



NEW TITLES

SPRING 2025

The
History
Press

The History Press is an independent non-fiction publisher based in the heart of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire – home also to one of the most prestigious literary festivals in the UK.

We have an extensive publishing legacy and can trace our origins back to 1886. The History Press itself was formed in 2007 to incorporate our esteemed imprints under one banner, and we are proud to publish bestselling authors

Philippa Langley, Dermot Turing, Katja Hoyer
and **Shrabani Basu**.

Along with a rich heritage in history publishing, we seek to inform, entertain and champion untold stories across a variety of genres, such as memoir, entertainment, travel, true crime and many more.

We hope you enjoy browsing our list
for Spring 2025.

JANUARY

£18.99

9781803996868

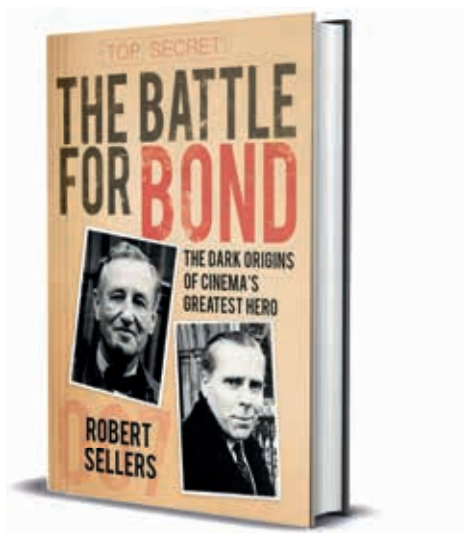
PBK

234 x 156mm

288 pages

20 b&w illustrations

World Rights



The Battle for Bond

The Dark Origins of Cinema's Greatest Hero

Robert Sellers

ROBERT SELLERS was born in Leeds in 1965. Following graduation from drama school, he dreamt of a career on stage and screen. Instead, he turned to film journalism. He has written biographies, books on film, TV and popular culture including the bestselling *Hellraisers*. *The Battle for Bond* was the subject of controversial litigation and for a time was banned in Britain.

A new edition of this long-sought-after classic

The Battle for Bond unravels the untold story behind the most contentious part of the James Bond legend. It is a tale of bitter recriminations, betrayal, multimillion-dollar lawsuits and even death.

Featuring exclusive access to a wealth of archival material, including hundreds of letters from the principal characters in the *Thunderball* story – and from Fleming himself – it reveals business and private documents and papers from the famous 1963 court case.

Widely considered to be one of the most essential books on James Bond ever written, the first edition was banned by the Ian Fleming Trust. This decision was hugely controversial and reported on by the BBC and newspapers such as *The Times*.

The following year a second edition of the book was printed, minus the copyright material. This version of the book has not been available for a long time. Until now.

JANUARY

£22.99

9781803997308

HBK

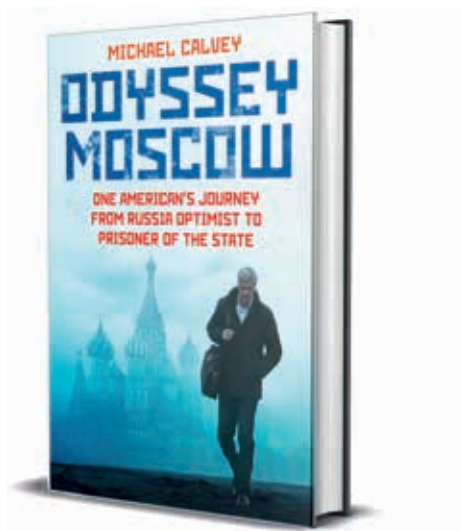
234 x 156mm

256 pages

20 colour illustrations

UK & Commonwealth

Rights excl. Canada



Odyssey Moscow

One American's Journey from Russia Optimist to Prisoner of the State

Michael Calvey

The story of how Michael Calvey's life was turned upside down, when he was unjustly incarcerated in the country's most notorious prison, awaiting trial for fraud

Michael's story starts with a dawn raid on his Moscow apartment by armed FSB agents, following accusations of embezzlement relating to a commercial deal turned sour. In truth, no crime had been committed, but his opponents, disgruntled local business rivals, had friends in powerful places.

He finds himself trapped in a Kafka-esque system, prevented from accessing the evidence to prove his innocence. Convicted in 2021, he is given a suspended sentence – a de facto recognition by the State that he has done nothing wrong, without the Kremlin having to make such an embarrassing admission.

In *Odyssey Moscow*, Calvey shares his personal experiences of the best and worst of Russia, and puts them into the wider context of its post-Communist history.

FEBRUARY

£22.99

9781803998367

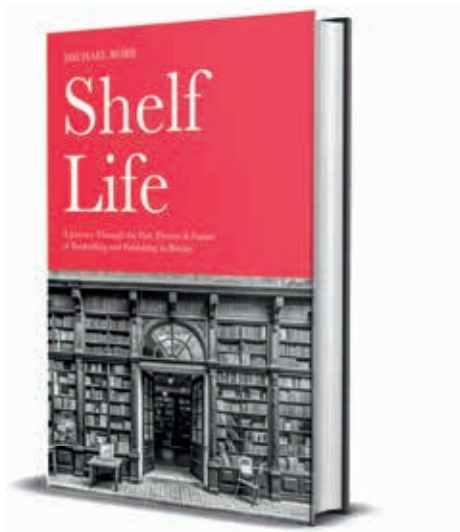
HBK

234 x 156mm

288 pages

World English

Language Rights



Shelf Life

A Journey Through the Past, Present and Future of Bookselling and Publishing in Britain

Michael Robb

MICHAEL ROBB, a stalwart figure in the bookselling and publishing arena, has experienced first-hand the shifting tides of this well-loved industry over the past forty years. From successfully running an independent bookshop in Essex for two decades, to transitioning into the publishing domain, his broad network within the book trade gives him a unique insight to the world of books.

A love letter to the world of books, and the people who make them

Embark on a captivating journey through the ages with *Shelf Life*, a meticulously crafted exploration of bookselling and publishing spanning two millennia. This engaging narrative, designed for book lovers of all kinds, unveils the resilience and innovation of key figures who shaped the literary landscape. From the pioneering days of William Caxton to the contemporary influence of Jeff Bezos, the book chronicles the stories of those who transformed the world of books.

As the narrative navigates the ever-evolving terrain of book retail, it delves into the seismic changes of the past forty years and reflects on the current state of the industry. *Shelf Life* not only chronicles the past but also looks ahead, offering insights into the challenges and future possibilities for publishing and bookselling in the twenty-first century. A must-read for anyone passionate about books, bookshops, and the enduring legacy of the written word.

FEBRUARY

£22.00

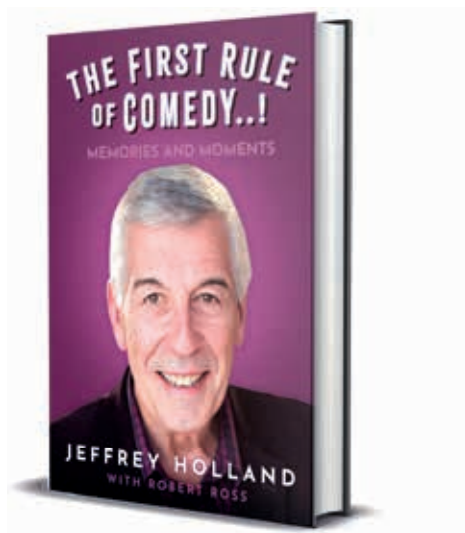
9781803996394

HBK

234 x 156mm

256 pages

World Rights



The First Rule of Comedy..!

Memories and Moments

Jeffrey Holland with Robert Ross

JEFFREY HOLLAND is one of Britain's best-loved sit-com actors, known for his roles in *Hi-De-Hi!*, *You Rang M'Lord?*, *Oh, Doctor Beeching!* and more.

Beyond the screen, he is a regular on the radio and has appeared extensively on stage, ranging from the theatre production of *Dad's Army* to donning frocks as one of Britain's leading pantomime 'Dames'.

ROBERT ROSS is the leading authority on the history of British comedy, having published widely on the topic.

Fondly remembered as Spike Dixon in *Hi-De-Hi!*, Jeffrey Holland is one of our best-loved sit-com actors

An invaluable member of the repertory company of writer and director David Croft, his many other television credits include *Are You Being Served?*, *Dad's Army*, *It Ain't Half Hot Mum*, *Oh, Doctor Beeching!*, and *You Rang, M'Lord?*

Written in collaboration with Britain's foremost comedy historian, Robert Ross, producer and presenter of the hugely successful touring show *Jeffrey Holland: Comedy Friends and Heroes*, this unique memoir reveals the hilarious tales from Holland's long and illustrious career, through the comedy greats that have inspired him, to the comedy colleagues with whom he has worked.

Filled with enthusiasm and affection, *The First Rule of Comedy..!* is a life told through the eyes of one of the true greats of the genre.

