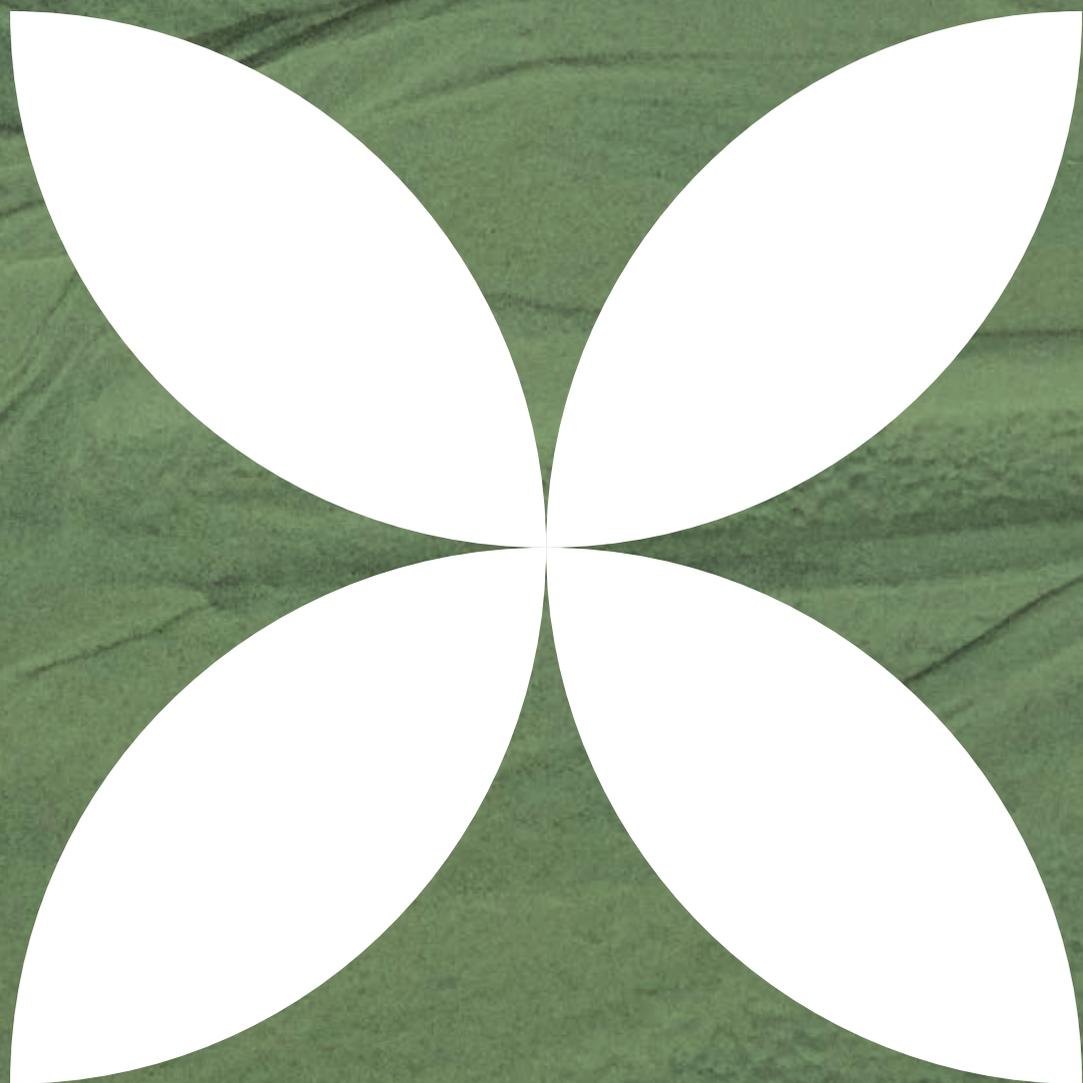


New Writing from Ireland



Literature Ireland
Promoting and Translating Irish Writing

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Director's Note

New books, new writers, new ideas, new styles of writing all seem to keep emerging from Ireland. We are delighted to present this year's edition of *New Writing from Ireland* which promises much to intrigue and entice both publishers and translators around the world. Established names like Mary Costello, Jan Carson and Eoin McNamee are joined this year by newcomers such as Djamel White, Liadan Ní Chuinn and Shane Tivenan.

The past year has seen major literary accolades for Irish writers, including the prestigious Premio Strega Europeo awarded to Paul Murray for *The Bee Sting*, the coveted Windham-Campbell Prize given to Booker Prize winner Anne Enright, and Ferdia Lennon's *Glorious Exploits* winning The Authors' Club 2025 Best First Novel Award.

Literature Ireland's 2025 nomination for the European Union Prize for Literature, *Falling Animals* by Sheila Armstrong, gained a valuable Special Mention.

TV and film adaptations of Irish works continue with Louise Kennedy's *Trespases* and Rónán Hession's *Leonard and Hungry Paul* eagerly awaited. The release of

Maggie O'Farrell's *Hamnet* is also much anticipated, starring Irish actors Paul Mescal and Jessie Buckley.

Inbound translation is a growing trend in Ireland with Gaël Faye's *Petit Pays* translated into Irish by Antain Mac Lochlainn and published by Irish publisher Barzaz. *There's a Monster Behind the Door* by Gaëlle Bélem, translated into English by Karen Fleetwood and Laëtitia Saint-Loubert, published by Bullaun Press, was longlisted for the International Booker Prize, a first for an Irish publisher.

In this, our thirtieth year of operation, the Literature Ireland Team looks forward to working with translators, agents and publishers to help bring the finest of Irish literature to the wider reading world.

Go dté sibh slán – may you go safely,



© Gaia Baldassarri

Sinéad Mac Aodha
Director
Literature Ireland
September 2025

Literature Ireland

Literature Ireland is the national agency in Ireland for the promotion of Irish literature abroad. The organisation works to build an international awareness and appreciation of contemporary Irish literature, primarily in translation.

A not-for-profit organisation, Literature Ireland was established in 1994. It is funded by Culture Ireland and the Arts Council. To date, it has supported the translation of over 2,750 works of Irish literature into 58 languages around the world. Literature Ireland is an active partner in Trinity College Dublin's Centre for Literary and Cultural Translation.

Literature Ireland:

- Awards bursaries to literary translators
- Organises author and translator events
- Exhibits at and coordinates the Irish national stand at the London and Frankfurt book fairs
- Attends and facilitates the involvement of Irish authors at select international literature festivals and fairs
- Provides advice and information to publishers, translators, authors, diplomats, journalists and other interested parties.

Translation Grant Programme

Literature Ireland's Translation Grant Programme allows international publishers to apply for a contribution towards the cost of the translation of a work of Irish literature* from English or Irish into another language. For further information, see the Grants section of literatureireland.com.

Applicants must use Literature Ireland's online system (via Submittable) in order to apply for translation grants. This system enables publishers from around the world to apply for grants securely. Translations for which funding is being sought must not be published until at least three months after the relevant deadline.

Should you have any queries about the Translation Grant Programme, please contact online@literatureireland.com.

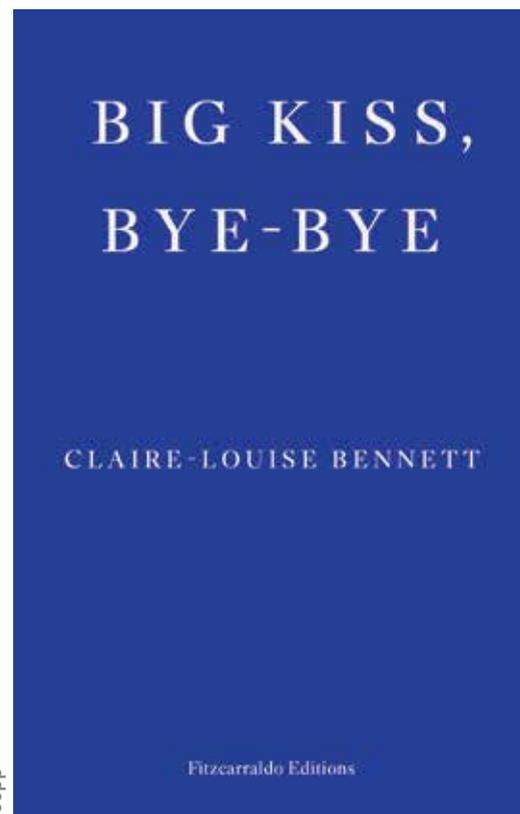
**Eligible genres: literary fiction, literary non-fiction, children's and young adult literature, poetry and drama.*

Contact details

literatureireland.com
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Claire-Louise Bennett

Big Kiss, Bye-Bye



Uprooted from city to countryside, a woman lives in temporary limbo, visited by memories of all she's left behind. The most insistent are those of Xavier, whom she still loves but no longer desires, a displacement he's been unable to accept.

An unexpected letter from an old acquaintance brings back a torrent of others she's loved or wanted. The ephemera left by their passage make up a cabinet of curiosity she inventories, trying to divine the essence of intimacy. What impels us to touch someone, to be touched by them, to stay in touch? How do we let them go?

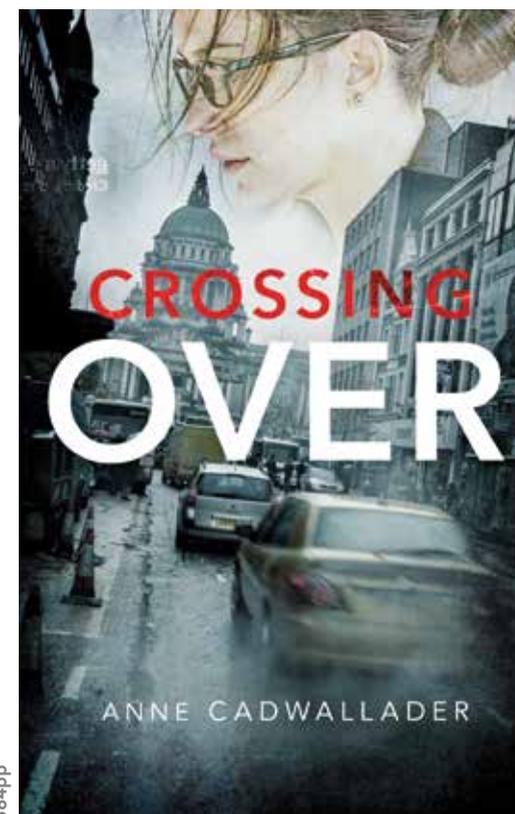
Claire-Louise Bennett grew up in Wiltshire and studied literature and drama at the University of Roehampton before moving to Ireland, where she worked in and studied theatre for several years. *Big Kiss, Bye-Bye* is her third work of fiction.

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RCW Literary Agency

Anne Cadwallader

Crossing Over



In 1987, Belfast burns while Westminster looks away and lawyers pretend justice still exists. Lena Dawson arrives from London, thinking she understands the law. She's wrong. Fighting on behalf of a leading loyalist paramilitary, she quickly makes an enemy of a powerful judge.

Then an IRA 'godfather' challenges her to investigate the police killing of his brother. Before long she unravels a conspiracy reaching from Belfast's back streets to the highest levels of government. As bombs explode and bodies pile up, Lena realises the most dangerous enemy is the truth itself.

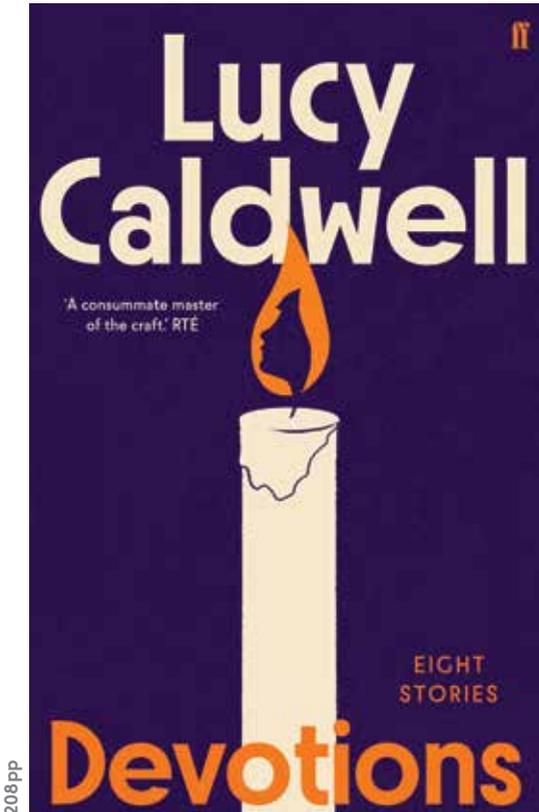
Anne Cadwallader is a Belfast-based writer who has worked for the BBC, RTÉ and Reuters. Author of *Holy Cross* and *Lethal Allies*, she has given evidence to international audiences on justice and reconciliation in Ireland. *Crossing Over* is her first novel.

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Lucy Caldwell

Devotions



In this new collection from one of today's pre-eminent short story writers, Lucy Caldwell explores nostalgia for distant pasts and unknown futures in eight transporting and profound stories.

From a niece recalling the tale of her uncle meeting Jesus to a professional musician travelling across the world through her memories with a violin older than America, and from an acting company performing a choose-your-own-adventure production of *Hamlet* to a grieving son sorting through his mother's belongings, these are intimate stories of love, grief and the ghosts which survive us.

Born in Belfast, Lucy Caldwell is the author of nine books. She is a fellow of the RSL and winner of the E. M. Forster Award and the Walter Scott Prize. She was the editor of *Being Various: New Irish Short Stories*.

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Niamh Campbell

Make Strange



This is the story of a young family – Lena, Odhran and their daughter, Sunny. Lena enjoys motherhood and Odhran is a very functional and loving father. Four-year-old Sunny believes she has lived previous lives and is able to recount how she died.

An intense period of anxiety and soul-searching begins as Lena and Odhran try to understand the root of Sunny's experiences – is she suffering from a psychological disorder, or has she truly lived in the past? *Make Strange* asks where we might have been and who we might become. Darkly funny and bee-sting sharp, this is a family novel tilted on its axis.

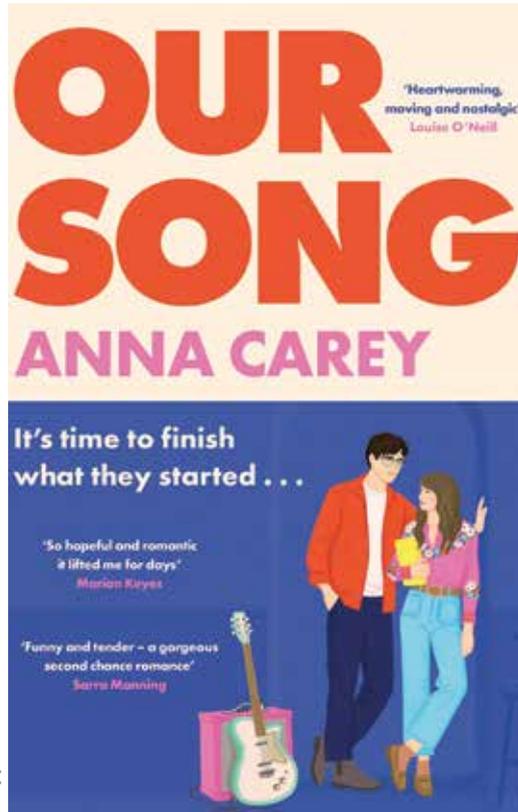
Niamh Campbell is the author of *This Happy* and *We Were Young*. She has won *The Sunday Times* Audible Short Story Award and the Rooney Prize for Irish Writing. Niamh's short fiction and essays have appeared in publications including *The Dublin Review*.

