

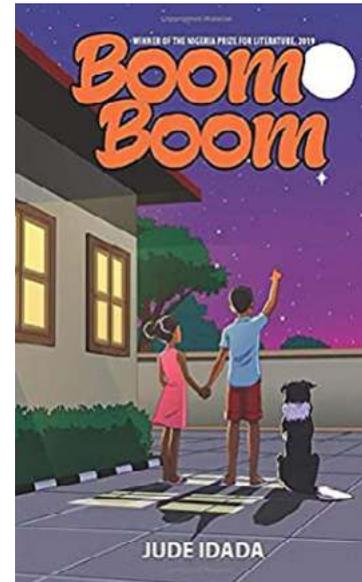


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# SWIFT FICTION



## BOOM BOOM

Jude Idada

Winner of the Nigeria Prize  
for Literature

YOUNG ADULT / JUNE 2023 / 240 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE

Osaik is an eight-year-old boy. He is charming and has an unusual ability to hear things no one else hears. But his world is thrown into disarray when a debilitating disease takes his mother from him.

Despite his grief, he has to find a way of saving his little sister, Eghe, from the same disease. Alongside his dad, and Kompa his dog, they begin a race to get her all the help she needs.

In this dramatic, fast-paced story of loss, faith, and hope, the limits of love, sacrifice, friendship, loyalty, and family ties are tested as the struggle to save his sister's life brings Osaik and those around him to a new knowledge of the world they can see, the world they cannot see, and the part of themselves they never knew existed.

**Jude Idada** is an award-winning screenwriter, actor, poet and playwright. *Boom Boom* is the first of his books to be published outside of Nigeria.



Rights: World All Languages excl West Africa



## UNTITLED NOVEL

Ellen Hawley

**'Rich in the pleasures of good storytelling ... so intelligent about the essential raggedness of real lives'** *TLS ON OTHER PEOPLE MANAGE*

JUNE 2023 / 224 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE OCTOBER 2022

Summer Dawidowitz has spent the past year caring for her grandmother, Josie – a lifelong Communist, a dedicated teacher, and the founder of an organization that tutors schoolchildren.

When Josie dies, everything that seemed solid in Summer's life comes into question. What sort of relationship will she have with the mother who abandoned her? Will she meet with the brother Josie exiled from the family? Does she really want to go back to the non-monogamous household she was part of before she moved in to take care of Josie? Does she still believe a small, committed group of citizens can change the world, and if so – how?

**Ellen Hawley** is an American writer living in Cornwall. She has worked as an editor and copyeditor, a radio talk show host, a cab driver, a janitor, an assembler, a file clerk (she lasted four days) and, for four fun-filled hours, a receptionist. *Other People Manage* is her first novel to be published in the UK.

Rights: World All Languages/ Film/ TV



## THE WESTERN SHORE

Tim Pears

**'A wonderful storyteller'**  
*SCOTSMAN*

OCTOBER 2023 / 192 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE

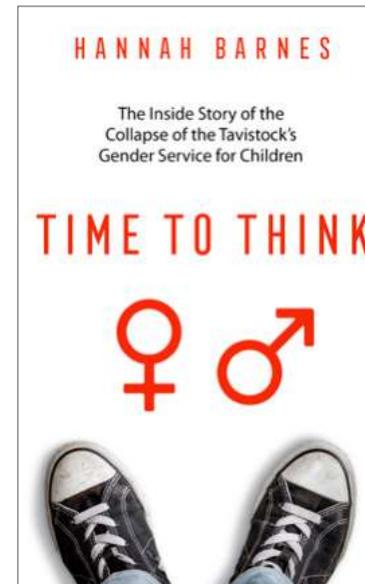
Set in Britain, in what is now Wales, in AD 72, *The Western Shore* tells the story of a young Roman slave, Quintus, and Olwen, daughter of the chief of a local tribe. Quintus, a slave long exiled from his people, has travelled great odysseys and is a man of reason, fluent in many languages. Olwen, imperious tribal royalty, is rooted in her native land – a volatile warrior, fiercely attached to the natural world.

