



MYRMIDON

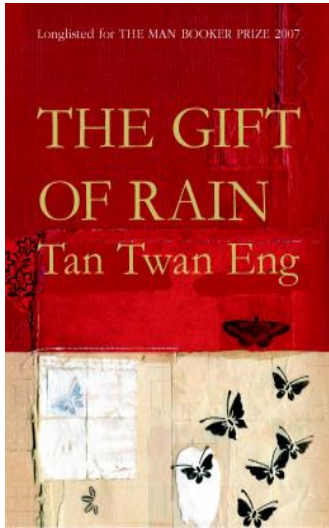
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Myrmidon Titles

- The Gift of Rain by Tan Twan Eng
- Bulletproof Suzy by Ian Brotherhood
- Mrs Lincoln by Janis Cooke Newman
- The Painted Messiah by Craig Smith
- The Blood Lance by Craig Smith
- Cold Rain by Craig Smith
- Thirteen by Sebastian Beaumont
- The Juggler by Sebastian Beaumont
- Gladiatrix by Russell Whitfield
- Roma Victrix by Russell Whitfield - *NEW*
- I Married a Pirate by Samantha David
- The Spy Who Came for Christmas by David Morrell
- Space Captain Smith by Toby Frost
- God Emperor of Didcot by Toby Frost
- Wrath of the Lemming Men by Toby Frost
- Once, Two Islands by Dawn Garisch
- Piper by Helen McCabe
- Taming Poison Dragons by Tim Murgatroyd
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- The Stone Gallows by C. David Ingram
- Hope Against Hope by Sally Zigmond
- The de Lacy Inheritance by Elizabeth Ashworth
- Sharaf by Raj Kumar



The Gift of Rain Tan Twan Eng

Hardback: 9781905802048

Trade Paperback: 9781905802050

Paperback: 9781905802142

Rights held:
Europe & Commonwealth
(ex Canada) in English

Rights sold:
Australian & N Z

Description:

The Gift of Rain is a sumptuous epic set in Penang during the Japanese occupation of Malaya. With masterful and gorgeous narrative, replete with exotic and captivating images, sounds and aromas – of rain swept beaches, remote mountain temples, pungent spice warehouses, opulent colonial ballrooms and fetid rainforests – Tan Twan Eng tells a story of love, barbaric cruelty, betrayal and steadfast courage.

A powerful first novel about a tumultuous and almost forgotten period of history. *The Times Literary Supplement*

A remarkable book... About war, friendship, memory and discipline. *Ian McMillan, The Verb, BBC Radio 3*

Haunting and highly evocative... A deeply moving tale. *Cape Times*

An engrossing read, a hugely enjoyable emotional voyage. *John McRae, author of The Routledge Guide to Modern Writing*

A wonderful book, full of life... Should be required reading for many Britons who still, sixty years and more after the fact, fail to understand either the Japanese or the British experience of World War II in Malaya. *Michael Ashkenazi*

A stunning debut which heralds the author's arrival as a major literary talent. *The Southern Reporter*

A masterful achievement. *The Age, Melbourne*

About the author:

Tan Twan Eng was born in Penang, but lived in various places in Malaysia as a child. He studied law through the University of London, and later worked as an advocate and solicitor in one of Kuala Lumpur's most reputable law firms. He also has a first-dan ranking in aikido and is a strong proponent for the conservation of buildings. He has spent the last year travelling around South Africa, and currently lives in Cape Town where he is working on his second book.



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Bulletproof Suzy **Ian Brotherhood**

Hardback: 9781905802005

Trade Paperback: 9781905802012

Rights held:

Worldwide

Description:

The story is set in a near future Britain in the direst quarter of an unnamed city. This is a landscape of tower blocks of huge street lamps that turn the world a shade of greyish orange – beneath which all human activity seems suspect – of winding paths and foot bridges over never quiet motorways.

A government initiative to deal with increasing opposition to unpopular council tax rises contracts bands of citizen volunteers to collect payment. Francine O'Brallahan aka Bulletproof Suzy, a highly intelligent though somewhat violent member of the urban underclass, recruits three other young females, her 'little ladies', to exploit the opportunity to earn enough cash to find a better life.

Suzy's middle class, politically correct friend, Louise disapproves of the venture and their friendship is broken. Louise is found brutally murdered outside Suzy's tower block not long afterwards. Suzy and her crew set about finding the killer to exact retribution in the only way that they know, but there are two deadly and ominous complications: as far as the city police are concerned, Suzy herself remains the prime suspect and there appears to be damning video evidence to back up their theory; there is a menacing new gang infiltrating Suzy's neighbourhood – they're numerous, sophisticated and armed to the teeth... and they're after Suzy's blood. Ian Brotherhood's debut novel seems destined to become a modern cult classic.

Suzy's narrative is pacy, fresh and idiosyncratic and her character is an astonishing creation-perhaps the first significant female anti-hero of the 21st century.

This is a short sharp left hook of a book, and it hits the spot.

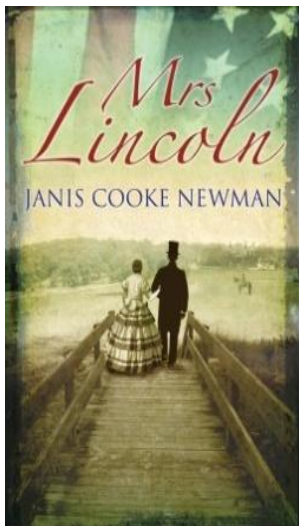
About the author:

Born 1963, Glasgow, grainy childhood, angstish teen, bevvvy, Art School, bevvvy, dole, bevvvy, cuckolded, Tokyo, Japanese bevvvy, back to Glasgow, dole, bevvvy, shifted to Ayrshire with Yvonne – Aidan and Joy arrive. Sleeves up...