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Anna Carey

Our Song



Laura used to have big dreams, but she gave them up – because that’s what grown-ups do. Trying to turn her love of music into a career would have been absolutely ridiculous. But when she hears one of Tadhg’s songs on the radio, she isn’t so sure.

Tadhg and Laura used to be in a band together. They used to be a lot of things. Now he’s a superstar, touring the world with his songs, reminding Laura of what might have been.

Then she gets an email that could change everything: Tadhg wants to finish a song they started writing together sixteen years ago ...

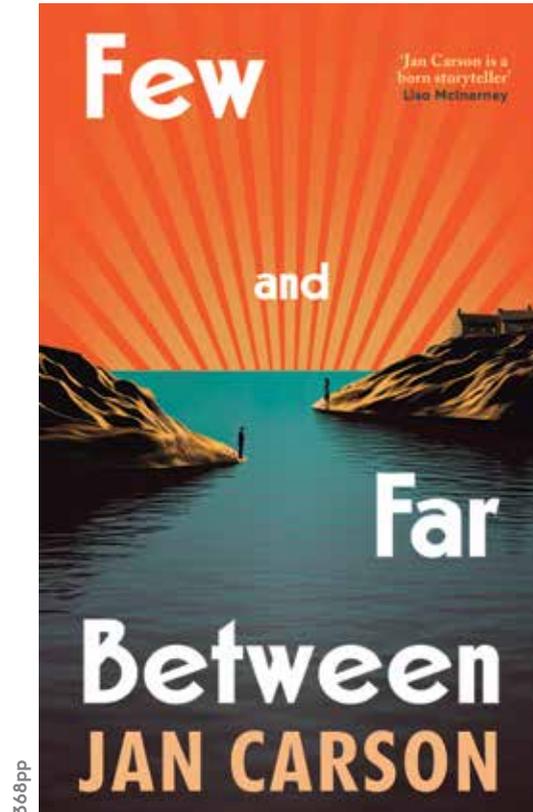
Anna Carey is an Irish Book Award-winning novelist, journalist, editor and scriptwriter who spent her teens and twenties playing in bands. She is the author of seven acclaimed novels for young adults. *Our Song* is her first book for adults.

Contact for rights negotiations:

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Jan Carson

Few and Far Between



Jan Carson imagines an alternative version of Northern Ireland. A prime minister with a scheme for a new county. An archipelago of haunted islands. A community seeking refuge from the Troubles. A utopia that’s not all it seems.

In summer 2017, the last residents of the Lough Neagh Archipelago face eviction. The flood planned to combat a devastating algae outbreak will submerge their homes, forcing them to the Mainland for the first time in years. How will they cope with modern life? Will the Ark give up its secrets before it sinks? Can they leave the past behind?

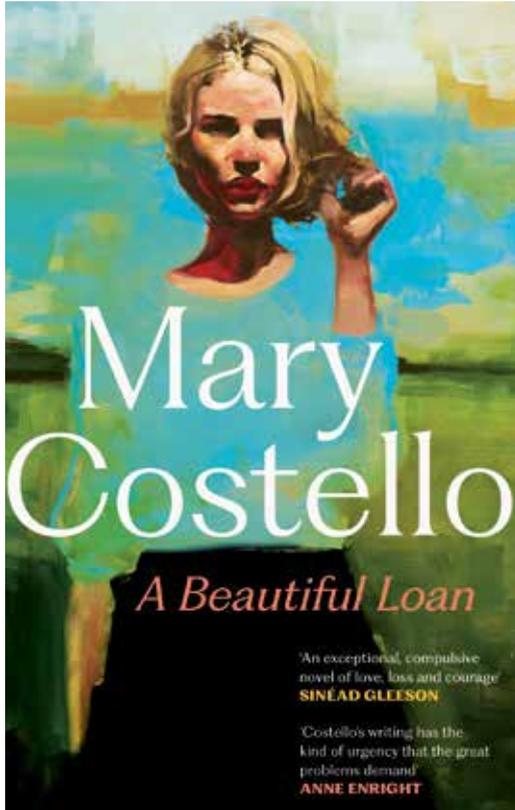
Jan Carson is a writer based in Belfast. She has won the EU Prize for Literature and been shortlisted for the Dalkey Novel of the Year, Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year and Kerry Group Novel of the Year.

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Mary Costello

A Beautiful Loan



My name is Anna, and for some time now, I have been trying to account for certain events in my life – my adult life, that is – which, from this vantage point of forty-five years, I often find baffling.

In Dublin in 1985, nineteen-year-old Anna Hughes is in thrall to Peter Gallagher, an older, worldly man. Anna is new to Dublin, and Peter's thirst for adventure captivates her. Her obsessive longing leads to marriage and a crushing betrayal.

This devastating book is an intimate portrayal of a woman's journey to embrace herself as she is and claim the life she yearns for.

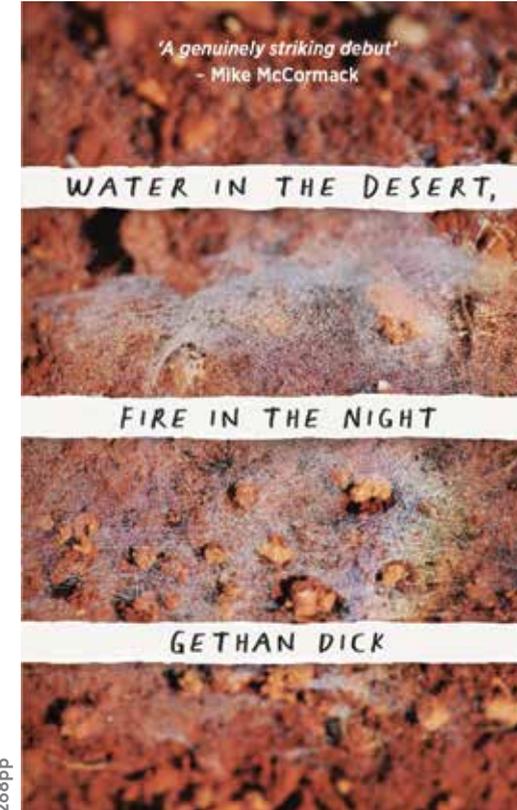
Mary Costello is a bestselling Irish short story writer and novelist living in Galway. Her first novel, *Academy Street*, won the Irish Novel of the Year Award at the Irish Book Awards and was named overall Irish Book of the Year.

Contact for rights negotiations:

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Canongate Books

Gethan Dick

Water in the Desert, Fire in the Night



Water in the Desert, Fire in the Night is a bold debut that reimagines the post-apocalyptic novel with wit, urgency and philosophical depth.

In a near-future London, a group of six people, including a disillusioned millennial, a retired midwife and a charismatic Dubliner, embark on a bicycle journey to a sanctuary in the Alps, navigating a world reshaped by ecological collapse and societal breakdown.

In this novel about endings, beginnings and the radical possibilities of community, Dick blends themes of motherhood and survival with biting humour and lyrical prose, crafting a narrative that is both intimate and expansive.

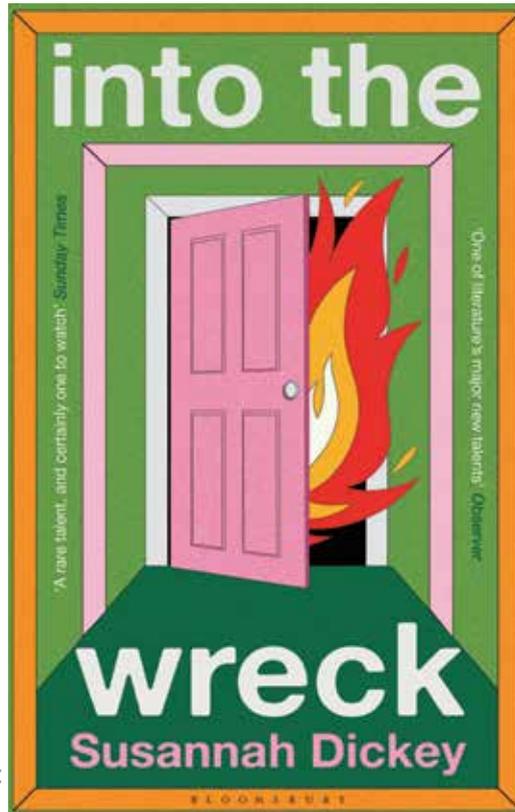
Gethan Dick grew up in the West of Ireland. She moved to London for an MA in Creative Writing at Goldsmiths College, then studied at Camberwell College of Art. She works as one half of visual-arts duo gethan&myles.

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Susannah Dickey

Into the Wreck



How do you mourn a father you never really knew? Gemma, Anna and Matthew will have to work that out. This weekend is their father's funeral, and they are under one roof with their mother, Yvonne, awaiting the arrival of their aunt, Amy.

Though the funeral looms, their everyday concerns remain. Will Gemma work out what she wants from life? Can Anna maintain the balance between want and nonchalance with her not-quite-exclusive boyfriend? Will Amy's past explode the relationships of the present? And, crucially, will Yvonne pull off the perfect roast chicken dinner, her solution to quietening the tensions that threaten to spill over?

Susannah Dickey is a fiction writer and poet. She is the author of two novels, *Tennis Lessons* and *Common Decency*. Susannah's debut poetry collection, *ISDAL*, was shortlisted for the Forward Prize for Best First Collection and the John Pollard Prize.

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 United Agents

Naoise Dolan

Family Matters



This is the story of Batt O'Sheedy, of his family, of the Dublin townhouse – Victorian, magnificent, right by the sea – that represents the family's success, and its eventual tragedy.

A cross between *Succession*, Jonathan Franzen's *The Corrections* and Dickens's *Bleak House*, this is a big, compulsive story about the decline and fall of one family, inextricably bound up with the story of Ireland from the 1950s to today.

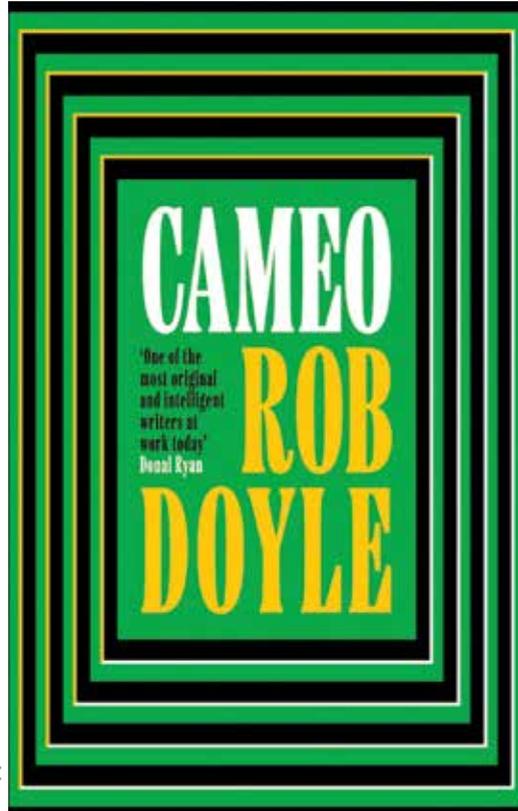
Naoise Dolan writes pieces for publications including *The London Review of Books*, *The Guardian* and *Vogue*. Naoise's debut novel, *Exciting Times*, became a *Sunday Times* bestseller, widely translated and optioned for TV. She has been shortlisted and longlisted for several prizes.

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Rob Doyle

Cameo



Cameo is the life story of invented Irish novelist Ren Duka, who has unexpected runaway international success with a prolific series of autofictional novels. What begins as a playful satire on literary ambition and the chaos of our times expands into a dazzling polyphonic odyssey that challenges the border between fiction and reality.

Cameo is at once a metaphysical architecture of the imagination, a human comedy full of unruly passions and a self-portrait across multiple dimensions.

Rob Doyle is the author of four books: *Autobiography*, *Threshold*, *This Is the Ritual* and *Here Are the Young Men*. Doyle's writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Observer*, the *TLS* and *The Dublin Review*. His work has been translated into several languages.

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Orion Books

Wendy Erskine

The Benefactors



In *The Benefactors* we meet Frankie, Miriam and Bronagh – very different women but all mothers to eighteen-year-old boys. Glamorous Frankie, now married to a wealthy older man, grew up in care. Miriam has recently lost her beloved husband Kahlil in ambiguous circumstances. Bronagh, the CEO of a children's services charity, loves the celebrity and prestige this brings her.

They do not know each other yet, but when their sons are accused of sexually assaulting Misty Johnston, whose family lacks the wealth and social standing of their own, they'll leverage all the power of their positions to protect their children.

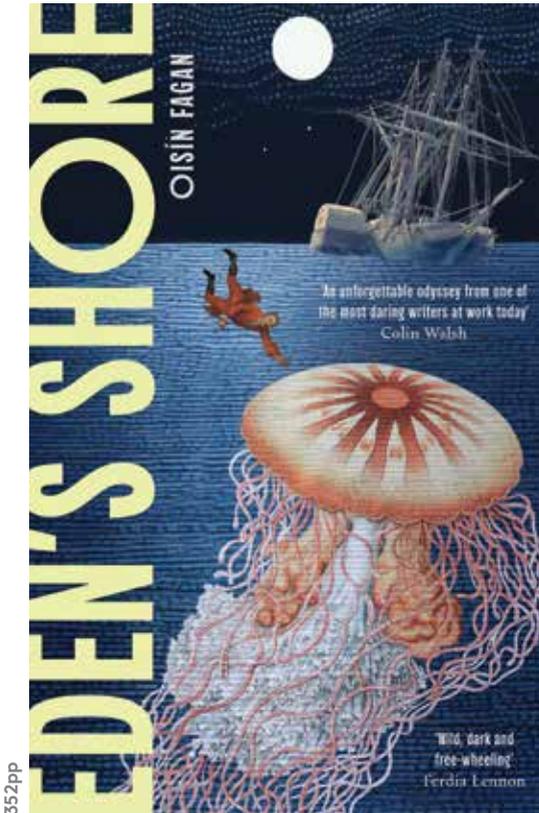
Wendy Erskine is the author of two short story collections. She was shortlisted for the Edge Hill Prize and the Republic of Consciousness Prize, and she received the Butler Literary Award and the Edge Hill Readers' Choice Award.

Contact for rights negotiations:

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Oisín Fagan

Eden's Shore



At the close of the eighteenth century, Angel Kelly sets sail from Liverpool with the intention of creating a Utopian commune in Brazil. When a mutiny takes place on the ship, he finds himself stranded upon the coast of an unnamed colony in Latin America, and Kelly becomes unwittingly caught up in a series of crises culminating in displacement, rebellion and a deadly game of cat and mouse between empires.

