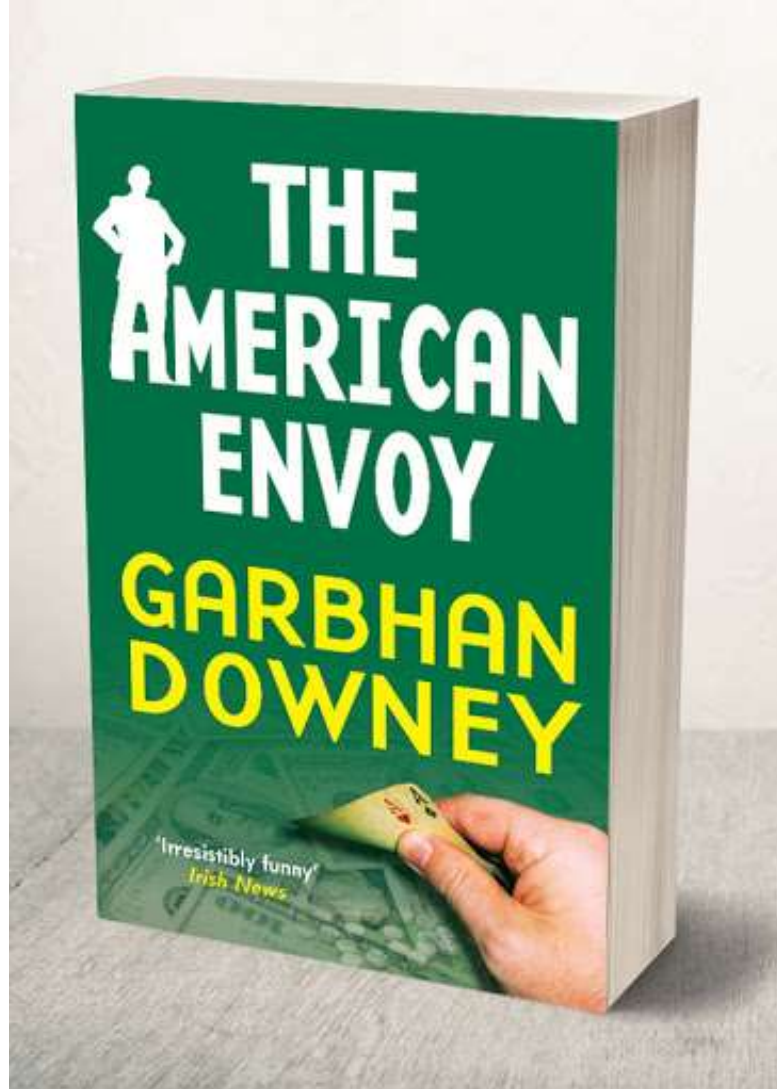
AUDIENCE: Comedy-thriller; family.

CATCHLINE: Bugging, burglary, murder and sexual deceit – it's all part of the rose-growing business.

SET: Modern-day County Derry, Dublin and Boston.

'Lashings of spying, killing and romance – a thrilling and intelligent send-up of global politics' – Culture Northern Ireland

'Inventive ... a sharp sense of the ridiculous' – Sunday Tribune



THE AMERICAN ENVOY

Garbhan Downey

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www.ghpress.com

Boston diplomat Dave Schumann is exiled to Derry, the rainiest city in Ireland, where he is forced to contend with psychotic drug smugglers, a dangerously-ambitious Latina girlfriend and a renegade security team monitoring his every move. His letters home to his father reveal his increasingly precarious struggle to cope with the most thankless job on earth.

AUDIENCE: Comedy-thriller; family.

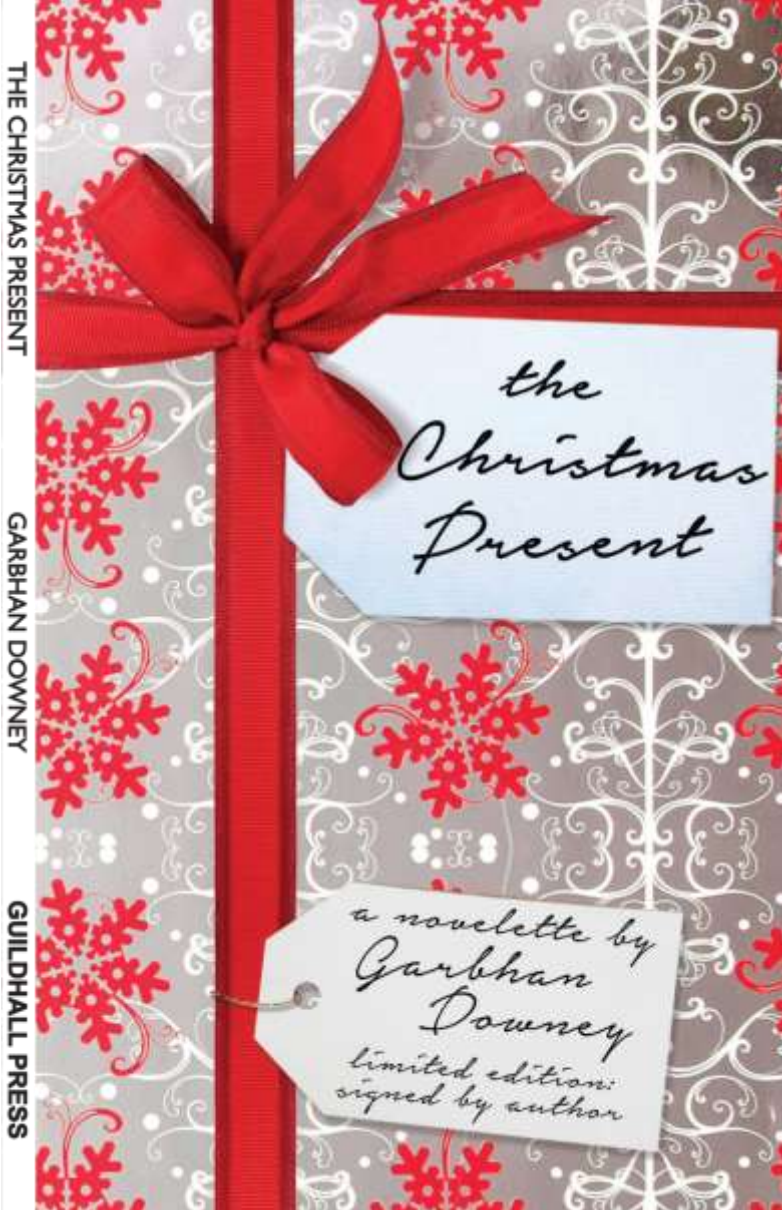
CATCHLINE: It is terrible to contemplate how few politicians are hanged (GK Chesterton)

SET: Modern-day County Derry, Boston.

'Impossible to put down' – Ulster Tatler

'A terrific read.' – Eamonn McCann

'Irresistibly funny' - Irish News



THE CHRISTMAS PRESENT

Garbhan Downey
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www.ghlpress.com

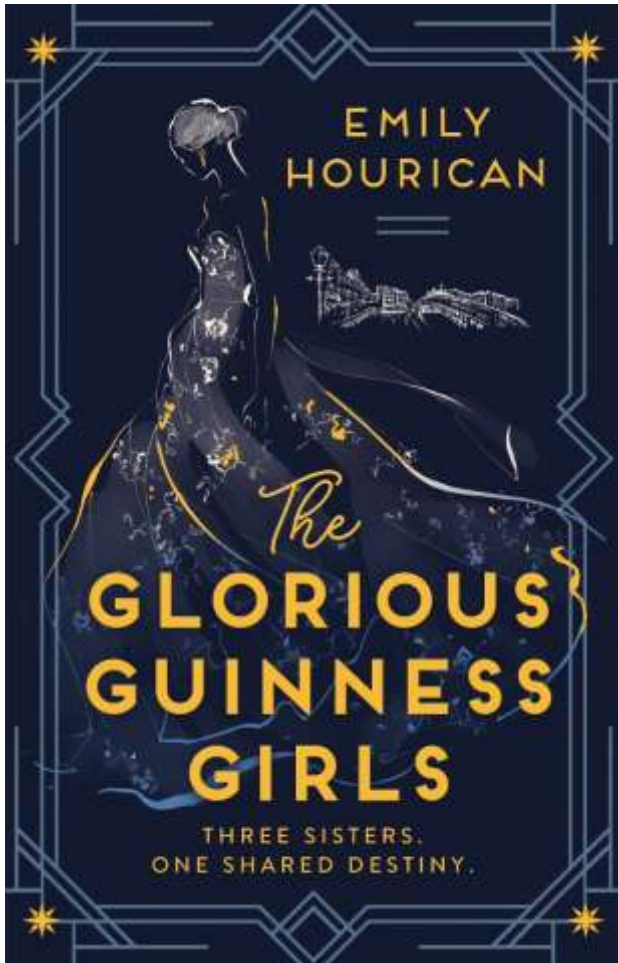
In this festive novelette, a nearly-famous, middle-aged musician gets a chance to see what life would have been like if he'd never met his tone-deaf wife. In a surprise twist, his new life turns out a whole lot better than he could have ever imagined – at least to begin with.

AUDIENCE: Comedy; family.

CATCHLINE: Sometimes it takes a serious bang on the head to remind you how lucky you are.

SET: Modern-day Derry.

*'Seasonal and funny, the type of story that people of all ages will very much savour' –
Culture NI*



THE GLORIOUS GUINNESS GIRLS

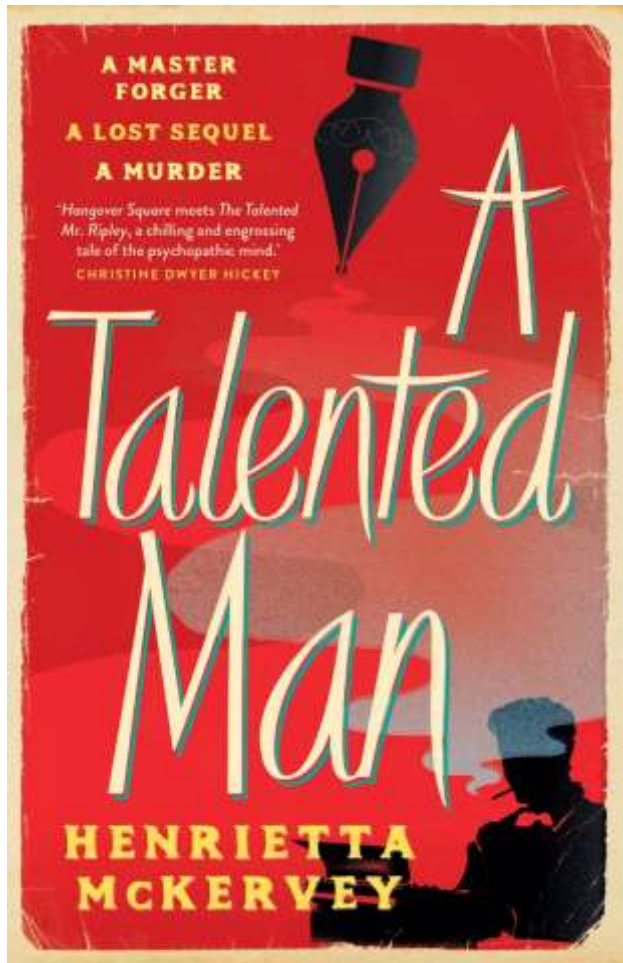
Emily Hourican

Granddaughters of the first Earl of Iveagh, the three daughters of Ernest Guinness are glamorous society girls, the toast of Dublin and London. Darlings of the press, with not a care in the world. But what beautiful ruins lie behind the glass of their privileged worlds? The love affairs, the scandals, the tragedies, the secrets...

- Charting the years around the beginning of the Irish War of Independence, this book is timely and gripping with plenty of drama and atmosphere.
- A glimpse inside the Guinness' Edwardian mansion in Dublin, this story is perfect for Downton Abbey fans



Joanna Smyth | joanna.smyth@hbgi.ie



A TALENTED MAN

Henrietta McKerverey

A master forger 'discovers' a sequel to Bram Stoker's Dracula ... and will stop at nothing to claim his prize.