FEBRUARY

£14.99

9781803995946

PBK

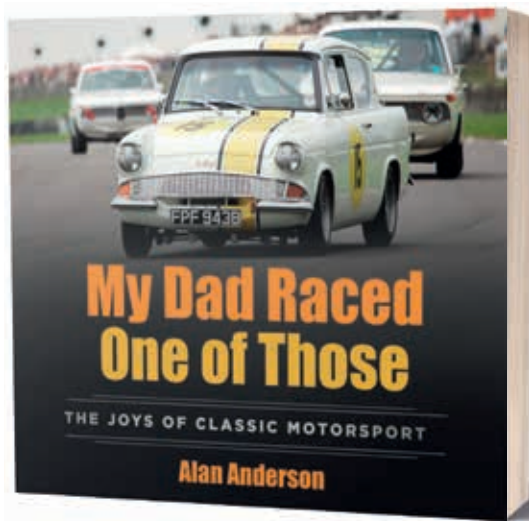
168 x 190mm

160 pages

20 b&w, 90 colour

illustrations

World Rights



My Dad Raced One of Those

The Joys of Classic Motorsport

Alan Anderson

ALAN ANDERSON was launch journalist on *Fast Car* before he launched *Fast Fit & Workshop*. As a freelancer, he worked on all the UK's major titles, contributed to *The Sunday Times*, and was awarded Consumer Journalist of the Year by the Guild of Motoring Writers. He has been editor of *Classic Motoring* and *Classic Cars For Sale* for almost twenty years.

This follow-up to *Going Classic* explores the world of historic motorsport and rally cars from the 1950s to the 1990s

This vibrant new book presents fifty of the most successful classic race and rally cars from across this period, considering why these motoring legends still make front runners in historic motorsport: one of the fastest-growing, most enjoyable and affordable classes of motor racing. *My Dad Raced One of Those* is a nostalgic look back at classic cars in motorsport across the different disciplines, including Race, Rally, Autotests, Hillclimbs, Trails, and Rallycross, and should satisfy and intrigue both the classic car enthusiast and lovers of (especially historic) motorsport.

FEBRUARY

£25.00

9781803996882

PPC

224 x 245mm

120 pages

230 colour illustrations

World Rights



Fishing Boats Around Scotland

The Colour Album

Peter Drummond

PETER DRUMMOND has had a lifelong interest in the fishing industry. His photo book *Fishing Boats Around Scotland* was published in 2023. With co-author Sam Henderson, he has written *The Purse Seiners*, *Fishing Boats of Campbeltown Shipyard*; *Built by Nobles of Girvan* and *Sputniks & Spinningdales*, and he has contributed to books by James Pottinger and Mike Smylie. He lives in Ayrshire.

A stunning full-colour collection of Scottish fishing boat photographs

When fishing boats were numerous, Scotland was a wonderful place to see them. Even in later days, it's still possible to see a hint of what used to be. It was marvellous fun taking pictures around the harbours, though the Scottish weather could make it challenging. Peter Drummond accepted the challenge with much gusto and enthusiasm and was rewarded with days when the sun shone, the air was clear, and the boats were almost lining up to have their pictures taken. So here they are, the very best of them, in beautiful colour: former side trawlers and ring-net boats, crabbers, beamers, scallopers, seiners, trawlers, and purse seiners. This stunning album celebrates all the variety of Scottish fishing vessels, looking back over the great days of the past.

MARCH

£22.00

9781803995168

HBK

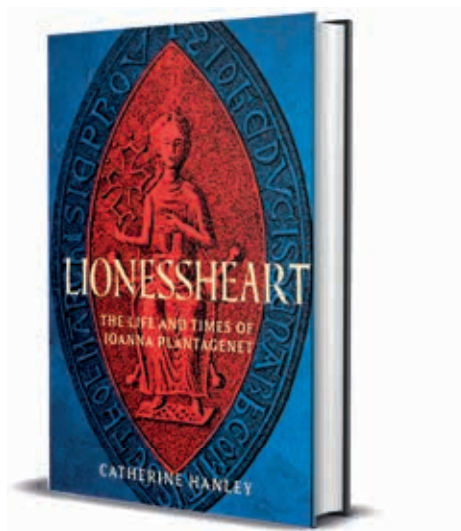
234 x 156mm

288 pages

30 colour illustrations

World English

Language Rights



Lionessheart

The Life and Times of Joanna Plantagenet

Catherine Hanley

DR CATHERINE HANLEY

holds a PhD in Medieval Studies, is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society and is the author of historical works in several genres. She has written seven books of popular history: three for Yale University Press, two for The History Press and one each for Osprey and Pen & Sword.

The story of Joanna – princess, pioneer, captive and queen – and of the wider twelfth-century world that she inhabited

Henry II and Eleanor of Aquitaine are two of the most recognisable figures of the Middle Ages, and almost certainly the best-known couple. The lives of their sons have been examined in detail many times, but their daughters are barely known despite the influence they exerted on the world around them. Joanna, the youngest daughter, led an extraordinary life full of travel, adventure, danger and controversy. Her story is told here in full for the first time.

MARCH

£20.00

9781803996141

HBK

234 x 156mm

256 pages

35 b&w illustrations

World Rights



No Country For a Woman

**The Adventurous Life of Lady Dorothy Mills,
Explorer and Writer**

Jane Dismore

**A globe-trotting story of cannibals and cocktails,
from the Jazz Age to Timbuktu**

JANE DISMORE is a freelance historian and biographer. Her books include *Duchesses*, which was serialised in the *Mail on Sunday*, and *Princess* on the early life of Elizabeth II, a source for the recent ITV and PBS documentary *Our Queen in Wartime*. She is a member of the Society of Authors and the Biographers' Club. She lives in Hertfordshire.

Lady Dorothy 'Dolly' Mills was a petite figure with a big personality. Born in 1889 into the political and literary Walpole family, when she married a clever but poor army captain, her father disinherited her. Defying her background and the expectations of her sex, she became a renowned explorer in West Africa – she was the first English woman in Timbuktu – and beyond, travelling deep into Venezuela and Central Asia, where only men had gone before.

Dolly wrote acclaimed travel books, illuminating remote places and peoples, and describing history in the making. By the 1930s she was the best-known female explorer of the day, appearing on platforms and in books with prominent men.

Her story explores the contrast between society life and the grit of travelling. It's perfect for fans of Gertrude Bell and Amelia Earheart, but who haven't heard of Dolly yet.

MARCH

£25.00

9781803997384

HBK

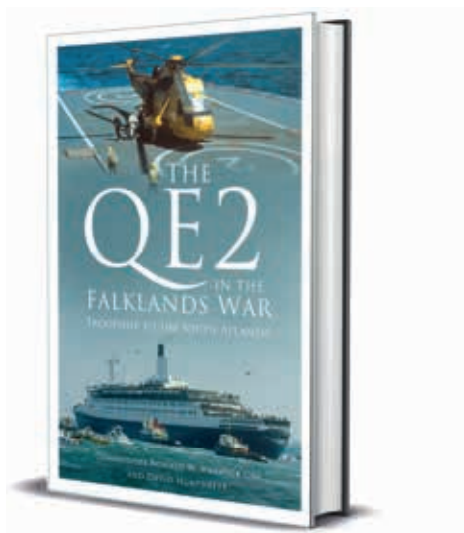
234 x 156mm

336 pages

160 b&w, 32 colour

illustrations

World Rights



The QE2 in the Falklands War

Toopship to the South Atlantic

Commodore Ronald W. Warwick &
David Humphreys

RONALD W. WARWICK

OBE is a past Master of *QE2*. He joined Cunard in 1970 and was appointed command of *QM2* in 2003.

DAVID HUMPHREYS

served as a senior petty officer on *QE2*, and later as a supply officer with the Royal Fleet Auxiliary. He spent twenty-eight years at the Open University, retiring as Professor of Environmental Policy.

Revealing the pivotal role played by the *QE2* in the Falklands conflict

When the *QE2* entered service in 1969 she was the last great transatlantic liner from a vanishing era. In 1982 she was requisitioned to carry over 3,000 troops to the South Atlantic to free the Falkland Islands from Argentinian occupation. This is the first account of the significant role played by the Cunard flagship *Queen Elizabeth 2 (QE2)* in the outcome of the 1982 Falklands conflict, as told by two of the volunteers who crewed the liner to the South Atlantic.

This detailed account includes interviews and extracts from diaries kept during the voyage, complemented by previously unpublished images and documents. Illustrated with numerous photographs showing the conversion to a troopship, on-board training exercises and helicopter manoeuvres, this important book is the first to reveal the enormous contribution of the ship to the British war effort.