Eden's Shore is an epic and intricate tale of greed, revenge and love, populated by a rich cast of revolutionaries and pirates, capitalists and aristocrats, sailors and soldiers, slaves and spies.

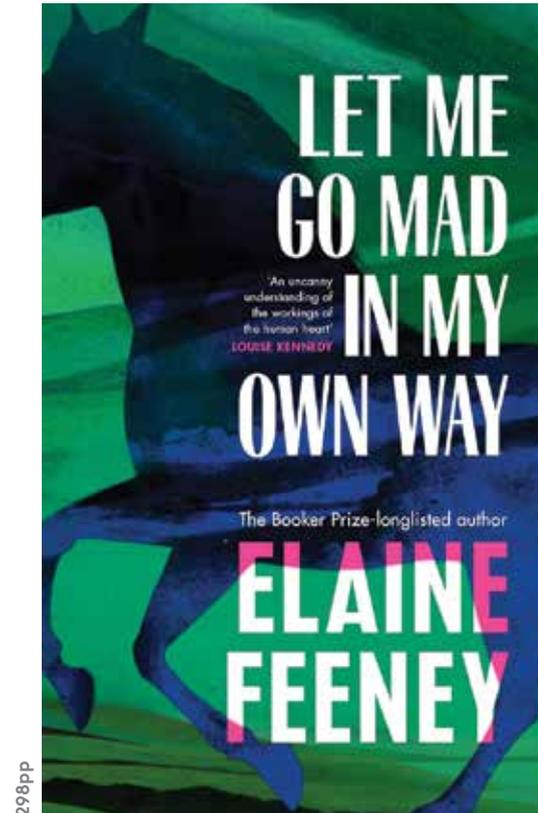
Oisín Fagan is the author of a collection of stories, *Hostages*, and two novels, including *Nobber*, which was longlisted for the Desmond Elliott Prize and shortlisted for the Bollinger Everyman Wodehouse Prize.

Contact for rights negotiations:

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Elaine Feeney

Let Me Go Mad in My Own Way



Claire's life has been on hold since she broke up with Tom and moved back from London to the West of Ireland to care for her dying father. When Tom unexpectedly moves nearby for work, Claire is thrown back into a love she thought she'd left behind, questioning if Tom has come for her or himself.

While Claire tries to maintain a normal life, Tom's return stirs up haunting memories trapped within the walls of the old family house. As the secrets of the past are revealed, can Claire escape her history to make her own future – and will finding herself mean facing herself too?

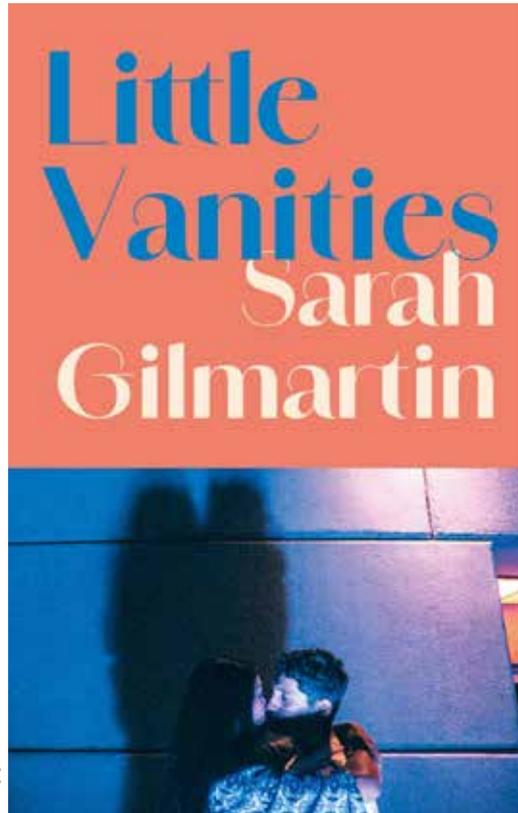
Elaine Feeney's debut novel, *As You Were*, won the Kate O'Brien Award, the McKitterick Prize and the Dalkey Festival Emerging Writer Award. *How to Build a Boat* was shortlisted for the Irish Book Awards Novel of the Year and longlisted for the Booker Prize.

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 Harvill

Sarah Gilmartin

Little Vanities



Dylan, Ben and Stevie have been friends since college, but nearly two decades later, life hasn't gone to plan. Illness has toppled Dylan's rugby career, putting a strain on his marriage to Rachel. And Stevie and Ben's relationship has become one of comfort rather than passion.

When Ben lands the role of a lifetime in a production of Pinter's *Betrayal*, it seems like their fortunes might be changing. But the couples find themselves caught in their own messy performance of desire and deception. With tensions rising, they must navigate what keeps us together and what drives us apart and make their choices before the final curtain call.

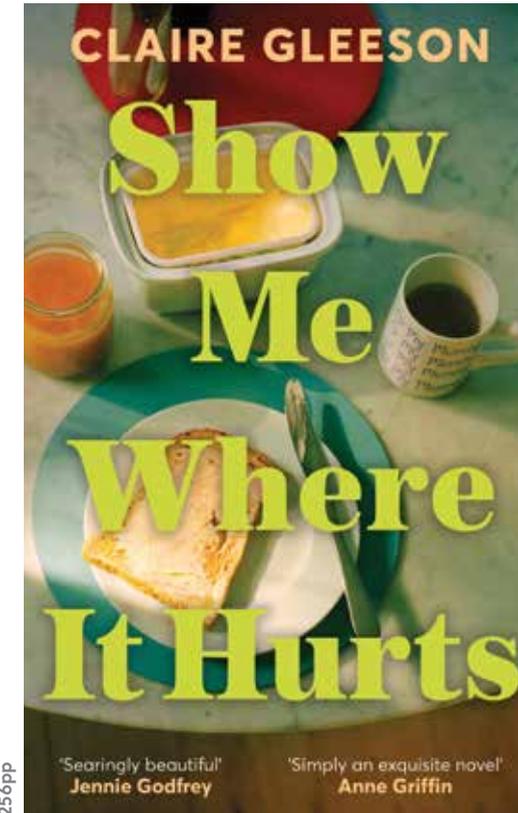
Sarah Gilmartin reviews fiction for *The Irish Times* and is the author of *Service* and *Dinner Party*. She is co-editor of the anthology *Stinging Fly Stories*, and her short stories have been published in *The Dublin Review*, *The Tangerine Magazine* and *New Irish Writing*.

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Claire Gleeson

Show Me Where It Hurts



When Tom runs the family car off the road, seeking to end his own life and take his family with him, his wife Rachel is left to pore over the wreckage to try and understand what happened – to find a way to go on living.

What emerges is a snapshot of what it's like to live alongside someone who is suffering – how to keep yourself afloat when the person you love is drowning, and how to survive irreparable loss.

Impossible to turn away from, *Show Me Where It Hurts* is a compelling, heartbreaking and ultimately life-affirming story of recovery and unexpected hope.

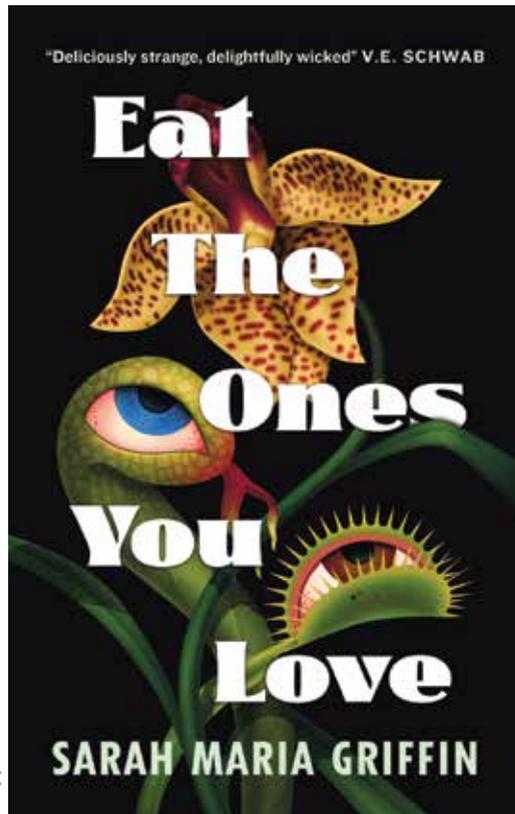
Claire Gleeson's short stories have been shortlisted and longlisted for numerous prizes. In 2021, she was awarded a Words Ireland literary mentorship while she worked on *Show Me Where It Hurts*, which became a runner-up at the Irish Writers Centre Novel Fair 2023.

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Sarah Maria Griffin

Eat the Ones You Love



While visiting her local shopping centre, Shell Pine sees a 'HELP NEEDED' sign in a flower shop and goes inside, where she meets Neve, a beautiful florist.

But an orchid growing in the heart of the mall is watching them closely. Neve belongs to him, and nothing he eats, nobody he eats, can satisfy him, except the thing he most desires. He will stop at nothing to eat the one he loves.

Infused with wit, heart and horror, this is a story about possession, monstrosity and working in retail. It is about hunger and desire, and other terrible things that grow.

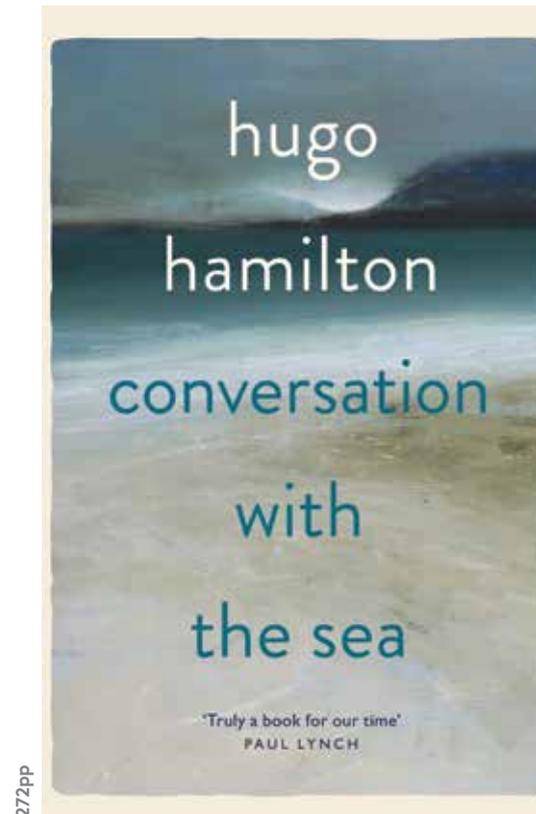
Sarah Maria Griffin lives in Dublin. She is the author of *Spare & Found Parts* and the Irish Book Award-winning *Other Words for Smoke*. Her non-fiction and writing about video games has appeared in *The Guardian* and *The Irish Times*.

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Hugo Hamilton

Conversation with the Sea



Fleeing his failed marriage in Berlin, Lukas Dorn revisits the West of Ireland, the place of his honeymoon two decades earlier. While his former wife is being cancelled at work and his daughter is arrested at a street protest, he tries to make sense of his broken life.

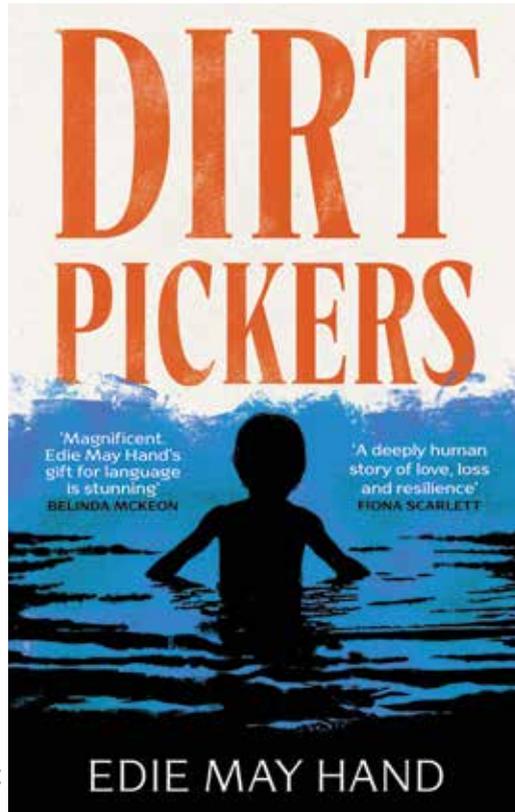
His inherited memory of the Nazi Holocaust comes face to face with the present when he meets a refugee from a recent war zone. As Lukas communes with the elements in this wild coastal place, he is forced into a confrontation with the past that will carry him to the edge of existence.

Hugo Hamilton has published many works. His memoir of his childhood in Dublin, *The Speckled People*, describes growing up with his German mother while being prohibited by his revolutionary Irish father from speaking English. It was translated into twenty languages.

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 RCW Literary Agency

Edie May Hand Dirtpickers



In a remote valley in Idaho in 1981, a man, a woman and three children stop running to wash the blood from their hands and bodies. They are the survivors of a terrible tragedy. Their only choice now is, somehow, to become a family.

Five years earlier, the small mining community of Silver Valley was ruthlessly controlled by the charismatic visionary Baron Rowe. But a tragic accident changed everything. And then change came again at the barrel of a madman's gun.

Now, crossing into Canada, the survivors must unlearn all they have known, tend to wounds old and new, and start afresh.

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Bonnier Books UK

Louise Hegarty Getting the Electric



Are you ready to play?

A woman scrolls the internet, worries about the pain in her leg, and finds her days upset by a literal axe-wielding troll; when two children go missing from a rural village, the inhabitants become convinced there are faeries in the new electricity pylons; in a grand ancestral home, something is thumping in the cellar; and a girl goes on a date, only to find that whatever she chooses, the outcome is the same ...

Bold, funny and wild, Louise Hegarty's debut collection will turn you upside down and inside out, if it doesn't just dismantle you completely.

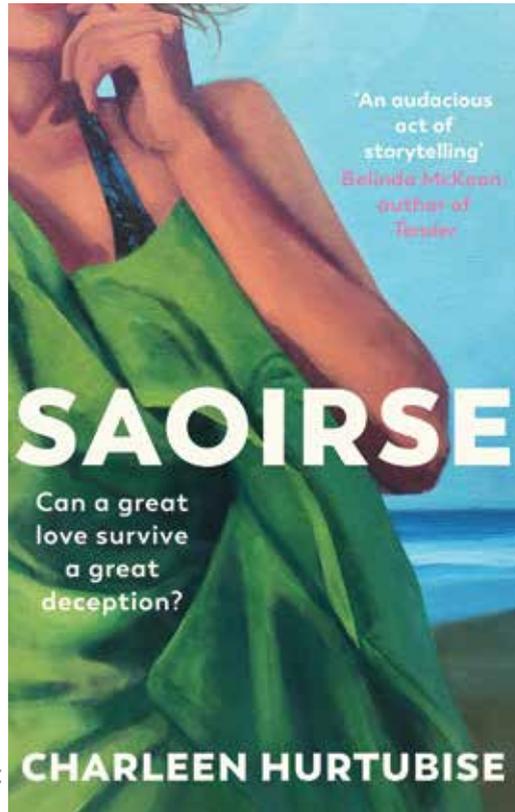
Louise Hegarty's stories have appeared in *Banshee*, *The Tangerine Magazine*, *The Stinging Fly* and *The Dublin Review* and featured on BBC Radio 4. She won *The Sunday Business Post*/Penguin Ireland Short Story Prize and published her debut novel *Fair Play* in 2025.