'Hangover Square meets The Talented Mr. Ripley, a chilling and engrossing tale of the psychopathic mind'
Christine Dwyer Hickey

- An evocative, compelling piece of historical fiction with a thrilling, pacy edge
- For fans of Patricia Highsmith (*The Talented Mr Ripley*) and Sarah Waters (*Fingersmith*, *The Little Stranger*)



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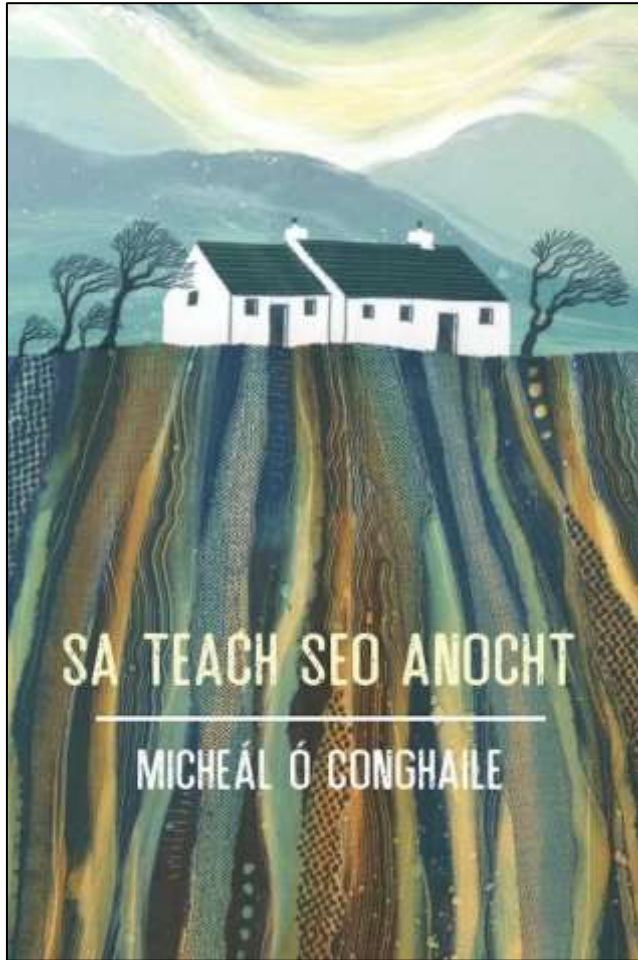
Sophie White

When wannabe Instagram influencer Ali Jones inadvertently leads her followers to believe that she's pregnant, her panic soon dissolves when she realises that a baby bump (even if it's fictional) could be her ticket to success. Even if the reappearance of Tinder Sam, who believes he's the father of the 'baby', starts to make things complicated...

Meanwhile, Shelly, Ireland's Instagram queen, spends most of her life hiding secrets from her followers, and her husband...

- Sharp, hilarious fiction that offers a behind-the-scenes look at the world of social media influencers
- Sophie's novels have been compared to *Rachel's Holiday* by Marian Keyes and *The Importance of Being Aisling*

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Sa Teach Seo Anocht

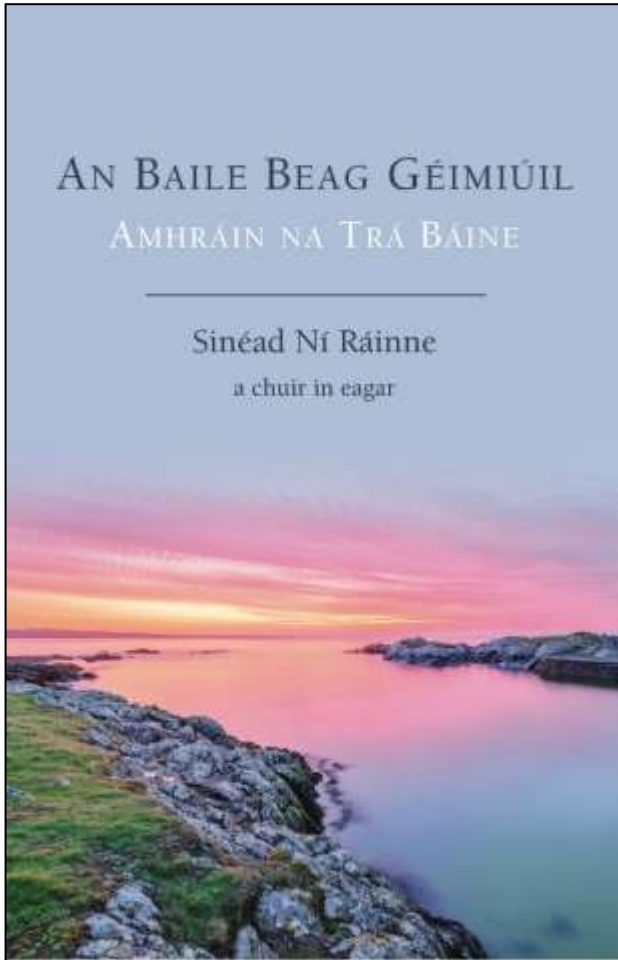
Micheál Ó Conghaile



Tells the story of a man who is about to walk out on his wife and young son. The gradual erosion of love and apathy born of domestic life has led him to this decision. He is indifferent and aloof as he looks back over their life leading up to his decision to leave, as he prepares to tear his family's life apart.

- Audience: Adults
- Examines the quiet apathy of a married couple's dying relationship and the husband's decision to leave his wife and son.
- Set on the outskirts of Galway city

Bridget Bhreathnach | poibliocht@cic.ie



An Baile Beag Géimiúil

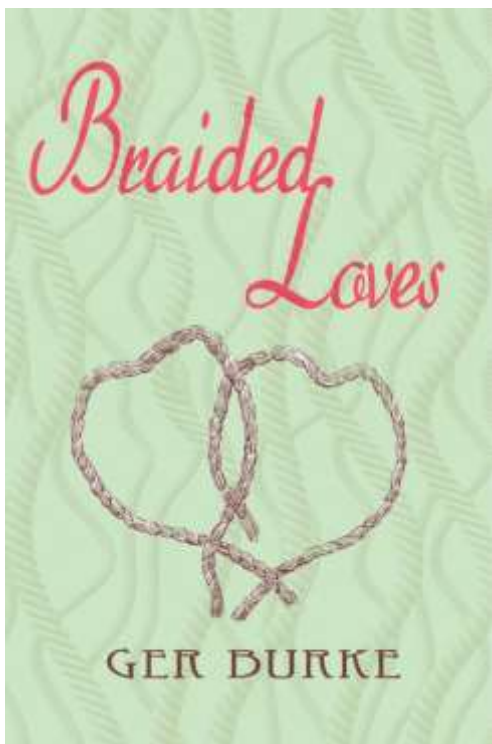
Sinéad Ní Ráinne



An Trá Bháin in Connemara is widely known for its folklore and traditional song. This book contains sixteen songs from or about the area. Together, these songs compile a social history of a tightly-knit community, which has kept its unique identity in the face of economic hardship and ongoing emigration.

- Audience: General
- Tells the story of a rural Connemara community through its song and gives the historical, cultural and economic context in which the songs were written.
- Set in Connemara with links to the UK and USA.

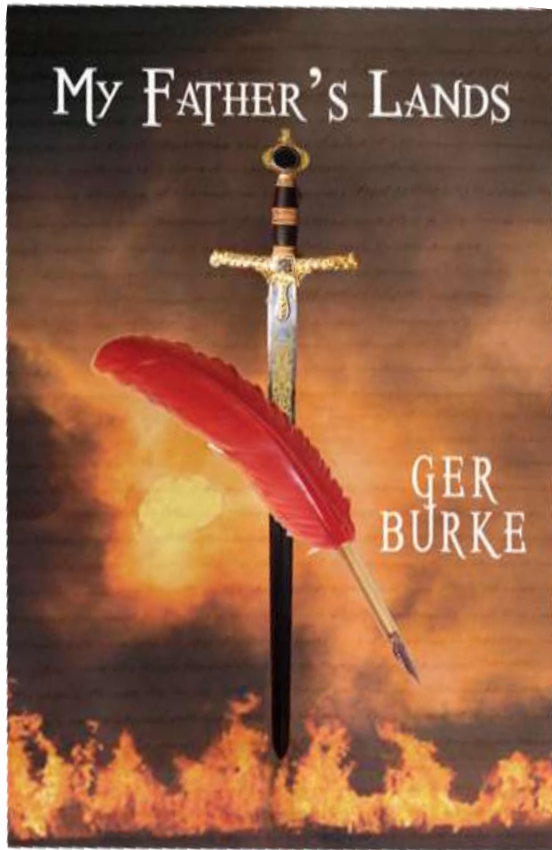
Bridget Bhreathnach | poibliocht@cic.ie



When Teresa Goldstein, successful author, teacher, and mother, and wife to Jewish American lawyer David Goldstein, begins to receive ominous calendars in the post with certain dates marked in red her first instinct is to ignore them. But before long she realises she has too many problems to ignore ... heavy drinking, sexual repression, infidelity. Set in a small town in the West of Ireland during the 1980s the novel is sad, funny and insightful.

The story strikes a familiar note with women who are juggling being a wife, a mother, and a daughter to elderly parents, as well as managing a career. It also appeals to the many families effected by problems such as excessive drinking.





My Father's Lands is a searing love story between Fiona, a Gaelic chieftain's daughter and Rory, the son of another Irish chieftain who betrays his Irish heritage for power and land. It is an insight into the last stand of the old Gaelic world against English supremacy prior to the Ulster Plantation.

The story, spanning 40 years, is set in 16th century Ireland, the England of Queen Elizabeth I, and the Spain of King Philip II.

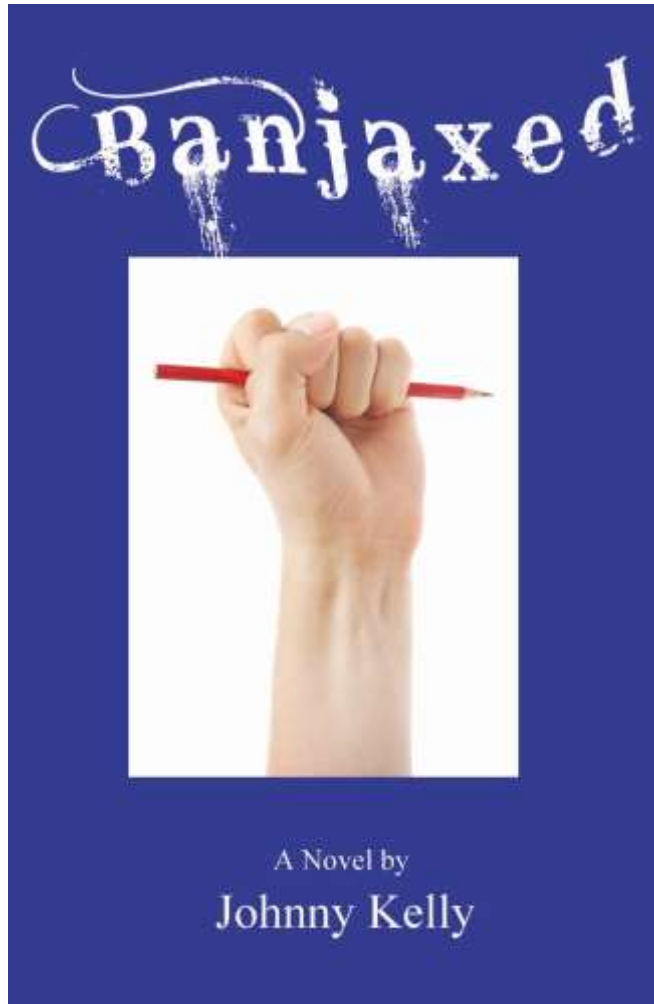
It deals with the complicated politics of 16th C Ireland and explains the background to the current politics of Northern Ireland while dealing with the themes of love, passion, divided loyalties, betrayal and courage.