MARCH

£40.00

9781803995243

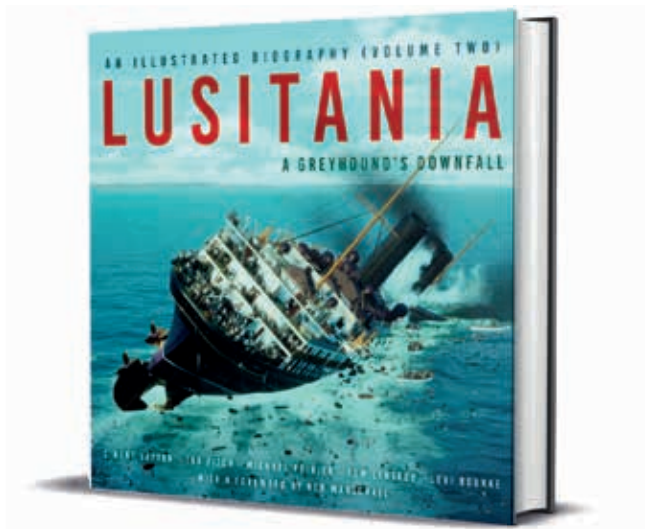
HBK

250 x 250mm

208 pages

195 colour illustrations

World Rights



Lusitania: An Illustrated Biography (Volume Two)

A Greyhound's Downfall

J. Kent Layton, Tad Fitch, Michael Poirier,
Thomas Lynskey and Levi Rourke

This series is by **J. KENT LAYTON, TAD FITCH, MICHAEL POIRIER, THOMAS LYSKEY** and **LEVI ROURKE**.

J. Kent Layton and Tad Fitch's many books include *Lusitania: An Illustrated Biography (Volume One)*, and *Recreating Titanic and Her Sisters*. Tad Fitch and Michael Poirier co-authored *Into the Danger Zone*. Thomas Lynskey creates documentaries and virtual museum experiences. Levi Rourke is a digital recreator and historical animator.

Before *Titanic*, there was Lusitania ... This unprecedented two-volume set brings *Lusitania's* history to life as never before

On 7 May 1915, one of the most legendary liners of the North Atlantic met a terrible end via a German submarine, taking 1,200 passengers and crew to an untimely demise. The ship's memory quickly became mired in a firestorm of international politics, accusations of blame overshadowing both the human tragedy and pre-tragedy triumph of this beautiful ship, filled with technical wonders and firsts.

This second volume tells *Lusitania's* story through the Great War, to her violent sinking and the repercussions in her wake. Sumptuously illustrated, this book also showcases the beautiful artwork and recreations from HFX Studios' forthcoming, *Lusitania: The Greyhound's Wake*, museum experience.

MARCH

£25.00

9781803996417

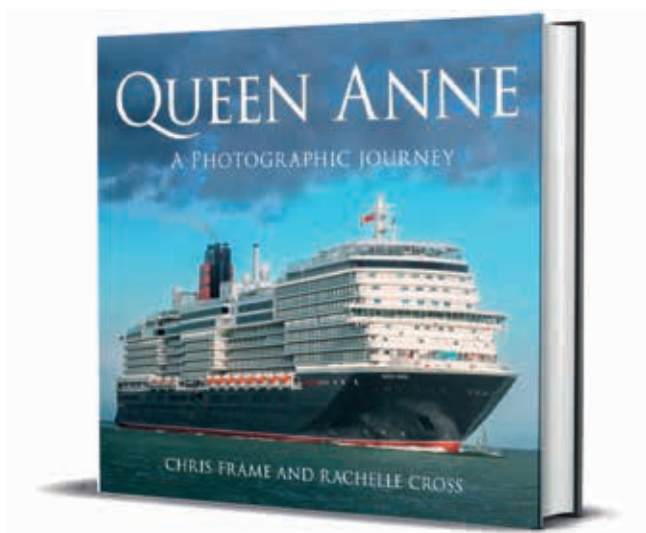
HBK

224 x 245mm

120 pages

200 colour illustrations

World Rights



Queen Anne

A Photographic Journey

Chris Frame and Rachelle Cross

CHRIS FRAME and
RACHELLE CROSS

share a passion for passenger ships, ocean liners and cruising, having written eighteen maritime history and cruising books, as well as articles and feature stories for magazines and newspapers. Both have appeared on television news, while Chris has featured as a history expert on TV and radio, including the BBC, Sky News, and more.

A photographic journey around the latest of the Cunard *Queens*, *Queen Anne*

Queen Anne is Cunard's newest ship, the first ship built in over a decade and the 249th ship to wear the Cunard colours. Entering service in May 2024, *Queen Anne* is the second largest Cunard ship in their history and elevates the brand to a new and modern audience, combining an exciting interior design with classic elements of Cunard's heritage. Built at Fincantieri, Italy, the ship is of great interest to Cunard loyalists and cruise fans alike, with the maiden voyage selling out in record time.

This full-colour book, the latest in this successful series, includes a foreword by Katie McAlister, Cunard's President, and a perspective from Captain Inger Thorhauge, the ship's first captain. Enabling the reader to experience the latest Cunarder from the comfort of their own home, this is a perfect souvenir for anyone with a love of ships and the sea.

MARCH

£35.00

9781803997957

HBK

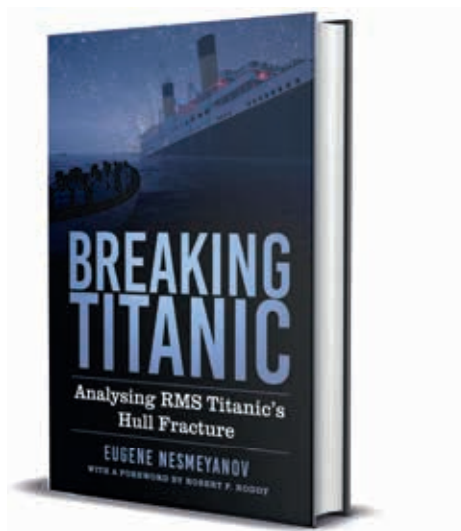
234 x 156mm

368 pages

108 b&w, 13 colour

illustrations

World Rights



Breaking Titanic

Analysing RMS Titanic's Hull Fracture

Eugene Nesmeyanov

EUGENE NESMEYANOV

studied Philosophy at St Petersburg State University and worked in the State Hermitage Museum. In 2013 he published his first book on *Titanic*, which became the largest written work about *Titanic* available in Russian (in two editions). He has published articles on *Titanic* across Russian- and English-language media and has lectured widely. He lives near St Petersburg.

The first comprehensive study into the break-up of RMS *Titanic*'s hull, more than seventy-three years since the loss of the vessel

Expert author Eugene Nesmeyanov presents a generalised analysis of the currently available data, using both historical data (eyewitness accounts of passengers and crew members from lifeboats, as well as from the surface of the water) and underwater archaeology data (photos and video filming of parts of the ship's hull along with mapped debris fields), as well as data obtained using computer simulations.

The book includes a critical analysis of the most significant theories and models of the break-up – those put forward by experts and amateurs from 1985 to the present day, and known about from the movies, documentaries, papers and publications – finishing with the author's own conclusions.

APRIL

£20.00

9781803998565

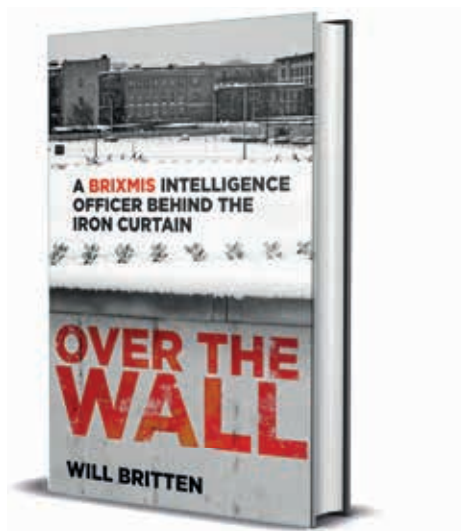
HBK

234 x 156mm

320 pages

21 b&w illustrations

World Rights



Over the Wall

A BRIXMIS Intelligence Officer Behind
the Iron Curtain

Will Britten

WILL BRITTEN served in the British Army from 1978 to 2005 and was a senior officer in the Intelligence Corps. He operated as a HUMINT officer in Northern Ireland, Bosnia, Cyprus and Iraq, and as a Military Intelligence Liaison Officer in Sierra Leone, Kosovo and Angola, and directed the UK military's covert intelligence training at the Specialist Intelligence Wing.

Former intelligence officer Will Britten lifts the lid on his work for BRIXMIS at the height of the Cold War

The British Commanders'-in-Chief Mission to the Soviet Forces in Germany (BRIXMIS) was a military liaison mission which operated behind the Berlin Wall during the height of the Cold War. This liaison was undertaken by the thirty-one members – eleven officers and no more than twenty others – appointed to each mission. One of these men was former intelligence officer Will Britten.

Over the Wall offers a more detailed and critical analysis of what the mission did and why, concluding that the Soviets must have known some of their agents had been turned by the Allies and that their intelligence had been compromised.

Additionally, the book examines, for the first time, the period after the fall of the Berlin Wall, up until the complete Soviet withdrawal in 1992, when BRIXMIS was succeeded by an organisation working covertly.