Promised to a powerful Roman by her father as part of a peace treaty, Olwen flees during the night, taking Quintus with her. Hunted by an army, the two make their way across the country, living off the land, heading for the western shore...

**Tim Pears'** books include *In the Place of Fallen Leaves* (winner of the Hawthornden Prize and the Ruth Hadden Memorial Award), *In A Land of Plenty* (made into a ten-part BBC series), *Landed* (shortlisted for the Ondaatje Prize), and *The West Country Trilogy*.

Rights: World All Languages  
Agent: AM Heath

# SWIFT NON-FICTION



## TIME TO THINK

The Inside Story of the Collapse of the Tavistock's Gender Service for Children

Hannah Barnes

FEBRUARY 2023 / 400 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE

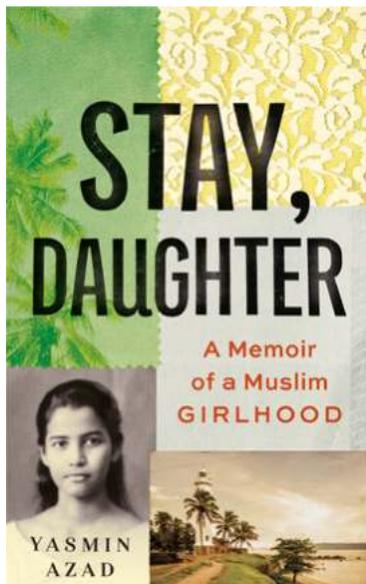
The Gender Identity Development Service (GIDS) was set up initially to provide talking therapies to young people who were questioning their gender identity. But in the last decade GIDS has referred more than a thousand children, some as young as ten years old, for medication to block their puberty. In the same period, the number of referrals has exploded, increasing thirty-fold, while the profile of the patients has changed, from largely pre-pubescent boys to mostly adolescent girls, who are often contending with other difficulties.

Why had the patients changed so dramatically? Were all these distressed young people actually best served by taking puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones? Was there enough clinical evidence to justify such profound medical interventions in the lives of young people who had so much else to contend with? This urgent, scrupulous and dramatic book explains how, in the words of some former staff, GIDS has been the site of a serious medical scandal, in which ideological concerns took priority over clinical practice.

**Hannah Barnes** is an award-winning journalist at the BBC's flagship current affairs programme Newsnight. She led its coverage of the care available to young people experiencing gender-related distress, which helped precipitate an extensive NHS review and unearthed evidence that was later used in several sets of legal proceedings. The work was nominated for an array of journalism awards, including the prestigious RTS Television Journalism Awards.



Rights: World English  
Agent: Aevitas Creative Management UK



## STAY, DAUGHTER

Yasmin Azad

**'Easily the best piece of writing in English about Sri Lankan Muslims, *Stay, Daughter* is a must read'** QADRI ISMAIL

MARCH 2023 / 224 PAGES / FINAL FILES AVAILABLE

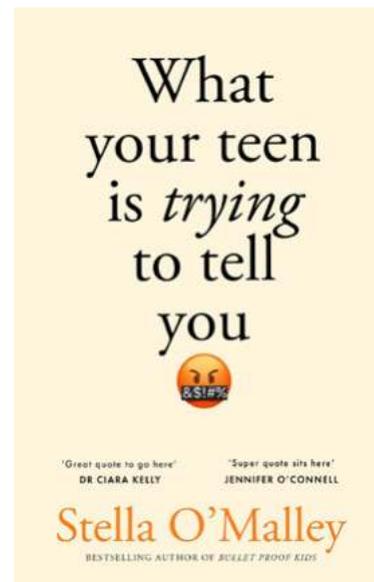
*We did not stay in our houses. Not in the way our grandmothers had, or our mothers. We went out a little more and veiled ourselves a little less...*

*Stay, Daughter* follows the history of a Muslim community in Sri Lanka that breaks with the traditions of the time to give girls a secular education and permission to go out of their homes. Before long, such independence and exposure to foreign ideas brings heartbreak to many families as their daughters move away from the customs that had once been the norm. With humour and love, and full of life, *Stay, Daughter* gives an intimate glimpse into the changing mores of a traditional community that has to balance the rules of Islamic orthodoxy with the freedoms and innovations of the modern world.