Cult fiction Tales of The Great Unwashed published in Variant magazine, Scottish Arts Council bursary, shortlisted for Tartan Shorts Award, winner Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship, Unwashed stories produced/broadcast by Resonance FM London.



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Mrs Lincoln

Janis Cooke Newman

Hardback: 9781905802104

Export TPB: 9781905802111

Paperback: 9781905802210

Rights held:

UK & Commonwealth in English

Description:

(May 20th)

Mrs Mary Lincoln admitted today – from Chicago – Age 56 – Widow of ex-President Lincoln – declared insane by the Cook County Court May 19th – 1875. Patient Progress Reports for Bellevue Place Sanatorium.

Incarcerated in an insane asylum after committal proceedings instigated by her own son, Mary Lincoln resolves to tell her own story in order to preserve and to prove her own sanity.

Mary Todd Lincoln the original 'First Lady' is a figure of some notoriety in the USA: British readers introduced to her for the first time will encounter a fascinating, complex and captivating heroine of history.

About the author:

Janis Cooke Newman lives in San Francisco, where she teaches classes in creative writing. While Mrs Lincoln is her first novel, Newman is also the author of The Russian Word for Snow, a memoir about adopting her son from a Moscow orphanage. Her writing has appeared in numerous anthologies, including Secret Lives of Lawfully Wedded Wives and four Travelers' Tales editions. Newman's travel writing has appeared in a variety of newspapers and magazines, including the LA Times, San Francisco Chronicle, and Backpacker. She is also co-founder of [Line by Line](#), a literary editing service.



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The Painted Messiah **Craig Smith**

Hardback: 9781905802067

Trade Paperback: 9781905802074

Paperback: 9781905802159

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights sold:
Italian - Newton Compton,
French - Lattes, Greek - Livanis,
Turkish - Dogan V Egmont,
Spanish - Algaida Editores,
Russian - Eksmo,
Czech - Alpress, Polish - Bullet Books,
German - Kinaur

Description:

Kate Kenyon, the wealthy young widow of an English aristocrat, has an addiction to mortal risk. She feeds it by engaging in the armed robbery of priceless artefacts with her accomplice and lover Ethan Brand. Their latest target is a priceless 'Byzantine' icon hidden in the tower of a chateau by Lake Lucerne. So far they have never had to shoot anyone. This time will be different.

Thomas Malloy is a retired CIA man looking for his first lucrative freelance assignment. His chance comes with a presidential favour to a rich but ailing televangelist. Malloy's task seems simple enough: pick up the preacher's newly acquired painting from a Zurich bank and get it to the airport. But, once in Switzerland, Malloy's old friend, the enigmatic Contessa Claudia de Medici tries to warn him off his mission.

Sir Julian Corbeau is an international criminal holed up in Switzerland to avoid US extradition proceedings. He is also the sadistic head of the modern Knights Templar. He had the painting and now he desperately wants it back as well as to wreak a bloody revenge upon those who stole it.

As the contenders vie for possession the bullets fly, the body count rises and the secrets of the portrait gradually unfold. We learn how and why it came to be painted and how an object depicting the Light of the World could exert such a baleful and malignant influence on those who possess it.

About the author:

*Craig Smith lives with his wife Martha in Lucerne, Switzerland. His first novel, published in the UK and Australia as *Silent She Sleeps* and subsequently in the States as *The Whisper of Leaves*, won the bronze medal in the mystery category of *ForeWord Magazine's Book of the Year Awards*. Smith holds a doctorate of philosophy from the University of Southern Illinois. His hobbies include reading, mountain hiking, travel, and the occasional game of bridge. His sequel to *The Painted Messiah* entitled *The Blood Lance* will be released by Myrmidon early in the autumn.*



MYRMIDON



Thirteen Sebastian Beaumont

Hardback: 9781905802029

Trade Paperback: 9781905802036

Paperback: 9781905802128

Rights held:

Worldwide

Rights sold:

French – Timee, Spanish – IMC,

Korean – BC Agency, Italian - Fanucci

Description:

Thirteen is the story of Stephen Bardot, a taxi driver working on the night shift in Brighton. He works such long shifts that he is often driving while exhausted, and it is then that he starts to experience major alterations to his perception of reality. People start to take lifts in his cab who know things they shouldn't, and who ultimately may not even be real, although the question of what constitutes reality forms one of the basic themes of the novel.

He regularly gives lifts to Valerie – beautiful, haunting, but terminal – from 13 Wish Road to her 'positive thinking classes' at the Cornerstone Community Centre on Palmeira Square. When he is no longer asked to collect her, he fears that she is dead, and queries this with Sal, one of the night operators. Her response turns Stephen's world upside down.

'But Stephen,' she tells him, 'there is no such address. Wish Road doesn't have a number thirteen.' She's right. Wish Road's odd numbers are 7, 9, 11, 11a, 15, 17... And number 11a looks totally different from the house he thinks of as number Thirteen. So where has he been collecting Valerie from all this time? A house that doesn't exist?

As time passes, the world gets weirder. People appear (and disappear) who know far too much about Stephen and his past, and who lure him further and further into the twilight world of Thirteen. But if he asks any questions, he gets hurt. Ultimately, he decides, for the sake of both his safety and his sanity, he must walk away.