APRIL

£25.00

9781803997261

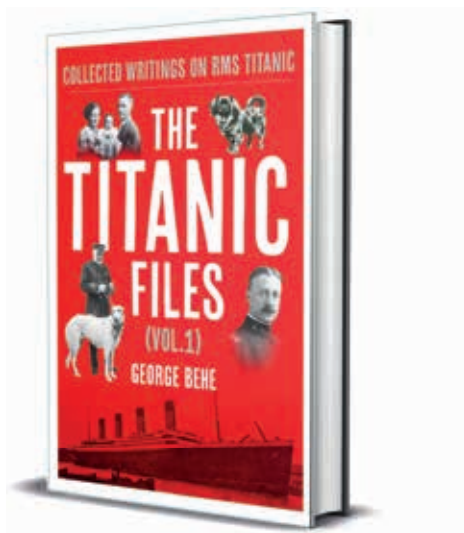
HBK

234 x 156mm

304 pages

16 b&w illustrations

World Rights



The Titanic Files (Vol.1)

Collected Writings on RMS Titanic

George Behe

GEORGE BEHE is a past vice president of the Titanic Historical Society. He has been interviewed and acted as a consultant for many documentaries and *Titanic* books, and has written numerous articles for the Titanic Historical Society's journal *The Commutator*. He has written *On Board RMS Titanic*, *Voices from the Carpathia* and *Fate Deals a Hand* for The History Press.

A unique collection of trivia, information, theories and thoughts compiled over a lifetime studying RMS *Titanic*

For many years writer and researcher George Behe has made a habit of filing away little tidbits of information about *Titanic*-related topics that happened to catch his interest, many of which have long been gathering dust in his extensive archives. This book is the result: a collection of stories, angles of research and pieces of trivia that reflect Behe's thoughts on a wide variety of *Titanic*-related subjects, along with his detailed research, in the process adding new illumination to a few *Titanic* topics that many researchers have long thought were chiselled in stone.

Some of the questions considered may seem controversial, but by presenting his research and conclusions, Behe enables the reader to see the information upon which he has based his opinions and decide for themselves. This detailed volume is a treasure trove of research material to delight any discerning *Titanic* enthusiast.

APRIL

£22.99

9781803997841

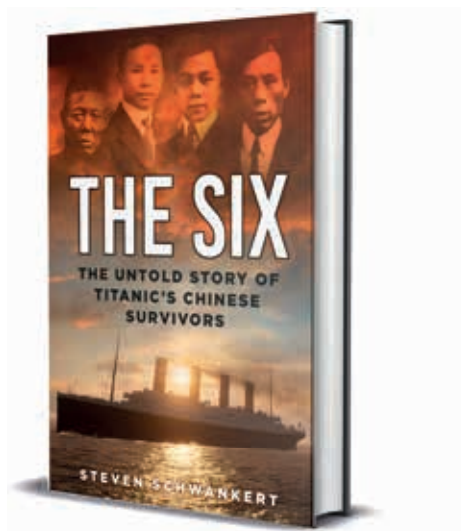
HBK

234 x 156mm

248 pages

40 b&w illustrations

World Rights excl. US/CA



The Six

The Untold Story of Titanic's Chinese Survivors

Steven Schwankert

STEVEN SCHWANKERT

is a maritime historian and award-winning writer. He has previously written *Jiangya: China's Titanic* and *Poseidon: China's Secret Salvage of Britain's Lost Submarine*. Steven's work has been published globally, for *Asian Wall St Journal*, *South China Morning Post*, *Billboard*, *Variety*, and *New York Times* and *Washington Post* (online). He lives in Beijing.

An extraordinary story of survival against all odds

When *Titanic* sank on a cold night in 1912, barely 700 people escaped with their lives. Among them were six Chinese men. Upon arriving in New York, these six were met with suspicion and slander. Less than twenty-four hours later, they departed the country, and vanished. When historian Steven Schwankert first stumbled across the fact that eight Chinese nationals were on board, of whom all but two survived, he couldn't believe that there could still be untold personal histories from the *Titanic*.

This epic journey of research crossed continents, involved with an international team of investigators, and culminated in the 2020 documentary *The Six*. This comprehensive book expands on the documentary, detailing many discoveries along the way and revealing the full story of these six forgotten survivors. Their names were Ah Lam, Chang Chip, Cheong Foo, Fang Lang (or Fong Wing Sun), Lee Bing, and Ling Hee.

APRIL

£20.00

9781803998039

HBK

234 x 156mm

224 pages

40 b&w illustrations

World Rights



The Death Ship

Recovering the Bodies of Titanic's Dead

Victoria Brown

VICTORIA BROWN

studied English Literature & Film Studies, reflecting her love of storytelling and history, especially the Victorian and Edwardian eras. While at Queen's University Belfast, she was editor of *The Gown Independent* newspaper, the oldest student newspaper in the UK, and has always written stories and non-fiction. Growing up in Northern Ireland, she has always been fascinated by *Titanic*.

Telling the story of what happened to *Titanic's* dead

Have you ever wondered what happened to the bodies of those who were left behind the night RMS *Titanic* sank? By 2.20 a.m. on Sunday 15 April, many people had been plunged into the freezing waters of the North Atlantic to die in agonising conditions. But where did they all go?

In *The Death Ship: Recovering the Bodies of Titanic's Dead*, Victoria Brown explores the journey of the victims from the end of their life – how they died, how they decomposed – to their burial in the Nova Scotian city of Halifax, and considers what their legacy means for the future of the wreck.

APRIL

£12.99

9781803999159

PBK

198 x 129mm

240 pages

36 b&w illustrations

World English

Language Rights



1945

A World at the End of War

Max Likin

MAX LIKIN is a lecturer in history at the Freedom Education Project Puget Sound (FEPPS), which provides a rigorous college programme for incarcerated women. Having previously taught at Harvard University, he was a Fulbright Scholar at Yale University. He has taught the Second World War from opposite viewpoints and is a specialist on human rights.

A vivid portrait of a world at the end of war, told through twelve months from around the globe

1945 is a fresh look at the last year of the Second World War. Evoking the disorienting strangeness of the end and aftermath of war, it narrates the lives of fifty protagonists caught in the ruins of warfare. The effect is a dazzling kaleidoscope, showing how events affected a wide variety of individuals. From world leaders, artists, writers and musicians to housewives, servicemen and -women, concentration camp victims and children, we trace their stories throughout a momentous twelve months. It is a gripping documentary as six years of relentless attrition finally began to come to an end.

Written in a fast-moving, impressionistic style, the result is a powerfully evocative and often surprising account, showing how chance and fortune impacted on different people at different times. It will appeal to anyone with an interest in history or military history throughout the world and surprise many with its fascinating juxtapositions of places and people.

MAY

£14.99

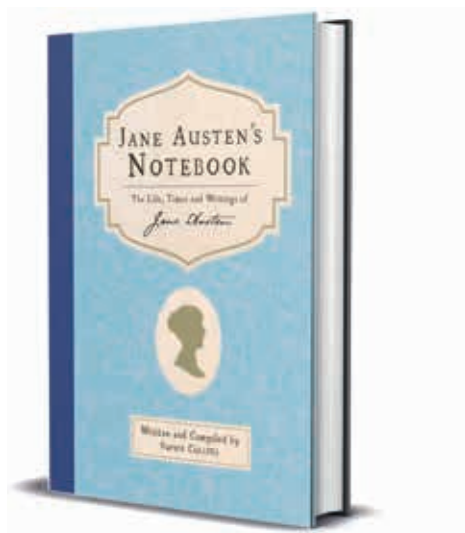
9781803998930

HBK

208 x 155mm

160 pages

UK and Europe Rights



Jane Austen's Notebook

The Life, Times and Writings of Jane Austen

Sophie Collins

SOPHIE COLLINS is a writer and editor specialising in history, culture and lifestyle.

A biography with a difference, providing a full and detailed account of Austen's life and legacy in the form of a personal journal

It examines the author's personal life, with images of family and friends for clues about how she saw the world, and reveals hidden connections between real-life situations and her fictional works.

Includes images of the locations Austen grew up in and visited, plus handwritten quotations and amusing anecdotes to bring the author to life more vividly than any ordinary biography.

Reveals the woman behind the writing, how the Austen felt about being published, and examines the amazing impact and enduring legacy of her works.

MAY

£30.00

9781803998244

HBK

245 x 190mm

320 pages

300 b&w illustrations

World Rights



The Royal Film Performance

A Celebration

Robert Sellers and Gareth Owen

ROBERT SELLERS

has written numerous features for national press, as well as biographies, and books on film and TV and popular culture, including the bestselling *Hellraisers* (Preface, 2009).

GARETH OWENS opened a production company at Pinewood Studios before moving downstairs into Sir Roger Moore's office to become his personal manager, executive PA and ghostwriter until the actor's passing in 2016.

For nearly eight decades, the Royal family has been gracing the red carpet to see the most eagerly anticipated film of the year

With authors Gareth Owen and Robert Sellers, dive into the glitz, glamour and regal encounters of each Royal Film Performance, the memorable moments and the fascinating stories. From Marilyn Monroe's nervous encounter with Queen Elizabeth II to the cheeky remarks of Jayne Mansfield, witness the intersection of cinema's luminaries and royalty.