**Yasmin Azad** was among the first group of girls in her Muslim community in Sri Lanka to go away to university. Soon after obtaining a degree in English from the University of Ceylon, she moved to the United States, where she worked as a mental health counsellor before her recent retirement.



Rights: World English excl Indian Subcontinent  
Agent: Mitchell Rights Management



## WHAT YOUR TEEN IS TRYING TO TELL YOU

Surviving, thriving and re-connecting through the teenage years

Stella O'Malley

MARCH 2023 / 256 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 2022

Leading psychotherapist Stella O'Malley understands difficult teenagers: not only does she work with them in her therapy practice, but she was one herself. Here she offers indispensable and judgment-free advice on dealing with the often volatile and difficult teenage years.

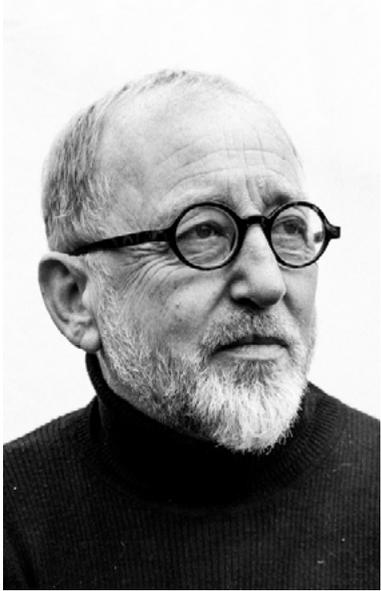
This invaluable resource is full of tips on how to handle your adolescent's feelings, ways to help them negotiate the sometimes rocky path to adulthood, and practical information on how to support them through mental health problems, eating disorders, alcohol and drug use, and friendship challenges.

This is an essential resource manual for parents who want to be able to tune into what their teenager is really trying to tell them and work with them to create an enjoyable family atmosphere for everyone.

**Stella O'Malley** is a psychotherapist, best-selling author, public speaker and parent with many years' experience working in counselling and psychotherapy. Her first three books, *Cotton Wool Kids*, *Bully-Proof Kids* and *Fragile* have all been bestsellers in Ireland, where she lives with her husband and two children and runs her private practice.



Rights: World English  
Agent: Gill Books



# THE ONE THING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO WRITE A NOVEL

Tim Lott

**The simplest book on how  
to write a novel ever written**

JUNE 2023 / 208 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 2022

At the heart of writing – at the apex of storytelling – there is only one principle, and it winds like a golden thread across all the books and courses.

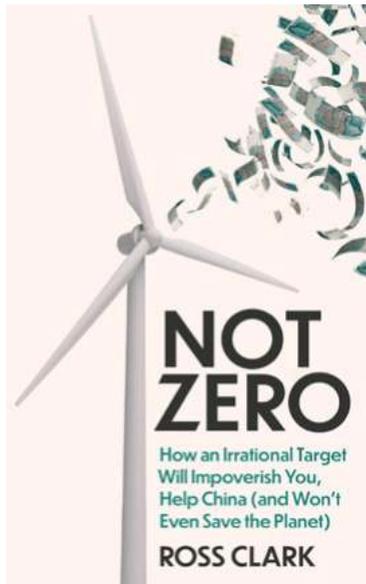
It will be invaluable to anyone creating fictional worlds - but most particularly to novelists, who are most in danger of forgetting it. Or not noticing it in the first place.

Tim Lott knows he can't teach anyone to write a novel (that's one of the lies propagated by the novel-writing industry). But he can teach someone how to build a firm platform on which they can stand in order to explore whether they have the talent, will and determination that writing a novel takes.

**Tim Lott** is the author of ten novels and a memoir, *The Scent of Dried Roses*, which won the PEN/J.R. Ackerley Prize. *White City Blue* won the Whitbread First Novel Award and his young adult book *Fearless* was shortlisted for the *Guardian* Children's Book Award. Tim lives with his family in north-west London.