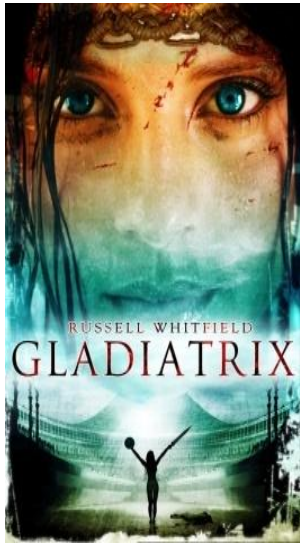
But Thirteen has no intention of letting him go...

About the author:

Sebastian Beaumont was born and raised in Scotland. He graduated from Manchester Metropolitan University with a degree in Creative Arts, in which he majored in Creative Writing. He now lives in Brighton where he works in private practice as a psychotherapeutic counsellor. He received an Arts Council Bursary to write Thirteen. His second tale of mystery and the human psyche, The Juggler will be published by Myrmidon in the 2009.



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Gladiatrix **Russell Whitfield**

Paperback: 9781905802098

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights sold:
USA & Canada – St Martin' Press,
Spanish – La Factoria, Russian - Eksmo,
Polish – Bullet Books, Serbian – Alnari,
Lithuanian – Noriu Books

Description:

Under the Flavian Emperors the Roman public's hunger for gladiatorial combat has never been greater. The Emperor Domitian's passion for novelty and variety in the arena has given rise to a very different kind of warrior: the Gladiatrix.

Lysandra, member of an ancient Spartan sect of warrior priestesses, is the sole survivor of a shipwreck off the coast of Asia Minor who finds herself the property of Lucius Balbus owner of the foremost Ludus for female gladiators in the Eastern Empire. Lysandra's Spartan pride refuses to accept her new status as a slave. Her deadly combat skills not only enable her to survive but win the adoration of the crowds, the respect of her Lanista, Balbus, and the admiration of Sextus Julius Frontinus, the provincial governor.

But Lysandra's hubris has stirred up the ethnic factions of the ludus attracting the enmity of the Dacian warrior, Sorina, Gladiatrix Prima and leader of the Barbarian faction as well as inciting the hatred of the sadistic Numidian trainer Nastasen. Meanwhile Frontinus and Balbus plan the ultimate combat spectacle for the visit of the emperor's emissary, Trajanus, that will involve Lysandra in her greatest and deadliest trial.

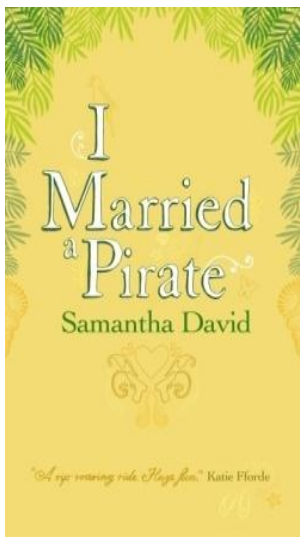
About the author:

Russell Whitfield lives in Surrey where he works as an internet content editor.

His lifelong interest in Ancient Greece and Rome has inspired him to write his first novel, [Gladiatrix](#).



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I Married a Pirate **Samantha David**

Paperback: 9781905802081

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights sold:
Italian - Newton Compton
Spanish - Laocoonte

Description:

When Camilla meets the Pirate surfing the Net she refuses to fall in love with him - but the Pirate doesn't give a yard-arm what she thinks. She's beautiful and he's determined. So he inveigles her into boarding his pirate ship in the Caribbean...

The Pirate is free-spirited, outrageous and irascible, and in Camilla - brave, resourceful and nutty - he has met his match. Together they inhabit a seductive, bohemian world of musicians and artists, buccaneers and eccentrics.

Laugh-aloud-funny, quirky, adventurous, romantic and filled with sunshine, I Married a Pirate is escapism at its best.

About the author:

Samantha David is a columnist and, she says, a bad journalist. "There's always the temptation to make it up" she confesses. "That's why I like writing books. So much easier."

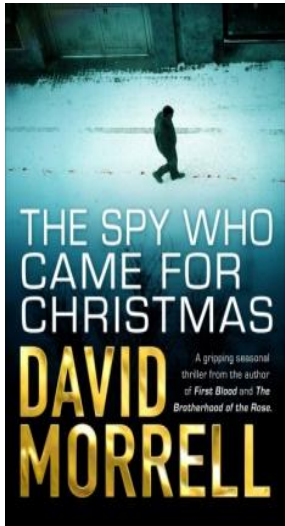
In spite of the temptations of the imagination, Samantha is the author of "The Complete Guide to Living in France", and writes articles for a variety of websites including BBC Online, Channel 4 and Guardian Abroad - and print titles including the FT and the Sunday Times.

She also writes regular columns about life in France for Living France and the Languedoc Page. You can see more examples of her journalism on her website www.samantha-david.com.

In her spare time she talks to dogs and plays the piano. She lives in France with her family and a menagerie of animals.



