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## **NORTH AMERICAN RIGHTS GUIDE**

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## FICTION

# THE EARLIE KING AND THE KID IN YELLOW

**Danny Denton**



Ireland is drowned. It is only ever raining. Everybody wears skins, takes ‘pharm’, runs, smuggles, muses on what is lost. Mister Violence stalks the land and a vigilante named Saint Vincent de Paul is on the rampage. A reporter keeps a list of all the dead, all the victims of the Earlie King – the lord of Ireland – and his vicious henchmen The Earlie Boys (a swaggering band of thugs who wear ‘Kandinskee shirts’ and carry knives). The Kid in Yellow is a runner for the king, but he has fallen in love with the King’s daughter, and they have a child. The Kid has made a promise and he must honour his word.

*The Earlie King and the Kid in Yellow* is a thrilling blast of poetry and drama. It’s a gangster ballad, a love story and a lyrical dystopian thriller. It’s full of extraordinary poetry, tangled myth and dark hearted theatre. If Quentin Tarantino, Sean O’Casey’s ghost and Tom Waits collaborated on a medieval miracle play they might birth this exceptional debut.

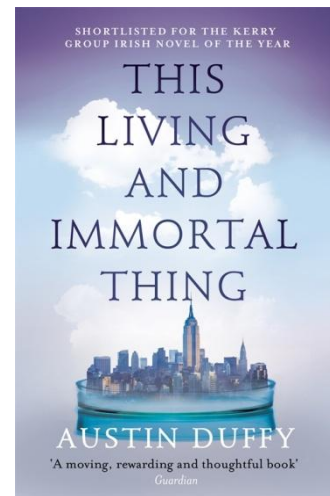
**Danny Denton** is from Cork, Ireland, and has published fiction and prose in various publications, including *The Stinging Fly*. He has been awarded three arts bursaries for his work, and won a Faber Academy fellowship in 2009. His novel, *The Earlie King & the Kid in Yellow* is forthcoming from Granta in 2018.

**January 2018** • Fiction • 248pp

# THIS LIVING AND IMMORTAL THING

**Austin Duffy**

*Shortlisted for the Kerry Group Irish Novel of the Year 2016*



**'A tremendous, strange and beguiling novel that has a bearing on all our lives. Droll, disturbing and surreptitiously profound'** William Boyd

**'An immortal, indeed, and yet strange thing: In his unshrinking examination of bodily death and spirits in limbo, Austin Duffy has created a miraculously life-affirming novel'** Gavin Corbett

*'My life is in your hands, doctor, they would sometimes say, which it never was...'*

*This Living and Immortal Thing* inhabits a world of medicine, research, cancer and death. Its disillusioned and darkly funny narrator is an Irish oncologist, who is searching for a scientific breakthrough in the lab of a New York hospital while struggling with his failing marriage and his growing alienation within the city's urban spaces. Tending to the health of his laboratory mice, he finds comfort in work that is measurable, results that are quantifiable.

But life is every bit as persistent as the illness he studies. As he starts a new treatment on his mice, he meets a beautiful but elusive Russian translator at the hospital, his estranged wife begins to call, his neighbours are acting strangely and his supervisor pressures him to push ahead professionally. And always there is the pull of family; of the place he considers home.

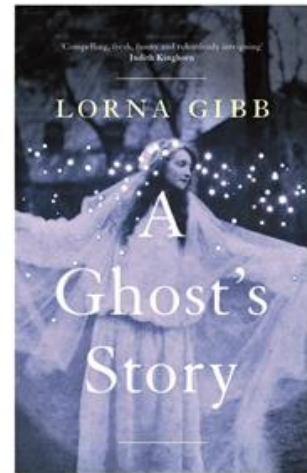
Shot through with Duffy's haunting, beautiful descriptions of the science underlying cancer, which starkly illustrate the paradox of an illness at whose heart is a persistent and deadly life force, *This Living and Immortal Thing* shows how the cruelty of the disease is a price we pay for the joy and complexity of being in the world.

**Austin Duffy** grew up in Ireland and studied medicine at Trinity College Dublin. He is a practising medical oncologist at the National Cancer Institute in Washington DC, where he now lives with his wife and son. In 2011, Duffy was awarded RTE's Francis MacManus award for his short story 'Orca'. *This Living and Immortal Thing* is his first novel.