Rights: World All Languages  
Agent: Featherstone Cairns

# FORUM



## NOT ZERO

How an Irrational Target Will Impoverish You, Help China (and Won't Even Save the Planet)

Ross Clark

**A devastating exposé of the UK's counter-productive and irrational Net Zero policy**

FEB 2023 / 304 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE

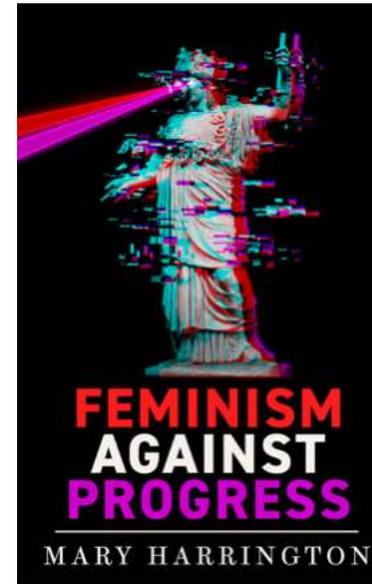
The British government has embarked on an ambitious and legally-binding climate change target: reduce the country's greenhouse gas emissions to Net Zero by 2050. The Net Zero policy was subject to almost no parliamentary or public scrutiny. But what will its consequences be?

*Not Zero* argues that it is an impractical hostage to fortune which will have massive downsides. Achieving the target depends upon rapidly developing technologies that are either non-existent, highly speculative or untested. He shows that efforts to achieve the target will result in a huge hit to living standards, which will clobber the poorest hardest, and gift a massive geopolitical advantage to China and Russia. The rigid timetable it imposes could also result in our committing too early to technologies which turn out to be ineffective, which could hobble the fight against climate change.

**Ross Clark** is a veteran British journalist who regularly writes for *The Spectator*, *The Times*, the *Telegraph* and the *Daily Mail*.



Rights: World All Languages



## FEMINISM AGAINST PROGRESS

Mary Harrington

**How women lose out in the era of tech utopianism and progressive overreach**

MARCH 2023 / 288 PAGES / MANUSCRIPT AVAILABLE

In *Feminism Against Progress*, Mary Harrington argues that the industrial-era faith in progress is turning against all but a tiny elite of women. Women's liberation was less the result of human moral progress than an effect of the material consequences of the Industrial Revolution. We've now left the industrial era for the age of AI, biotech and all-pervasive computing. As a result, technology is liberating us from natural limits and embodied sex differences. Although this shift benefits a small class of successful professional women, it also makes it easier to commodify women's bodies, human intimacy and female reproductive abilities.

This is a stark warning against a dystopian future whereby poor women become little more than convenient sources of body parts to be harvested and wombs to be rented by the rich. Progress has now stopped benefiting the majority of women, and only a feminism that is sceptical of it can truly defend female interests in the 21st century.

**Mary Harrington** is a writer whose work has appeared in *The Times*, *The Spectator*, the *New Statesman*, the *Daily Mail*, and *First Things*, among others. She is a Contributing Editor at *UnHerd*.



Rights: World English  
Agent: The Hamilton Agency



## UNFAIR PLAY

The Battle for Women's Sport

Sharron Davies and Craig Lord

**A legendary Olympian exposes the toxic sexism that threatens women's sport**

APRIL 2023 / PROPOSAL AVAILABLE

Despite being more popular than ever, women's sport is in danger. Modern gender ideology, which denies fundamental differences in human biology, is undermining the integrity of women's sport.

