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FORTHCOMING
All the Way to Summer: Stories of Love and Longing
Fiona Kidman

A powerful collection of stories exploring love and longing from the award-winning author of This Mortal Boy.

Two mothers fight over who will wear a hat on their children’s wedding day. A needle is lost somewhere in a woman’s body. A writer waits with a suitcase for a man who never comes. This collection brings together Fiona Kidman’s finest and most scandalous stories, vividly depicting the joys of female desire and the pain of heartbreak, the thrill of illicit liaisons and the twists and turns of unconventional love.

Sometimes joyful, often devastating and always beautiful, All the Way to Summer is a searing account of love and loss from a pioneering feminist icon.

Praise for Fiona Kidman
‘Kidman, a poet, is a beautiful writer’ The Times
‘A masterful storyteller’ The Lady
‘A truly gifted writer’ Trip Fiction
‘Kidman’s prose is precise, detailed, lyric . . . The fluencies and hard-won command of a good writer bring out their own truth’ Irish Times
‘Magnetic . . . The ending of a life involves decisions made by many, Kidman reminds us, with opportunities for compassion that are regularly missed until it’s too late’ New York Times
‘Compelling’ Val McDermid

Dame Fiona Kidman, OBE, Légion d’honneur, is one of New Zealand’s foremost contemporary writers. A novelist, short story writer and poet, she is the author of more than 30 books. She has worked as a librarian, radio producer and critic, and as a scriptwriter for radio, television and film. She lives in Wellington.
Smart, witty and warm, The Tumbling Girl is a mesmerising debut and a must for fans of historical crime.

1876, Victorian London. The feisty Minnie Ward is scraping a living as a scriptwriter for the Variety Palace Music Hall. Her world is turned upside down when her best friend is found dead – and Minnie is convinced it’s murder. She teams up with dashing private detective Albert Easterbrook to find justice.

Together they navigate the streets of London, from its high-class gentlemen’s clubs to its murky underbelly. But as the bodies pile up, they must rely on one another if they’re going to track down the killer – and make it out alive . . .

‘Ms. Walsh does a splendid job depicting Minnie’s flea-bitten yet appealing theatrical world and Albert’s monied yet treacherous milieu’ Wall Street Journal

‘Neatly weds historical detail and quiet wit’ Sunday Times

‘This atmospheric debut historical mystery captures the world of music halls and the danger to women in Victorian London’ Library Journal (starred review)

‘Walsh’s diligent research pays off in spades here, and her rich and nuanced portrayal of the period will leave readers feeling like they’re on the soggy streets of London. Imogen Robertson readers will be eager for a sequel to this un-put-downable mystery’ Publishers Weekly (starred review)

‘A sparkling novel and a complete delight to read. The characters and world are wild, vivid and enchanting. A wry, warm and proper rib-tickling slice of dirty Victorian gothic . . . I can’t wait to see what Minnie and Albert are up to next’ Julia Crouch

Bridget Walsh was born in London to Irish immigrant parents. She studied English literature and was an English teacher for 23 years, before leaving the profession to pursue her writing. Bridget lives in Norwich with her husband, Micky, and her two dogs.
A tender and witty coming-of-age story about the power of literature to inspire new beginnings, peppered with a cast of quirky characters and a unique heroine.

Clara is a hairdresser at Cindy Coiffure, a sleepy French salon with an identity crisis. Her relationship is fizzling out. Her tanning-obsessed boss Madame Habib worships Jacques Chirac and talks longingly of her days in Paris. The highlight of the week was when the dishy technician came to repair the display cabinet. And now Madame Lévy-Leroyer wants to go blonde. Clara can’t help but wonder if there’s more to life . . .

Everything changes when a customer leaves behind the first volume of *In Search of Lost Time* by Marcel Proust. As Clara reads, she discovers a whole new world, leading her to strike up an unexpected friendship. And slowly but surely, she will work out who she wants to be.

‘Full of sensitivity, charm and intelligence. Brilliant’ *Antoine Laurain*

‘A sumptuous homage to reading in which the writer deftly depicts provincial life with humour and affection’ *Le Parisien*

‘An enchanting, thoroughly human story about the power of literature’ *L’Obs*

‘A book that will do you the world of good’ *Livres Hebdo*

**Stéphane Carlier** was born in 1971 in Argenteuil, France. *Clara Reads Proust* is his eighth novel and the first to be translated into English.

**Polly Mackintosh** is an editor and a translator from French. She has translated the work of Alain Ducasse, Antoine Laurain, Serge Joncour and early French feminist Marie-Louise Gagneur. She currently lives in London.
The Innocents
Bridget Walsh
A Variety Palace Mystery

In the hotly anticipated follow-up to The Tumbling Girl, Minnie and Albert take on a new crime-solving quest in the world of a Victorian music hall.

The Variety Palace Music Hall is in trouble, due in no small part to a gruesome spate of murders that unfolded around it a few months previously.

Between writing, managing the music hall and trying to dissuade her boss from installing a water tank in the building, Minnie Ward has her hands full. Her complicated relationship with detective Albert Easterbrook doesn’t even bear thinking about.