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The Spy Who Came for Christmas *David Morrell*

Paperback: 9781905802180

Rights held:
UK & Commonwealth in English

Description:

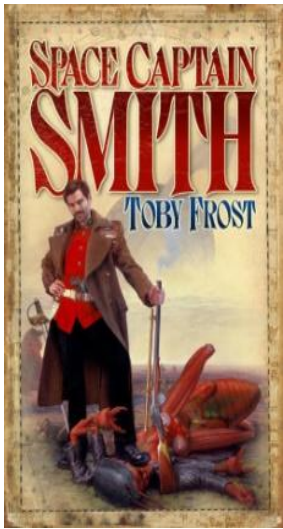
On Christmas Eve in snow-covered Santa Fe, New Mexico, tens of thousands of pedestrians stroll through the festively decorated streets. Among them is Paul Kagan, a spy on the run trying desperately to protect a special package; a baby who just might be the key to a lasting peace in the Middle East. He is pursued closely by three extremely dangerous men, members of the Russian mafia whom he has just betrayed. Attempting to elude his hunters, Kagan seeks refuge in a quiet house on the outskirts of the town. Once inside he discovers it is occupied by a woman and her 12-year-old son hiding from other evils and whom he has now put in mortal danger as his hunters manage to track him down. In the tense hours that follow, Kagan tries to calm the woman and the boy by telling them the spy's version of the traditional Nativity story as he prepares the house for the onslaught he knows to be coming...

About the author:

Canadian born David Morrell studied American Literature at Pennsylvania State University and later became Professor of English at the University of Iowa, a post he held for 16 years before giving up his tenure to write full time. He is the bestselling author of First Blood (the basis for the blockbuster Rambo movies) The Brotherhood of the Rose, The Fifth Profession and Extreme Denial among many others. Three-time recipient of the distinguished Bram Stoker Award, his books have been published around the world in 26 languages and there are 18 million of his books in print.



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Space Captain Smith *Toby Frost*

Paperback: 9781905802135

Rights held:
Worldwide

Description:

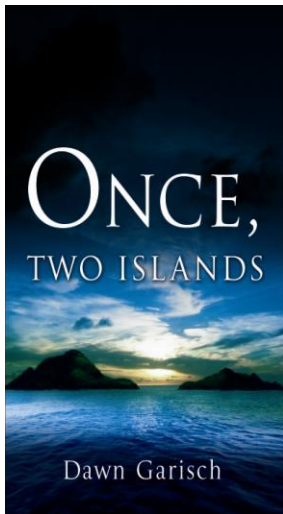
In the 25nd Century the British Space Empire faces the gathering menace of the evil ant-soldiers of the Ghast Empire hive, hell-bent on galactic domination and the extermination of all humanoid life. Isambard Smith is the square-jawed, courageous and somewhat asinine new commander of the clapped out and battle damaged light freighter John Pym, destined to take on the alien threat because nobody else is available. Together with his bold crew – a skull collecting alien lunatic, an android pilot who is actually a fugitive sex toy and a hamster called Gerald – he must collect new-age herbalist Rhianna Mitchell from the laid back New Francisco orbiter and bring her back to safety in the Empire. Straightforward enough – except the Ghasts want her too. If he is to get back to Blighty alive, Smith must defeat void sharks, a universe-weary android assassin and John Gilead, psychopathic naval officer from the fanatically religious Republic of New Eden before facing his greatest enemy: a ruthless alien warlord with a very large behind...

About the author:

Toby Frost studied law and was called to the Bar in 2001. Since then, he has worked as a private tutor, a court clerk and a legal advisor to the motor industry. Unable to become Great Britain's foremost space explorer, he is content just to write about space exploration instead. He has also produced film reviews for the book The DVD Stack and articles for Solander magazine. Space Captain Smith is his first novel.



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Once, Two Islands

Dawn Garisch

Hardback: 9781905802173
Export TPB : 9781905802166

Rights held:
UK, Australia, N America and
Rep of Ireland in English

Description:

On the larger of two islands in the southern Atlantic seas, a baby girl is born one dark winter's day, while the spin-drift wind sings strange songs around the gullies and cliffs. But Gulai's mother dies soon after giving birth and her father, Dr Orion Prosper, the only medical doctor on the island, blames himself.

For days afterwards he stays locked in his room, refusing to talk to anyone. But Gulai never stops crying and her aunt is forced to seek advice from Sophia, the island's other healer, in secret. Thus begins Gulai's life on Ergo Island – betraying her father a mere ten days after her birth and becoming inextricably linked to the traditions he is working to eradicate.

Left to make her own sense of the world around her, Gulai is curious to learn more about the 'witch' the islanders publicly revile but privately visit, the 'madness' which drove a young woman to her death and the secrets which lie at the heart of all their lives. Secrets which will change everything once revealed...

A beautifully written novel which evokes a strong sense of foreboding yet still catches the reader by surprise when hidden truths come to light.

About the author:

Dawn Garisch has published three youth novels and poetry, has had a short play and a short film produced, and has written for the newspaper and for television. Once, Two Islands is her first novel for adults. She runs workshops on creativity and is a practising medical doctor. Her fascination lies in relationships, process and conflict, and the power of images and the imagination. Garisch has two grown sons and lives in Cape Town.



MYRMIDON



The Blood Lance Craig Smith

Hardback: 9781905802227
Export TPB: 9781905802234
Paperback: 9781905802296

Rights held:
Worldwide (ex German translation
Rights)

Rights sold:
Italian - Newton Compton,
Russian - Eksmo, Polish - Bullet Books,

Description:

Kufstein, Austria, 1939

At the foot of a mountain known as The Wilder Kaiser lies the body of an SS officer, his neck broken but his face a picture of bliss and serenity. The dead man is known to history as Otto Rahn, Himmler's own archaeologist. Rahn's pursuit of the legendary Blood Lance of the Cathars has not only led to his own downfall but set in motion a tragic chain of events reaching far beyond the holocaust.