**Published (February 2016) • Fiction • 304pp**

# A GHOST'S STORY

**Lorna Gibb**



**'This enchanting novel, written by a superb biographer, gives ghosts a voice and has much to say about how we ghost our lives, projecting into the others the personalities we yearn to find in ourselves. Based on meticulous historical research, and leavened by a playful imagination, *A Ghost's Story* will haunt and delight all kinds of readers'** Carl Rollyson

**'This intriguing novel teasingly moves between truth and fiction with all the inventiveness and unpredictability of the mediums, frauds, and spirits who crowd its pages. The dazzling succession of extraordinary characters and bizarre happenings leaves the reader as puzzled as the dogged Victorian investigators of the "spirit world" – but much better entertained. For as well as being both horrifying and funny by turns, the novel becomes a touching love-story of the most unusual kind'** Charles Palliser, author of *The Quincunx*

Throughout the 19th and 20th centuries séances and spiritualist meetings grew in popularity. One 'ghost' appeared more than any other, the Katie King spirit.

*A Ghost's Story* presents the mysterious spirit writings and biographical outpourings of Katie King, this famous and enigmatic spirit celebrity. A profound and curious consciousness guided into this realm by the faith of true believers, or the cheap trickery of parlour cheats and exploitative swindlers? Katie King is both, and more. This is the tale of a ghost's quest to understand human faith, loss and passion. It is also the tale of a contemporary scholar desperate to understand the allure of the spirit world, journeying with Katie from the candle-lit drawing rooms of Victorian London to the Imperial Palaces of Tsars; from the shadiest of gimmicks and tricks, to the most poignant sincerity of the death-bed wish.

*A Ghost's Story* announces a narrator like no other, moving in and out of time and space, obstreperous, witty and profoundly honest. Above all, it is an examination of belief and a spectacular insight into what lies on the other side.

**Lorna Gibb** was born in Belshill, North Lanarkshire, Scotland. She is a university lecturer and now lives in London. She is the author of *Lady Hester: Queen of the East* and *West's World: The Extraordinary Life of Dame Rebecca West*. *A Ghost's Story* is her first novel.

**Published (November 2015) · Fiction · 336pp**

# THE WHITE BOOK

## Han Kang

Translated by Deborah Smith



**From the Man Booker International shortlisted author of *The Vegetarian* comes a stunning and uncategorisable meditation on the colour white, about light, about death, ritual and the figure in the city.**

Both the most autobiographical and the most experimental book to date from South Korean master Han Kang. Written while on a writer's residency in Warsaw, a city palpably scarred by the violence of the past, the narrator finds herself haunted by the story of her older sister, who died a mere two hours after birth. A fragmented exploration of white things - the swaddling bands that were also her shroud, the breast milk she did not live to drink, the blank page on which the narrator herself attempts to reconstruct the story - unfold in a powerfully poetic distillation. As she walks the unfamiliar, snow-streaked streets, lined by buildings formerly obliterated in the Second World War, their identities blur and overlap as the narrator wonders 'Can I give this life to you?'. *The White Book* is a book like no other. It is a meditation on a colour, on the tenacity and fragility of the human spirit, and our attempts to graft new life from the ashes of destruction.

**Han Kang** was born in Gwangju, South Korea, and moved to Seoul at the age of ten. She studied Korean literature at Yonsei University. Her writing has won the Yi Sang Literary Prize, the Today's Young Artist Award, and the Korean Literature Novel Award. *The Vegetarian*, her first novel to be translated into English, was published by Portobello Books in 2015 and has been shortlisted for the 2016 Man Booker International Prize. She currently teaches creative writing at the Seoul Institute of the Arts.

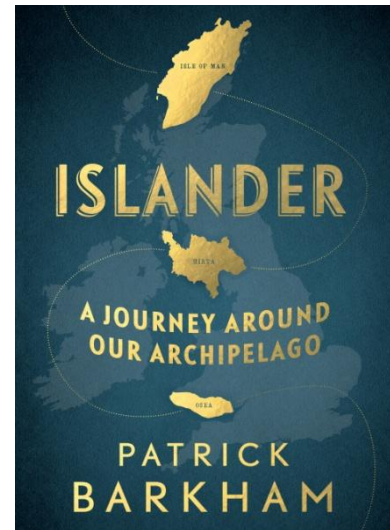
**Deborah Smith** (@londonkoreanist)'s literary translations from the Korean include two novels by Han Kang, *The Vegetarian* and *Human Acts* (both Portobello UK, Crown US), and two by Bae Suah, *The Essayist's Desk* (Open Letter 2016) and *The Low Hills of Seoul* (Deep Vellum 2016). Deborah recently founded @TiltedAxisPress, a not-for-profit press focusing on contemporary literary fiction.