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Charleen Hurtubise

Saoirse



Saoirse is an artist living an outwardly idyllic life. Her family are regular subjects for her work, and in them she has found the safe home that she has longed for. She doesn't talk about her past, and those that love her have accepted that the full story is too painful to disclose.

When her exhibition wins an award that invites publicity, Saoirse is panic-stricken. Because what her family and friends don't know is that Saoirse has been on the run since she was seventeen, and whilst Ireland is now home, it wasn't her first – and now her past is poised to reclaim her.

Charleen Hurtubise is a writer, teacher and artist. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing from UCD. Charleen's work has appeared in various publications and *The Polite Act of Drowning* was her debut novel.

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Rose Keating

Oddbody



Oddbody is a collection of ten bold and unsettling short stories. A woman finds herself navigating a co-dependent relationship with a ghost. A waitress gives birth to an egg during her breakfast shift. A doctor puts his patient on a cleanse to 'purify' her mind, body and soul.

Through playful but provocative prose, Rose Keating traverses a realm both dreamlike and nightmarish, exposing – to the bone – the absurdities and horrors of the feminine experience. *Oddbody* prods a finger at societal norms, gleefully turns familiar tropes on their heads and announces Keating as an audacious new voice in Irish fiction.

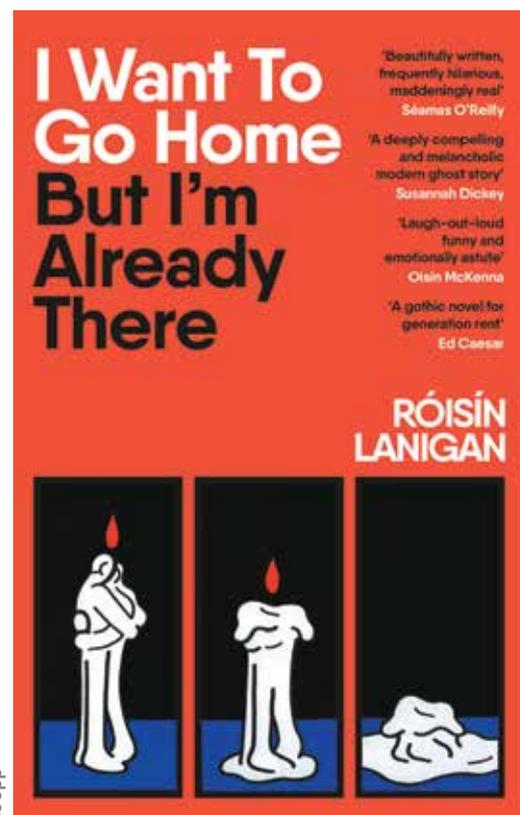
Rose Keating is a winner of the Marian Keyes Young Writer Award and the *Hot Press* Write Here, Write Now competition. She has been published in *The Stinging Fly*, *Apex Magazine* and *Banshee*.

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Róisín Lanigan

I Want To Go Home But I'm Already There



Róisín Lanigan is an editor and writer whose work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Financial Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Fence*. She won the Blue Pencil Agency First Novel Award in 2020.

Áine should be feeling happy. She and her boyfriend Elliot have just moved into an affluent neighbourhood, surrounded by bakeries and yoga studios. And yet, from the moment they move in, Áine can't shake this feeling of dread.

It's not just the humourless estate agent and nameless landlord: it's the damp that spreads throughout the house, the fruit and veg that instantly rots, and most of all, the disturbing presence of the upstairs neighbour.

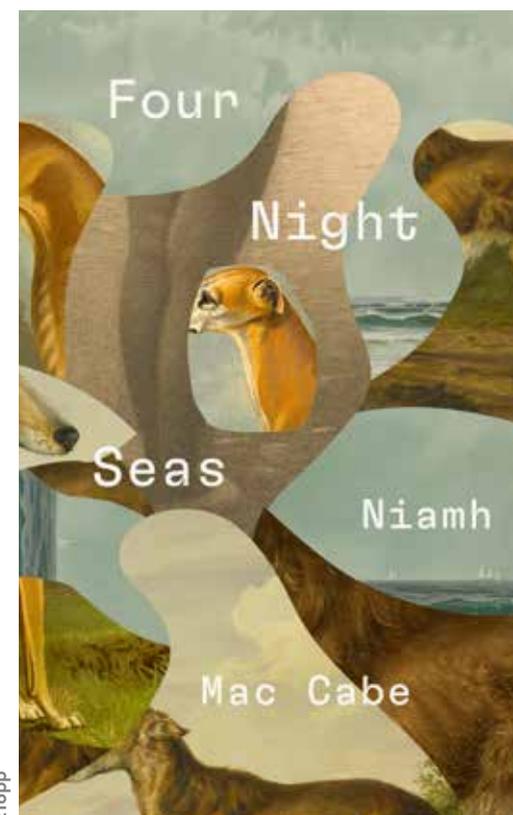
The longer Áine spends inside the flat, the less it feels like home, and the harder it is to ignore the cracks in her relationship.

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Niamh Mac Cabe

Four Night Seas



Niamh Mac Cabe is an award-winning writer of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, plays and hybrid prose. She's also a visual artist, an editor, a writing mentor and a lecturer at ATU Sligo.

Four Night Seas is a rich and atmospheric collection, exploring themes of memory, solitude, loss and the mysterious rhythms of nature and human connection.

Set across liminal landscapes, the stories feature characters navigating emotional or existential thresholds – grieving, seeking meaning or reconciling with the past.

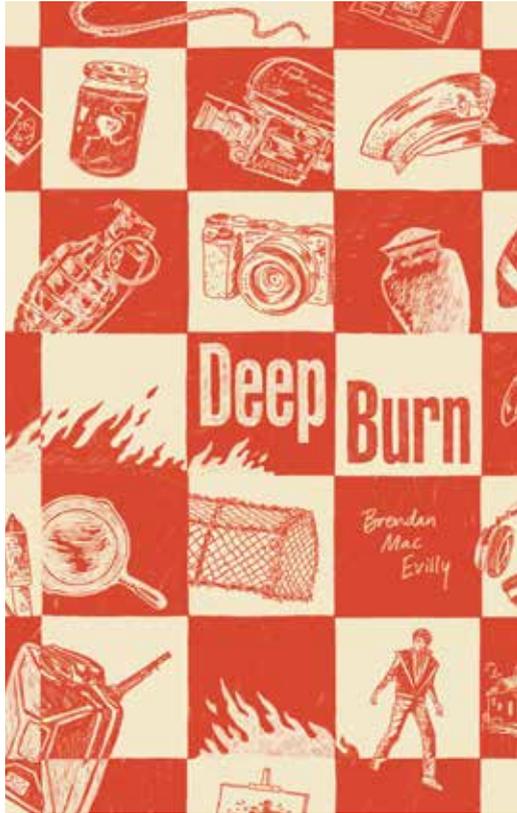
Whether it's a reclusive sculptor haunted by guilt, a lost child drawing maps in the sand or a greyhound silently shadowing a man to a mountain lake, Mac Cabe's lyrical prose and inventive narrative structures evoke an eerie, tender intimacy, blurring the line between the internal and external world, inviting the reader into spaces of beauty, melancholy and subtle transformation.

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The Lilliput Press

Brendan Mac Evilly

Deep Burn



In a small seaside village in South Kerry, Martha Knox develops an unlikely career, burning emotionally charged objects and photographing the results. Her clients travel from far and wide with things they need destroyed. But relationships in Martha's new life become increasingly complicated with the arrival of curator Kingsley, who is considering her work for his renowned Berlin Biennale. Kingsley also has something for Martha to burn – something rather unusual.

A frenetic tale of art and the value of obsession; fame and the price of envy; friendship and the uncertainty of love.

Brendan Mac Evilly is the author of *At Swim: A Book About the Sea*. His writing has appeared in *The Stinging Fly*, *Channel*, *The Guardian*, *The Irish Times* and *The Sunday Times*. He is director and co-editor of *Holy Show* arts journal and production company.

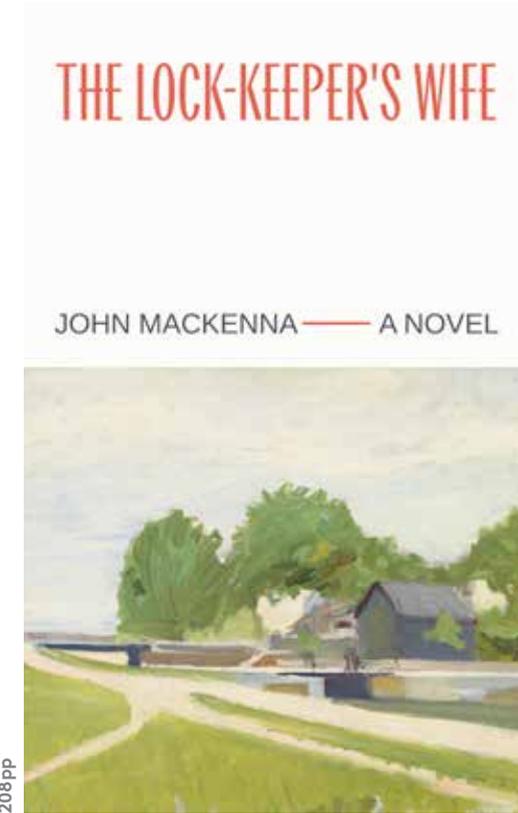
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284pp

John MacKenna

The Lock-Keeper's Wife



Julie McDermot, recently released from a psychiatric institution in rural mid-century Ireland, and living in isolation with an unloving husband by the canal where he works, reflects in her journal entries on a life shaped by grief, motherhood and neglect.

Through nature, memory and writing, she gradually reconnects with her sense of self. The arrival of a kind English widower offers her rare companionship and emotional resonance. Julie's voice – quiet, poetic and perceptive – charts a journey of survival, resistance and awakening in this poignant meditation on loneliness, womanhood and the resilience required to reclaim identity in a world that has tried to silence it.

John MacKenna has written twenty-four books, ten stage plays and three radio plays and writes, directs and acts with Mend & Makedo Theatre Co., which he founded in 1981. He teaches creative writing at Maynooth University and The Hedge School on the Moone.

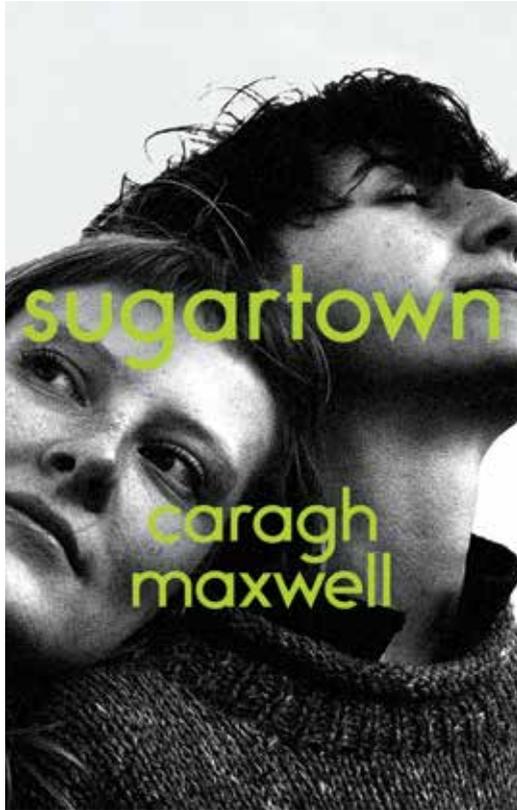
Contact for rights negotiations:

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 The Lilliput Press

208pp

Caragh Maxwell

Sugartown



Saoirse believed leaving home was forever – until her relationship fell apart, leaving her with no choice but to return to her mother’s house in the small Irish town where she grew up.

Back home, everyone is moving on without her. Desperate to escape the silence, Saoirse drowns herself in parties, drugs and a new romance with Charlie.

But the old coping mechanisms are failing. The past she’s been running from is closing in, and Saoirse must face the darkest parts of herself. *Sugartown* is a powerful story about what happens when growing up means outgrowing the place you thought you knew.

Caragh Maxwell graduated from the Trinity College MPhil in Creative Writing in 2023, and her essays, poems and stories have been published in *The Irish Times*, *The Cormorant* and other publications. Her writing focuses on the self, memory and womanhood.

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RCW Literary Agency

Rosaleen McDonagh

Contentious Spaces



Contentious Spaces delves into the inner lives of Traveller families living on a site in Dublin. Connected by blood and tragedy, they grapple with the aftermath of the tragic death of Charlene and the looming threat of eviction.

Struggling against a society that fails to accept them, isolation lingers and darkens their lives. Yet they offer each other solace in a world that is slipping away. Their interconnected stories form a profound legacy of family life.

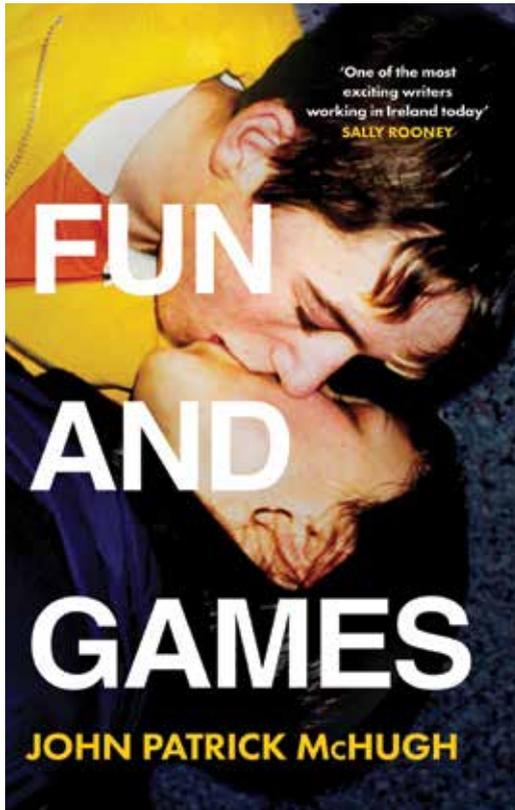
Rosaleen McDonagh is a playwright, performer and columnist for *The Irish Times* and a member of Aosdána. She is the author of the essay collection *Unsettled*, published by Skein Press. Rosaleen holds a BA and two MPhils from Trinity College Dublin and a PhD from Northumbria University.

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Skein Press

John Patrick McHugh

Fun and Games



Seventeen-year-old John Masterson has no idea what he wants. It's his last summer on the small island where he has grown up off the west coast of Ireland, and he should be enjoying the weeks until his exam results come through.

As he embarks on a tentative relationship with his older co-worker Amber, he can almost pretend summer will last forever. But soon John must face up to the choices before him: to stay or leave, to stand out or fit in, and whether to love and let himself be loved.