Switzerland 1997

Lord Robert Kenyon is a wealthy financier and a senior member of a humanitarian order calling themselves The Knights of the Holy Lance. Whilst climbing the North face of the Eiger with his new bride, he is attacked and murdered and his young wife Kate left for dead.

New York City 2008

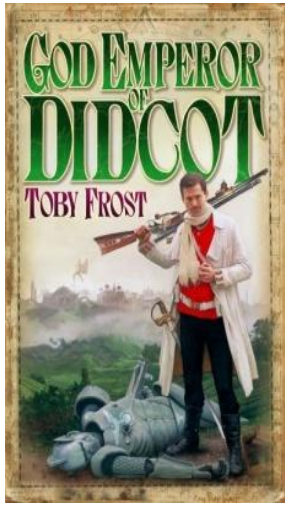
When billionaire Jack Farrell, long suspected of connections to European crime syndicates cuts loose after defrauding his own company, ex CIA agent Thomas Malloy is assigned to track him down. The trail leads to Germany and the Order of the Holy Lance. With his friends, former art thieves Kate and Ethan Brand, Malloy set out to unlock the secrets of the order: Malloy seeks his man; Kate must find the truth about what happened on the slopes of the Eiger eleven years before – and exact her vengeance. Their first step is to kidnap a corrupt lawyer, connected to the order, from his home in Hamburg. Things don't quite run to plan – and all hell breaks loose.

About the author:

Craig Smith lives with his wife Martha in Lucerne, Switzerland. His first novel, published in the UK and Australia as Silent She Sleeps and subsequently in the States as The Whisper of Leaves, won the bronze medal in the mystery category of ForeWord Magazine's Book of the Year Awards. Smith holds a doctorate of philosophy from the University of Southern Illinois. His hobbies include reading, mountain hiking, travel, the occasional game of bridge.



MYRMIDON



God Emperor of Didcot Toby Frost

Paperback: 9781905802241

Rights held:
Worldwide

Description:

Tea... a beverage brewed from the fermented dried leaves of the shrub Camellia sinensis and imbibed by all the great civilisations in the galaxy's history; a source of refreshment, stimulation and, above all else, of moral fibre - without which the British Space Empire must surely crumble to leave Earth at the mercy of its enemies. Sixty per cent of the Empire's tea is grown on one world – Urn, principal planet of the Didcot system. If Earth is to keep fighting, the tea must flow!

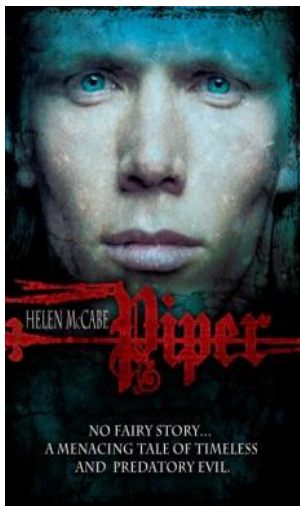
When a crazed cult leader overthrows the government of Urn, Isambard Smith and his vaguely competent crew find themselves saddled with new allies: a legion of tea-obsessed nomads, an overly-civilised alien horde and a commando unit so elite that it only has five members. Only together can they defeat the self-proclaimed God Emperor of Didcot and confront the true power behind the coup: the sinister legions of the Ghast Empire and Smith's old enemy, Commander 462.

About the author:

Toby Frost studied law and was called to the Bar in 2001. Since then, he has worked as a private tutor, a court clerk and a legal advisor to the motor industry. Unable to become Great Britain's foremost space explorer, he is content just to write about space exploration instead. He has also produced film reviews for the book The DVD Stack and articles for Solander magazine. Space Captain Smith is his first novel.



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Piper

Helen McCabe

Paperback: 9781905802258

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights Sold:
Spanish – Laocoonte,
Polish – Bullet Books

Description:

Legend has it that in medieval times the children of Hamelin were led East into Transylvania...

In bleak post Ceausescu Rumania, Dr Sasha Marcu a psychiatric researcher absorbed with the high incidence of mental illness among the women of Arva, a remote mountain village near the border with Russia, gradually uncovers a horrific history of ritual child murder. After the latest incident Marcu and police inspector Valentin almost succeed in cornering their prime suspect who appears to elude justice by dying in a plane crash.

Local cop Dave Durrant and his music teacher wife Diane seem to lead an idyllic life with their three children in the small lakeside town of Sunny Mead, New Hampshire. All that mars their contentment is the disability and muteness of their 13-year-old son Pip as the result of a car accident. When Diane engages new arrival Diep Koppelberg as a therapist for her son, Diep's charm and exceptional musical talent captivates all who in the little community meet him and Diane and her daughter are gradually drawn to him to the point of infatuation.

Only Pip sees Diep differently. Where others see beauty he sees only ugliness and decay. Where they see benevolence, he sees malice and unspeakable evil. Either Pip must succeed in convincing his family of the danger before it is too late or find a way to confront the threat himself.

About the author:

Helen McCabe was born in Worcestershire where she still lives. Having variously worked as a librarian, a secretary and an English teacher she has been a professional writer since 1983 and has written over 20 books - in her own name and under the pseudonyms of Aisling Byrne and Liberty Brett. Despite having written principally in the genre of modern and historical romance, she has maintained a keen interest in the paranormal. Piper is her first supernatural thriller.



MYRMIDON



The Juggler

Sebastian Beaumont

Hardback: 9781905802265

Export TPB: 9781905802272

Rights held:
Worldwide

Description:

Mark did what people aren't supposed to do. He left his home, his job, his wife, his friends, his seven month old baby... everything. He set out with only two things. One was a flyer advertising a nightclub, with an address written on the back in spidery pencil. The other was a small, hard bag of the sort that photographers carry their lenses in. But this bag did not contain photographic equipment. It contained £40,000 in cash.