Tony O'Dwyer

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publisher@wordsonthestreet.com



Banjaxed is a “coming-of-rage” story set during turn-of-millennium Ireland; it portrays teenager Seanie Carolan's burgeoning consciousness and explosive journey through secondary school, culminating in an all-out student revolt.

At its core are questions of authority and freedom, tyranny and democracy, as well as the relationship between the individual and society.



Tony O'Dwyer

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publisher@wordsonthestreet.com



This tragi-comic novel follows Marina from infancy through a troubled childhood and the forging of a lifelong friendship with someone as lost as herself.

The story of the heroine's mental struggles, her musical talent, her escape to London, her offbeat boyfriend, her sojourn in the city and eventual return to Ireland builds to a shocking crescendo.

It is a narrative so rich with emotion and alive with intimate detail that when you finish reading you wish there could be more.

"Knowing and mysterious, funny and heartbreaking. Best of all though this is a genuine original, a singular enchantment."

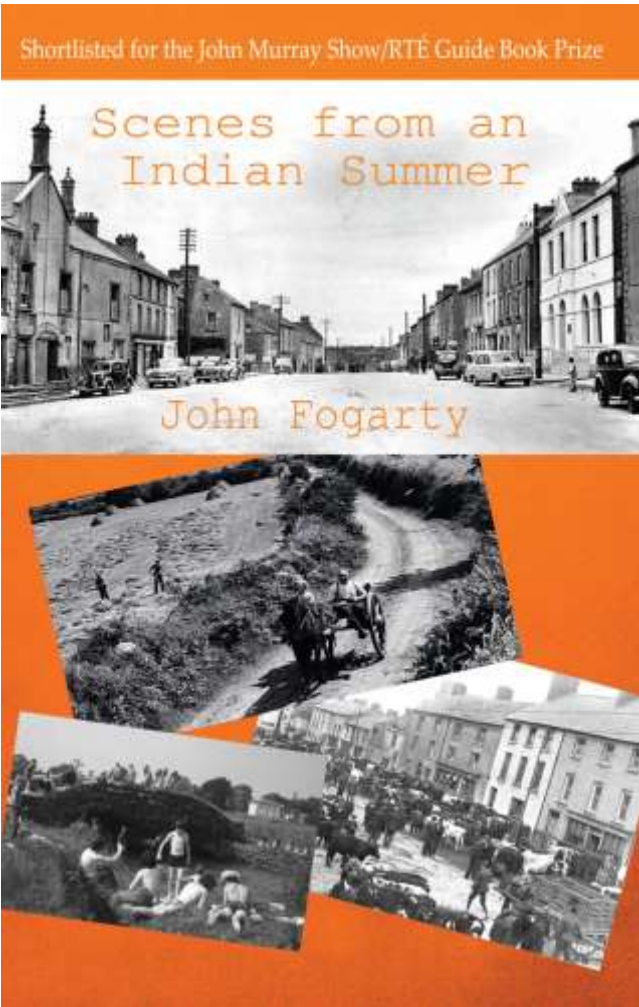
Mike McCormack, author of Solar Bones



Tony O'Dwyer

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It is June 1963. At long last the freedom of summertime has arrived for Jonno and his brothers, Paudie and Jim, and friends, Judo and Horse. They can leave behind the tyranny of school and the sour looks of Brother Virgilius. Now they are free to run below the foothills of Sliabhnamon to their heart's content in their make-believe world of cowboys and indians.

That summer becomes a time of beginnings and endings. President John F. Kennedy, with his impossibly white teeth and movie star good looks, is visiting Ireland. People in the villages and towns listen to his speeches on the radio.

But poverty is rampant. The blight of emigration pulls families apart. Life, however, is simpler. The gentle rhythms of country life enfold them.



Tony O'Dwyer

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GOKUDO

THE ULTIMATE PATH

A young boy from Tokyo struggles to find a sense of direction and purpose. His mother dead, and no father figure in his life, Riku must decide for himself which path he is going to take: will the Yakusa, become his new family?

AUDIENCE adult, teenager

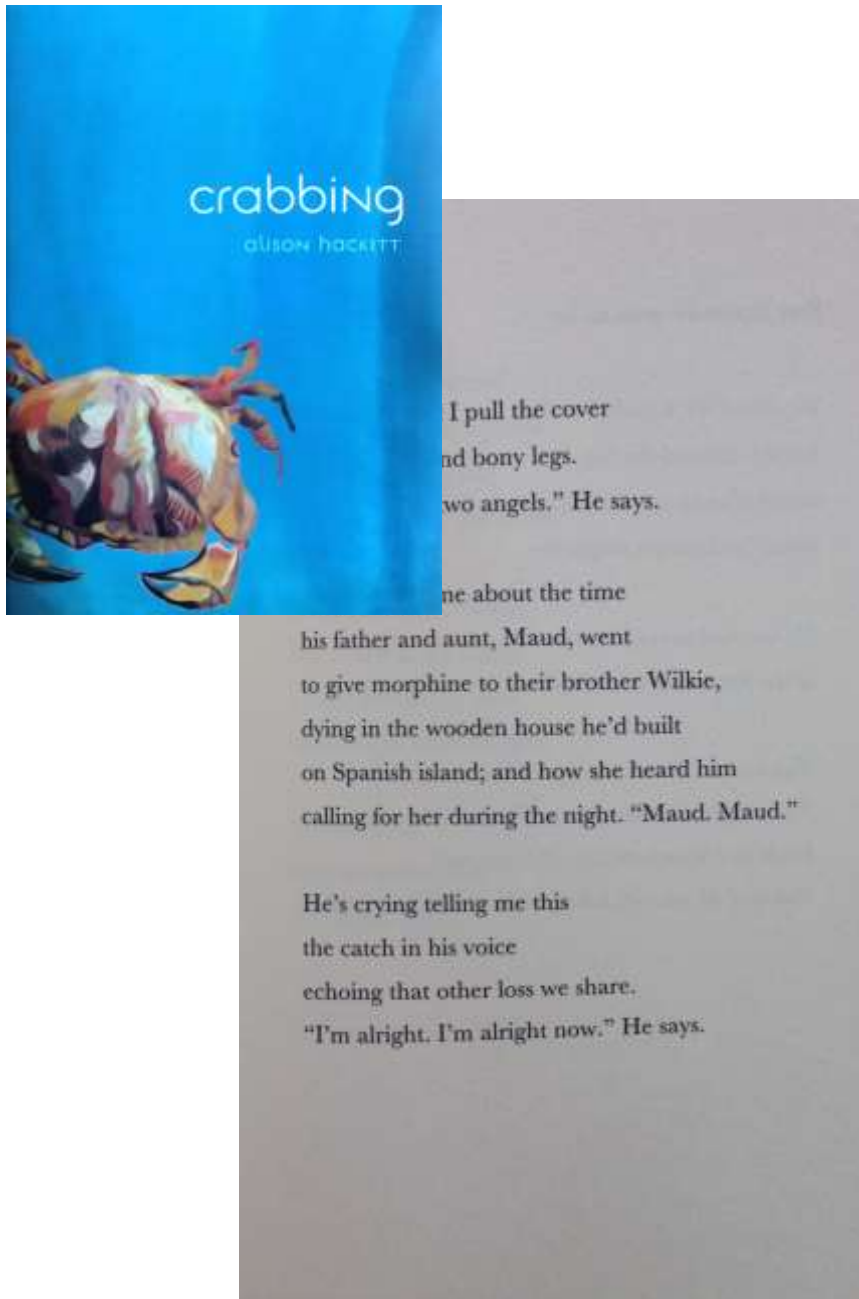
WHERE Japan

THEMES loneliness, rejection, belonging, loyalty, soulful, dark e.g. Haji/Girl

WRITER & ILLUSTRATOR Nick Geoghegan

21st Century Renaissance alison.Hackett@21cr.ie +353 086 8092532

The Glasshouse, Harbour Court, George's Place, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin A96 P0A4, Ireland



CRABBING

A knowledge that terrible things could happen marked Alison Hackett out as a quiet and serious child on her return to boarding school after her mother's funeral in Cork in 1973. In the following years, as a teenager, mathematics lured her into its embrace – a world of logic, elegance, pattern and proof. A debut collection of poetry in the form of memoir.

AUDIENCE general

THEMES poetry, biopic, turning grief to art, a woman finding her voice

GENRE documentary

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The Glasshouse, Harbour Court, George's Place, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin A96 P0A4, Ireland

THE VISUAL TIME TRAVELLER

History in pictures. Stories on every page.

A breathtaking account of human endeavour captured in a 100 artworks spanning 500 years. Did Martin Luther smuggle nuns out of a convent in herring barrels? Who dissected bodies in public, in 1540, to show that men and women had the same number of ribs?

“You have cheered up my life.” — Alice, aged 10

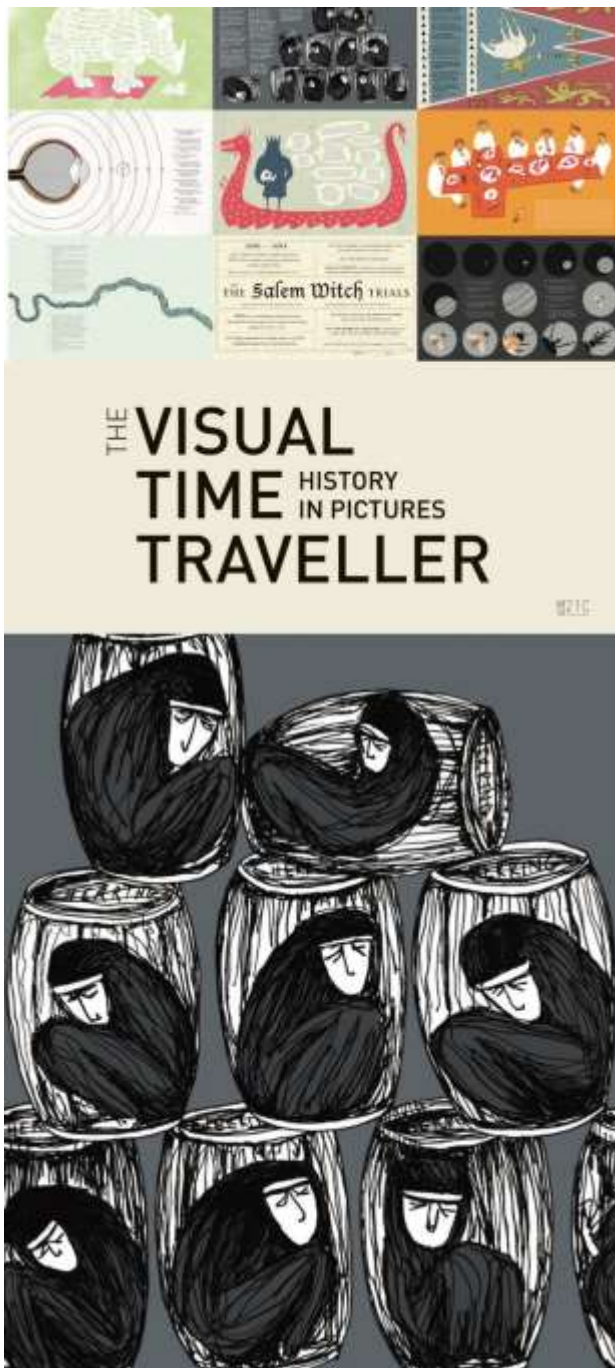
AUDIENCE family, worldwide, scientists, artists, historians

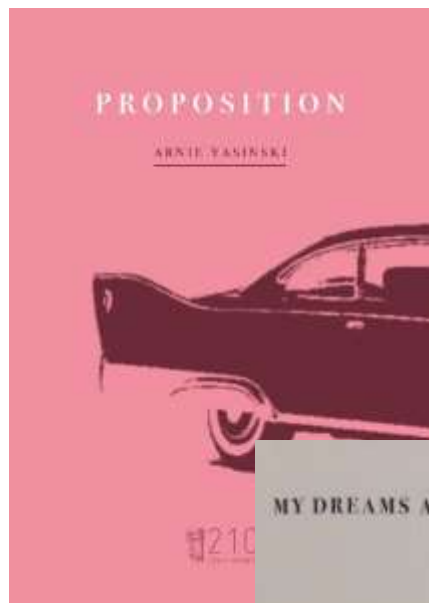
THEMES history, graphics, renaissance, enlightenment, modern learning