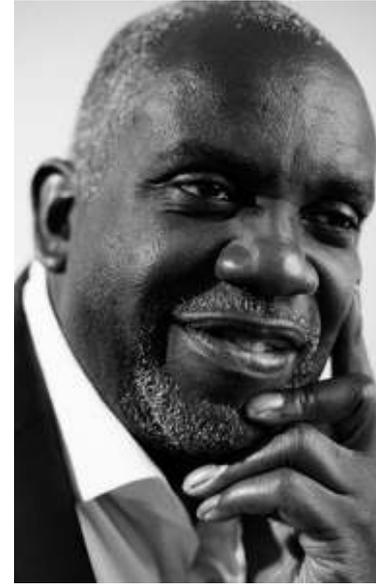
Sharron Davies has been here before. She missed out on Olympic Gold because of blatant doping among East German athletes in the 1980s. Female athletes are now once again facing an unfair playing field: biological males are being allowed to compete directly against women under the guise of trans 'self-ID'. This time, the cheating is officially condoned. This callous indifference towards women in sport, argue Sharron and journalist Craig Lord, is merely the latest stage in a long history of official sexism.

Unlike in the past, however, this time female resistance is too strong to ignore. Davies and Lord show how the tide may be turning, and outline how women can win the fight for their rights.

**Sharron Davies** MBE is a legendary British Olympian, the UK's top female swimmer throughout the 80s. In 1980, she won Olympic Silver (losing out only to a drugs cheat). She has since become a leading BBC sports pundit.

**Craig Lord** is an award-winning swimming and Olympic correspondent, who's been writing for *The Times* for three decades.

Rights: World All Languages  
Agent: Hardman & Swainson



## BLACK SUCCESS

The Surprising Truth

Dr Tony Sewell

**A bold vision for encouraging black success in 21st century Britain**

MAY 2023 / PROPOSAL AVAILABLE

How did the Windrush generation become so prosperous? Why are Nigerians achieving so highly in the education system? Why does Hollywood rush to cast black British actors? And what lessons are there from these success stories for young black people in low-income communities?

Truthful, provocative, and often surprising, Tony Sewell weaves together memoir and polemic to explore the drivers of black success in the UK. Drawing on real-life experiences, he traces these successes back to their source: family, education, hard work, discipline and the property market. He argues in favour of rejecting victimhood and embracing high ambitions, offering a more exciting, sometimes visionary new view of black life in Britain today.

This book is the perfect riposte to the storm of criticism that met the Sewell Report on racial disparities. It is essential reading not only for Black Britons who are tired of being denied agency, but also for anyone who wants a balanced perspective on race in Britain.

**Dr Tony Sewell** was recently chair of the UK government's Commission on Race and Ethnic Disparities, the recommendations of which are now the foundations of the government's policy on tackling racial inequalities. He is a former teacher and lecturer and is the founder of the charity 'Generating Genius'.

Rights: World English  
Agent: The Hamilton Agency



## THE PARADOX OF DEBT

Understanding Debt, Money, and the Net Worth of Nations

Richard Vague

**A giant of US business and economics shows how private debt creates growth – but can also destroy it without careful management**

JUNE 2023 / PROPOSAL AVAILABLE

When we talk about debt and its impact on our economy, we usually mean ‘government debt’. However, this is only a small part of the picture: individuals, private firms and households owe trillions, and these private debts are vital to understanding the economy.

Richard Vague’s holistic analysis shows that the real factor that drives both financial crises and spiralling inequality – but also economic growth – is ever-rising private debt. The paradox is that while debt is essential and our economy relies on it, it also brings instability unless it is periodically deleveraged – and that is very hard to do. Vague shows how it can, however, be carefully managed, in policy areas ranging from trade and housing to financial policy and student debt.

Underpinned by pioneering data analysis and the author’s lifetime of financial experience, no-one who wants to understand the dynamics of the world economy can afford to miss this book.

**Richard Vague** is a businessman, investor and author. He is Secretary of Banking and Securities for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. His previous books include *The Case for a Debt Jubilee* and *A Brief History of Doom: Two Hundred Years of Financial Crises*

Rights: World All Languages



## LIBERAL BULLIES

Why the Left has an Authoritarianism Problem and How to Fix It

Luke Conway

**How the rise and rise of progressive authoritarianism could endanger our democracy**

SEPTEMBER 2023 / PROPOSAL AVAILABLE NOVEMBER 2022

It’s only right-wingers and fascists who long for an authority figure to crush their enemies, silence opponents, and restore order, right?