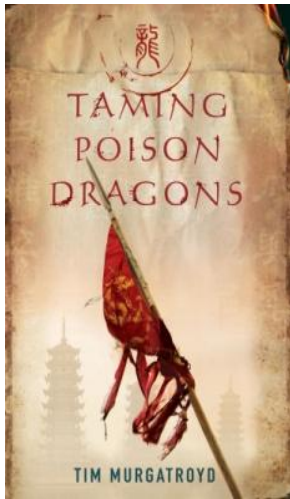
But it is not so easy to start again. Mark must find his way in a new town where no one will talk about their past, and where mobile phones don't work. He soon discovers that this is not all that's strange about this nameless town. Friendships turn into a web of deceit and motives are always suspect. Mark's journey, both physical and metaphysical, takes him through layers of reality and towards refuge of an unexpected kind.

About the author:

Sebastian Beaumont was born and raised in Scotland. He graduated from Manchester Metropolitan University with a degree in Creative Arts, in which he majored in Creative Writing. He now lives in Brighton where he works in private practice as a psychotherapeutic counsellor.



MYRMIDON



Taming Poison Dragons

Tim Murgatroyd

Hardback: 9781905802289

Export TPB: 9781905802302

Paperback: 9781905802395

Rights held:

UK & Commonwealth & N America in
English

Description:

Western China, 1196:

Yun Cai, a handsome and adored poet in his youth, is now an old man, exiled to his family estates. All that is left to him are regrets of a growing sense of futility and helplessness and the irritations of his feckless son and shrewish daughter-in-law. But the 'poison dragons' of misfortune shatter his orderly existence

First, Yun Cai's village is threatened with destruction by a vicious civil war. His wayward second son, a brutal rebel officer seems determined to ruin his entire family. Meanwhile, Yun Cai struggles to free an old friend, P'ei Ti, from a hellish prison- no easy task when P'ei Ti is the rebels' most valuable hostage and Yun Cai considers himself merely a spent, and increasingly frightened old man.

Throughout these ordeals, Yun Cai draws from the glittering memories of his youth, when he journeyed to the capital to study poetry and join the upper ranks of the civil service: how he contended with rivalry and enmity among his fellow students and secured the friendship of P'ei Ti. Above all, he reflects on a great love he won and lost: his love for the beautiful singing girl, Su Lin, for which he paid with his freedom and almost his life.

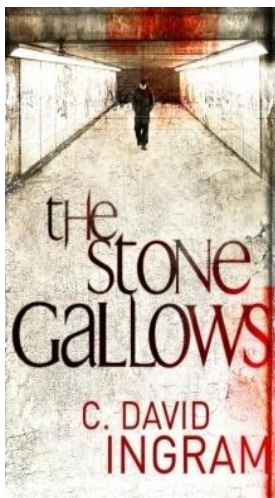
Yun Cai is forced to reconsider all that he is and all that he has ever been in order to determine how to preserve his honour and all that he finds he still cherishes. Only then can summon the wit and courage to confront the warlord General An-Shu and his beautiful but cruel consort, the Lady Ta-Chi.

About the author:

Tim Murgatroyd is an English teacher who lives with his family in York. He has remained fascinated by ancient China since his teens, when he discovered a slim volume of Chinese poetry in a second hand bookshop. [Taming Poison Dragons](#) is his first novel. He is currently engaged in writing a sequel chronicling the turbulent events of the Mongol invasion of China.



MYRMIDON



The Stone Gallows

C. David Ingram

Paperback: 9781905802203

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights sold:
Spanish - Laocoonte

Description:

“I guess the end justifies the means. At least that’s what I believe. Most of the time”

After the accident, DC Cameron Stone had spent three months in intensive care before he could even recall what happened: the high speed pursuit of a vice baron through the night streets of Glasgow that had not only almost finished him but had taken the life of a teenage mother and her child. Then there’d been the message from Audrey on the back of a ‘get well soon’ card announcing that she had left him and taken their young son, Mark, with her. Booze, anti-depressants and therapy have all failed to enable him to resume his old job.

So now Stone lives in a one-room flat in the worst part of town. He pays the rent by running errands for a private detective agency. His tasks include tracking down a teenage runaway and surveillance for a woman who thinks her husband is sleeping with her sister. He’s also paid by his former colleagues, doing the work that’s not quite clean enough for them to do themselves- like putting the fear of God into Jason Campbell, a newly released sex offender whose been seen hanging around the local High School in his soft-top Mercedes.

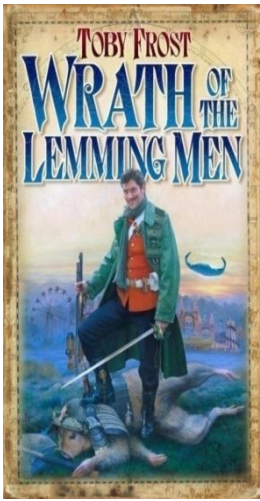
Stone is having a bad week. Audrey is getting difficult about contact arrangements for Mark. She’s moved into the plush home of a plastic surgeon: there’s talk of marriage- and adoption for Mark. He finds his runaway in a brothel and just gets roughed-up for his trouble. There’s the knife wielding kids who try to mug him on the stairs and the daubing on his front door: Burn in Hell Baby Killer. The only brightness on his horizon is his growing friendship with Liz, the sunny Irish nurse who lives on the next floor. But then petrol is poured through his letterbox and his flat ablaze. And now a stranger has turned up at the school and driven off with his son...

