

John Murray Press

ORIGINALS

JM

BASIC
BOOKS

TWO
ROADS

Autumn 2020 Hotlist

****NON-FICTION****

THIS BOOK COULD FIX YOUR LIFE: The Science of Self Help by Helen Thomson and New Scientist

John Murray (Publishers) | Georgina Laycock | January 2021 | Ext 304 pages | Option publishers: Russia/AST, Estonia/Aripaev, Portugal/Editora 2020, Bulgaria/Homo Futurus, Germany/mvg Verlag, China/Green Stone | Translation rights available | US rights: NB USA

A myth-busting, evidence-based guide to living a healthier, happier life - without the self-help fads.

We all want to be happier, more successful and less stressed, but what really works?

From improving creativity to building confidence, finding love and a successful career, forming better habits and feeling happier, *Fix Your Life* debunks the fads and explores the real science of self-help.

TWO AGAINST HITLER: The True Story of Two Courageous Sisters, a Rescue Mission in the Third Reich, and Opera by Isabel Vincent

John Murray (Publishers) | Joe Zigmund | May 2021 | Ext 464 pages | 30 B&W photos | Translation rights available | US rights: Hachette Books | Material available: manuscript/October 2020

An extraordinary account of two British sisters whose obsession with opera became a cover for their roles in helping Jewish refugees flee the Nazis during World War II--a true story that is part Schindler's List, part The Sound of Music and all but forgotten, until now.

Based on original research and packed with vivid details--many revealed here for the first time--Isabel Vincent's *Two Against Hitler* will join the ranks of *Hidden Figures* in shining the spotlight on the extraordinary contributions of women in wartime.

For all rights enquiries please contact:

Rebecca Folland, Rights Director/US rights NF: rebecca.folland@hachette.co.uk

Joanna Kaliszewska, Head of Rights/Deputy Rights Director/Translation & US rights Fiction: joanna.kaliszewska@hodder.co.uk

Grace McCrum, Senior Rights Manager/Translation agent territories: grace.mccrum@hodder.co.uk

THE CHANGING MIND by Dr Joseph Jebelli

John Murray (Publishers) | Georgina Laycock | June 2021 | Ext 320 pages | Option publishers: Holland/Balans, Italy/Mondadori, Spain/Ediciones Intervencion Cultural, China/China Science & Technology, Taiwan/Gusa, Korea/So Woo Joo, Russia/AST, Portugal/Editora2020, Brazil/Planeta do Brasil, Romania/Trei, Isreal/Modan | Other translation rights available | US rights: Little Brown US

The extraordinary story of how the human brain evolved by Royal Society Prize shortlisted neuroscientist, Joseph Jebelli.

The Changing Mind is the definitive book on human brain evolution: a sweeping ambitious natural history. Beginning with the first primate brain and the rise of our present-day, large human brain, it will describe the remarkable origin of our species' most mysterious organ, how it has developed, and how it will change in the future. To study the brain is to study the essence of what makes us human.

Joseph Jebelli is a 32-year-old British neuroscientist and writer. He obtained his PhD in Neurobiology from the Institute of Neurology, University College London (UCL). He then worked as a research scientist at the University of Washington, United States. He has written for the *Guardian* and the Wellcome Trust. His first book, *In Pursuit of Memory*, was longlisted for the Wellcome Prize and shortlisted for the Royal Society Science Prize.

DANGEROUS MINDS: A Forensic Psychiatrist's Quest to Understand Violence by Prof. Taj Nathan

John Murray (Publishers) | Kate Craigie | April 2021 | Ext 320 pages | Translation rights available | US rights available | Material available: proposal

A forensic psychiatrist uses case studies to explore what drives people to commit violence. What drives someone to commit murder? What makes some people lash out on those that they love? Can we predict whether a child will grow into a violent adult, and what can we do to prevent it?