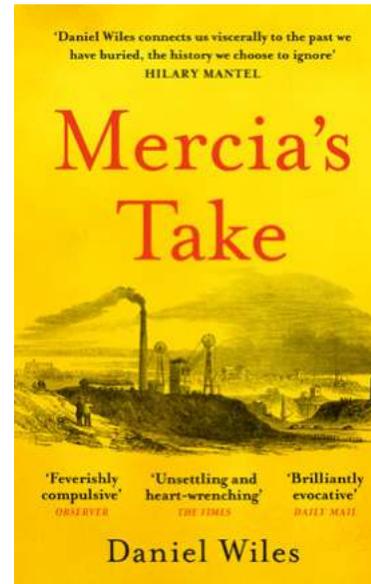
Wrong, argues leading psychologist Luke Conway. Using his own cutting-edge research to analyse contemporary politics, Conway shows that a persistent proportion of left-wingers demonstrate authoritarian tendencies, and they’re becoming more emboldened. On issues ranging from schooling and vaccine mandates to critical race theory, they are increasingly advocating censorship over free debate, disregarding the rule of law, and dehumanising their opponents. These tendencies are part of an accelerating ‘threat circle’ of mutual hatred and fear between left and right that could tear apart our democracy.

Concluding with an eloquent call for firm but rational resistance to this rising tide of liberal bullying, no-one concerned about cancel culture and the hyper-partisan warzone that our political arena has become can afford to miss this book.

**Luke Conway** is Professor of Psychology at the University of Montana

Rights: World All Languages

# ALREADY PUBLISHED



## MERCIA'S TAKE

Daniel Wiles

*Observer* ten best debuts 2022

**'Energy and passion fuels this harsh and beautiful first novel; Daniel Wiles connects us viscerally to the past we have buried, the history we choose to ignore'** HILARY MANTEL

208 PAGES

**1870s, the Black Country.**

Michael is a miner. But it's no life for a man.

Michael exhausts himself working two jobs, to send his son Luke to school, so he won't have to be a miner too.

Down the pit one day, he finds a seam of gold. If he gets it out, he can save his own life, and Luke's.

But his workmate has other ideas...

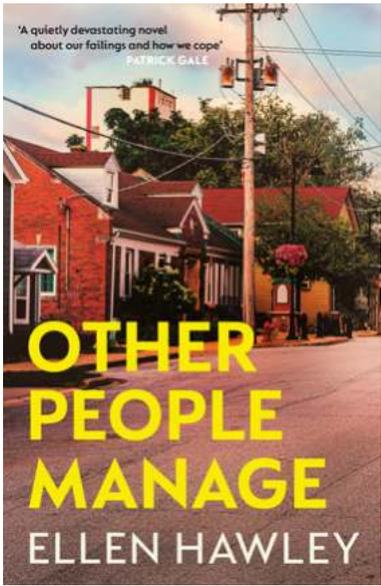
Gripping, powerful and intense, *Mercia's Take* summons an England in the heat of the industrial revolution, and the lives it took to make it.

**Daniel Wiles** is from Walsall in the West Midlands. He recently completed the Prose MA at UEA, where he was the recipient of the Booker Prize Foundation Scholarship. *Mercia's Take* is his first novel.



Rights: World All Languages

Rights sold: Greece (Dioptra), Turkey (Ayrinti), film (Ari Wegner)



## OTHER PEOPLE MANAGE

Ellen Hawley

**'Packed with ordinary wisdom, the hard-won kind, the blistered-hand and aching-back kind ... a tender and beautiful addition to the literary canon'**  
*IRISH TIMES*

224 PAGES

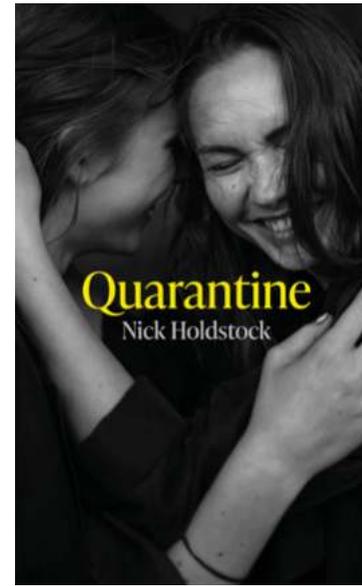
It's the late 70s when Marge meets Peg at the Women's Coffee House, which is less a place to drink coffee than a place where two women can dance together safely. Who knows what draws people to each other? It's the right time. They're the right people.