As the curtain rises on this cinematic celebration, *The Royal Film Performance: A Celebration* pays homage to the stars, the royals and the unsung heroes of the industry, sure to delight fans of the royal family and cinema aficionados alike.

MAY

£22.00

9781803998282

HBK

234 x 156mm

272 pages

20 colour illustrations

World Rights



First on Everest

The Life of Howard Somervell

Graham Hoyland

GRAHAM HOYLAND

was the fifteenth Briton to climb Mount Everest, and Howard Somervell's cousin. In 2019 he was named by *The Independent* as 'One of the five most inspiring explorers' and is an authority on Everest and mountaineering. He is a bestselling author, producer and public speaker, and contributor for *The Independent*, *Daily Mail* and *The Times*.

Climb Mount Everest with Howard Somervell, who was alongside George Mallory in the first attempt to summit the world's largest mountain

The pioneers who attempted the first climbs in 1922 and 1924 knew nothing about the mountain other than its height. They had to learn the hard way about the lack of oxygen, the jet-stream winds, the illnesses of altitude, and the vital importance of the Sherpas. They had to find a route, avoid avalanches, and work out what to do when confronted by an insuperable rock climb at extreme altitude. Many of them died.

Howard Somervell was Mallory's closest friend on the mountain during those pioneering first ascents. An exceptionally gifted man, he had a double first at Cambridge, served as a surgeon at the Battle of the Somme during the First World War and was one of the foremost alpinists of the day when he was invited to join the 1922 Mount Everest expedition. This is his climb.

MAY

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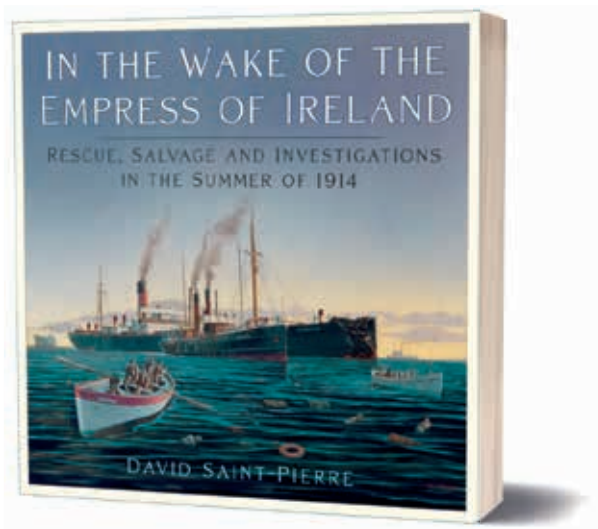
224 x 245mm

144 pages

150 b&w illustrations

World English

Language Rights



In the Wake of the Empress of Ireland

**Rescue, Salvage and Investigations
in the Summer of 1914**

David Saint-Pierre

DAVID SAINT-PIERRE

is a historian based in Montreal, Canada, who has been researching the history of the ill-fated steamship RMS *Empress of Ireland* since the mid-1990s. He has collaborated on documentaries and TV shows and with other authors, and has published two books on this subject.

A fascinating insight through rare photographs into the aftermath of the horrific 1914 sinking

It started with two old photos for sale at auction: Royal Navy sailors carrying a buoy on a wharf on the St Lawrence. Historian David Saint-Pierre knew that the only time this happened was when the crew of HMS *Essex* helped with the salvage operations following the sinking of the *Empress of Ireland* on 29 May 1914, in the worst peacetime maritime disaster in Canadian history, which saw the deaths of over 1,000 people.

This led to the discovery of a whole album containing more than 500 photographs, including many showing how the aftermath of the disaster unfolded, and a complex process ensued to deliver the album to him. Thanks to these newly discovered photos, showing diving and salvage on the wreck in 1914, this book provides an original contribution to a largely forgotten page of maritime history.

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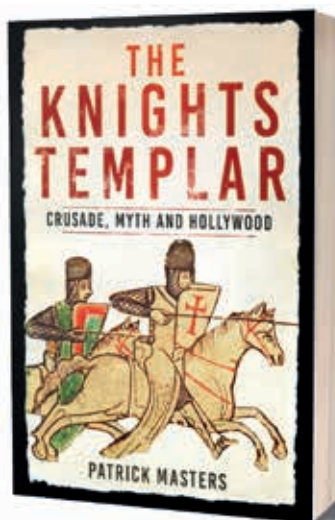
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PBK

234 x 156mm

222 pages

World Rights



The Knights Templar

Crusade, Myth and Hollywood

Patrick Masters

PATRICK MASTERS

received a PhD from the University of Portsmouth for his thesis on the Knights Templar in popular culture. He is a lecturer at the University of Portsmouth, where he teaches subjects such as film history and medievalism. In 2018 he received funding from the Templar Heritage Trust to present a paper at the International Medieval Conference.

The Templars' entire story, covering the Crusades and the Holy Grail, right up to the bestsellers and blockbusters

Formed in the twelfth century to guard pilgrims on the road in the Holy Land, the Knights Templar would soon be a major military force in the Crusades and amass enormous wealth. However, their sudden arrest in the fourteenth century and their leaders' execution sent shockwaves throughout Europe. Accused of heresy, the Order was abolished, but the Templars' story is still being written today.

This book explores the history of the infamous warrior monks, but also the truth behind the myths and their legacy. Did the Templars guard the Holy Grail? Are they ancestors of the Freemasons?

Discover the 900-year story of the Knights Templar, from the Crusades to the fantastical myths and their legacy in popular culture.

JUNE

£20

9781803995106

HBK

234 x 156 mm

224 pages

20 b&w, 20 colour

illustrations

World Rights



Children of The Wicker Man

The True Story of One of the Most Remarkable Films Ever Made

Dominic and Justin Hardy, edited by Chris Nunn

DOMINIC HARDY is a visual artist and art historian, specialising in the history of visual satire, who teaches at the Université du Québec à Montréal.

JUSTIN HARDY is an award-winning historian filmmaker for the BBC, Channel 4, CNN and ARTE. He directed Christopher Lee in *A Feast at Midnight* (1994), and Iain Glen/Ian McDiarmid in *City of Vice* (2009).

50 years on from the making of *The Wicker Man* (1973), director Robin Hardy's lost papers come to his filmmaker son

Justin was always conflicted over the exalted claims made for the film: for him, *The Wicker Man* destroyed his family. His brother Dominic, whom Robin Hardy abandoned as a baby, has been more distanced. Their father's film is a set of fragmented stories: benighted production, brutal editing, critical reception, financial failure, and later revival. Using newly uncovered sources, the brothers investigate Robin Hardy's creative contribution to *The Wicker Man* – and consider who was truly sacrificed. They reveal an unlikely heroine; Justin's mother bankrupted herself paying loans to her husband and the film, only for him to leave when it initially flopped. The brothers agree she should be justly regarded as executive producer of the film she never knew became a success. For all women behind artist husbands, this book reveals a series of heroines: the mothers of the children of *The Wicker Man*.

JUNE

£14.99

9781803998619

PPC

198 x 129mm

192 pages

90 b&w, 20 colour

illustrations

World Rights



Silver Streams and Muddy Dreams

Seventy-Five Years of Angling

Tony Bailey

Looking back over seventy-five years of angling in Lancashire and other areas

Suddenly his rod slammed over, and a powerful force began a frantic dash around the river before being unceremoniously lifted onto the bank, a bar of silver that would haunt that boy's memory for the rest of his life.

So ignited the obsession with angling that has stayed with Tony Bailey through his life and ensured he has spent seventy-five years gladly indulging his passion for angling. In this enjoyable memoir, he looks back over a life spent fishing, and considers what lights the spark that turns a human being into an angler – circumstance, social contact or genetics?

Packed with memories and peppered with useful tips and observations, this engaging book explores the full gamut of angling possibilities from the wildest stream to the most enigmatic of farm ponds, each capable of providing the thrill of a lifetime or the peace and tranquillity to connect with nature.

JUNE

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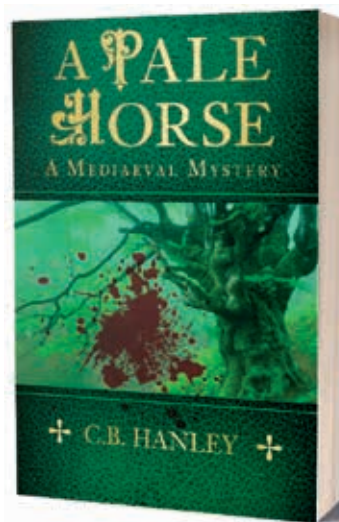
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PBK

198 x 129mm

240 pages

World Rights



A Pale Horse

A Mediaeval Mystery

C.B. Hanley

C.B. HANLEY holds a PhD in Medieval Studies specialising in warfare in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries and its portrayal in contemporary vernacular literature. She has published an academic book and a number of scholarly articles on the period, and continues to write non-fiction history as well as novels. She is also a freelance copy editor and proof-reader.