About the author:

Colin David Ingram lives with his wife and young family in Paisley, Renfrewshire. After legal training he worked for several years as a debt collector and is now a hospital nurse. [The Stone Gallows](#) is his first novel.



MYRMIDON



Wrath of the Lemming Men

Toby Frost

Paperback: 9781905802357

Rights held:
Worldwide

Description:

From the depths of Space a new foe rises to do battle with mankind: the British Space Empire is threatened by the lemming-people of Yull, ruthless enemies who attack without mercy, fear or any concept of self preservation. At the call of their war god, the Yull have turned on the Empire, hell bent on conquest and destruction in their rush towards the cliffs of destiny.

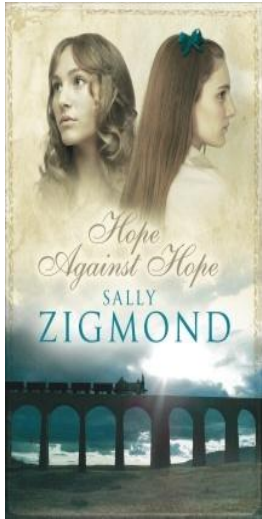
When the Yullian army is forced to retreat at the battle of the River Tam, the disgraced Colonel Vock swears revenge on the clan of Suruk the Slayer, Isambard Smith's homicidal alien friend. Now Smith and his crew must defend the Empire and civilise the stuffing out of a horde of bloodthirsty lemming-men- which would be easy were it not for a sinister robotics company, a Ghast general with a fondness for genetic engineering and an ancient brotherhood of Morris Dancers- who may yet hold the key to victory...

About the author:

Toby Frost studied law and was called to the Bar in 2001. Since then, he has worked as a private tutor, a court clerk and a legal advisor to the motor industry. Unable to become Great Britain's foremost space explorer, he is content just to write about space exploration instead. He has also produced film reviews for the book The DVD Stack and articles for Solander magazine.



MYRMIDON



Hope Against Hope Sally Zigmund

Paperback: 9781905802197

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights sold:
Turkish – Arkadas Co Ltd.,
Audio Rights – Isis t/as Soundings

Description:

Stoical and industrious Carrie and carefree and vivacious May lose both home and livelihood when their Leeds pub is sold out from under them to make way for the coming of the railway. They head for Harrogate to find work and lodging in the spa town's burgeoning hotel trade. But the sisters fall prey to fraudsters and predators and are also driven apart by misunderstanding, pride and a mutual sense of betrayal and resentment. May's fate is a high-class brothel from which her escape leads only to hunger in the slums of Paris. Carrie becomes a virtual slave to the vicious hostess of a filthy boarding house and the victim of her vindictive son. Alex Sinclair, a bold and warm-spirited Scot, has eschewed the wishes of his father to become a railway engineer. His companion, Charles Hammond is the dissolute heir to a vast fortune, withheld from him by an overbearing mother and grasping stepfather. Charles bides his time as a physician, a profession for which he lacks both aptitude and enthusiasm. The futures of both men will become bound up with those of the two sisters.

As time passes the sisters overcome their adversities: May becomes the most sought after dressmaker in Paris; Carrie, the proprietor of the most successful hotel in Harrogate. Feeling spurned by Carrie, Alex pours himself obsessively into new railway projects. Meanwhile, having been almost destroyed through gambling, drunkenness and self-loathing, Charles starts on the long and difficult road to redemption and fulfilment.

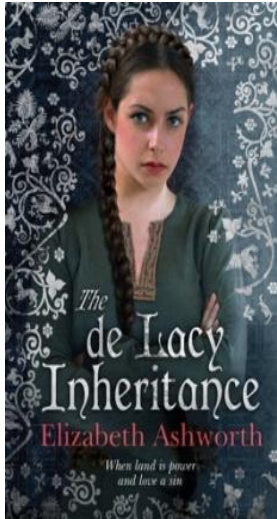
Carrie and May have now been estranged for several years. There seems little hope of reconciliation or of either of them or finding love and lasting happiness. But this is 1848, the 'Year of Revolutions'. The streets of Paris erupt in bloody insurrection... while Alex Sinclair is commissioned to bring the railway to Harrogate.

About the author:

Sally Zigmund lives in North Yorkshire where much of Hope Against Hope is set. She has written professionally for eleven years, publishing several short stories and a novella: Chasing Angels. For several years she was commissioning editor for QWF, the literary short fiction magazine for women and is reviews editor for The Historical Novels Review.



MYRMIDON



The de Lacy Inheritance Elizabeth Ashworth

Paperback: 9781905802364

Rights held:
Worldwide

Description:

Young Richard Fitz-Eustace's return from Palestine is far from joyous. Damned by leprosy he must bid his mother, grandmother and sisters a final and sorrowful farewell and leave his estates at Halton Castle forever. Condemned to shun the company of others he must now find a place of solitude where he can seek forgiveness for sins committed in the Holy Land for which he is certain he has earned God's curse. Resolved to live out his life as a hermit, he journey's north into the newly named county of Lancashire. But this is no arbitrary journey; there is one last obligation undertaken for his grandmother: that he will seek out her kinsman, Sir Robert de Lacy, at Cliderhou Castle and there press his consideration of her claim to his estate.