These are just some of the questions that **forensic psychiatrist** Prof Taj Nathan interrogates every day. Violence and violent behaviour are always in the headlines but understanding the people behind labels like 'psychopath' or 'serial killer' is complex and deeply nuanced. Prof Nathan is a Consultant Forensic Psychiatrist & Director of Research, Development & Clinical Effectiveness (CWP NHS Foundation Trust); Honorary Senior Research Fellow (University of Liverpool); Visiting Professor (University of Chester); Adjunct Professor (Liverpool John Moores University); SRG Lead, Mental Health (Cheshire) (National Institute for Health Research). He has acted as an expert witness on hundreds of cases and has treated thousands of patients.

CLIMATE CAPITALISM by Akshat Rathi

John Murray (Publishers) | Georgina Laycock | January 2022 | Translation and US rights available | Material available: proposal

A stirring, truly global look at the new technologies that are going to take over from fossil fuels in our lifetime and how – from batteries to electric cars, wind to solar power – the best answers are coming from outside the West from a brilliant, young Indian journalist (Quartz and Bloomberg)

For all rights enquiries please contact:

Rebecca Folland, Rights Director/US rights NF: rebecca.folland@hachette.co.uk

Joanna Kaliszewska, Head of Rights/Deputy Rights Director/Translation & US rights Fiction: joanna.kaliszewska@hodder.co.uk

Grace McCrum, Senior Rights Manager/Translation agent territories: grace.mccrum@hodder.co.uk

THE HUNT FOR MT EVEREST by Craig Storti

John Murray (Publishers) | Joe Zigmond | April 2021 | Ext 352pages | Rights sold: Poland/Kobiece, Taiwan/China Times | Other translation rights available | US rights: NB USA | Material available: manuscript

This is Everest - the prequel.

Whilst most Everest chronicles have dealt with the climbing history of the mountain with all that happened *after* 1921, *The Hunt for Mt. Everest* is the seldom-told story of all that happened *before*. A story that traverses the Alps, the Himalayas, Nepal and Tibet, the British Empire, the Anglo-Russian rivalry known as The Great Game, the disastrous First Afghan War, and the phenomenal Survey of India - it is far bigger than simply the tallest mountain in the world.

OUTLANDISH: Walking Europe's Unlikely Landscapes by Nick Hunt

John Murray (Publishers) | Nick Davies | May 2021 | Ext 288 pages | Option publishers: Germany/btb, Holland/Bezig Bij, France/Hoebeke | Other translation rights available | US rights: NB USA | Material available: manuscript

A dazzling plunge into the four strangest landscapes scattered across Europe.

In *Outlandish*, acclaimed travel writer Nick Hunt takes us across landscapes that should not be there, wildernesses found in Europe yet seemingly belonging to far-off continents: a patch of Arctic tundra in Scotland; the continent's largest surviving remnant of primeval forest in Poland and Belarus; Europe's only true desert in Spain; and the fathomless grassland steppes of Hungary.

From snow-capped mountain range to dense green forest, desert ravines to threadbare, yellow open grassland, these anomalies transport us to faraway regions of the world. More like pockets of Africa, Asia, the Poles or North America, they make our own continent seem larger, stranger and more filled with secrets.

METEORITE: The Stones From Outer Space That Made Our World by Dr Tim Gregory

John Murray (Publishers) | Georgina Laycock | August 2020 | Ext 320 pages | Rights sold: Russia/Eksmo | All other translation rights available | US rights: Basic Books | Material available: pdf

From the dagger of extraterrestrial iron found inside Tutankhanum's mummy to the impact that wiped out the dinosaurs, meteorites have long been the stuff of legends, but their true significance in revealing the origins of Earth and our planet's future is only being uncovered – this is the perfect book for anyone wanting to know how we got here and where we are going on an astrological scale. Dr Tim Gregory is a future star of science. We have quotes from Astronaut Chris Hadfield and Professor Jon Butterworth.