**November 2017** · Fiction · tbc

## NON-FICTION

### ISLANDER

Patrick Barkham



**A funny, curious and surprising book about the islands of Britain and their human history, ranging from the Neolithic to the present day, from the bestselling author of *The Butterfly Isles*.**

The people of the British Isles are an island race. We are distributed across two large islands but also across an archipelago of 6,289 smaller ones. Some, like the Isle of Man, are like miniature nations, with their own language and tax laws; others, like Samson in the Isles of Scilly, are abandoned and mysterious places haunted by myths, old curses and rats. There are islands like Easedale, once famed for its slate mines, which house tiny, tight-knit communities; then there are islands like Brownsman in the Farne Islands, which are strictly for the birds - literally, as a sanctuary for seabirds. Our islands are places of refuge, places of isolation, party retreats and oases of peace. They entice, unnerve and delight us, but what it is about islands that make their allure so irresistible?

In this evocative and fascinating book, Patrick Barkham explores the essence of islands and island living: how do societies work differently on small islands, and do islands change the way we behave? Are eccentrics attracted to islands, or do islands make people eccentric? Do they keep us sane or drive us mad? Patrick's journey across the British Isles' isles sets out to answer these questions. Along the way, he uncovers bizarre and touching stories about island life, meets a host of curious characters, and sees some of the most beautiful landscapes in Britain.

**Patrick Barkham** was born in 1975 in Norfolk and was educated at Cambridge University. He is a features writer for the *Guardian*, where he has reported on everything from the Iraq War to climate change. He is the author of *The Butterfly Isles: A Summer in Search of Our Emperors and Admirals*, *Badgerlands: The Twilight World of Britain's Most Enigmatic Animal* and *Coastlines: The Story of Our Shore*. He lives in Norfolk.

October 2017 • Travel writing • 288pp

# ELISABETH'S LISTS

**Lulah Ellender**



**The story of one woman's search to find the grandmother she never knew, through her grandmother's beguiling book of handwritten lists**

*Elisabeth's Lists* tells the story Elisabeth, Lulah Ellender's grandmother, through a unique prism - a book of handwritten lists, which Lulah has inherited. On the face of it, the lists seem quite ordinary: the everyday 'to do's of running a household; a shopping list for a party; details of clothes to be packed for a foreign trip; a tally of eggs laid by the hens; an inventory of her brother's belongings. But these fragments come together to form a rich and colourful portrait of Elisabeth and the rarefied circles she moved in.

Beginning in 1930s China, when Elisabeth was an ambassador's daughter, Lulah tracks the path of Elisabeth's life. She becomes engaged to a diplomat and follows him to various postings, including mid-war Madrid (where the Duke and Duchess of Windsor arrive and bore everyone senseless), post-war Beirut, Rio de Janeiro and Paris. Elisabeth's life is filled with stark contrasts, oscillating between the opulent excess of embassy banquets and the deprivations of wartime rationing in England, between her unfailing public charm and her private black depressions. It is a glorious, enticing portrait of a glamorous world now gone.

But, for Lulah, it is more than just a biography. As she charts her departed grandmother's progress, she must also ready herself to say goodbye to her mother, recently diagnosed with cancer. Combining this emotional journey with Elisabeth's physical ones, *Elisabeth's Lists* is a compelling and sympathetic story of women across generations.

**Lulah Ellender's** writing has appeared in the *Guardian*, the *Daily Mail YOU* magazine, *Easy Living* and *Green Parent*, among others. She lives in Lewes, East Sussex, with her husband and four children. This is her first book.

**March 2018** · Non-fiction / Biography · 272pp

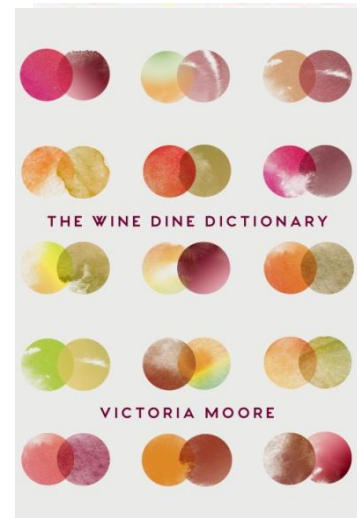


# THE WINE DINE DICTIONARY

Good Food and Good Wine:  
An A–Z of Suggestions for Happy  
Eating and Drinking

**Victoria Moore**

*International Wine Columnist of the Year and Online Communicator of the Year at the 2015 Louis Roederer International Wine Writers' Awards*



*'Full of valuable, well-founded information. Perfect!'* Michel Roux Jr.