The ninth book in a gripping series of mediaeval murder mysteries set in a time of violent upheaval

Midsummer 1221: a tragic death at Conisbrough sends Edwin Weaver and his friend Sir Martin on an unexpected journey. But a baffling letter follows them, one which plunges them into danger as they travel to the manor of Martin's estranged father, to find a dying man who can only gasp out a few cryptic phrases. Edwin has his work cut out to solve the mystery, because none of those who had the most compelling reasons to commit the murder could possibly have done so.

Martin, meanwhile, must try to reconcile himself with his family even as he remains convinced that he is destined to bring ill luck and death wherever he goes. Then another murder attempt is made, and Edwin realises he must work quickly if more death is not to be visited on the innocent.

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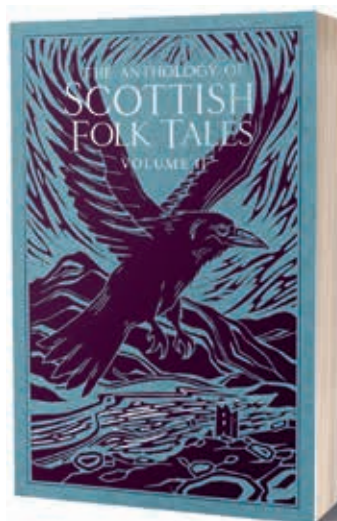
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The Anthology of Scottish Folk Tales: Volume II

Various

This spellbinding collection once again gathers together tales from across Scotland in a special second volume

Drawn from The History Press' Folk Tales series, this second selection features further tales from authentic Scottish storytellers, honouring the unmistakable character of Scotland's customs, beliefs and dialects.

From warring wizards trying to outwit each other atop the Cuidhe Crom to a mermaid luring her prey off the coast of Orkney, these collected tales belong on the bookshelves of all who enjoy a well-told story.

All the authors in this collection are professional storytellers who are dedicated to keeping the Scottish tales that have passed down through the oral tradition alive. Each of them have previously authored a volume of folk tales gathered from their local area.

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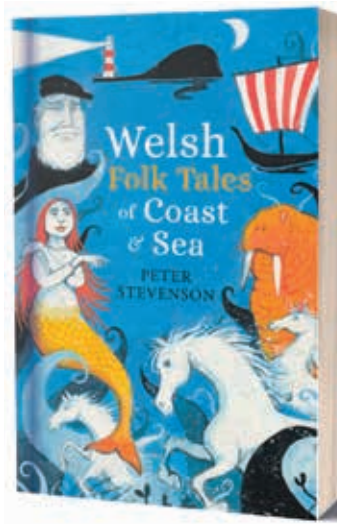
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198 x 129mm

192 pages

60 b&w illustrations

World Rights



Welsh Folk Tales of Coast & Sea

Peter Stevenson

PETER STEVENSON is a professional storyteller and illustrator, and is the organiser of Aberystwyth Storytelling Festival. He performs widely at festivals and events and has curated many exhibitions based on the tales he tells. He has produced books internationally for publishers such as Ladybird and Hodder & Stoughton, as well as many for The History Press.

A story walk along the Welsh coast to enjoy the folk tales of the sea, collected and told by professional storyteller Peter Stevenson

Peter Stevenson tells the folk tales of the sea along the Welsh Coast Path. Meet the lovesick mermaid of Llanina, the water horse of Oxwich Bay, the submerged land of Llys Helig, the utopian world of Rhys's children in Cardigan Bay, the giant Skomar Oddy who cleaned up Milford Haven, Jemima the Fishguard shoemaker who prevented the Last Invasion of Wales, the Kings of Bardsey Island, Cranogwen the mistress mariner of Ceredigion, the pirate Leekie Porridge of Tenby, the cockle women of Penclawdd, the Swan Girls of Barry Island, the Lady of Ogmor, the Beaver of Conwy, the drunken mermaids of Cardigan Bay, and Siani Chickens who lived in the no one's land between the high tide and the cliffs on the beach at Cei Bach where she paid rent to no one.

FOLKLORE

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PBK

234 x 156mm

144 pages

30 b&w illustrations

World Rights



Devon's Forgotten Witches

Tracey Norman and Mark Norman

TRACEY NORMAN is a historian and author with a particular interest in witchcraft cases.

MARK NORMAN is a folklore author and researcher. He is a Council member of The Folklore Society, creator and host of The Folklore Podcast and Founding Curator of The Folklore Library and Archive.

Together they work on folklore projects and are the authors of *Dark Folklore*.

An examination of obscure witchcraft cases from Devon's past, using archive records and drawing modern comparisons

There are many famous witchcraft cases which are often written of and discussed: the Pendle Witches, Isabel Gowdie, the Salem Witch Trials and, in the county of Devon, the Bideford Witches. But, hidden away in the archives of libraries, museums and heritage centres are records of long-forgotten cases. Many of these are tragic, some are unusual (perhaps even inexplicable), but all are fascinating.

This book takes a deep dive through these archive records and brings to the surface a number of accusations of witchcraft in Devon that have gone undiscussed for many years. The authors examine the cases in their historical context but also draw modern comparisons in an effort to explain what might have actually been happening to the people involved. And, most importantly, the book provides a new voice to those whom the historical record has so far silenced.

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192 pages

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Cornish Folk Tales of Place

Traditional Tales from Mid and West Cornwall

Anna Chorlton

ANNA CHORLTON is a writer who lives on Bodmin Moor. She is a member of Liskeard Poetry group, with whom she reads at regular events. She is the writer for *Mazed*, a project to retell the traditional tales of Cornwall in ways old and new, which has been nominated for a Celtic Media award for innovation.

Capturing the magic of Cornwall, folklore writer Anna Chorlton retells its tales

West Cornwall is a land of tin-mine-strewn cliffs and safe south harbours, with all the bustle of ships, fishing boats, gigs, industry, and tourists. The beaches are blessed with stretching sands and tempting surf, stunning caves and rock formations, a sea lido, and a theatre beside the ocean. Along the cliffs lurk grumpy giants, playful piskeys and hungry dragons. The middle of Cornwall is clay country and farming. In the towns live wise women, dashing devils, strong wrestlers and fearless hurlers.

Beware hissing spriggins, seducing sea women and restless ghosts. Let your imagination play with the spirit of this wonderful land and immerse your mind in the stories within it.

FOLKLORE

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Folk Tales for Health and Wellbeing

Adam Bushnell

Draws upon Buddhist and Taoist stories from Vietnam, China and Japan, as well as other wisdom stories from countries and religions around the world

These tales have a moral message at their core about how to resolve conflict and evoke peace. The theme of the book is interconnectedness, co-operation, spiritual strength, emotional wellbeing, remaining calm in adversity and the pursuit of happiness through the parables of folk tales. These folk tales, passed on orally for thousands of years, contain wisdom, beauty and an overall feeling of oneness.

The collection is not only meant to entertain but also to help establish a sense of calm. The tales are a tool to illuminate the nature of existence and the common threads of humanity. They can help with self-reflection but also give examples of the remarkable things we can achieve when we help one another.

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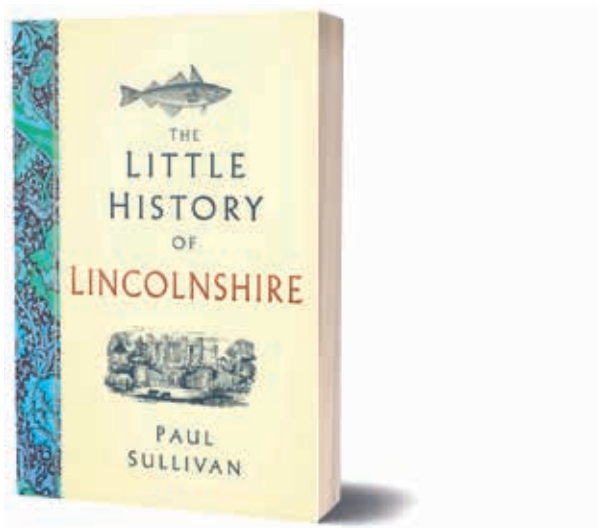
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192 pages

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The Little History of Lincolnshire

Paul Sullivan

PAUL SULLIVAN has been a writer and editor. He works with websites, popular books and academic papers, local history and folklore being his specialist areas. He has compiled and presented festivals and custom weekly guides for BBC Radio. He has written eight books for The History Press, and has recently moved back to his native Lincolnshire.

A complete yet concise history of Lincolnshire, from prehistory to the present day

With its front-line role during successive invasions by Saxons and Danes, and with links to royalty, the foundations of British academia and the victorious RAF of the Second World War, Lincolnshire has taken a front seat on the rollercoaster of English history. With ancient rural traditions and agriculture on one hand and groundbreaking technological innovation on the other, it is a county for all seasons.

Lincolnshire has made the world a better place, being the home of some of the country's leading authors, composers, scientists, politicians and sportspeople. It has also made the world a bloodier place, being a dangerous borderland between feuding Celtic, Saxon and Viking kingdoms, and the site of some of the most lethal bomb raids during the two world wars. This book charts the county's amazing history, with intriguing anecdotes and characters from the last 2,000 years.