But when a performer’s brother mysteriously goes missing, Minnie and Albert are thrown together once more. Then another body is found dead in a trunk, and a strange connection starts to emerge.

The crimes will propel the unlikely duo into the shady world of illegal gambling, dog fighting and monkey kidnappings as they trace things back to a tragedy that took place fourteen years ago, leaving 183 children dead. And given that the incident touched so many people’s lives, everyone is a suspect . . .

Praise for Bridget Walsh
‘Beautifully evocative, deftly plotted and with engaging characters, it was a page-turner from beginning to end’ Sheila O’Flanagan
‘Brilliant . . . Beautifully written . . . keeps you guessing till the end’ A. J. West
‘An accomplished crime murder mystery, with an addictively gritty plot and truly remarkable cast of characters . . . deliciously dark and compelling’ Essie Fox

Bridget Walsh was born in London to Irish immigrant parents. She studied English literature and was an English teacher for 23 years, before leaving the profession to pursue her writing. Bridget lives in Norwich with her husband, Micky, and her two dogs.
Part swashbuckling adventure on the high seas and part modern-day love story set in the heart of Paris, An Astronomer in Love is an enchanting tale of destiny and the power of love from best-selling author Antoine Laurain.

In 1760, Guillaume le Gentil, real-life astronomer to King Louis XV, sets out for the oceans of India to document the transit of Venus. The weather is turbulent, the seas are rough and his quest may be more complicated than initially thought.

250 years later, estate agent Xavier Lemercier chances upon Guillaume’s telescope in a property he’s sold. As he looks out across the rooftops of Paris, he discovers an intriguing woman with a zebra in her apartment.

Then the woman walks through the doors of his office, and his life changes forever . . .

‘Cinematic and enchanting’ Foreword Reviews (starred)

‘Perfect for the poolside or sitting outside a café with a pastis and olives – and bound to give you just the same cheering lift’ The Times

‘Simply beautiful. An enchanting dual-timeline story of a love written in the stars’ Fiona Valpy

‘A perfect treasure waiting to be discovered by adventurous readers. An Astronomer in Love is a witty, lovely, surprising triumph’ William Ryan

Antoine Laurain is the award-winning author of ten novels including The Red Notebook and The President’s Hat. His books have been translated into 25 languages and sold more than 200,000 copies in English. He lives in Paris, France.

Louise Rogers Lalaurie is a translator from the French and the author of Matisse: The Books. Megan Jones is a translator and lives in London.
One Hour of Fervour
Muriel Barbery
Translated by Alison Anderson

From the bestselling author of The Elegance of the Hedgehog comes a spellbinding story of one man’s promise to keep a secret that may hold him from the greatest joy possible.

Haru, a successful Japanese art dealer, appreciates beauty, harmony, balance, and good sake. A few months after an affair with Maud, a mysterious Frenchwoman, he learns that she is pregnant with his child. But she issues him a heartbreaking warning: if he ever tries to see her or the child, she will kill herself.

Quietly devastated, Haru decides to respect Maud’s wishes. And Rose grows up on the other side of the world, without ever knowing her father. As he visits his beloved temples in Kyoto and travels back to the snowy mountains of his childhood, Haru seeks a way to converse with his daughter. Is it too late to change things?

In her poetically precise prose, Muriel Barbery explores the love of a father who is forced to live in the shadows, capturing the darkness that can both push people apart and draw them closer.

LONGLISTED FOR THE PRIX GONCOURT 2022

‘A eulogy to observation and patience’ La Croix

‘Magical, infused with poetry . . . A touching story about life’s trials, encounters, and friendships’ Mademoiselle Lit

‘If Muriel Barbery’s sentences were stones, her books would be cathedrals . . . Moving and hopeful, One Hour of Fervour is a splendid novel about our relationship to others’ Le Figaro Littéraire

Muriel Barbery is the author of six previous novels, including the IMPAC-shortlisted, multimillion-copy bestseller The Elegance of the Hedgehog. Published in France in 2006 and in the UK in 2008, the novel was translated in 44 countries, selling more than 10 million copies worldwide. Barbery has lived in Kyoto, Amsterdam and Paris and now lives in the French countryside.

Alison Anderson is an author and the translator of around 100 books from French, including Muriel Barbery’s previous novels and works by Amélie Nothomb and J. M. G. Le Clézio.
She’s a Killer
Kirsten McDougall

Eleanor Oliphant meets Killing Eve in this darkly funny and gloriously unhinged New Zealand sensation, longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award 2023.

ALICE: 30-something, IQ of 159 (almost a genius), only communicates with her mother in Morse code. Her imaginary friend is back.

ERIKA: 15, daughter of hot ‘wealthugee’ who loves Russian literature, genuine genius, killer eyeliner and killer instincts.

The climate is in crisis and wealthy immigrants are flocking to New Zealand for shelter, stealing land, driving up food prices and taking over. But Alice has far more important things to worry about: hating her best friend’s husband, getting free wine and quiet-quitting her dull day job.

Until she meets Erika.

Now, Alice is about to find herself drawn into action of the most radical – and dangerous – kind. Just what is a slacker to do?