GENRE documentary, education

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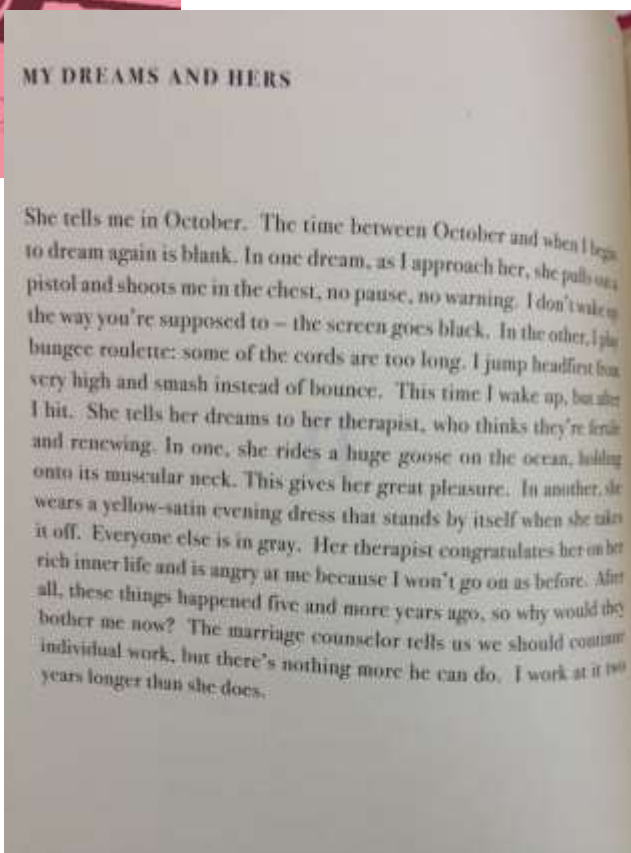




PROPOSITION

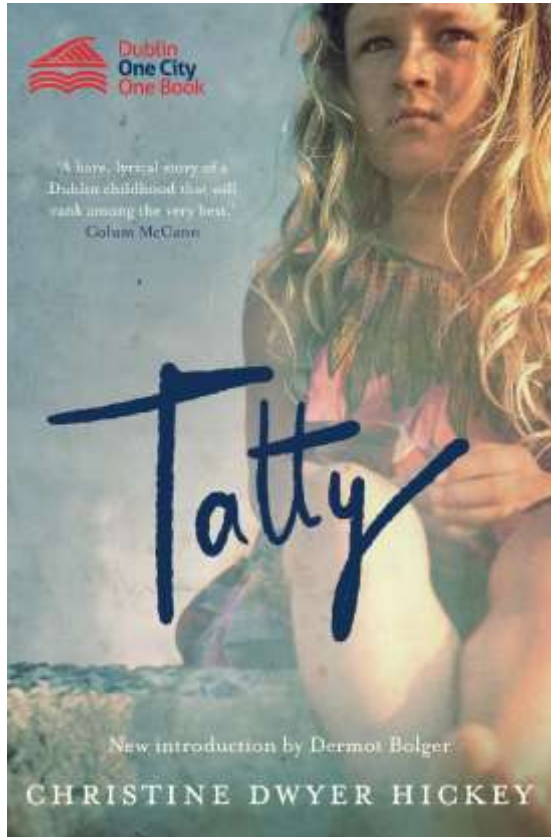
“I met Alison Hackett when I retired to Ireland. If it weren’t for her, my first, and so far only, collection of poems, might never have seen the light. We’ve developed the confidence to be brutal with each other.”

— Arnie Yasinski



THEMES	American male poet meets Irish female publisher...
GENRE	documentary
AUTHOR	Arnie Yasinski

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The Glasshouse, Harbour Court, George's Place, Dun Laoghaire, Dublin A96 P0A4, Ireland



Film comps: The Florida Project, Sing Street, Stand By Me, Jojo Rabbit.

www.newisland.ie
@NewIslandBooks

Tatty

Christine Dwyer Hickey

Christine Dwyer Hickey's *Tatty* is a devastating yet hilarious depiction of a troubled Dublin family told in the vibrant, charismatic voice of the little girl lost within it. With brutal honesty, Tatty tells the story of her beloved but feckless dad, her tormented mam and her five siblings, including her sister with special needs. As she grows up, Tatty becomes ever more aware of the strange reality of her home life, and the damage wrought by alcohol on her family. First published in 2004, Tatty became a bestseller and is a modern Irish masterpiece that is tragic, funny and utterly unsentimental.

- Deals with themes of alcohol abuse, depression, family life.
- Setting: 1960s-1970s, Dublin.
- Published 2004, nominated for One City, One Book 2020.

A bare, lyrical story of a Dublin childhood that will rank among the very best of Irish books this year.—Colum McCann



Words to Shape My Name

Laura McKenna



Notes: Potential for a beautiful serialised historical drama, transatlantic.

www.newisland.ie

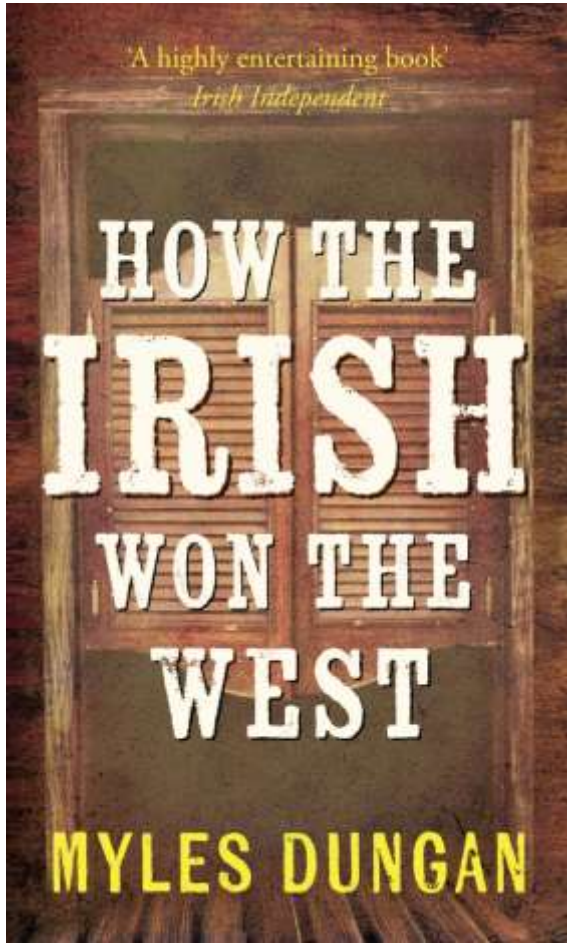
@NewIslandBooks

The story of an escaped South Carolina slave's epic journey to the heart of Revolutionary Ireland.

Tony Small's written account (retold through his daughter) begins in America in the 1780s where he forges an unlikely friendship with his employer, Irishman Lord Edward Fitzgerald. After extensive travel, where Tony's 'freedom' comes under question, they arrive in Ireland in the lead up to the 1798 Irish Rebellion and soon become involved.

- Based on real events.
- Deals with themes of slavery, rebellion, Irish and American History, 1798.
- Setting: North America 1780s, Ireland 1790s, London 1850s.
- Scheduled for publication 2021.





Media notes: Presenter of 'The History Show', 'Fake Histories' and formerly 'On This Day' — RTÉ Radio 1 .

www.newisland.ie

@NewIslandBooks

How the Irish Won the West

Myles Dungan

In this refreshing take on Irish-American history, broadcaster and historian Myles Dungan brilliantly describes how the exploration and exploitation of the West was vastly different from Hollywood myth. He reveals the true story of Irish immigrants and their descendants, from cannibals and prostitutes to soldiers and frontier-men, who toiled and dreamed of bigger things in America's Wild West. *How the Irish Won the West* is a wonderful and entertaining testament to the Irish men and women who helped build a new nation.

- Author is a well-known broadcaster and historian.
- Diaspora audience potential.
- Irish-American History Documentary Series.
- Published: 2016

Fascinating...highly entertaining —Irish Independent



NEW ISLAND

Foster's Book of Irish Murder

Alan Foster

From the murder of a teacher in his schoolyard and an ambush by dancing masked men, to the Sherlock Holmes-like investigation into the death of WWII veteran James McParland, and many more! Uncover the details behind strange cases, such as how an afternoon slice of cake led to James Finnegan's demise, how one man's dream led to a mysterious death being solved, and how a woman's corpse seemingly fell from the sky in Clare.

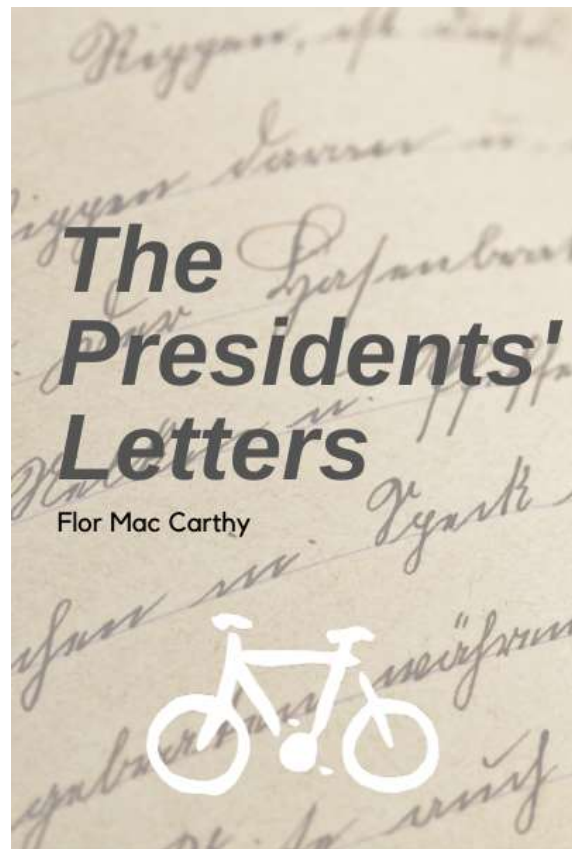
Foster's Book of Irish Murder is full of victims and monsters, heroic detectives and false leads, killers escaping justice and mysterious unsolved cases —a murder miscellany, you might say!

Author's previous books include:
Foster's Irish Oddities and *Foster's Even Odder Irish Oddities*.

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- True Irish Crime Series.
- Comp: *1,000 Ways to Die* - American anthology television series 2008-2013.
- Allen Foster works as a researcher and writer.
- Published: 2016.





Notes: Foreword by President Michael D. Higgins. Author is a renowned Irish journalist and broadcaster and works in RTÉ.

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The Presidents' Letters

Flor Mac Carthy

A timely and important record of the Irish state, experienced by the reader through the prism of the fading art of letter writing.