LOCAL HISTORY

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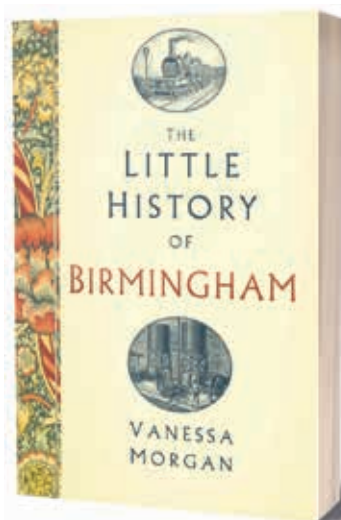
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The Little History of Birmingham

Vanessa Morgan

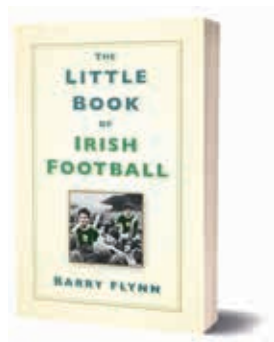
VANESSA MORGAN has lived in Worcestershire all her life and as a genealogist worked for thirty-four years researching family and local history in Worcestershire, Birmingham and Warwickshire. She gives talks on historical topics, family and local history. She has written numerous articles for genealogical magazines, as well as a number of books for The History Press.

A small book that's big in history, telling the story of Birmingham from its beginnings to the present day

From a small Saxon hamlet to a large sprawling city, Birmingham has quite a story to tell. And within the pages of this handy and compact book, these stories are told: of how Birmingham developed and of the people who helped develop it; of its industries, how they prospered and made Birmingham famous around the world; of politicians, industrialists and celebrities who were born or lived in Birmingham; and of the not-so-famous people who worked tirelessly in its factories and workplaces – they too helped make Birmingham the city it is today.

This volume is ordered chronologically from prehistoric times to the present day, and can be picked up and put down to enjoy whenever and wherever you want.

LOCAL HISTORY



FEBRUARY

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The Little Book of Irish Football

Barry Flynn

Ireland's rich football heritage is captured in this quirky and readable guide that will fascinate, educate and entertain

Association football in Ireland has a rich and, indeed, fraught history. From its early days as the 'Garrison Game', it has grown to be the most popular sport on the island. This book explores that rich history as well as the legends, the teams and the memorable moments, all intertwined with tales of humour and political skulduggery. Here you can immerse yourself in Ireland's footballing culture and the famous names and games that remain in the collective memory.

A reliable reference book, this will be dipped into time and again to reveal something new about the sport, the legends and the characters who have created such a vibrant past and present.

LOCAL HISTORY



MARCH

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The A-Z of Curious Northern Ireland

Strange Stories of Mysteries, Crimes and Eccentrics
Doreen McBride

An A-Z of quirky facts and stories about Northern Ireland

The A-Z of Curious Northern Ireland describes the quirks of a fascinating and beautiful province with a recorded history dating back to the ancient Celts. It is a small place that's big on talent, the home of many world-class authors, musicians, artists and scientists.

It is a land where the craic is mighty, where every tree, every flower, every rock tells a story. This book is full of those interesting places and talented people. It is a reliable, readable, often humorous reference guide that can be dipped into and enjoyed many a time.

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The 007 Diaries

Filming Live and Let Die

Roger Moore

To coincide with the 50th anniversary of the release of the iconic James Bond film *Live and Let Die*, The History Press, in collaboration with Rooksmoor Press, is delighted to publish the fine press edition of *The 007 Diaries* by Roger Moore

Originally published in 1973 to tie in with the release of his first James Bond film, *Live and Let Die*, Roger Moore agreed to keep a day-by-day diary throughout the film's production, which would be published just ahead of the premiere in July 1973.

Taking in the sights of Jamaica before returning to Pinewood Studios, Moore's razor wit and unique brand of humour is ever present.

With tales from every location, including his encounters with his co-stars and key crew members, Moore offers the reader an unusually candid, amusing and hugely insightful behind-the-scenes look into the world's most successful film franchise.

...must be kept top secret, but he wanted me to n
y Hamilton, away from the office where w
We met at Scott's in Mayfair, in true Bo
n oysters and martinis. I confessed to Guy
ript I could only hear Sean's voice sayin
' In fact, as I vocalised to myself, I found t
ottish accent. Guy said: 'Look, Sean wa
, and that is how it is going to be.'

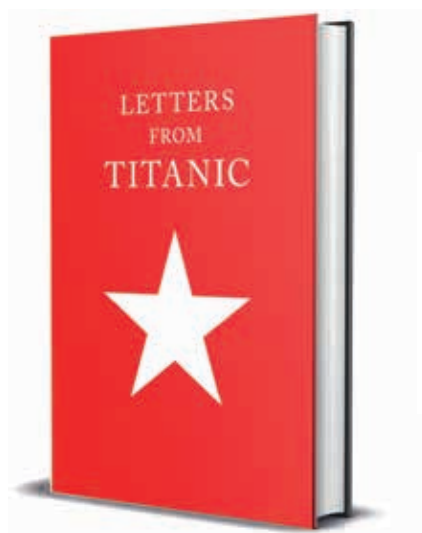


e thirteenth. The first day of shooting
go in the morning after a very bad
aching shoulder and rattling teeth.
decided I'd do my work-out, whi
t from the knees-bend because my
e.
ernneath the door was



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33 b&w, 15 colour
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**WINNER
2023**

Letters from Titanic

George Behe

GEORGE BEHE is a past vice president of the Titanic Historical Society. He has been interviewed and acted as a consultant for many documentaries and *Titanic* books, and has written numerous articles for the Titanic Historical Society's journal *The Commutator*. He has written *On Board RMS Titanic* and *Voices from the Carpathia* for The History Press.

2023 BRITISH BOOK DESIGN AND PRODUCTION AWARD WINNER

This limited edition collates some of the most moving letters to be sent by passengers from RMS *Titanic*, prior to and post her untimely sinking on 15 April 1912

Carefully curated by George Behe, this selection of letters tells the lamentable story in the unique and powerful way only true first-hand accounts can. Included are biographies of each writer, an introduction by George Behe and a foreword by Bob Richardson, Library Manager at St Bride Library, London.

Set and cast in 'Monotype' Imprint with Gill Sans Light and Caslon Display. The Imprint typeface was designed in 1912, the year of *Titanic*'s fateful voyage.

This edition has been letterpress-printed on 150gsm Bockingford mould-made paper and hand bound at the craft bindery of Blissetts, Royal Warrant Holders in London. Each copy contains a piece of letterpress-printed ephemera, reproduced from original material.

April 17th [sic] 1912
On board RMS Titanic

Dear Father and Mother,
We arrived on board this morning after a nights rest at Southampton. We put up at an Hotel named Berrimans, the lady who owns it, is a Cornish lady, we had a good supper and a good breakfast of ham and eggs, we were doing it fine. I slept with a young man named Wills a brother to the man who married Mrs. Nevasks daughter, he came to Southampton to see his sister-law. We had several people joined us at St. Erith bound for the same place as we are going so we are a big family altogether. Dear Mother, I suppose you are missing me but don't be worried old dear Percy will be behaved to you as a son ought to be. This going away from home will be a better man and try and lead a good life. The Titanic is in tell you I have never seen such a sight in all my life, a palatial palace, everything up to date. I hope you are all well. I don't think there is any more to write at present. Father I shall never forget your love and don more for me than many Fathers have done. I'll kiss Grandma for me and tell her I love her. I'll kiss all who



White Star Line gold coin (British Museum Collection)



White Star Line gold coin (British Museum Collection)