An *Observer* Best Debut Novelist of 2025, John Patrick McHugh is also the author of the short story collection *Pure Gold*. His work has appeared in *The Stinging Fly*, *Winter Papers* and *Granta* and has been broadcast on BBC Radio 3.

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Carina McNally

Mithim



Mithim is a haunting historical novel set in seventeenth-century Ireland.

When Cromwellian forces destroy her home, healer and herbalist Mithim flees into the Wexford forest, armed with ancient wisdom and a deep connection to the land. Her herbal knowledge becomes both sanctuary and defiance. Driven by her quest to find her brother Eoin, she navigates a world reshaped by conquest and violence, guided by the goddess An Cailleach.

Exquisitely researched and richly imagined, *Mithim* is a meditation on cultural erasure, feminine resilience and the sacred knowledge that endures when everything else is destroyed.

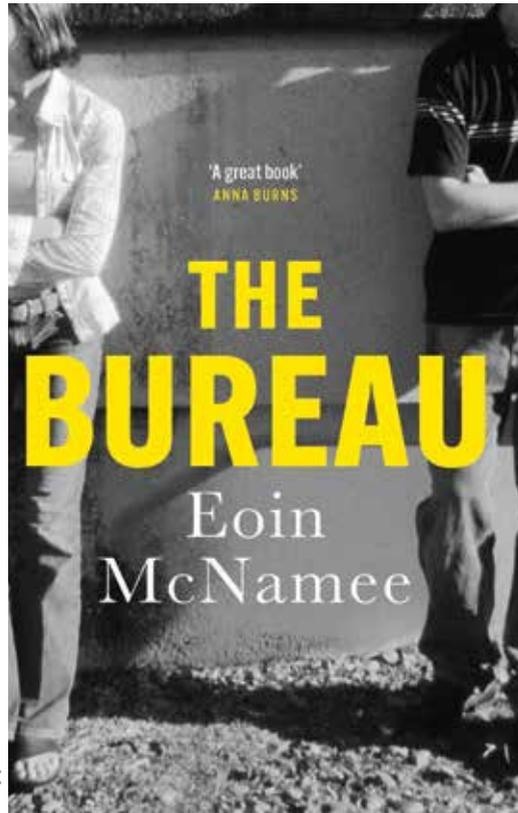
Carina McNally is a writer, storyteller, playwright and journalist. A member of the Beara Historical Society, she also works as a historical guide. Her short fiction has been published in *Cyphers* literary magazine. Her interests include the sustainability and protection of life in rural Ireland.

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Mercier Press

Eoin McNamee

The Bureau



Lorraine would say afterwards that she was smitten straight off with Paddy Farrell. Could she not see there was death about him? Could he not see there was death about her?

Paddy worked the border, a place of road closures, hijackings and sudden death. This is strange terrain, unsolid, ghosted through.

Paddy and his associates were a ragged band and honourless, and their worth to themselves was measured in thievery and fraud. But Lorraine was not a girl to be treated lightly. She's cast as a minx, a criminal's moll, but she's bought a shotgun. And she's bought a grave.

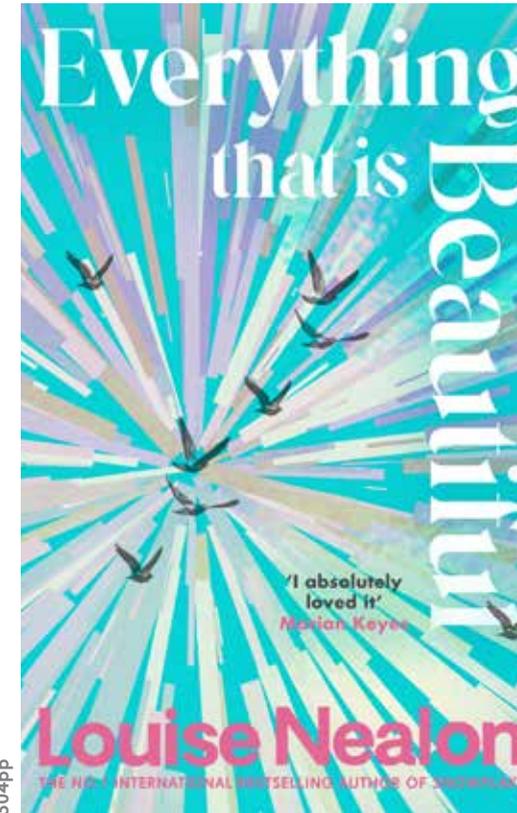
Eoin McNamee is the author of eight novels, including *Resurrection Man*. His work has been nominated for and won many major prizes, including the Booker Prize, the Gordon Burn Prize, the Kerry Fiction Prize and the CWA Steel Dagger.

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RCW Literary Agency

Louise Nealon

Everything That Is Beautiful



For Niamh Ryan, the Foleys are family. Her childhood flew by on their farm, playing with her best friend Peter and his sister Kate.

Now, following a distressing series of events, family ties are strained. Niamh receives drunken phone calls from Peter, who can't understand what derailed their burgeoning relationship. Kate is attempting to hold down a job and a relationship while carrying the weight of the family's secrets and feeling like she is to blame.

As a family wedding looms, and the women find themselves face to face, the knotty love that still binds might just bring them back together.

Louise Nealon's debut novel, *Snowflake*, was the winner of Newcomer of the Year at the Irish Book Awards in 2021 and was chosen for the One Dublin One Book campaign in 2024.

Contact for rights negotiations:

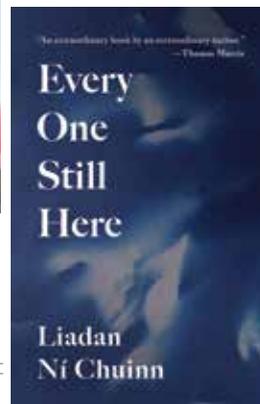
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Bonnie Books UK

Liadan Ní Chuinn

Every One Still Here



160pp



160pp

Liadan Ní Chuinn was born in the north of Ireland in 1998. *Every One Still Here* is their first book.

From a stunning new voice in Irish literature comes a searing and powerful debut collection of singularly brilliant and distinctive stories.

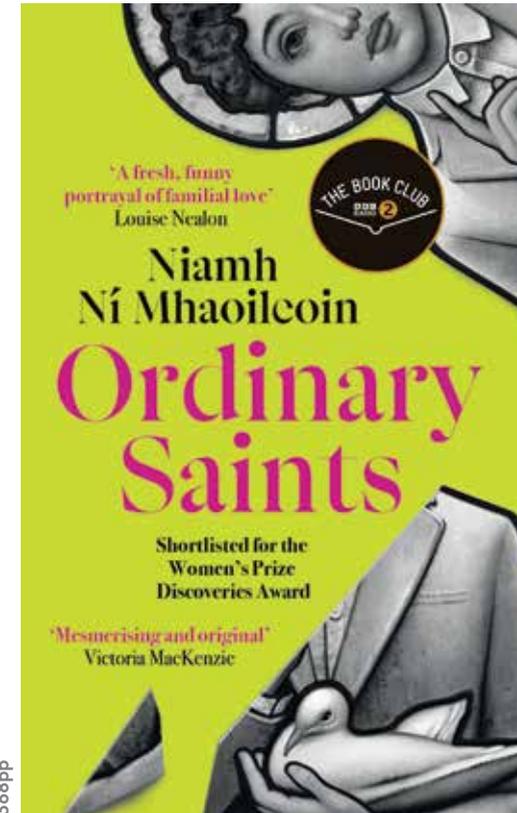
A young girl spends her days on a double-decker bus. A bride-to-be prays to St Valentine's bones. Bouquets are found all over a museum. Teenagers gather to dissect a human body. Brimming with compassion and thrumming with energy, these stories are scrupulous in their attention to detail, epic in their scope. In this bravura collection, Liadan Ní Chuinn delivers a consummate blend of the personal and the political.

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Niamh Ní Mhaoileoin

Ordinary Saints



368pp

Brought up in a devout household in Ireland, Jay is now living in London with her girlfriend, determined to live day to day and not think too much about the future or the past. But when she learns that her beloved older brother, who died in a terrible accident, may be made into a Catholic saint, she realises she must at last confront her family, her childhood and herself ...

Inspired by the author's own devout upbringing, *Ordinary Saints* is a novel from an exciting new voice which asks who gets to decide how we are remembered and who we will become?

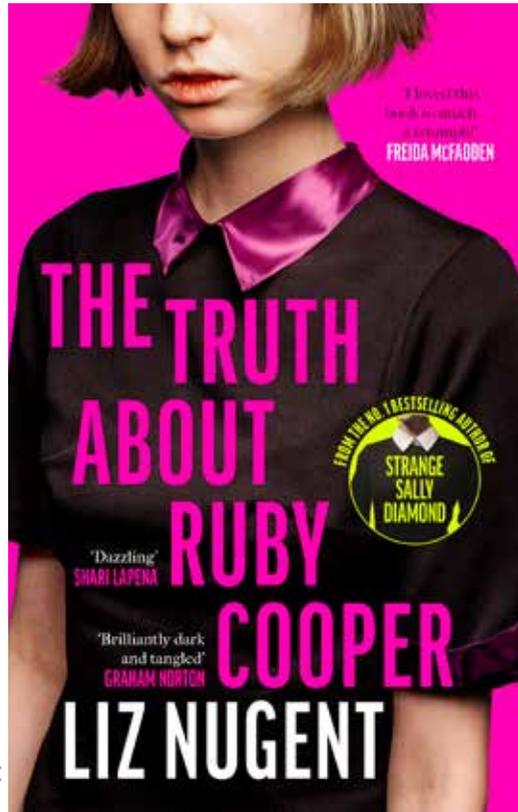
Niamh Ní Mhaoileoin was the winner of the inaugural PFD Queer Fiction Prize and was also shortlisted for the Women's Prize Trust Discoveries Prize in 2022. *Ordinary Saints* is her debut literary novel.

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Bonnier Books UK

Liz Nugent

The Truth About Ruby Cooper



If my sister hadn't been beautiful, none of it would have happened.

Ruby Cooper and her sister, Erin, live an idyllic life in their close-knit church community in Boston. But when Ruby is sixteen, she is involved in an incident that causes her family's world to implode. Across decades, the fallout leaves a wake of destruction behind Ruby in Dublin and Erin in Boston. Not that Ruby wants to think about the past. But it can't stay a secret forever ...

Before becoming a full-time writer, Liz Nugent worked in film, theatre and television. All her novels have been number-one bestsellers and she has won four Irish Book Awards, as well as the James Joyce Medal for Literature.

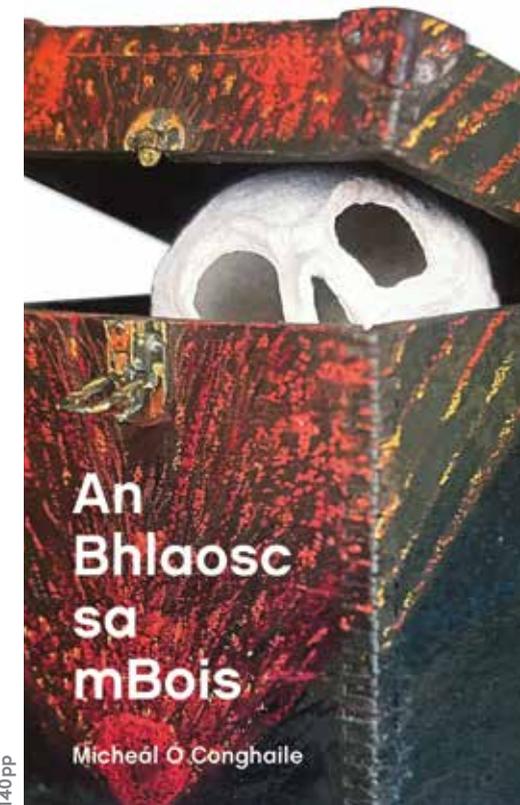
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 Marianne Gunn O'Connor Literary Agency

Micheál Ó Conghaile

An Bhlaosc sa mBois

(The Skull in the Palm)



The legacy of Ireland's mother and baby homes continues to haunt the national conscience. *An Bhlaosc sa mBois* is a searing literary novella that tackles this dark chapter through the lens of fiction.

Known for his unflinching storytelling, Micheál Ó Conghaile offers a powerful exploration of pain, silence and reckoning in this bold and necessary work, which adds an important voice to the growing cultural response to the scandal and affirms Ó Conghaile's place at the forefront of Irish-language literature.

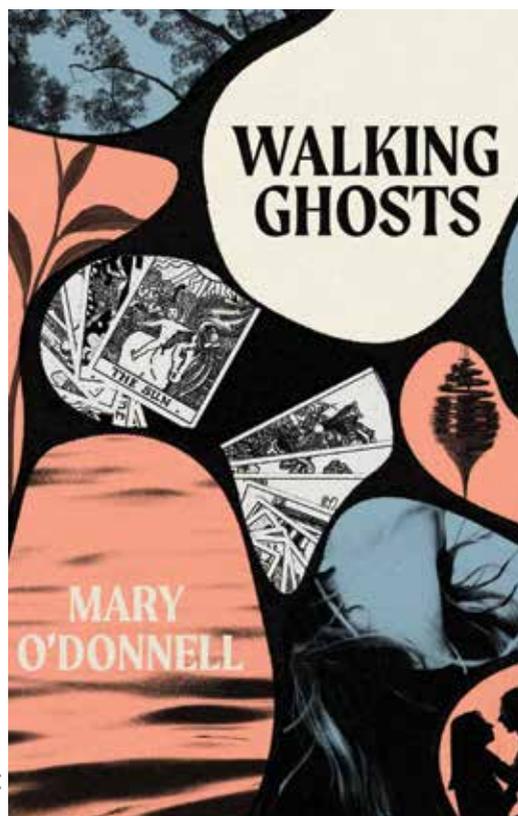
Micheál Ó Conghaile is an award-winning writer and a member of Aosdána since 1998. He founded Cló Iar-Chonnacht in 1985, a press dedicated to Irish-language literature and music. Micheál is a major voice in contemporary Irish-language fiction.

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 Cló Iar-Chonnacht International Rights

Mary O'Donnell

Walking Ghosts



In this masterful collection, Mary O'Donnell explores the subtle fractures and quiet transformations that shape modern Irish life. Her characters navigate a society in flux, where traditional certainties give way to new complexities.

From pandemic lockdowns to nightclubs where identity is challenged, O'Donnell's stories serve as litmus tests for contemporary society. With unflinching precision, she reveals how quickly our certainties dissolve, leaving us to navigate a world of shifting possibilities. These stories capture the secret sorrows and resilient hopes of characters caught between who they were and who they might become.