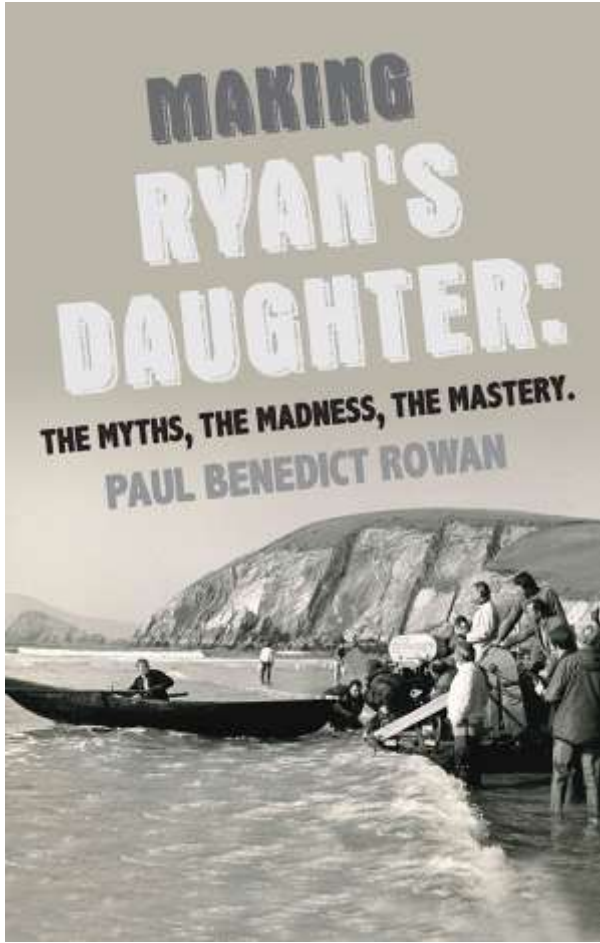
The Presidents' Letters will be unique in being the first book ever to share Ireland's presidential archives with a wide readership.

Chapter introductions from high profile commentators in Irish life David McCullagh, Samantha Barry, Joseph O'Connor, Martina Devlin, Catriona Crowe, Roisin Ingle, Katherine Zappone and more.

- Documentary / interview series.
- Key topics: politics, diplomacy, society, Northern Ireland, the arts, diaspora.
- Scheduled for Publication: Autumn 2021.



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Media: Author is well-known *Sunday Times* journalist.

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Making Ryan's Daughter

Paul Benedict Rowan

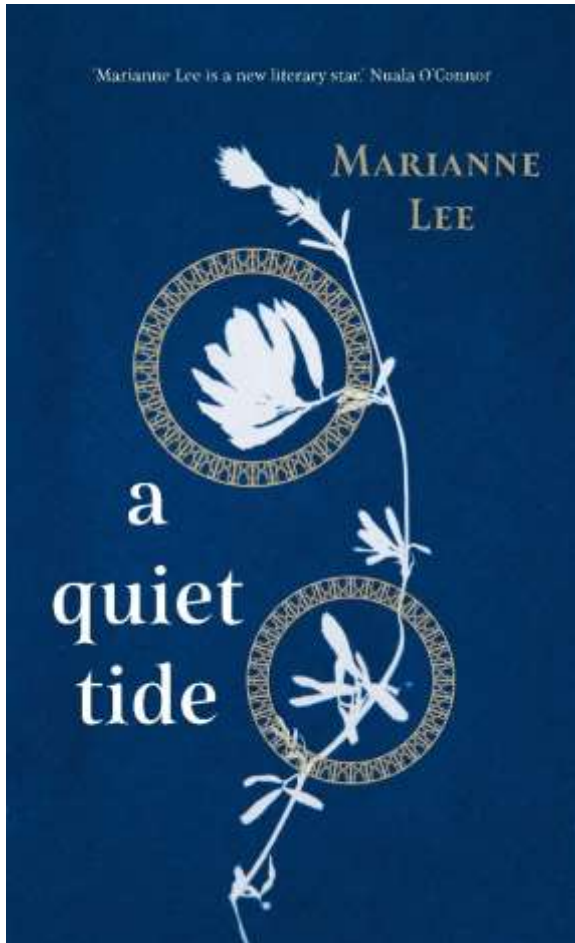
The making of *Ryan's Daughter* in Dingle 1969 is shrouded in myth and sensational stories. Hollywood superstars in late-1960s Ireland, the Irish climate, the studio system and one of film's greatest auteurs all combined into a troubled and fabled production.

Painstakingly researched over fifteen years, with in-depth, one-on-one interviews with major cast and crew members, it charts the tumultuous filming of one of Ireland's most iconic pieces of cinema.

- Documentary / interview with author.
- Nov 2020 marks 50th anniversary since movie release.
- Forensically researched with huge range of new material.
- Setting: 1969, Dingle, Kerry.
- Publishing Summer 2020.



NEW ISLAND



Media comps: Bright Star (Jane Campion, 2009), Becoming Jane (Julian Jarrold, 2007) with Anne Hathaway & James McEvoy.

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A Quiet Tide

Marianne Lee

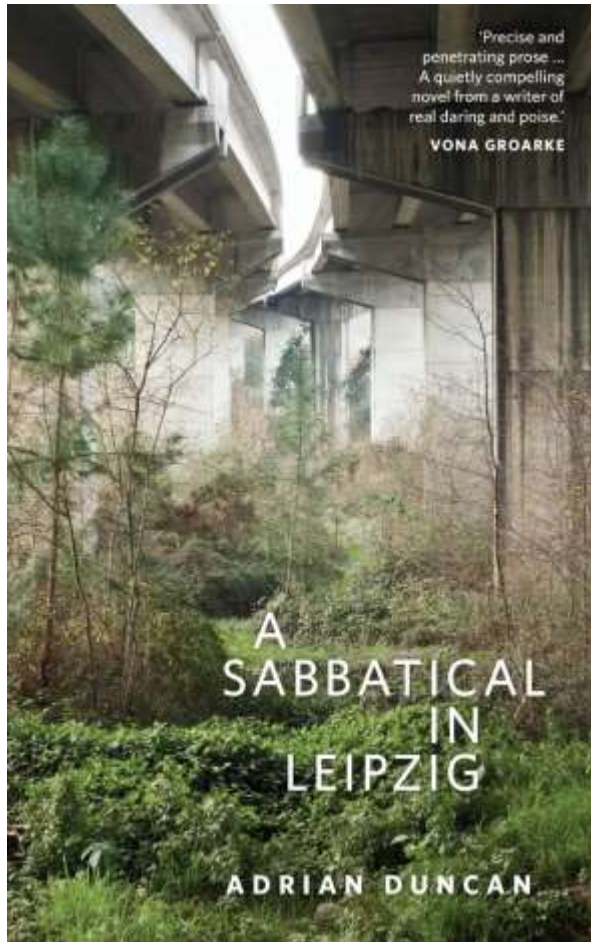
Fictionalised account of Irish botanist Ellen Hutchins who lived in Bantry in County Cork at the start of the nineteenth century. Deemed an 'unsuccessful' woman because she is unmarried, it is through a career in botany that Ellen forges her own way towards self-expression, discovering art, the natural world and unexpected and empowering friendships along the way. Her reputation among other botany enthusiasts grows and, in her cousin Tom Taylor, she feels a love she can never fully articulate.

A heart-breaking story of restrained passion and unrealised potential as Ellen, shackled by family crises and ill-health, seeks to find meaning in her small but rich life at the outer wild edge of Europe.

- The true story of a forgotten Irish woman - HERstory.
- Debut author: major new arrival on the Irish literary scene.
- Timely themes of autonomy, agency and equality.
- Setting: 1800s, Dublin, West Cork.
- Published: May 2020.



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A Sabbatical in Leipzig

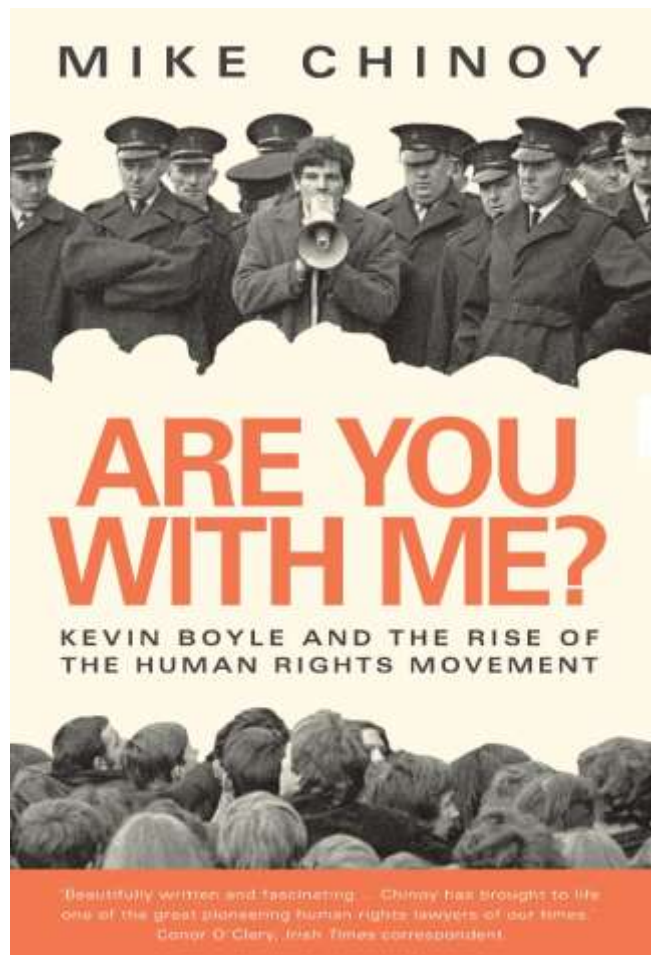
Adrian Duncan



Michael, a retired engineer, has lived away from Ireland for most of his life and now resides alone in Bilbao after the death of his girlfriend, Catherine. Over the course of 45 minutes before he leaves his apartment, Michael reflects on past projects in Germany and India and how they have endured, the landscape of his adolescence, and his relationship with Catherine.

- Deals with themes of emigration, aging, art and architecture, and engineering (Michael plays the same song and visits the Guggenheim every day)
- Self-contained, mainly set in one room, like a one-man play
- Striking visual descriptions of architecture, the play of light on buildings and sculpture

Ruth Hallinan | publicity@lilliputpress.ie



Are You With Me? Kevin Boyle and the Rise of the Human Rights Movement

Mike Chinoy



Kevin Boyle was one of the world's great human rights lawyers. In a career that lasted decades and spanned continents, he tackled issues ranging from freedom of the press to terrorism and Islamic fundamentalism to the rights of gay people, women and minorities. This remarkable biography tells the inspiring tale of how a taxi driver's son from Northern Ireland became a globally renowned advocate.

- Deals with human rights struggles across the globe from Northern Ireland to Turkey, and includes the defence of Salman Rushdie
- Kevin Boyle had many friends and admirers, including Presidents Michael D. Higgins, Mary McAleese and Mary Robinson, and many colleagues would offer interviews for a documentary
- NUI Galway holds the archive of Kevin Boyle, including audio files

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Ravelling (spring 2021)

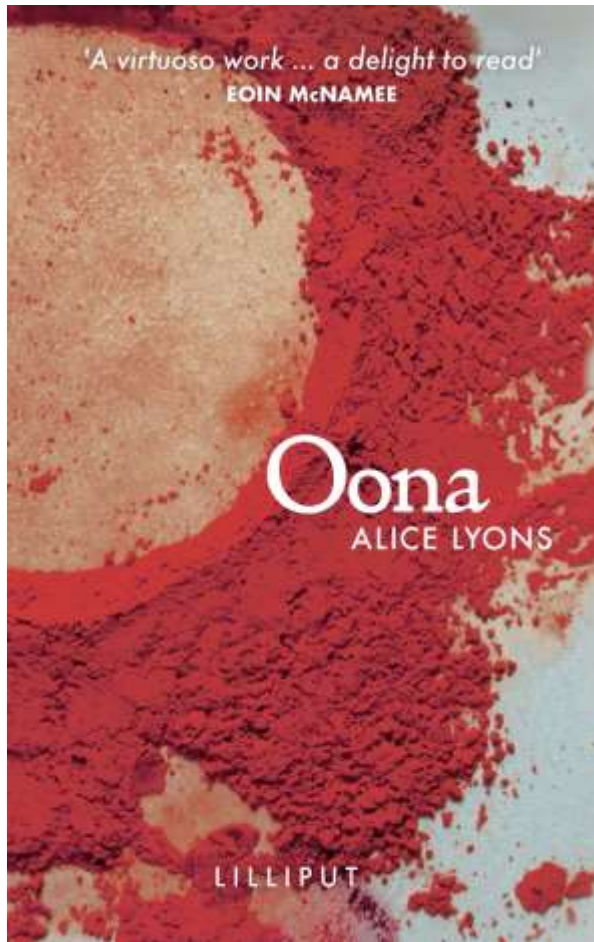
Estelle Birdy



A group of eighteen- and nineteen-year-olds mitch off school in Dublin's city centre to say goodbye to their homeless friend, Jack, who died by suicide. Deano, Hamza, Oisín, Benit and Karl deal with parties, their Leaving Certificate, race, poverty, violence and Garda harassment, and wonder what it means to be a man through a happily drug-fuelled haze. Fast-paced, funny and eye-popping, it descends from *Trainspotting* with dialogue reminiscent of Roddy Doyle. Not to be missed!