‘Funny, thought-provoking, bold and unusual . . . McDougall’s humour, pointed social observations and shocking plot twists combine with moving insights on self-knowledge, family and friendship’ The Independent

‘Darkly funny, scarily prescient’ Red Magazine, 10 Best Books of October

‘Alarmingly prescient . . . tightly-written . . . [She’s a Killer] comes into its own as the pace of the action increases, and makes for a propelling finale’ The Telegraph

‘Smart, assured, and extremely funny’ Eleanor Catton

Kirsten McDougall is a novelist and short story writer. Her 2017 work Tess was longlisted for the Ockham NZ Book Awards and shortlisted for the Ngaio Marsh Award. She’s a Killer was longlisted for the 2023 Dublin Literary Award and Ockham NZ Book Awards 2022. Kirsten works in communications for a union and lives in Wellington, New Zealand.
With signature style and charming whimsy, Antoine Laurain serves up a dose of suspense, intrigue and neighbourly curiosity in a novel that is Rear Window with a Parisian heart.

Nathalia, a young photographer, is seeing a therapist. Having accidentally photographed a murder, she finds that she can no longer do her job.

Instead, Doctor Faber suggests that she write about the people she observes in the building opposite. Starting with the actor turned YouTube life coach on the ground floor and going all the way up to the fifth floor, Nathalia creates vivid accounts of the lives of each of her neighbours. But are her stories real or imaginary?

With each session, the doctor and his mysterious patient will get closer to the truth. And as they approach the final floor of the building, Nathalia’s stories take a truly deadly turn . . .

Praise for Antoine Laurain
‘Parisian perfection’ HM The Queen
‘The very quintessence of French romance’ The Times
‘Like finding a gem among the bric-a-brac in a local brocante’ The Telegraph
‘A master storyteller’ Huffington Post
‘A hymn to la vie Parisienne’ The Guardian
‘Soaked in Parisian atmosphere . . . will have you rushing to the Eurostar post-haste’ Daily Mail

Antoine Laurain is the award-winning author of ten novels including The Red Notebook and The President’s Hat. His books have been translated into 25 languages and sold more than 200,000 copies in English. He lives in Paris, France.

Louise Rogers Lalaurie is a translator from the French and the author of Matisse: The Books.
Second Best
David Foenkinos
Translated by Megan Jones

A magical imagining of the fate of a fictional boy whose life is shaped forever when he loses out on the role of Harry Potter.

It’s 1999. Martin Hill is ten years old, crazy about Arsenal and has a minor crush on a girl named Betty. Then he makes it to the final two in the casting for *Harry Potter and the Philosopher’s Stone*.

In the end, the other boy is picked for the role of a lifetime. A devastated Martin tries to move on with his life. But how can he escape his failure, especially when it’s the most famous film series in the world?

Foenkinos’s smash-hit Second Best is a playful, poignant story about fate, loss and how the lives we wish we’d led might not be all they’re cracked up to be . . .

‘A brilliant concept for a novel’ *The Times*

‘Foenkinos has had a gem of an idea... a playful blend of fact and fiction’ *The Telegraph*

‘It’s about time British readers discovered the wit and originality of David Foenkinos, and this exquisitely bittersweet comedy of life’s missed opportunities is the perfect place to start’

Jonathan Coe

‘It doesn’t get more captivating than this’ *Elle France*

David Foenkinos is the author of 18 novels which have been translated into more than 40 languages. His novel *Charlotte* won both the Prix Renaudot and the Prix Goncourt des lycéens in 2014, and *The Mystery of Henri Pick* (2020) was a Guardian Book of the Summer. *The Martins* was published by Gallic Books in June 2022 and was an Independent Book of the Month.

Megan Jones is a translator and lives in London.
Teeming with unforgettable characters and illuminated by Carey’s trademark illustrations, *Edith Holler* is the entrancing story of one young woman’s struggle to escape her family’s control and craft her own creative destiny.

Norfolk, 1901.

England’s beloved queen has died, and her son has finally taken the throne. In Norwich, the bright young Edith Holler spends her days among the eccentric denizens of the Holler Theatre, warned by her domineering father that the playhouse will literally tumble down if she should ever leave.

Fascinated by tales of the city she knows only from afar, she decides to write a play of her own about Mawther Meg, a monstrous figure said to have used the blood of countless children to make the local delicacy, Beetle Spread. But when her father suddenly announces his engagement to a peculiar woman named Margaret Unthank, Edith scrambles to protect her father, the theatre, and her play – the one thing that’s truly hers – from the newcomer’s sinister designs.

‘Singular – a dark delight from beginning to end’ *Erika Swyler*

‘Brilliant and shiver-inducing . . . a delightfully macabre achievement, equal parts Charles Dickens and Sweeney Todd’ *Helene Wecker*

‘A raucous romp . . . A wonderfully strange and quirky tale about the power of penning and performing tales’ *Kirkus Reviews*

‘Carey draws on fairy tales and Shakespeare for a dazzling bildungsroman . . . This affirms the author’s standing as a major literary talent’ *Publishers Weekly (starred review)*
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