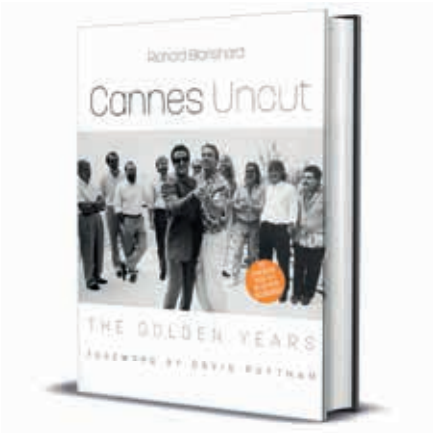


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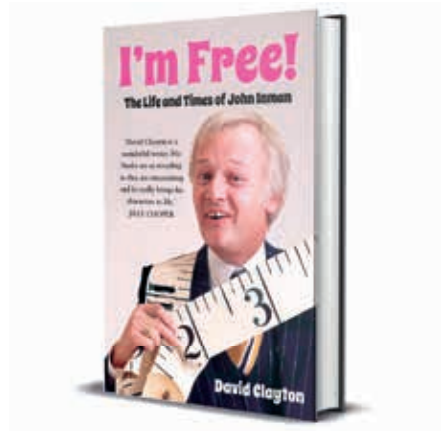
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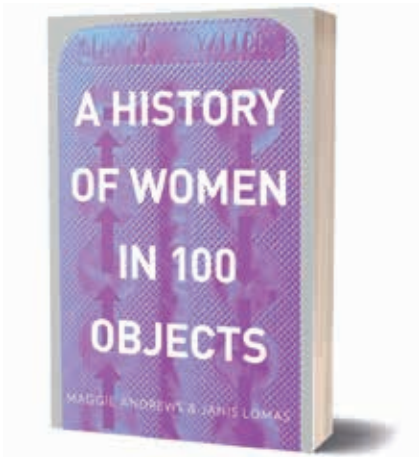
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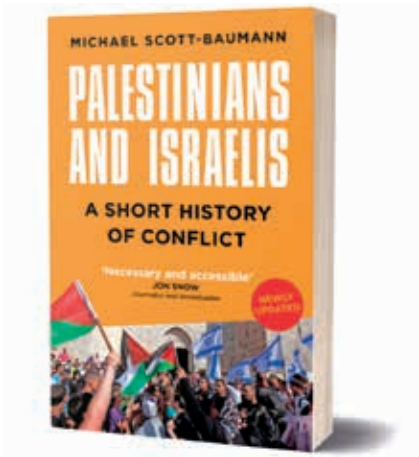
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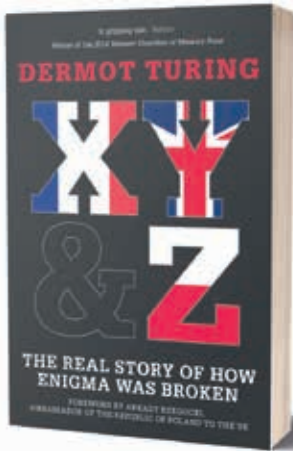
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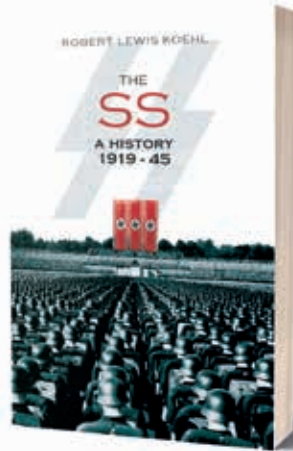


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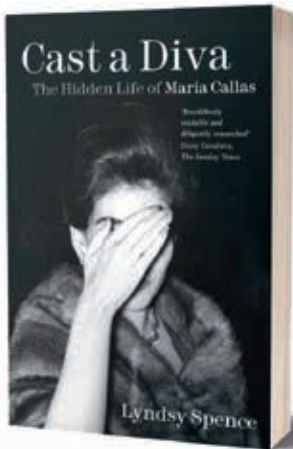
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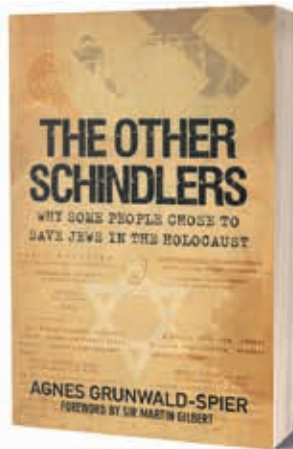
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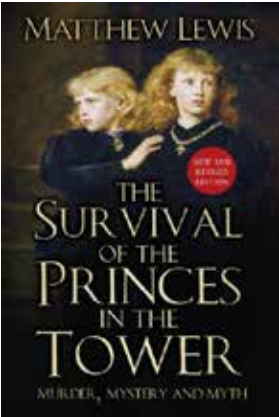


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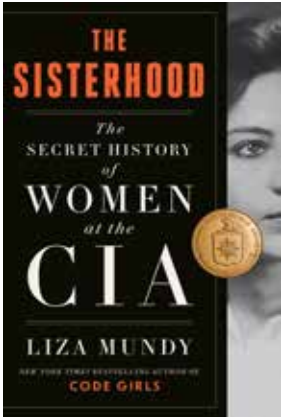


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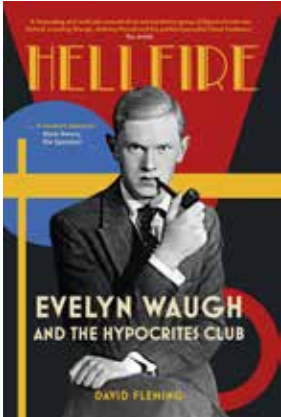
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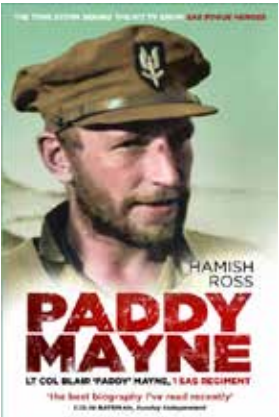
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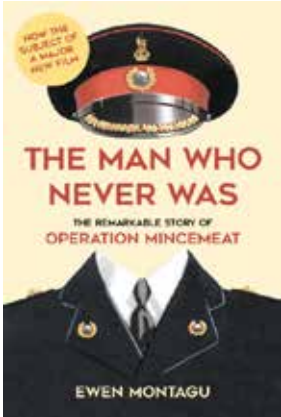
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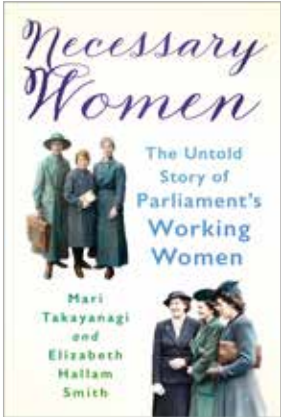
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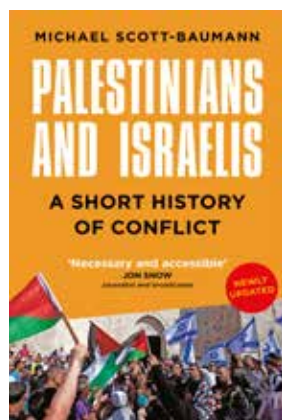
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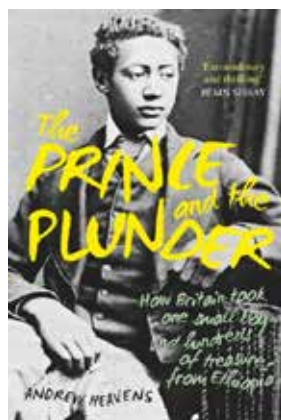


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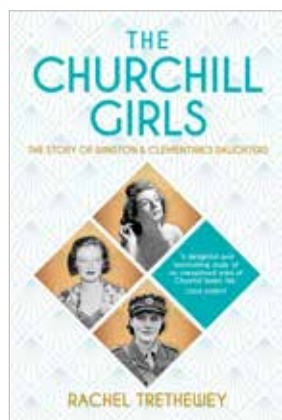


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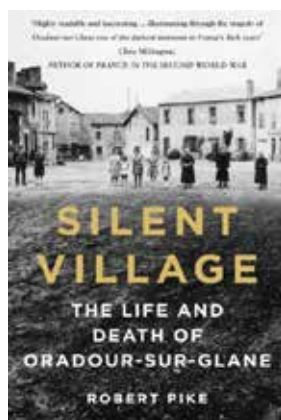


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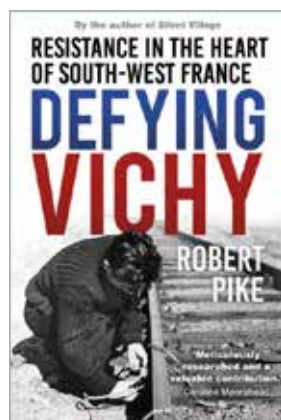


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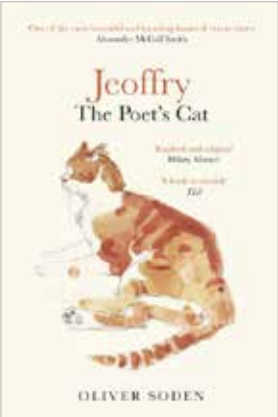
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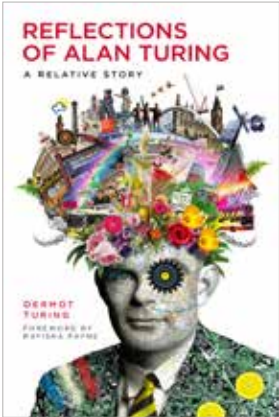
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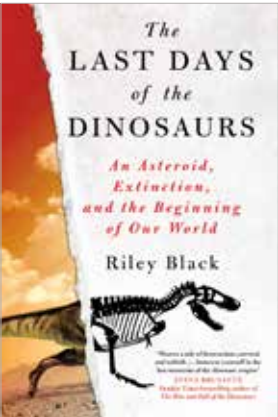
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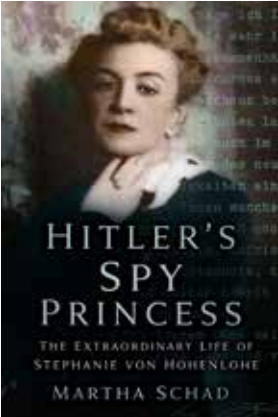
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