- Deals with themes of masculinity, race, growing up, and drug use with a colourful and diverse cast of characters
- Set in Dublin's Liberties with scenes of street dealing, park brawls, a brothel and a hospital ward
- A story that gives sense of multi-cultural Ireland coming to terms with the new dynamics of identity in the ferment of modern times

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Oona

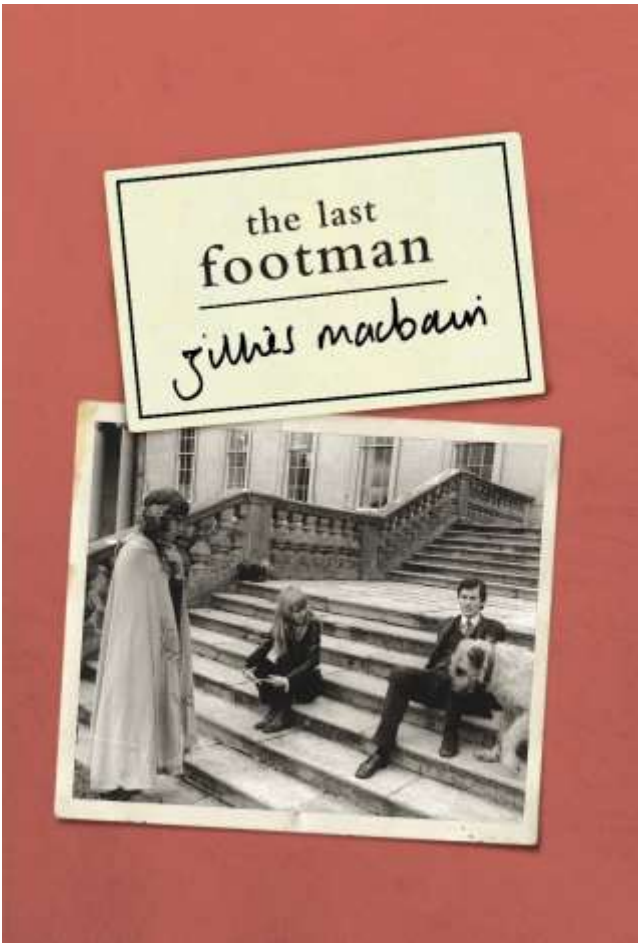
Alice Lyons



In Alice Lyons' implosive debut novel, *Oona*, a child of first-generation American migrants, lives in an affluent New Jersey. The silence surrounding the death of her mother causes Oona's inner life to go into shutdown. Set between New Jersey and Leitrim, this striking *bildungsroman* sees Oona through her first encounters with sex, drugs and other adolescent rites of passage as she comes to terms with her place in life.

- This chronicle of a woman's growth as an artist uses poetic imagery, visual references through art and art materials, and the settings of New Jersey and Leitrim.
- Written without the letter 'o', this text reads almost like poetry and has been very well-received by critics and readers.

Ruth Hallinan | publicity@lilliputpress.ie



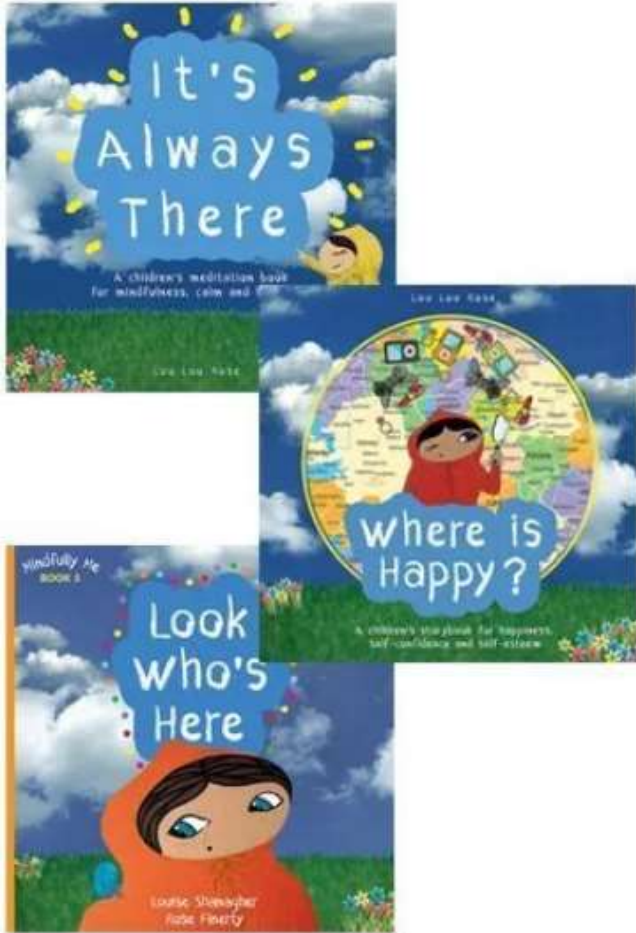
The Last Footman

Gillies Macbain



In the summer of 1964, 21-year-old Gillies Macbain arrives in Dublin off the ferry from England with only his bicycle, a suitcase and a tent to his name. Young, handsome and charismatic, he begins work as a footman. Thus begins his foray into the upper echelons of Irish society, where, through various adventures, he eventually marries into the circle of the 'idle rich'.

- Period comedy / drama: an Irish Downton Abbey with the wit of P.G. Wodehouse. The audience would be people who enjoy switching off from the impersonal bustle of the modern world with a rogue's 'rags to riches' tale.
- Many Irish locations and big houses are mentioned throughout his adventures.



Mindfully Me series

Louise Shanagher and Rose Finerty

This children's series addresses the rise in young children's anxiety and stress in a practical and helpful way.

It's Always There focuses on breathing techniques.

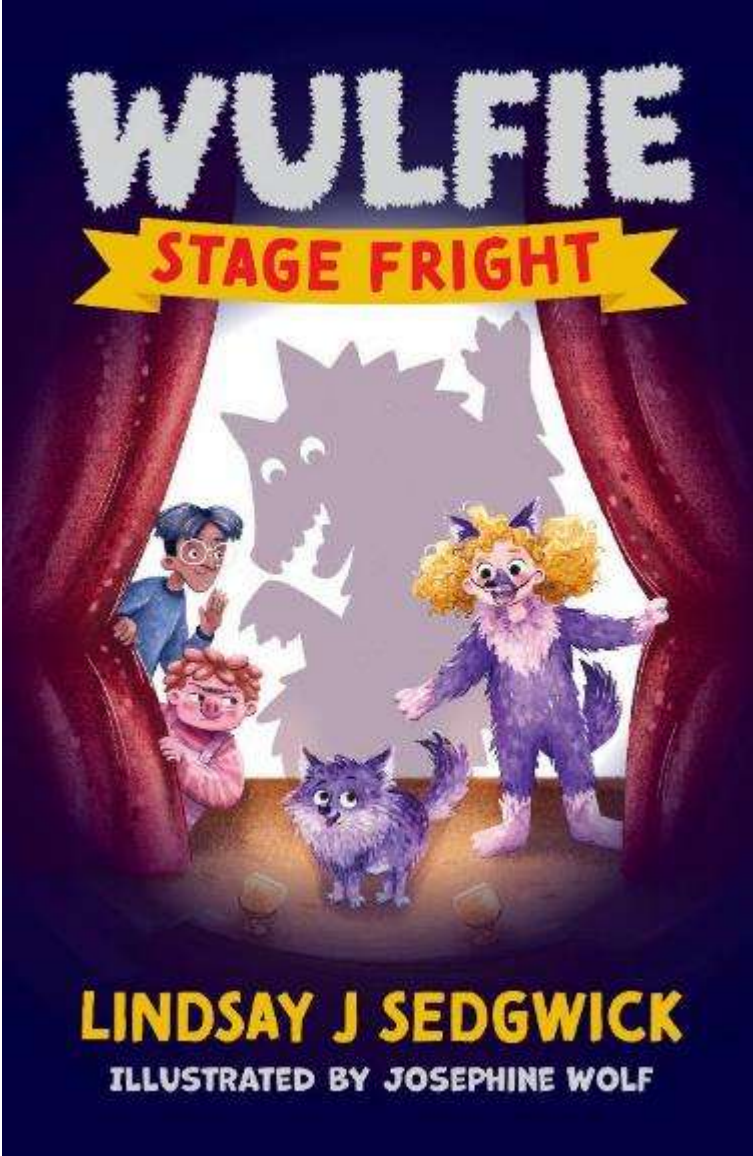
Where is Happy? focuses on mindfulness.

Look Who's Here focuses on identifying emotions.

- These beautiful children's books have proven extremely popular with educational bodies and Barnardos.
- Suitable for simple animation as an educational series.
- Bright, eye-catching illustrations and rhyming text make this suitable for young primary-school children.



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The Wulfie series

Lindsay J Sedgwick



Libby lives with her mean step-brother, Rex, who tells her scary stories so she can't sleep. At school she is a loner. All Libby wants is a best friend – and to get revenge on Rex.

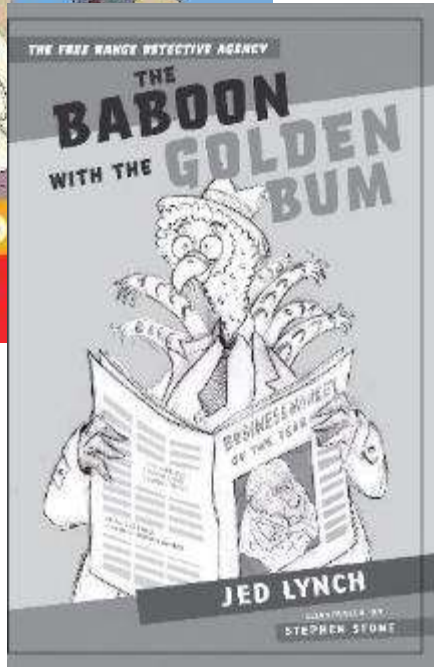
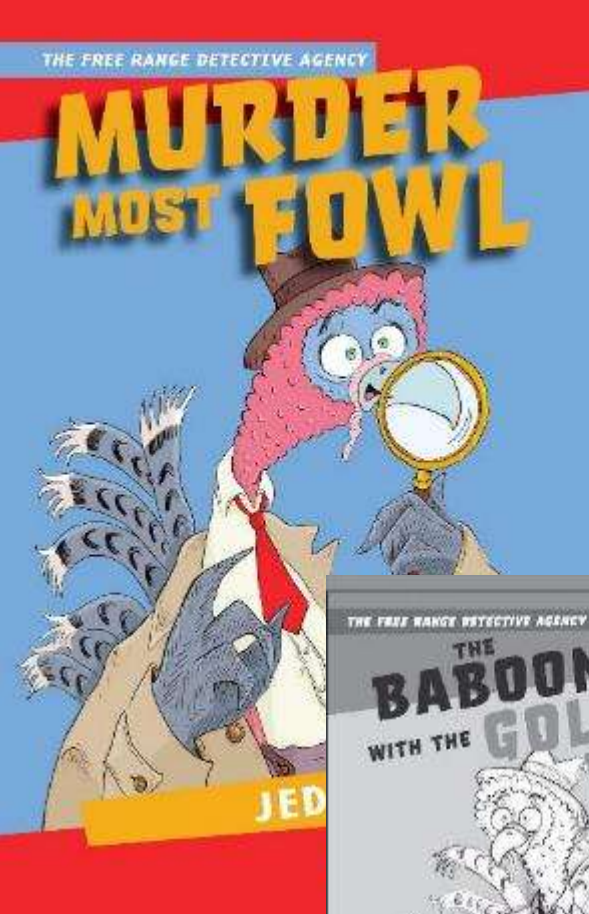
Libby's life changes forever when she finds, in a trunk in her bedroom, a little purple wolf-like creature named Wulfie.