For all rights enquiries please contact:

Rebecca Folland, Rights Director/US rights NF: rebecca.folland@hachette.co.uk

Joanna Kaliszewska, Head of Rights/Deputy Rights Director/Translation & US rights Fiction: joanna.kaliszewska@hodder.co.uk

Grace McCrum, Senior Rights Manager/Translation agent territories: grace.mccrum@hodder.co.uk

**HEROIC ANIMALS: 100 Amazing Creatures Great and Small by Clare Balding
John Murray (Publishers) | Georgina Laycock | October 2020 | Ext 352 pages
| Translation rights available | US rights available | Material available: page proofs**

100 of the most heroic, inspirational (and sometimes hilarious) animals from history.

Bobbie the Wonder dog crossed more than 2,500 miles of plains, desert and mountains to find his way home - and became the inspiration for Lassie.

Cher Ami the pigeon, despite being shot twice, delivered a message that saved the lives of 194 soldiers in 1918.

Trakr the police dog spent two days exhaustively searching Ground Zero and found the last survivor of the 9/11 attacks.

Ever since Alexander the Great named a city after the horse who saved his life in battle (and another after his dog), human history wouldn't be the same without the awe-inspiring tales of amazing animals.

**BACK TO NATURE: Conversations with the Wild by Chris Packham and Megan McCubbin
Two Roads | Kate Hewson | November 2020 | Ext 240 pages | Translation rights available |
US rights available**

Optimistic field notes from the new normal for nature.

One thing has become clear this year - we need nature more than ever. And although the natural world has never been more under pressure, there are still reasons to be hopeful.

Through personal stories, conservation breakthroughs and fascinating scientific discoveries, *Back to Nature* captures the essence of how we feel about the wildlife outside our windows. From the resurgence of storks in Britain to lesser horseshoe bats returning to the Isle of Man, to what we can do to encourage wildlife into our own spaces, whether that's a woodland, a garden, a balcony or our streets, it explores the wonder and the solace of nature, and the ways in which we can connect with it.

**A SPELL IN THE WILD: A Year (and six centuries) of Magic by Dr Alice Tarbuck
Two Roads | Kate Hewson | August 2020 | Ext 400 pages | Rights sold:
Dutch/Orlando | All other translation rights available | US rights available | Material
available: pdf**

A seasonal guide to magic in the twenty-first century, and a history of witchcraft through the ages.

In *A Spell in the Wild*, Alice Tarbuck explores what it means to be a witch today. Where 'witch' was once a dangerous - and often deadly - accusation, it is now a proud self-definition. And as the world becomes ever more complicated and we face ecological, political, social and global health crises, witchcraft is experiencing a resurgence. Magic is back.

For all rights enquiries please contact:

Rebecca Folland, Rights Director/US rights NF: rebecca.folland@hachette.co.uk

Joanna Kaliszewska, Head of Rights/Deputy Rights Director/Translation & US rights Fiction: joanna.kaliszewska@hodder.co.uk

Grace McCrum, Senior Rights Manager/Translation agent territories: grace.mccrum@hodder.co.uk

****FICTION****

THE RULES OF REVELATION by Lisa McInerney

John Murray (Publishers) | Jocasta Hamilton | May 2021 | Ext 352 pages | Option publishers: Italy/Bompiani, Germany/Liebeskind, France/Joelle Losfeld, Spain/Alianza, Denmark/Jensen&Dalgaard | Other translation rights available | US rights available | Material available: manuscript

The third novel from the author of the Winner of the Women's Prize for Fiction 2016. Everywhere the water was rising. Sex, drugs and rock and roll; that was all that was left. Ireland's having an identity crisis, rent's through the roof, and Cork is producing a profligate number of poets. A band called Lord Urchin bursts onto the scene with an insufferable mission statement, and four strangers have their lives turned inside-out. Mel comes back to Cork from Brexit Britain, ill-equipped to deal with the resurgence of a family scandal. Eleventh-hour revolutionary Maureen won't stop until she's rewritten her city's history. Former sex worker Georgie is urged to tell her story by a journalist with her own agenda. And Karine prepares for her ex-boyfriend's return, knowing that he's going to warp all around him . . . and that she's going to help him do it. This is a novel about art and its relationship to class and transgression, about trauma, gender, obsession and love. And about great nationalists, bad mothers, and a debut album that might drive the whole of Ireland mad.