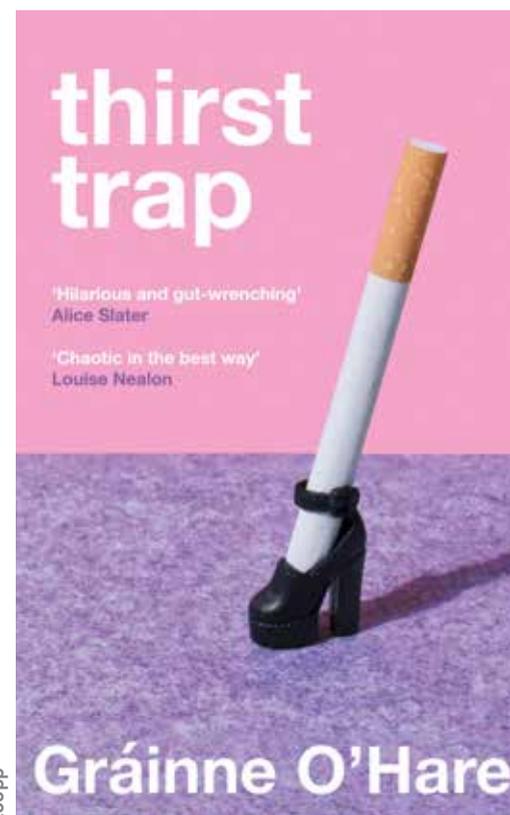
Mary O'Donnell is an award-winning novelist, short story writer and poet. A member of Aosdána, she has published four novels, three short story collections and nine poetry collections. Her work is translated into multiple languages.

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Gráinne O'Hare

Thirst Trap



Maggie, Harley and Róise are friends on the brink: of triumph, catastrophe or maybe just finally growing up. Their crumbling Belfast houseshare has been witness to their roaring twenties, but now fault lines are beginning to show.

The three girls are still grieving the tragic death of their friend Lydia, whose room remains untouched. Their last big fight hangs heavy over them, and now they are all beginning to unravel.

Thirst Trap by Gráinne O'Hare is a blazing, bittersweet, bitingly funny and painfully relatable story about the friendships that endure through the very best and the very worst of times.

Gráinne O'Hare is a writer from Belfast based in Newcastle upon Tyne. She received a Northern Debut Award for Fiction from New Writing North, and her short fiction has been published in *The London Magazine* and *Gutter*.

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Lutyens and Rubinstein

Catherine Ryan Howard

Burn After Reading



Jack Smyth was hailed a hero for trying to save his wife from a fire, until it emerged she was dead before the flames. Suspicion has stalked him since.

A year later, he signs a book deal to prove his innocence and needs a ghostwriter. Emily has never ghostwritten anything before, but she knows what it's like to live with a guilty secret. And she's about to learn that some stories should never be told.

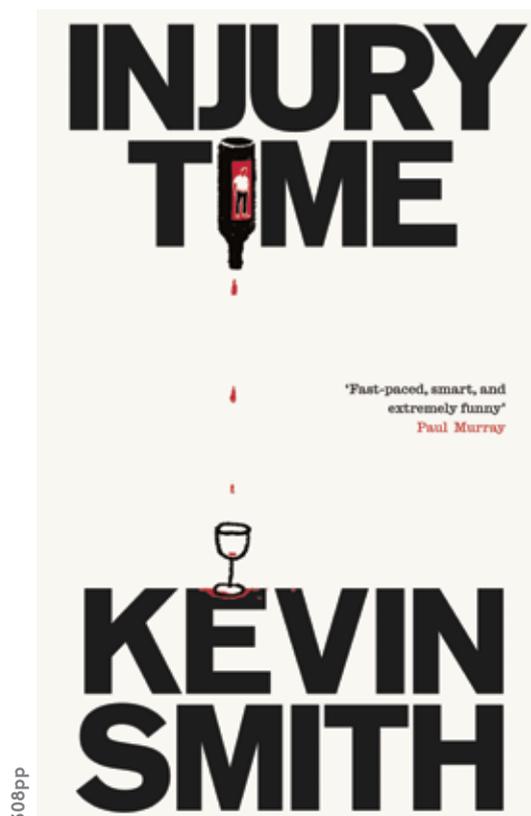
Catherine Ryan Howard is the author of eight novels, including bestsellers *The Nothing Man*, *56 Days* and *The Trap*. Her work has been shortlisted for several awards. The screen adaptation of *56 Days* is upcoming on Amazon Prime.

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Kevin Smith

Injury Time



Businessman Fenton Conville is coasting through life in a sleepy Northern Irish village – until he wakes on his fiftieth birthday to a solicitor's letter and an allegation that could blow his world apart. In this comedy of memories, middle age and long-buried mistakes, Fenton feels the post-Brexit change in a society struggling to account for its past.

This is a story about dodging bullets, literal and metaphorical, and the painful comedy of life's second half. In the end, Fenton's true struggle is less about money or status than finding relevance and peace as the clock runs down.

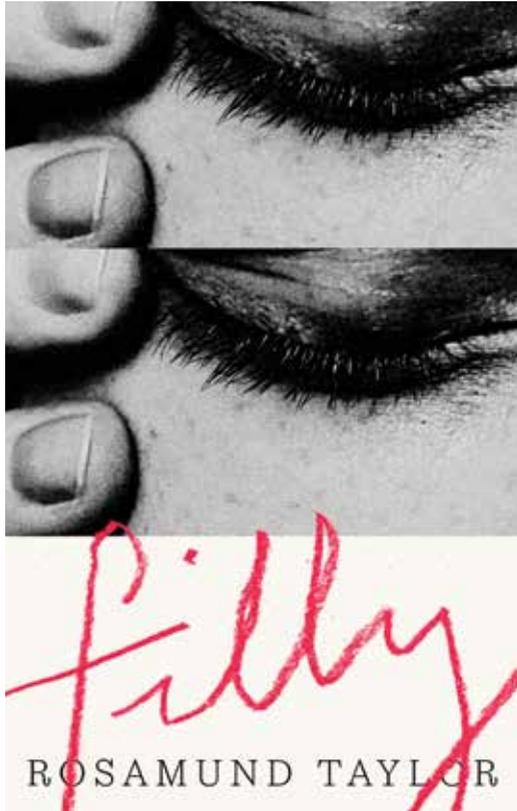
Kevin Smith is from County Down in Northern Ireland. A former journalist, he has worked in newspapers, radio and newswires. His novel *Jammy Dodger* was longlisted for the 2013 Desmond Elliott Prize for new fiction.

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The Lilliput Press

Rosamund Taylor

Filly



From acclaimed poet Rosamund Taylor comes a compelling, genre-bending coming-of-age story. Orla is discovering her sexuality in the hostile and misogynistic world of Ireland's school system. When her friend Muireann rejects her advances, Orla turns to her charismatic English teacher, Irene Wall, for a love affair both passionate and annihilating.

A novel in verse about sexual awakening, masochistic love and the transformative possibilities of communities that transcend binaries, *Filly* introduces two unforgettable characters in Orla and the complicated, magnetic Irene Wall. Written with Taylor's trademark earthy lyricism, *Filly* is an exploration of intergenerational love and trauma, and an explosion of queer joy.

Rosamund Taylor is the author of the poetry collection *In Her Jaws*, shortlisted for the Seamus Heaney Poetry Prize and longlisted for the Polari First Book Prize. Her essays have appeared in *The Irish Times* and *The Stinging Fly*.

Contact for rights negotiations:

Helen Edwards
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 Helen Edwards Rights Agency

Shane Tivenan

To Avenge a Dead Glacier



A sharp and brilliant exploration of the lives of outsiders, characters who exist beyond the perimeters of their communities.

A woman ostracised from her family spends twenty years living homeless in Madrid; a semi-retired plasterer is haunted by the silencing of the birds in his townland, a silencing which he knows he took part in; an elderly woman does her best to celebrate her birthday in a nursing home while fighting back the hallucinations brought on by her condition.

These are stories rich in the essential detail of human life, full of little triumphs and tragedies, by a major new literary talent.

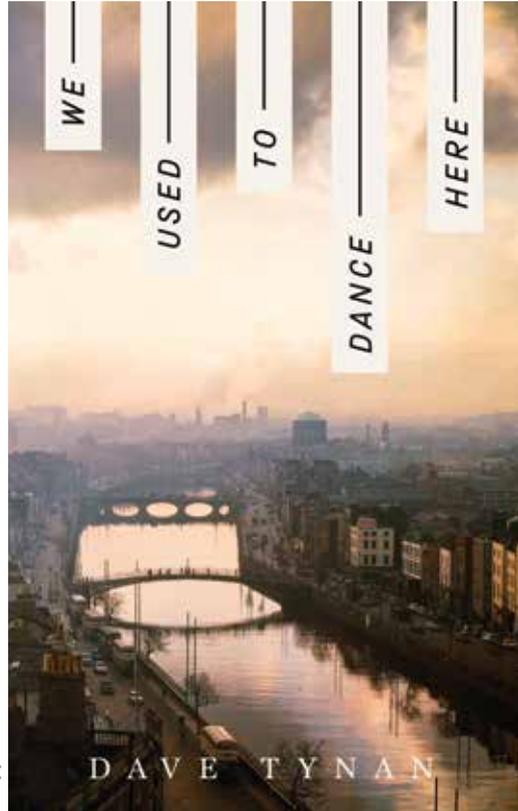
Shane Tivenan won the John McGahern Award in 2024 and the RTÉ Francis MacManus Award in 2020. His fiction has appeared in *The Stinging Fly* and *The London Magazine* and has been broadcast on RTÉ Radio 1.

Contact for rights negotiations:

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 The Lilliput Press

Dave Tynan

We Used to Dance Here



We Used to Dance Here is a portrait of both Dublin and Dubliners in flux, exploring life on the margins, toxic masculinity and frustrated ambitions. With dog tracks, late-night radio talk shows, pubs, messy break-ups, industrial accidents and the reality of housing precarity, these stories show a darker, edgier side to Dublin and they do so in brilliant, crackling prose.

This is a taut, humane and unflinching collection, from a remarkable new writing talent.

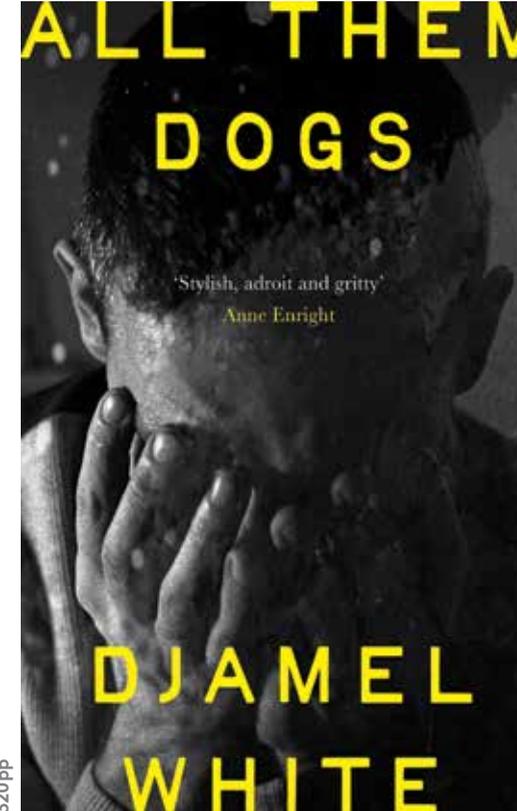
Dave Tynan is the director of numerous award-winning short films and one feature. His stories have been published in *The Stinging Fly* and *Winter Papers*. *We Used to Dance Here* is his first book.

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RCW Literary Agency

Djamel White

All Them Dogs



Things are different since Tony Ward landed back in town.

The West Dublin gangland has changed. After five years, Tony is keen to reinstate himself, and when the opportunity arises to work with Darren 'Flute' Walsh, top enforcer of notorious crime boss Angus Lavelle, it feels like a no-brainer.

Biting off more than he can chew has never bothered Tony, but Flute is not the meek boy Tony remembers. With retribution for his past actions always close, the protection offered by Flute's standing in the gang is crucial. But how safe is Tony, really, when a mutual attraction starts to complicate matters?

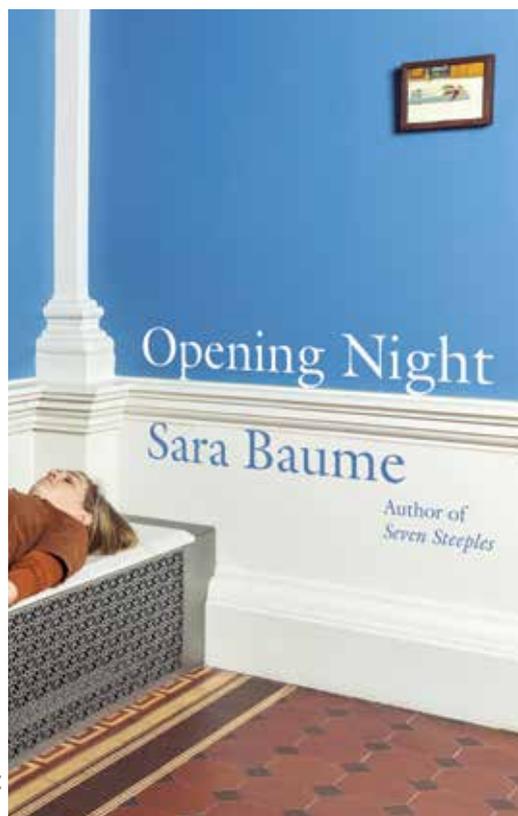
Djamel White holds an MFA from University College Dublin and is the recipient of a Literature Bursary Award and an Agility Award from the Arts Council of Ireland. *All Them Dogs* is his debut novel.

Contact for rights negotiations:

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C&W Agency

Sara Baume

Opening Night



Shortly after the imposed isolation of the pandemic, Sara Baume came across a painting at a pop-up exhibition in rural West Cork. It so intrigued her that she was inspired to make contact with the artist, Mollie Douthit.

Sara fell under the spell of Mollie's paintings and started to write about them, as well as her newfound friendship with the artist. This writing happened to coincide with a period of tumultuous change for Mollie, and soon Sara found herself contending with more complex ideas, about community and nationality, neurosis and mysticism, love and pain and the power of art.

Sara Baume is an artist and writer based in West Cork. She is the author of three novels and one work of non-fiction. She has won numerous awards, including the Rooney Prize and an Irish Book Award, has been shortlisted for others and was one of Granta's Best of Young British Novelists 2023.

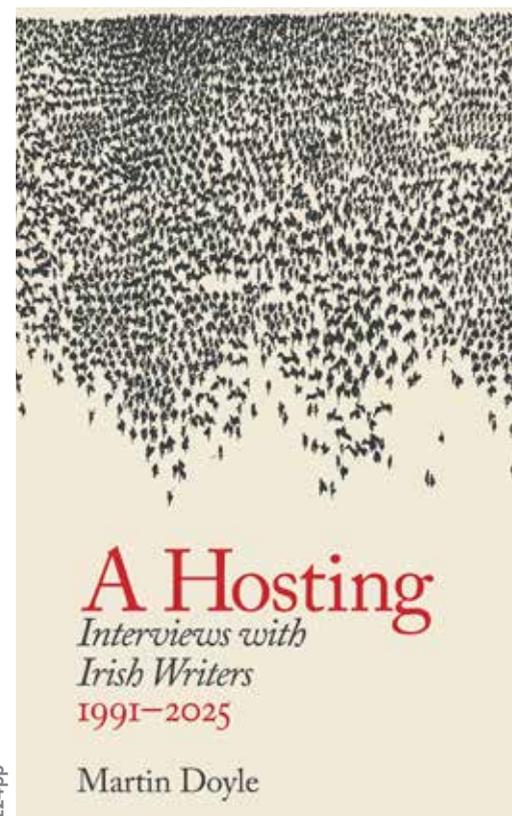
Contact for rights negotiations:

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256pp

Martin Doyle

A Hosting: Interviews with Writers: 1990–2026



Martin Doyle, Books Editor of *The Irish Times*, has been an arts journalist for almost thirty-five years and in that time has interviewed many of the most talented and successful Irish writers at different stages of their careers.