Wulfie can talk. He can grow as big as a bear or shrink down as small as a snail. He's sweet and kind, but he loves to get into trouble.

- Series of sweet and funny stories for children aged 6-9
- Strong female protagonist and diverse cast of characters
- From the creator of the award-winning series of short animations, *Punky*, with more than 5 million views on YouTube



Matthew Parkinson-Bennett | matthew.pb@littleisland.ie



The Free Range Detective Agency series | Jed Lynch



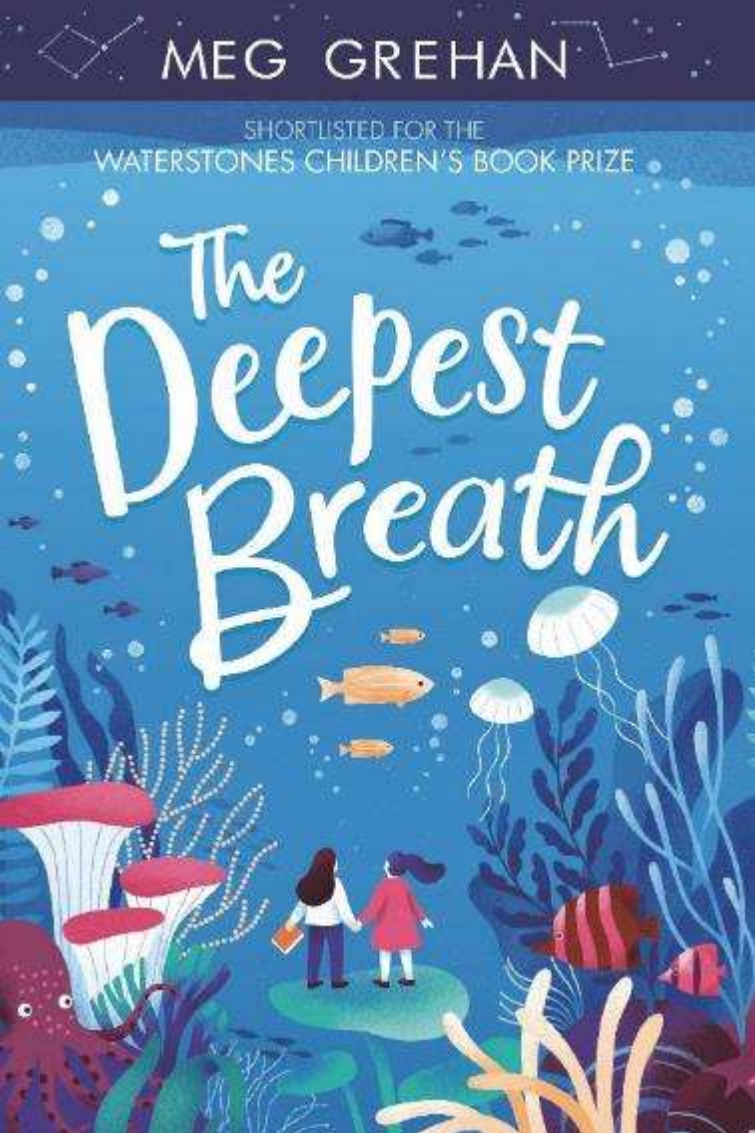
Seamus the private detective is no chicken. He's a turkey.

Seamus runs the Free Range Detective Agency. He might not be the best detective in town. In fact he could be the worst. But with a bit of luck and some help from his friends (a mole and a meerkat) he'll always somehow solve the case.

- Hilarious all-animal detective series for children aged 8-11
- Plays with tropes of classic Noir detective films
- "I laughed so hard I laid an egg. GENIUS."
– Dustin the Turkey



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The Deepest Breath

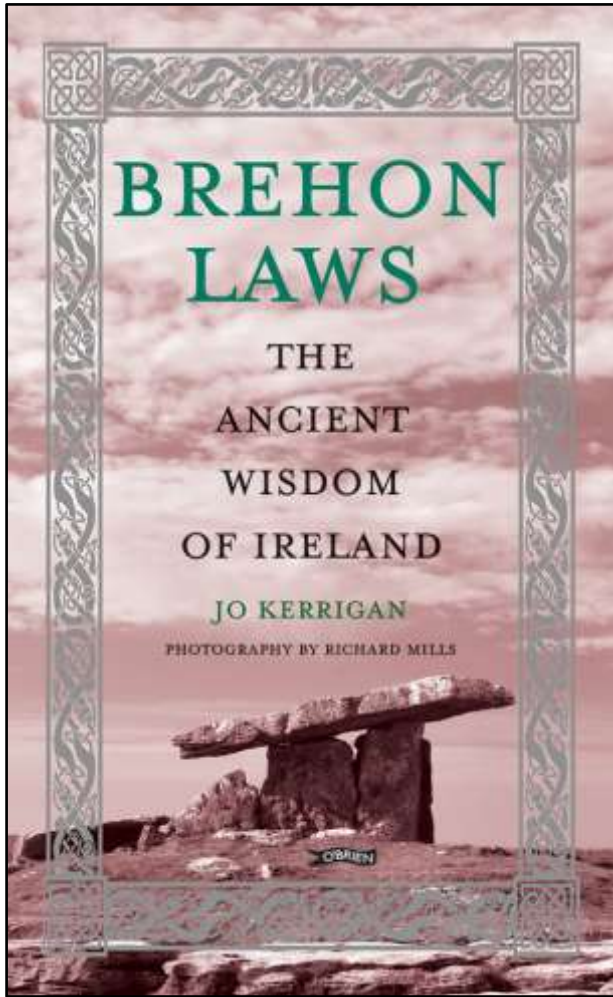
Meg Grehan



There is so much that Stevie doesn't know.
She doesn't know about all the fish in the sea.
She doesn't know all the constellations of the stars.
And she doesn't know why she feels this way about Chloe.

- Tender and reassuring story about discovering queer sexuality for children aged 10+
- Shortlisted for Waterstones Children's Book Prize 2020 (winner to be announced summer 2020)
- Shortlisted for KPMG Children's Books Ireland Awards 2020
- Rights sold: USA (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt); French (Talents Hauts)

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Brehon Laws

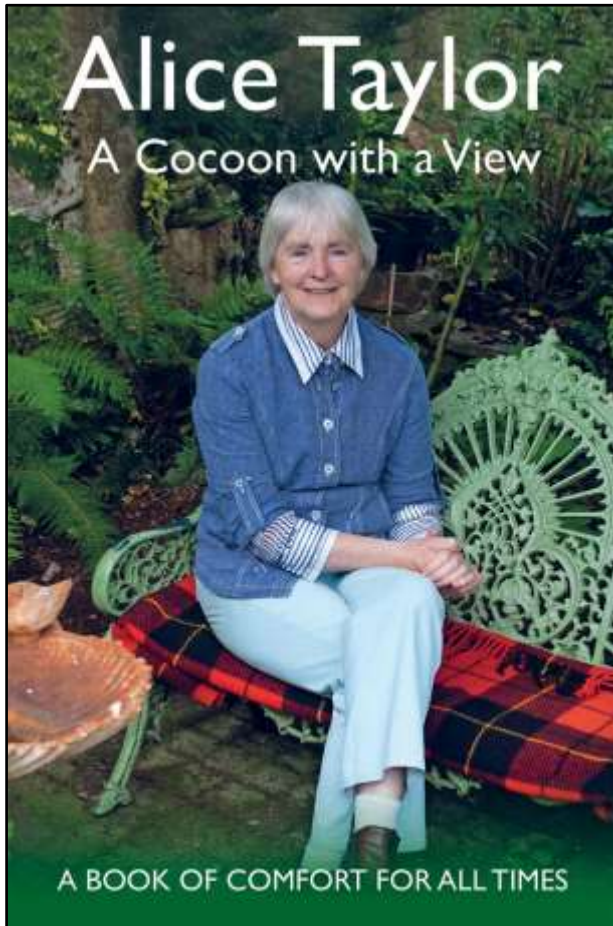
Jo Kerrigan



Celtic Ireland was a land of tribes and warriors; but a sophisticated & enlightened legal system was widely accepted. The brehons were the keepers of these laws, which dealt with every aspect of life: land disputes; theft or violence; marriage & divorce; the care of trees & animals.

- Audience: general, home and diaspora
- Author presents what could be dry material clearly and in a way that shows its effect on real life
- A real view on something that is often mythologised

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A Cocoon with a View

Alice Taylor

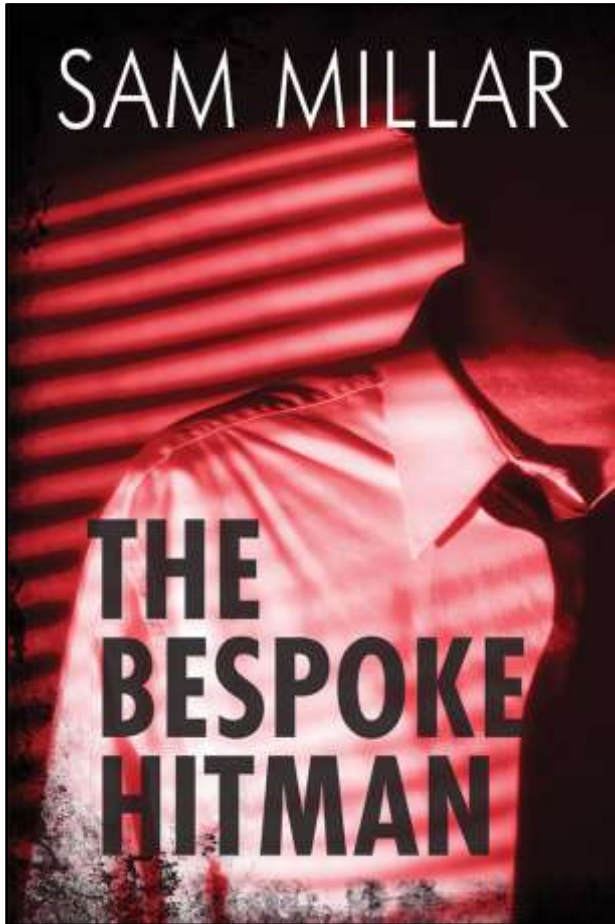


'I decide to light a candle in my front south-facing window onto the main road into West Cork ... a symbol of hope until this darkness is gone.'

Bringing solace and a smile to the cocooned and the isolated, their families and the wider community.

A first-hand account by acclaimed writer Alice Taylor as she adapts to a new way of life in the self-isolation of the cocoon, which reveals previously unobserved wonders and the delights of the ordinary.

- Audience: Irish people, particularly outside the cities
- A mixture of short chapters and reflective poetry
- Much-loved and trusted voice
- Lots of other material available from Alice



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The Bespoke Hitman

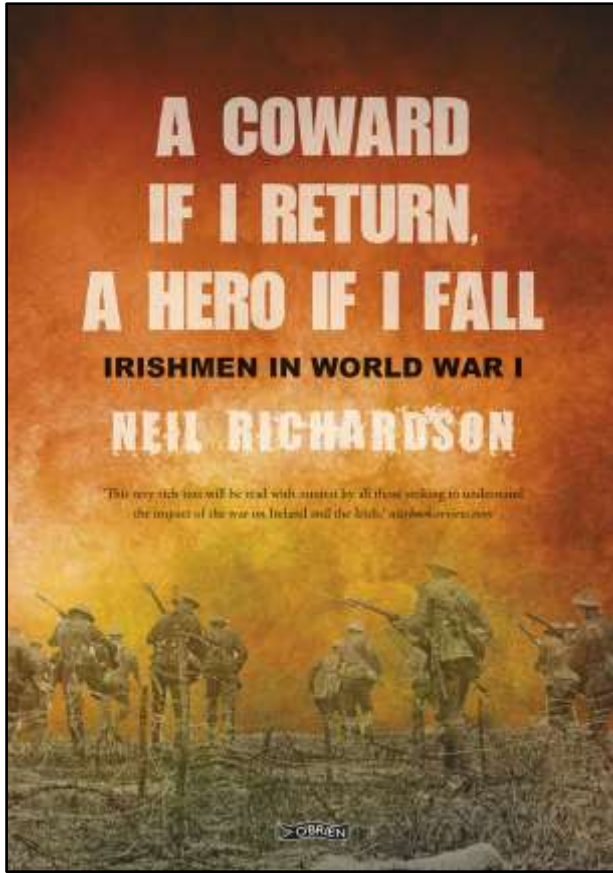
Sam Millar



Sometimes robbing a bank can become a lot more dangerous than you planned.