*'How can you not love a book that recommends drinking a Rhône syrah with rillettes on one page and Earl Grey tea or an Islay whisky with kippers on another page?'* Sybil Kapoor

*'A brilliant book: intelligent, accessible, and incredibly useful. This is my new "go to" bible for planning a meal'* Diana Henry

*'I can't think which is the better place to keep this book, in the kitchen or beside my bed, but either way it's an essential buy for any cook or wine-lover and a brilliant read'* Fiona Beckett

Here is the book that is currently missing from our kitchen shelves: a brilliantly intuitive handbook for matching food and wine, from the author of the bestselling *How to Drink*.

Want to pick the perfect wine for dinner? Wondering what to eat with a special bottle? Let *The Wine Dine Dictionary* be your guide. Arranged A-Z by food at one end and A-Z by wine at the other, this unique handbook will help you make more informed, more creative, and more delicious choices about what to eat and drink. It includes chapters on picking by mood, picking by place, wines that go with (almost) everything and 'game-changer' ingredients like goats' cheese, chilli and lemon.

As one of the country's most popular and influential wine journalists, as well as an expert in the psychology of smell and taste, Victoria Moore doesn't just explain what goes with what, but why and how the combination works, too. Written with her trademark authority, warmth and wit, this is a book to consult and to savour.

**Victoria Moore** is an award-winning wine writer and currently writes a weekly drink column for the *Telegraph*. She has written on wine for the *New Statesman* and the *Guardian* and has appeared on Radio 4's Food Programme and You & Yours. She is the author of *How To Drink*, also published by Granta Books. She lives in London.

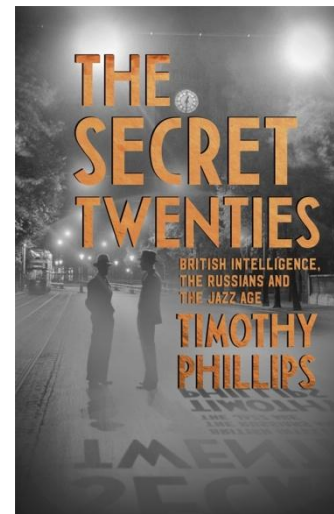
**May 2017** • Food / Drink • 400pp

**Rights sold:** Holland (Atlas-Contact)

# THE SECRET TWENTIES

British Intelligence, the Russians  
and the Jazz Age

Timothy Phillips



**A thrilling true story of espionage and counterespionage between the Soviets and the British during London's Roaring Twenties**

At the height of the hedonistic Jazz Age, many in British society became convinced that they were under attack from the Soviet Union. Still reeling from the Russian revolution of 1917, disturbed by the development of militant workers movements at home, and deeply paranoid about the recent wave of White Russian immigrants to the UK, the British government tasked the intelligence services to look for evidence of espionage.

Over the next decade, as the political pressure mounted, the spooks began to cast their net of suspicion wider, to include not only suspect Russians, but British aristocrats, Bloomsbury artists, ordinary workers, and even members of parliament. It was the biggest spying operation in the agency's history to date and its ramifications were profound. On the strength of the evidence they uncovered, Britain deported hundreds of Russians and broke off diplomatic links with Moscow for more than two years. This was the first Cold War, and it not only set the rules of engagement for Russia and Britain for decades to come, but also sent shockwaves through the British establishment, bringing down a government and ending political careers.

Drawing on a wealth of recently declassified and previously unseen material, Tim Phillips uncovers a world of suspicion and extremism, bureaucracy and betrayal set against the sparkling backdrop of cocktail-era London. *The Secret Twenties* shines fresh light on a glamorous decade, and offers a gripping account of the lives of the Soviet spies, the British Secret Service and the double agents in their midst.

**Timothy Phillips** is the author of *Beslan: The Tragedy of School No. 1* (Granta 2008). A fluent Russian speaker, he has travelled widely in the former Soviet Union and has worked extensively as a translator. He holds a doctorate in Russian history and lives in London, where he is a regular contributor to the *Times Literary Supplement* and the BBC Russian Service.

October 2017 • 20<sup>th</sup> Century History • 320pp