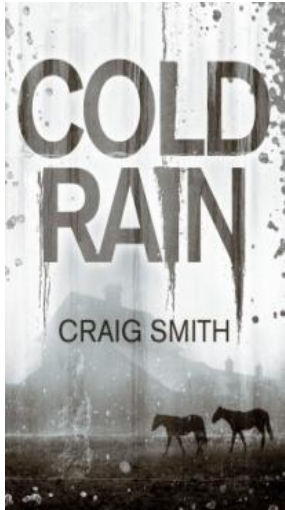
Meanwhile, at Halton, Richard's headstrong fourteen-year-old sister, Johanna is distraught. The fate of her beloved elder brother has done more than leave her bereft. Her other brother, ruthless and ambitious Roger has returned to take his place as head of the family. He and Johanna's mother have contrived a marriage for her to a wealthy old landowner, and without Richard's protection there seems little she can do about it- unless of course she can escape and find him.

About the author:

Elizabeth Ashworth is a former teacher who lives in Blackburn. A passionate about writing from the age of twelve, when she had an article published in Diana, and her first story published in Pony Annual three years later. Her published work includes Tales of Old Lancashire (Countryside Books) and Champion Lancastrians (Sigma Press) and she is a regular contributor to Lancashire Magazine. She is now engaged in completing a companion novel to The de Lacy Inheritance entitled The Heiress of Hornby, which is set during the Wars of the Roses.



MYRMIDON



Cold Rain **Craig Smith**

Paperback: 9781905802340

Rights held:

Worldwide (ex German translation Rights)

Description:

Life couldn't be better for David Albo, an associate professor of English at a small mid-western university. He lives in an idyllic, out-of-town, plantation-style mansion with a beautiful and intelligent wife and an adoring teenage stepdaughter. As he returns to the university after a long and relaxing sabbatical, there's a full professorship in the offing- and, what's more, he's managed to stay off the booze for two whole years.

But, once term begins, things deteriorate rapidly. The damning evidence that he has sexually harassed his students is just the beginning as Dave finds himself sucked into a vortex of conspiracy, betrayal, jealousy and murder. Unless he can discover quickly who is out to destroy him, all that he is and loves is about to be stripped away.

About the author:

*Craig Smith lives with his wife Martha in Lucerne, Switzerland. His first novel, published in the UK and Australia as *Silent She Sleeps* and subsequently in the States as *The Whisper of Leaves*, won the bronze medal in the mystery category of *ForeWord Magazine's Book of the Year Awards*. Smith holds a doctorate of philosophy from the University of Southern Illinois. His hobbies include reading, mountain hiking, travel, and the occasional game of bridge.*



MYRMIDON



Breaking Bamboo **Tim Murgatroyd**

Hardback: 9781905802401

Trade Paperback: 9781905802388

Rights held:

*UK & Commonwealth & N America in
English*

Description:

*Central China, 1264. When Mongol armies storm into the Middle Kingdom, the descendents of Yun Cai (**Taming Poison Dragons**) are trapped in a desperate siege that will determine the fate of the Empire. Guang and Shih are identical twins, one a heroic soldier idolised by the city he defends, the other a humble doctor. In the midst of war, jealous conflicts over Shih's wife and concubine threaten to tear the brothers apart. Enemies close in on every side – some disturbingly close to home. Can the Yun family survive imprisonment, ruthless treachery and Kublai Khan's bloody hordes? Or will their own reckless passions destroy them first?*

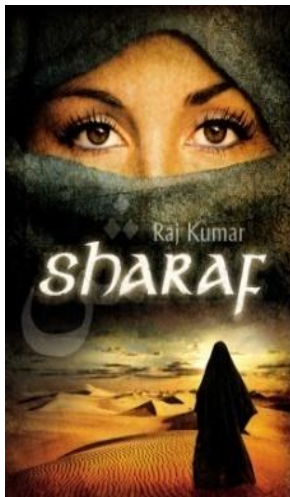
***Breaking Bamboo** is the second instalment of a trilogy set in Song and Yuan Dynasty China, charting the trials and adventures of the Yun clan.*

About the author:

*Tim Murgatroyd is an English teacher who lives with his family in York. He has remained fascinated by ancient China since his teens, when he discovered a slim volume of Chinese poetry in a second hand bookshop. **Taming Poison Dragons** was his first novel.*



MYRMIDON



Sharaf

Raj Kumar

Paperback: 9781905802333

Rights held:
Worldwide

Rights sold:
Serbian – Alnari

Description:

Major-General Farhan Al-Balawi is a loyal soldier in the Saudi Arabian army who dotes on his beloved daughter, Maryam, his pride in her learning and independent spirit sharpened by the death of his elder son and his estrangement from the younger who has opted to pursue a hedonistic western lifestyle in the USA.

Despite the love she shares with her family, her respect for her father, the pride she takes in her Arabian heritage and her loyalty to Islam, Maryam yearns for travel and the opportunity to continue her education in a European university.

But then Farhan announces that Maryam is to marry – the fulfilment of a solemn promise made before Maryam was born and to a man who once saved Farhan's life – that Farhan's daughter would one day marry his old army comrade's son. Maryam endeavours to stifle her bitter disappointment, and to honour her father's wishes she complies with the betrothal.

Then she meets Joe, an American dentist- and a Jew.

As Joe and Maryam pursue an increasingly intimate clandestine relationship they dare to dream of freedom and of a life together. But Joe is gradually drawing the attention of the Muttawa, the feared religious police, and when Maryam realises that she is pregnant it is then that her trials really begin.

About the author:

Raj Kumar is an artist and designer. He and his wife now live in the southern hemisphere after they met whilst living and working in Saudi Arabia.



MYRMIDON