Halloween night. Belfast city centre. In the freezing, pelting rain, three men in wolf costumes decide to rob a bank. It doesn't go well, but they snatch a large briefcase from a man in the queue: a big mistake.

- Genre: Hard-bitten crime fiction
- Set in Northern Ireland
- Millar has written an amazing memoir (On the Brinks) as well as eight crime novels



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A Coward if I Return, A Hero if I Fall

Neil Richardson



IRELAND'S FORGOTTEN LEGACY

In 1914-1918, two hundred thousand Irishmen from all religions and backgrounds went to war. At least thirty-five thousand never came home. An award-winning collection of veterans' stories as told by the families, with military records, surviving documents and letters.

- Genre: history/biography
- Fully researched, graphic stories of real Irish lives
- Author is young, hugely enthusiastic and very presentable
- Also available: *Dark Times, Decent Men: Stories of Irishmen in World War II*



Queen of Coin and Whispers

Helen Corcoran



'She loved me as I loved her, fierce as a bloodied blade'

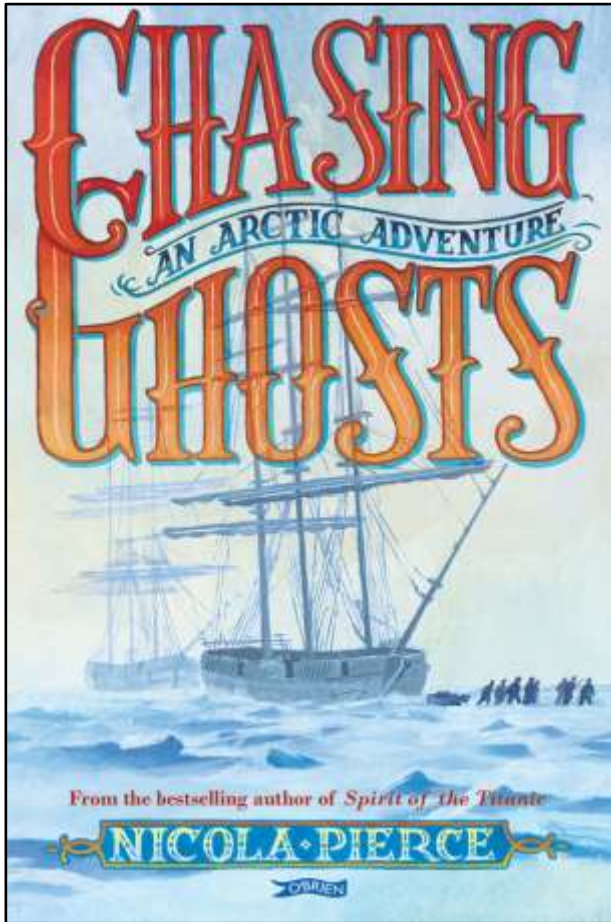
When teenage queen Lia inherits her corrupt uncle's bankrupt kingdom, she brings a new spymaster into the fold ... Xania, who takes the job to avenge her murdered father.

Faced with dangerous plots and hidden enemies, can Lia and Xania learn to rely on each other, as they discover that all is not fair in love and treason?

In a world where the throne means both power and duty, they must decide what to sacrifice for their country – and for each other ...

- Genre: Medieval fantasy, LGBT
- Engrossing court drama with spies, lies ... and sex
- Young adult and older

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Chasing Ghosts

Nicola Pierce



Two stories that speak to each other across time and thousands of miles.

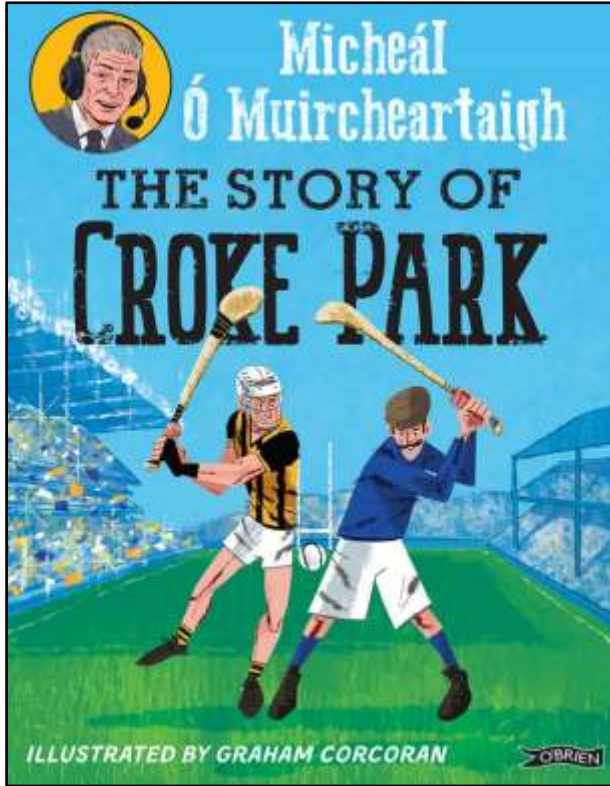
In 1845, two ships, HMS *Erebus* and *Terror*, are Arctic-bound. Commander John Franklin and second-in-command Francis Crozier hope to return within two years, but nobody really knows how long they will be gone. As time passes with no word from the expedition, the world fears the worst ...

In 1849, in Derry, little Weesy Coppin has died of a fever, but her spirit appears to her sister Ann and her brother William.

As Franklin's crew struggle to survive, and Weesy seems bent on haunting her family. Finally, one ghostly night Ann asks her sister the question on everyone's lips: Where are the missing ships?

Based on the real events of Sir John Franklin's expedition to find the Northwest Passage.

- Genre: Historical adventure/ghost story
- Michael Palin wrote best-selling book about *Erebus*
- Shipwrecks currently being explored off Canada



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The Story of Croke Park

Micheál Ó Muircheartaigh

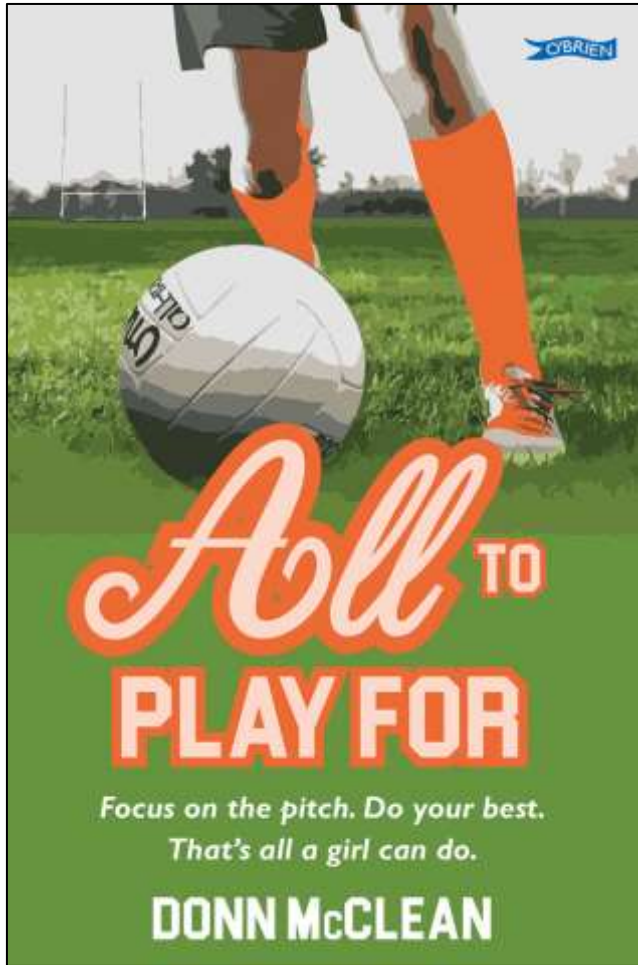


Micheál shares his lifelong passion for the GAA with young readers, as he guides them through its history, and its most iconic stadium, Croke Park. The stadium changed as Ireland changed, and it has been the venue for some of the most memorable matches in our history, as well as major historic events like Bloody Sunday.

He picks his favourite players, matches and incidents from history and talks about the thrilling experience of commentating on games, and seeing the fabled cups - Sam Maguire, Liam McCarthy, O'Duffy and Brendan Martin - being held high by the All Ireland winners.

A must for all young GAA fans.

- Genre: sport/history/culture for kids
- Covers football and hurling, for men and women.
- Micheál is the best-loved person in GAA
- Text in child-friendly, bite-sized chunks



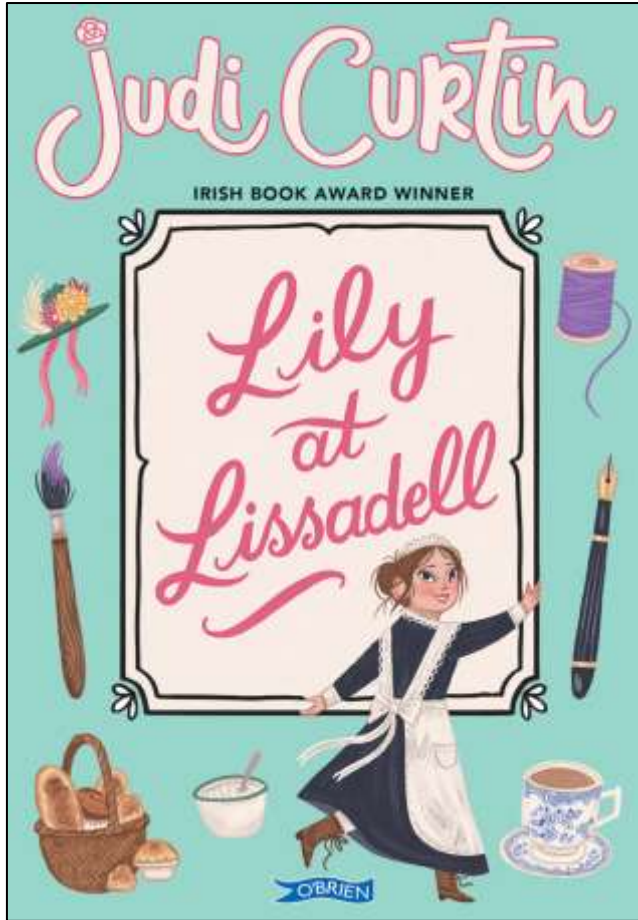
All to Play For Donn McClean



Thirteen year old Anna is struggling to cope with the recent loss of her father, when she discovers a forgotten gift from him - a pair of bright orange football socks. With the help of these brightly coloured good-luck charms, Anna slowly begins to gain confidence both on and off the pitch.

- Audience: children and families
- Deals with themes of coping with loss (father died in accident), grief, dealing with bullying (conflict with team's star player)
- Set in Galway and Wicklow

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Lily at Lissadell

Judi Curtin



When Lily is a young teenager, the time comes for her and her friends to leave school and find work; some are emigrating to America, some going to work in shops. Lily is going into service in the Big House – Lissadell. A warm and engaging story about friendship, life in the early 20th century and how the political world affects everyone.

- Audience: children
- Historical fiction set in iconic location
- Heart-warming story set in 1910s in the backdrop of Constance Markievicz

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Irish Books for Screen 2020



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