For the next twenty years, they stay together, through the challenges any couple faces and the ones no one expects. Then one day things change, and Marge has to work out what she's left with – and if she still belongs to the family she's adopted as her own.

**Ellen Hawley** is an American writer living in Cornwall. She has worked as an editor and copyeditor, a radio talk show host, a cab driver, a janitor, an assembler, a file clerk (she lasted four days) and, for four fun-filled hours, a receptionist. *Other People Manage* is her first novel to be published in the UK.



Rights: World All Languages / Film / TV



## QUARANTINE

Nick Holdstock

**'One of the most thought-provoking and arresting novels of the year'**

**SCOTS WHAY HAE**

320 PAGES

It's ten years since a deadly pandemic swept the globe, and five years since the last new recorded case. Society came close to collapse, but now there's a vaccine – though not a cure – people are only dying in the usual ways.

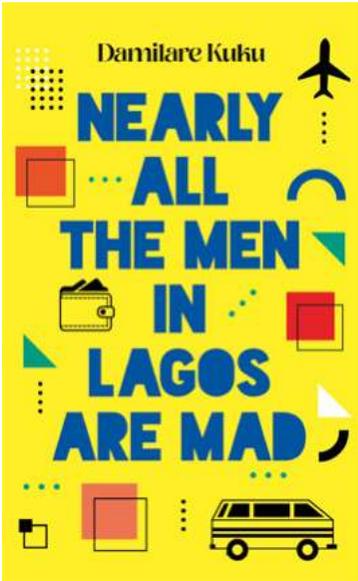
Lukas, along with several hundred other infected people, is quarantined in a camp on a mountain of Central Asia. With nothing to do, and no future to speak of, the inmates pass the time drinking, taking drugs, joining a cult, making art or having sex with whoever they can.

Rebecca is a scientist who worked on the vaccine that saved the world. Having lost her partner in the years of chaos, she keeps testing the vaccine against mutations of the virus, because it seems inevitable that there will be a next time. *Quarantine* is a thrillingly intelligent novel about how we – as individuals, and as a society – deal with the aftermath of catastrophe.

**Nick Holdstock** is a China expert who now lives in Edinburgh. As well as three non-fiction books on China, including two on Xinjiang, he has written for *the Guardian*, *n+1*, *the LRB*, *the TLS* and elsewhere. *Quarantine* is his first novel to be published in the UK.



Rights: World All Languages / Film / TV



# NEARLY ALL THE MEN IN LAGOS ARE MAD

Damilare Kuku

**'Captures the experience of navigating the strange and wondrous world of love and intimacy in Africa's most enigmatic city ... delectable and fun'** *GUARDIAN*

256 PAGES

*Nearly All the Men in Lagos Are Mad* is a collection of twelve short stories featuring characters with unique voices and stories that represent the diverse class, gender and ethnic melting pot that is Lagos.

There's a story of a young lady who tries to find her oyibo soulmate on the streets of Lagos; another of a pastor's wife who defends her husband from an allegation of adultery; a wife takes a knife to her husband's penis and a night of lust between a rising musician and his Instagram baddie takes an unexpected turn.

*Nearly All the Men in Lagos Are Mad* underscores with wit, humour, wisdom and sensitivity, the perils of trying to find lasting love and companionship in Africa's most boisterous city.

**Damilare Kuku** has worked as a radio presenter, scriptwriter, film producer, actor and director. *Nearly All the Men in Lagos Are Mad* is her first book.



Rights: World All Languages excl Africa  
Rights Sold: US (HarperCollins)  
Agent: Masobe Books