This selection of Doyle's journalism provides a privileged insight into the creative processes of many writers, while serving as an appetiser for some of the greatest works of modern Irish fiction and non-fiction, both prize-winning titles and some overlooked gems which deserve to be rediscovered.

Writers interviewed include Sally Rooney, Claire Keegan, Roddy Doyle, Colm Tóibín, Claire Kilroy, Donal Ryan, Alice Taylor and Paul Murray.

Martin Doyle is Books Editor of *The Irish Times*, where he has worked since 2007. He is the author of *Dirty Linen: The Troubles in My Own Place* (Merrion Press, 2023), which was shortlisted for Non-Fiction Book of the Year at the Irish Book Awards.

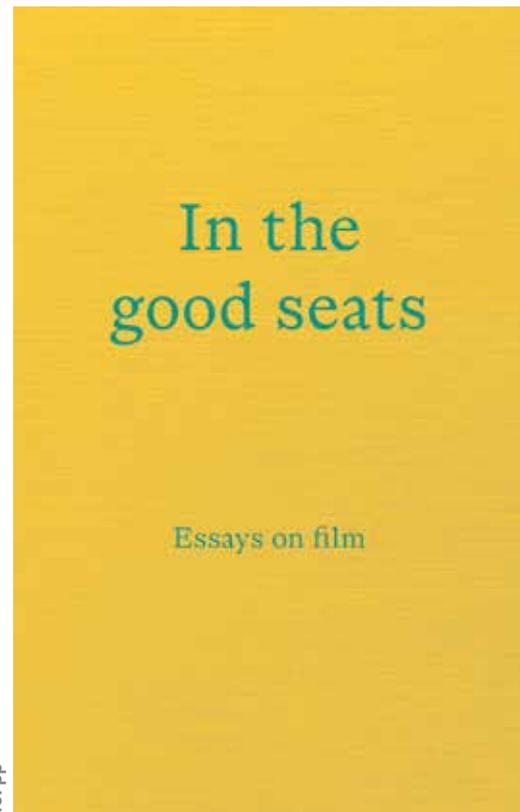
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224pp

Adrian Duncan, Niamh Dunphy and Nathan O'Donnell (eds)

In the Good Seats: Essays on Film



In the Good Seats features some of the most talented writers working today, setting their sights on what's so alluring and moving about film and cinema. A childhood movie encountered on the big screen, a favourite celluloid instant, an awkward first date; the threadbare seats, the click and whirr of the projector, the sense of scale expanding ...

Each essayist unearths those particularly breathless and unforgettable moments when their lives were touched by film. Like a projection of light beaming across a darkened hall, this collection pulls us closer to those flickers of magic that film ushers forth.

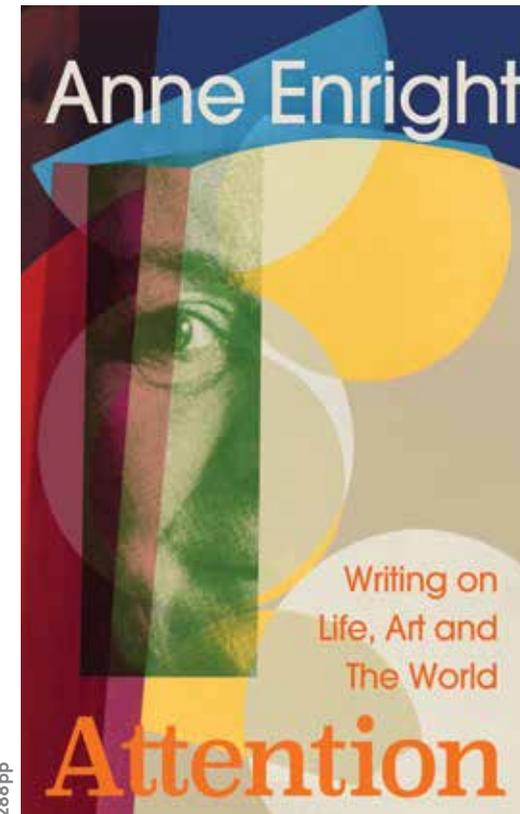
Contributors include Darran Anderson, Maggie Armstrong, Dodie Bellamy, Susannah Dickey, Maria Fusco, Francis Halsall, Daisy Lafarge, Michael Magee, Ian Maleney, Toye Oladinni, K Patrick, Devika Ponnambalam, Ali Smith and Cathy Sweeney.

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Anne Enright

Attention: Writing on Life, Art and the World



For thirty years Anne Enright has been paying attention: casting her lucid and distinctive gaze across the world, literature and her own life, and gifting us with her precise insights. These essays, collated from across Anne Enright's career, take us from Galway to Honduras, from keen-eyed memoir to urgent political writing.

Attention brings Anne Enright's wide-ranging cultural criticism, literary and autobiographical writing together for the first time, exploring the intersection between the personal and political, the subtleties of bodily autonomy, complex family dynamics and the challenges of intimacy that preoccupy her award-winning and critically acclaimed fiction.

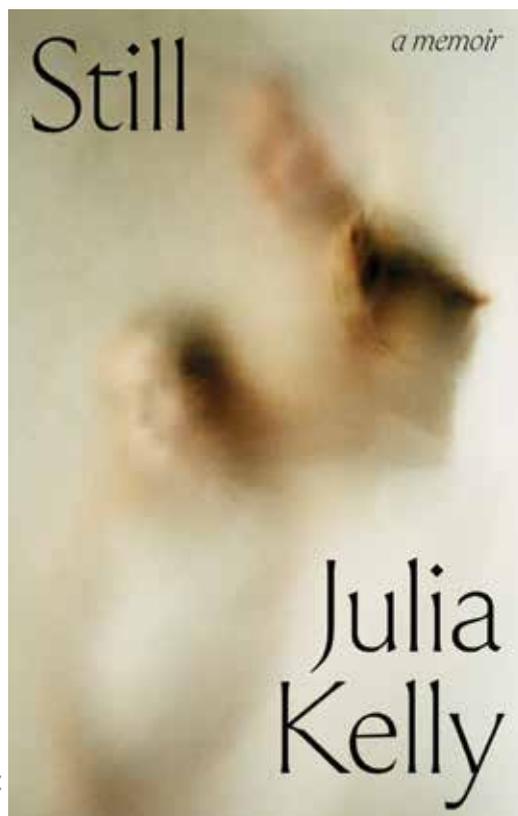
Anne Enright is the award-winning writer of two collections of stories, one book of non-fiction and seven novels. In 2018 she received the Irish PEN Award for Outstanding Contribution to Irish Literature. She is the recipient of the 2025 Windham-Campbell Prize for Fiction.

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Penguin Random House

Julia Kelly

Still: A Memoir



When Julia Kelly's mother dies in an accident on the Galapagos Islands, her daughter's world collapses. Mired in grief and guided by the post-mortem, Julia begins to piece together Delphine's body and tries to make sense of what has happened. Gradually, within the clinical descriptions of limbs and eyes, heart and toes, Julia finds solace, healing and recovery.

As Julia breathes life back into her mother's body with words, Delphine becomes finally still and fully present, for the first time in her seventy-two years, and simultaneously a vibrant, complex woman, whose endless capacity for love and adventure ultimately inspires and comforts her daughter.

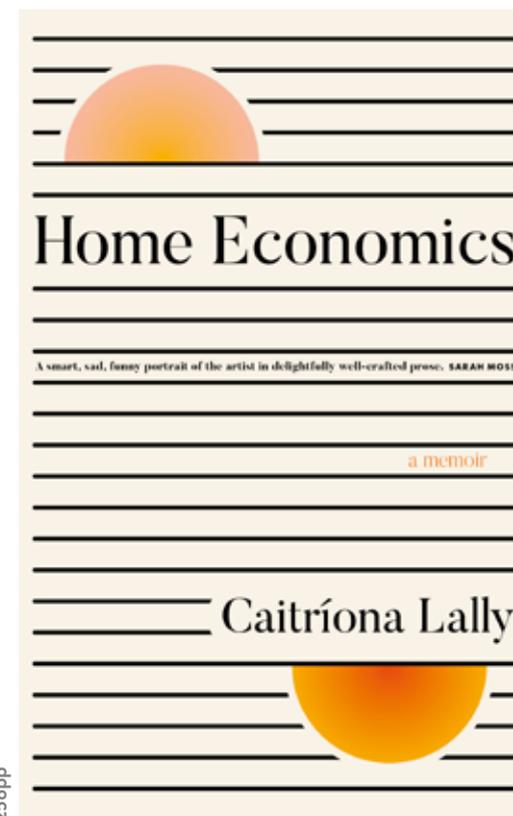
Julia Kelly's previous books include *Matchstick Man*, *The Playground* and *With My Lazy Eye*, which received an Irish Book Award and was nominated for a Kerry Group Irish Fiction Award and Irish Book of the Decade.

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Caitríona Lally

Home Economics



Home Economics is Caitríona Lally's humorous, thought-provoking memoir of working in the housekeeping department at Trinity College Dublin. Returning to cleaning while waiting for her debut novel, *Eggshells*, to be published marks the beginning of a negotiation between the practical and creative demands of a writer's life – an equation that is further complicated when she becomes pregnant.

In her first memoir, Lally brings humour and nuance to that space between the way the world sees the life of a writer and, indeed, a housekeeper, and the reality of her own juggling of all the different, complex parts of herself.

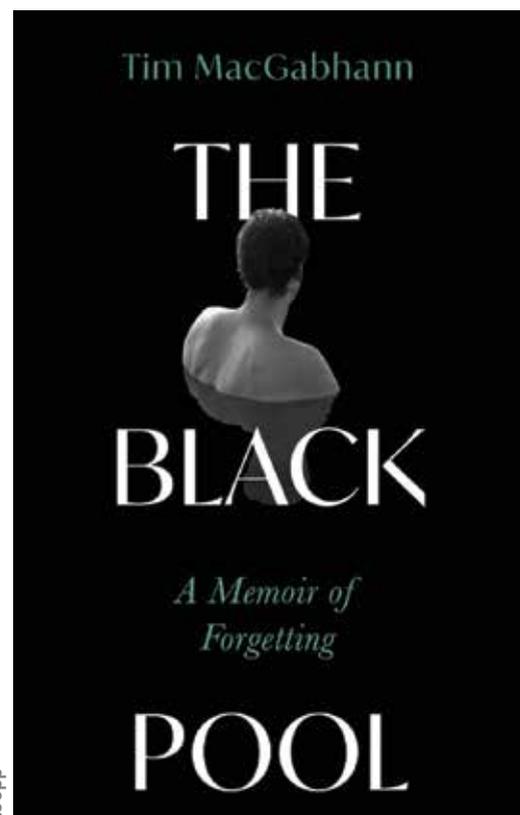
Caitríona Lally is the author of two novels and a recipient of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature and a Lannan Fellowship for Fiction. Caitríona continues to divide her time between family, writing and working in the housekeeping department.

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Tim MacGabhann

The Black Pool: A Memoir of Forgetting



Following an obsessive mind trying (and failing) to find relief, *The Black Pool* is a ride through violent, chaotic underworlds. Tracing the roots of an illness through the failures of youth and adolescence and childhood, it's about all the wrong places where addicts look for transcendence, from work, to relationships, to writing, to anger.

The Black Pool shows what happens when everything falls apart. It shows us rock bottom and the start of the journey to the surface. It's a memoir shot full of holes and shocking clarities. And towards the end, it achieves something like serenity, something like recovery.

Tim MacGabhann is the author of the novels *Call Him Mine* and *How to Be Nowhere*, the long poem *Rory Gallagher – Live! – from the Hotel of the Dead* and the memoir *The Black Pool*.

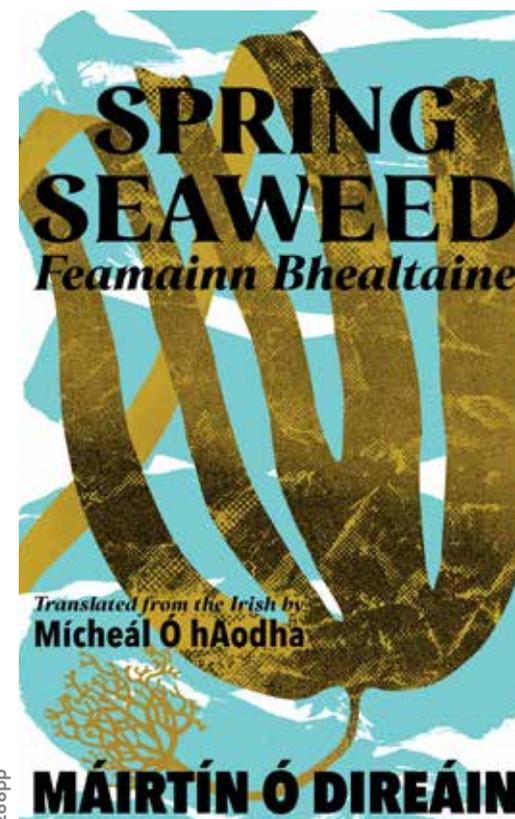
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Máirtín Ó Direáin translated from the Irish by Mícheál Ó hAodha

Spring Seaweed

(Feamainn Bhealtaine)



Mícheál Ó hAodha's translation faithfully captures Ó Direáin's mastery of Irish conversation and traditional *agallamh beirte*. Through lyrical prose, Ó Direáin depicts island life: keening women with voices of 'ancient and mysterious beauty', the 'wild, red flood of tide' and seaweed forming a 'multi-coloured quilt' beneath lark 'spiralling music'.

He interweaves memories of lost love and friendship with meditations on art and exile. The musical prose echoes centuries of Irish storytelling, exploring universal themes of belonging, memory and artistic creation, while detailed footnotes illuminate cultural references for contemporary readers.

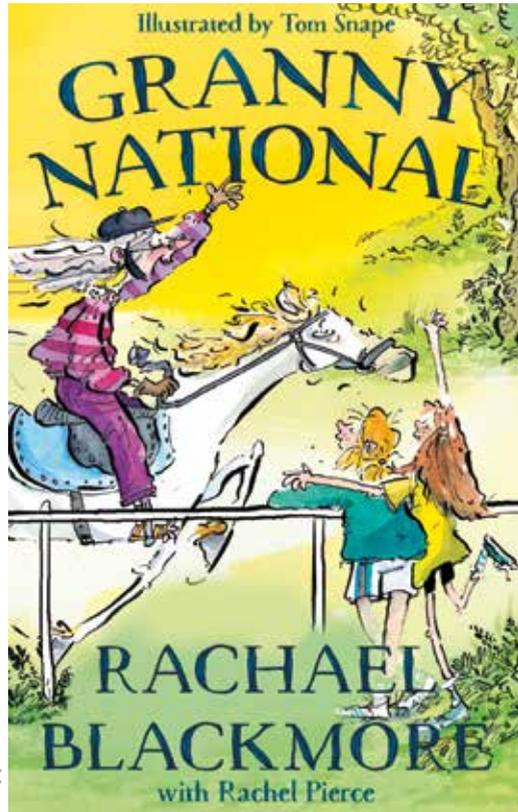
Born and raised on Inis Mór, the largest of the Aran Islands, Máirtín Ó Direáin grew up speaking Irish only. He is regarded as one of the major Irish-language poets of the twentieth century.