SLOUGH HOUSE Mick Herron

John Murray (Publishers) | Yassine Belkacemi | February 2021 | Ext 352 pages | Option publishers: Italy/Feltrinelli, France/Actes Sud, Germany/Diogenes, Denmark/Olga Forlag, Norway/Aschehoug, Finland/Docendo, Sweden/Morenista, Japan/Hayakawa, Spain/Salamandra, Holland/Prometheus, Hungary/General Press, Estonia/Varrak, Israel/Lesa Books, Portugal/Macador | All other translation rights available | US rights: Soho Press | Material available: page proofs

A TV series titled 'Slow Horses' is forthcoming from Apple TV in Autumn 2021, written by Veep's Will Smith and starring Oscar-winning actor Gary Oldman as Jackson Lamb. The seventh book in the *Sunday Times* bestselling, award-winning, *Slough House* series, featuring Mick Herron's much loved band of disgraced spies and their notorious leader, Jackson Lamb, 'the most fascinating and irresistible thriller series hero to emerge since Jack Reacher' (*Sunday Times*)

HOT STEW by Fiona Mozley

John Murray (Publishers) | Becky Walsh | March 2021 | Ext 352 pages | Rights sold: Spain/Alianza | All other translation rights available | US rights: Algonquin/Workman | Material available: manuscript

The ambitious story of an interlinked group of individuals living and working in modern-day Soho from the Booker-shortlisted author of *Elmet*. *Hot Stew* is an insightful and ambitious novel about property, ownership, wealth and inheritance. It is about the place we occupy in society, especially women, and the importance placed on class and money. It doesn't shy away from asking difficult questions but does so with humour and intelligence.

For all rights enquiries please contact:

Rebecca Folland, Rights Director/US rights NF: rebecca.folland@hachette.co.uk

Joanna Kaliszewska, Head of Rights/Deputy Rights Director/Translation & US rights Fiction: joanna.kaliszewska@hodder.co.uk

Grace McCrum, Senior Rights Manager/Translation agent territories: grace.mccrum@hodder.co.uk

WE COULD NOT SEE THE STARS by Elizabeth Wong

JM Originals | Becky Walsh | July 2021 | Ext 288 pages | Translation rights available | US rights available

Han works as a fisherman off the coast of Malaysia, employed by the fishing company of his much richer cousin, Chong Meng. Han's mother, Swee, died when he was three, her only legacy a common spade. One day, a man, Mr Ng, arrives in their village. Han is wary of this stranger, but Cheng Wei is impressed by Mr Ng's fantastical stories of a golden tower. Chong Meng helps Mr Ng steal the spade, and they both disappear from the village. Han is determined to recover the spade and sets out on a journey with his friend Min to catch up with his cousin before it is too late.

PENNY BAPS by Kevin Doherty

JM Originals | Becky Walsh | July 2021 | Ext 288 pages | Translation rights available | US rights available

A beautifully-told debut novel about the relationship between brothers and the difference between good and bad.

Penny Baps is the story of Cahir and Dan, two brothers in their last year at home together.

Cahir plants trees on common ground outside the town where they live in Donegal. He wants to save the world. He wants to be good.

Dan works full time at the supermarket. He has taken a year out before university and is sniffing around Lydia the Master. If things work out he might stay home longer.

Lydia's brother has bought the common ground and is going to build a house there. She finds Cahir tending his trees and the goodness that Cahir strives for is lost.

For all rights enquiries please contact:

Rebecca Folland, Rights Director/US rights NF: rebecca.folland@hachette.co.uk

Joanna Kaliszewska, Head of Rights/Deputy Rights Director/Translation & US rights Fiction: joanna.kaliszewska@hodder.co.uk

Grace McCrum, Senior Rights Manager/Translation agent territories: grace.mccrum@hodder.co.uk