

AUTUMN 2023 NEW LIBRARY BOOKS

NON-FICTION

- The Diary Keepers: Ordinary People, Extraordinary Times** Nina SIEGAL Based on select writings from an exceptional Amsterdam archive containing more than 2000 Dutch diaries from World War II, *The Diary Keepers* takes us into the lives of seven diary writers and follows their pasts into the present, through interviews with those who preserved and inherited these diaries.
- The Dress Diary of Mrs Anne Sykes: Secrets from a Victorian Woman's Wardrobe** Kate STRASDIN In 1838, a young woman was given a diary on her wedding day. Collecting snippets of fabric from a range of garments she carefully annotated each one, creating a unique record of her life and times. Her name was Mrs Anne Sykes. Nearly two hundred years later, the diary fell into the hands of Kate Strasdin, a fashion historian and museum curator. Strasdin spent the next six years unravelling the secrets contained within the album's pages.
- Thunderclap** Laura CUMMING On the morning of 12 October 1654, a gunpowder explosion devastated the Dutch city of Delft. Among the fatalities was the painter Carel Fabritius, dead at thirty-two, leaving only his haunting masterpiece *The Goldfinch* and barely a dozen known paintings. (This book) interweaves the lives of Laura Cumming, her Scottish painter father, who also died too young, and the great artists of the Dutch Golden Age.

BIOGRAPHY

- Wavewalker** Suzanne HEYWOOD Aged just seven, Suzanne Heywood set sail with her parents and brother on a three-year voyage around the world. What followed turned instead into a decade-long way of life, through storms, shipwrecks, reefs and isolation, with little formal schooling. Suzanne fought her parents, longing to return to England and to education and stability. This memoir covers her astonishing upbringing, a survival story of a child deprived of safety, friendships, schooling and occasionally drinking water... At seventeen Suzanne earned an interview at Oxford University and returned to the UK.

FICTION

- A Stolen hour** Fokkina MCDONNELL *'What a delight to read this latest pamphlet of poetry by (BCH member) Fokkina McDonnell. ... By the end, I wanted to start again at the beginning.'* Carole Bromley, poet.
- All the Broken Places** John BOYNE This book is the sequel to *The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas*. Gretel Fernsby is a quiet woman leading a quiet life. She doesn't talk about her escape from Germany seventy years ago or the dark post-war years in France with her mother. Most of all, she doesn't talk about her father, the commandant of one of the most notorious Nazi concentration camps.
- Another life** Fokkina MCDONNELL BCH member Fokkina McDonnell's debut poetry collection *Another life* was published in November 2016.
"There's a delicate intimacy in Fokkina McDonnell's poetry. She catches moment, place, character and feeling with poignantly crafted simplicity. There's wit and humour – then, with deft, economical choice of detail, there are unforeseen swerves that reach the heart." Gina Wilson, poet.
- Death Under a Little Sky** Stig ABELL For years, Jake Jackson has been a high-flying detective in the city. One day he receives a letter from his reclusive uncle - he has left Jake his property in the middle of the countryside. It is the perfect opportunity for a fresh start. While the locals are eccentric, they are also friendly, and invite him to join their annual treasure hunt. What starts as an innocent game turns sinister, when a young woman's bones are discovered.
- Nothing serious, nothing dangerous** Fokkina MCDONNELL In her second collection of 47 poems, BCH member Fokkina McDonnell *'... weaves a pattern of recurring threads – family and other relationships, a feeling for the natural world ... and locations from East Anglia and Manchester to Holland and China go alongside a keen appreciation of artists, with paintings triggering a number of the poems. ...'* Lawrence Sail, poet.

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Remembering / Disease	Fokkina	MCDONNELL	The manuscript of Fokkina McDonnell's third poetry collection received a Northern Writers' Award in June 2020 from New Writing North. The poet Vahni (Anthony Ezekiel) Capildeo judged the poetry entries and praised the submission: <i>'This collection deals with ordinary/extraordinary fractures, and does so with beautiful minimalism and intriguing poise.'</i>
The Black Eden	Richard	KELLY	1956, the Scottish Highlands: For Aaron and Robbie, a schoolmaster's son and a farmer's boy; Mark and Ally, bright pupils at Edinburgh's grandest private school; and Joseph, heir to an Aberdeen trawler-fishing dynasty, the discovery of oil under the North Sea will make their dreams achievable. But behind the promise and temptation of 'black gold,' there is a price to be paid; oil can overthrow relationships, turn friends into foes, and even put lives in peril.
The Dutch Orphan	Ellen	KEITH	Amsterdam, 1941. When the Nazis invade Amsterdam, singer Johanna Vos watches in horror as the vibrant music scene she loves is all but erased, her Jewish friends forbidden from performing with her onstage. Alongside her friend Jakob, Johanna creates the Artists' Resistance, an underground network allowing Jews to perform at houses hosted by their allies. When Johanna hears of a Jewish orphan headed for deportation, she does not think twice. She takes the baby in as her own, hiding the truth from even her own sister, Liesbeth.
The Trial	Rob	RINDER	When hero policeman Grant Cliveden dies from a poisoning in the Old Bailey, it threatens to shake the country to its core. The evidence points to one man. Jimmy Knight has been convicted of multiple offences before and defending him will be no easy task. Not least because this is trainee barrister Adam Green's first case. But it will quickly become clear that Jimmy Knight is not the only person in Cliveden's past with an axe to grind. The only thing that's certain is that this is a trial which will push Adam - and the justice system itself - to the limit.
The Wild Card	Judy	MURRAY	Twenty years ago, Abigail Patterson put her promising tennis career on hold to have her baby son, Robbie. But after a wild card entry to Wimbledon, she suddenly finds herself swept up in a world she thought she'd left behind - and against all odds, she's winning! .. Abi knows that it's only a matter of time before the press start digging into her past and uncover the secret she's kept hidden for so long.
Tom Lake	Anne	PATCHETT	It's spring and Lara's three grown daughters have returned to the family orchard. While picking cherries, they beg their mother to tell them the one story they've always longed to hear - of the film star with whom she shared a stage, and a romance, years before. <i>Tom Lake</i> is a meditation on youthful love, married love, and the lives parents lead before their children are born. Both hopeful and elegiac, it explores what it means to be happy even when the world is falling apart.
Wandering Souls	Cecile	PIN	One night, not long after the last American troops leave Vietnam, siblings Anh, Thanh and Minh flee their village and embark on a perilous boat journey to Hong Kong. Their parents and four younger siblings make the crossing in another vessel but as weeks go by it becomes clear that only one party has survived the voyage. Anh, Thanh and Minh suddenly find themselves alone in the world, without family or home. They travel on, navigating refugee camps and resettlement centres until they arrive in Thatcher's Britain.