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Rachael Blackmore *Illustrated by Tom Snape*

Granny National



Easter holidays on the farm with Granny and Grandad are always great fun for Rachael, her cousin Tom and bestie Frankie. But this year, things are different – Rachael's cousin David is visiting from New York! What will he be like? Will he like the farm, the ponies, Bubbles and G-Pip, or will he ruin all the fun?

When Rachael has the best, most amazing, incredible idea to make Granny's lifelong dream of becoming a jockey come true, the gang must come together for Operation Granny National. But will they pull it off? There's bound to be *big* trouble ahead!

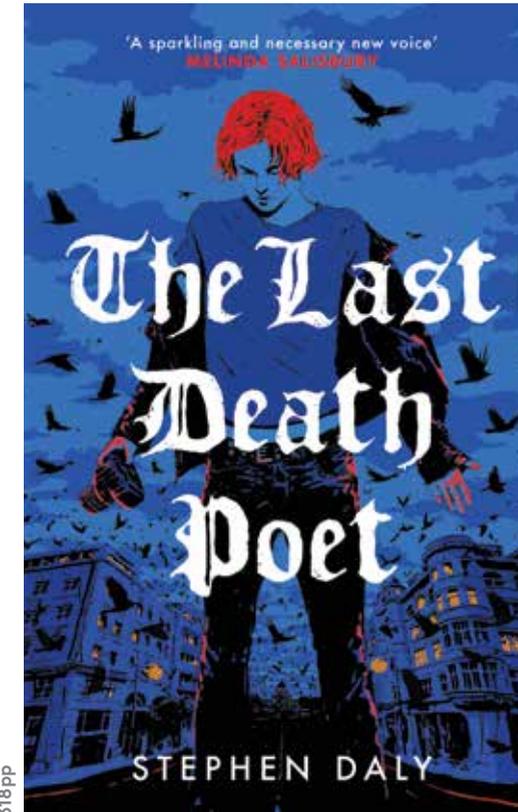
Rachael Blackmore MBE is an Irish jockey who competes in National Hunt and flat racing. In 2021, she became the first female jockey to win the Grand National in the 182-year history of the race.

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Stephen Daly

The Last Death Poet



When Michael is suddenly uprooted to his mum's hometown of Belfast, he isn't just hoping for a fresh start. He's determined to discover the truth about his dad's disappearance. Reunited with his extended family, Michael meets a boy who helps erase the painful memories of his ex. He is also plagued with terrifying visions of the city's troubled past. The only person he can confide in is his new friend, Meg.

As the visions become stronger, Michael begins to question whether past events are linked to his dad's disappearance. Can he use his powers to find his dad before he's gone forever?

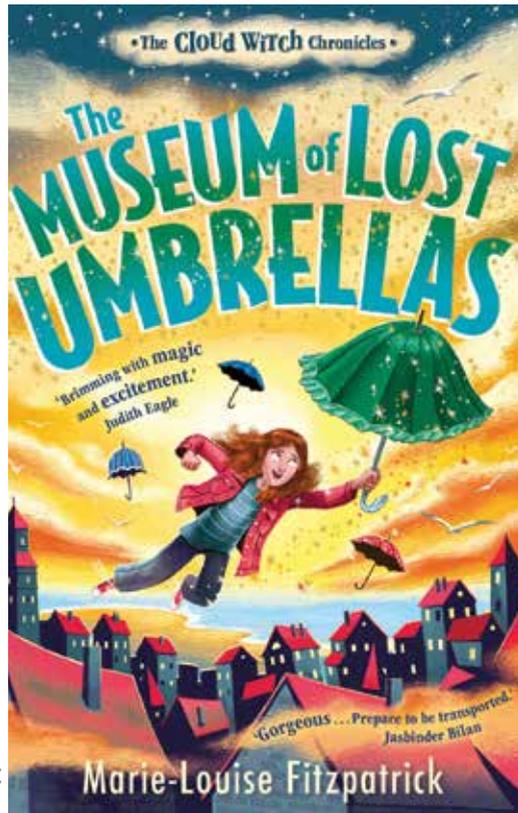
Stephen Daly is a queer writer from a working-class community. Following his degree in psychosocial studies and MA in creative writing, he is interested in writing about the social and cultural issues young people experience.

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Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick

The Cloud Witch Chronicles: The Museum of Lost Umbrellas



Marie-Louise Fitzpatrick is an award-winning Irish children's writer and illustrator. Her YA novels *On Midnight Beach* and *Sisters of the Moon* were shortlisted and longlisted for the Carnegie Medal, the latter also making it onto the Irish Book Awards shortlist.

When recently orphaned Dilly arrives on the remote island of Ollipest to live with her formidable great-aunt Florence, she's unsure what to expect from her new life – certainly not magic! Until now, the magic has been a well-kept secret. Then the Museum of Lost Umbrellas reopens after many years ... And when it attracts some unsavoury anti-magic outsiders, Dilly must unlock her ancestral powers to help keep the island safe.

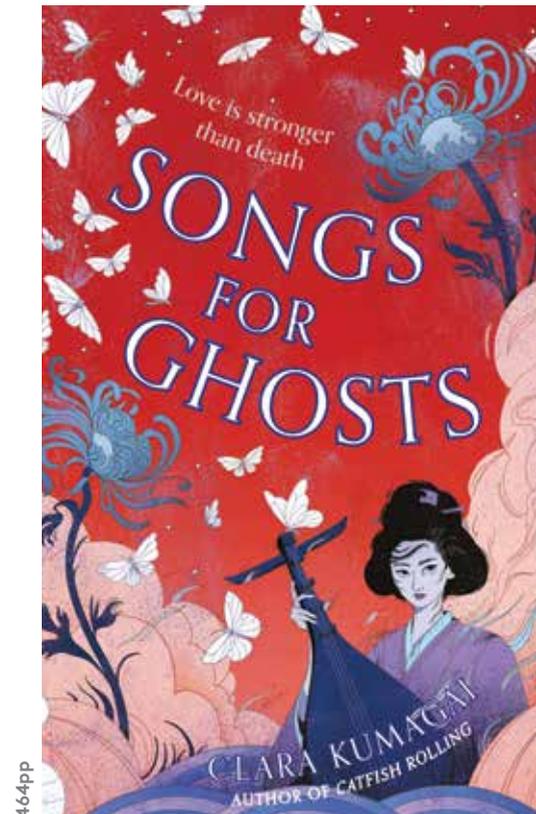
This show-stopping debut fantasy adventure series is a delightful piece of escapism. Perfect for readers of Anna James, Jessica Townsend and Michelle Harrison, this novel has all the ingredients of a runaway bestseller.

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Clara Kumagai

Songs for Ghosts



Clara Kumagai is from Ireland, Japan and Canada. *Catfish Rolling*, her debut novel, was a 2024 YOTO Carnegie Medal nominee and winner of the 2024 KPMG Children's Books Ireland Book of the Year. She lives and writes in Ireland.

Turn the page, strike a chord.

There are restless ghosts to be appeased ...

When Japanese American teenager Adam discovers a diary in his attic, he is enthralled by its account of a young Japanese woman's life. A hundred years separate them yet she, like Adam, is caught between cultures, relationships and heartbreak.

She also writes of the ghosts that have begun to seek her out, which Adam dismisses as fantasy – until he too begins to be haunted. It leads him to Nagasaki, trying to solve the mystery of the diary and his own identity.

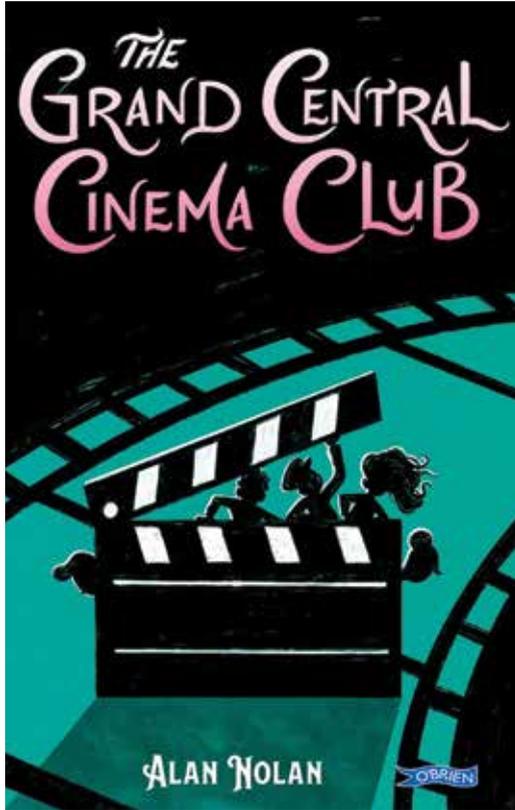
And the ghosts gather ...

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Alan Nolan

The Grand Central Cinema Club



Dublin, 1937. At the Grand Central Cinema on O'Connell Street, the children of Dublin watch their Hollywood heroes on the silver screen ...

When Sylvie meets Jem and his sister Juno, they bond over their love of movies. But an accident means Juno will miss the latest film at the Grand, so they hatch a plot to hijack the movie reel and do a top-secret private showing instead!

Meanwhile, a thief called The Magpie has his eye on the cinema too. Can Sylvie and Jem foil The Magpie's feather-brained plan in time to revive Jem's spirits?

Alan Nolan is the acclaimed author of numerous children's titles including the *Molly Malone* & *Bram Stoker* and *Sam Hannigan* series. He was the 2024 recipient of the Children's Books Ireland Award for his outstanding contribution to children's books.

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Gráinne O'Brien

Solo



Daisy can feel like a solo act at home. On the outside of her twin brothers' intense relationship, she leans on her parents, particularly her father, for support. As a passionate classical musician, she is not wildly popular at school, but she has one close friend and a life filled with musical performance.

As she starts her final year of school, dealing with a break-up, the betrayal of her ex-best friend and her dad's illness, she feels more alone than ever. Even music feels lost to her. But when she unexpectedly makes a new friend, Daisy begins to find her way back to herself.

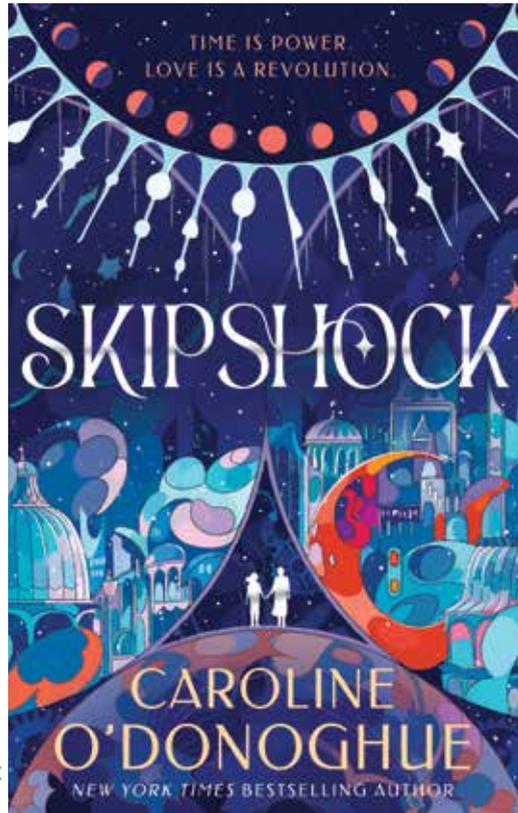
Gráinne O'Brien is a writer and bookseller. She writes for children and adults and loves weaving classic and traditional ideas through writing about the modern world. The O'Brien Press published her first book, *A Limerick Fairytale*, which debuted as a bestseller.

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Caroline O'Donoghue

Skipshock



Margo is on a train to a new boarding school when she slips into another dimension, passing from the height of Irish summer into the chill of an alien winter, from a twenty-four-hour day to one that begins and ends in just six hours.

From a stranger on the train – a travelling salesman by the name of Moon – she learns that New Davia is part of a world scarred by uprisings, travel bans and world sealings. Power is determined by time – who has it, who doesn't and who has the freedom to travel between time zones.

Caroline O'Donoghue is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling YA fantasy series *All Our Hidden Gifts* as well as several highly acclaimed novels for adults, including *The Rachel Incident*. She is the host of an award-winning podcast, *Sentimental Garbage*.

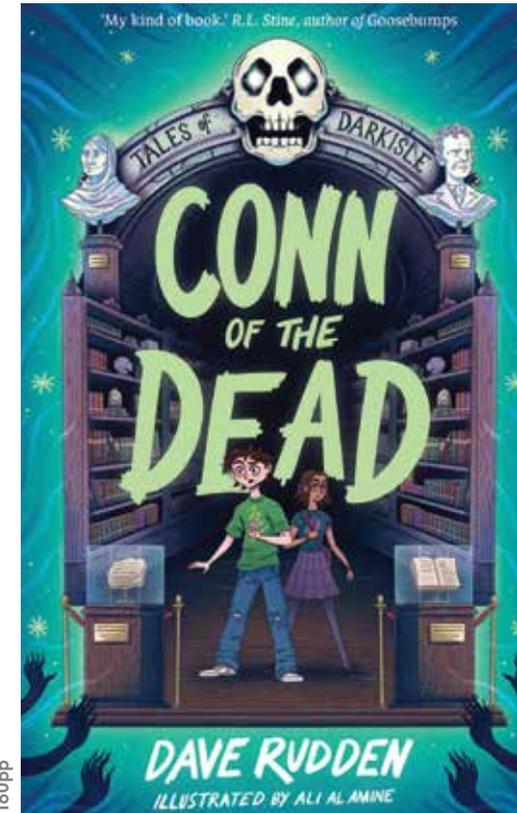
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Dave Rudden

Illustrated by Ali Al Amine

Conn of the Dead



After one misadventure too many, eleven-year-old serial miscreant Conn is sent home from school. His professor aunt Doireann picks him up and takes him to her office in UCD's National Folklore Collection on the way home.

Intrigued by a case marked 'hazardous', he opens it to reveal the ancient skull of the Abhartach, an undead sorcerer of terrible might. In doing so, Conn releases the monster, and a terrifying chase through the university ensues, as the bodiless sorcerer hunts him through every piece of technology it can find. Can Conn defeat the Abhartach before it regains its true power?

Dave Rudden is an Irish author and scriptwriter. He has been an ambassador for Ireland Reads since 2022 and is Writer in Residence for the *Kids Love Books* podcast on RTÉ and Artist in Residence at Dublin City University.

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