

THE MR B'S BOOKSELLER'S DOZEN

JANUARY '25



Welcome to the Mr B's Bookseller's Dozen!

These are the books Team B is most excited about this month. And because we can't possibly stop at only 12, our dozen consists of 24 books! With fiction, non-fiction, teen and children's books, there is something for everyone.

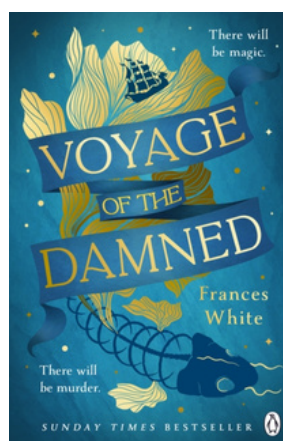
Just click on the book covers to find out more and buy. Or [click here](#) to see the full list on the Mr B's website.



STRANGE PICTURES by UKETSU FICTION - 16TH JANUARY

Pushkin Press £14.99

What links a series of creepy and disturbing drawings by a dying woman, a young boy, and a murder victim? All will be revealed in this dazzlingly macabre and riveting puzzle, the first book available in English from an anonymous Japanese YouTube star.



VOYAGE OF THE DAMNED by FRANCES WHITE FICTION - 2ND JANUARY

Penguin £9.99

Concordia has maintained peace for 1000 years. To celebrate, the emperor embarks on a 12-day journey to the Goddess's Mountain. Cue murder, magic and a battle for survival. A furiously entertaining queer fantasy adventure full of great characters.

THE WIZARD OF THE KREMLIN by GIULIANO DA EMPOLI FICTION - 2ND JANUARY Pushkin Press £9.99

Vadim Baranov is quietly building a career as a TV executive when he is coaxed into the inner circle of a rising young star of Russian politics: Vladimir Putin. Take a trip inside the corridors of Russian power in this addictive political thriller, perfect for readers of Robert Harris.



YOU DREAMED OF EMPIRES by ALVARO ENRIGUE FICTION - 9TH JANUARY Vintage £9.99

It is 1519 and two cultures are about to clash. Conquistador Hernán Cortés arrives in Aztec Emperor Moctezuma II's glorious floating city of Tenoxtitlan, where his men find a suspiciously warm welcome awaiting them... A trippy, hilarious and audacious work of fictional history.



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SWEET VIDALIA
by **LISA SANDLIN**
FICTION - 16TH JANUARY
Abacus £20

Eliza built a life with Robert: children, happiness, a closeness borne of years. But after his sudden death, she discovers a lie that casts a shadow on everything she thought was certain. A quiet gem for readers of Elizabeth Strout and Ann Tyler.



BLESSINGS
by **CHUKWUEBEKA IBEH**
FICTION - 9TH JANUARY
Vintage £9.99

When his father witnesses an intimate moment shared with another boy, Obiefuna is sent to a punishing Christian boarding school. So begins a journey of self-discovery for Obiefuna, while his mother attempts to cling on to her favourite son. A moving debut of love and loneliness.

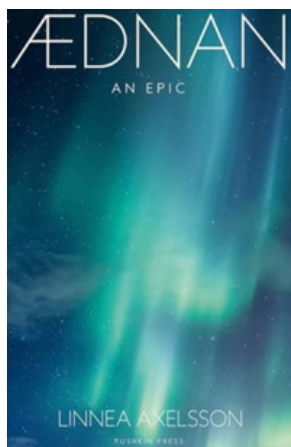
THE FAVOURITES
by **LAYNE FARGO**
FICTION - 16TH JANUARY
Chatto & Windus £16.99

Kat and Heath: ice skating prodigies who cling to each other as success and fame dance into their lives. Then, at the Olympic Games, a shocking incident destroys everything. An addictive, insightful, and truly compelling novel for Taylor Jenkins Reid fans.



UNDER THE EYE OF THE BIG BIRD
by **HIROMI KAWAKAMI**
FICTION - 16TH JANUARY
Granta £14.99

On a future Earth where humans are all but extinct, the few that remain are created in laboratories, or derive nutrients from the sun, like plants. Survival depends on interbreeding of these alien species – but can they still feel, love, connect? Are they still human?



AEDNAN
by **LINNEA AKELSSON**
FICTION - 12TH JANUARY
Pushkin Press £12.99

Northern Scandinavia, 1910s. Reindeer herders Ristin and Ber-Joná struggle to keep their family together in a changing world. Sixty years later, Lise is haunted by her forced adjustment to modern Swedish life. A beautiful, haunting multi-generational saga told in sparkling verse.



NESTING
by **ROISÍN O'DONNELL**
FICTION - 30TH JANUARY
Simon & Schuster £16.99

Ciara makes a split-second decision, packing her girls into the car and driving the three of them away from their life. But starting again isn't easy, especially with her husband Ryan desperately searching for them. A startling debut novel from a new voice in Irish fiction.

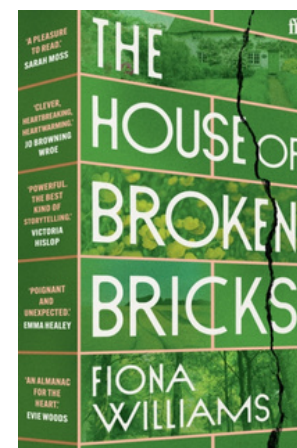
WITCHCRAFT FOR WAYWARD GIRLS
by **GRADY HENDRIX**
FICTION - 16TH JANUARY
Tor Nightfire £22

Wellwood House, Florida. A place for wayward girls, unwed mothers, to give birth in secret. But when Fern stumbles across a book of the occult, these girls will taste power for the first time. Deliciously dark horror from a master of the genre.

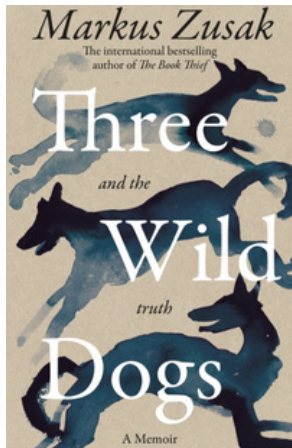


THE HOUSE OF BROKEN BRICKS
by **FIONA WILLIAMS**
FICTION - 30TH JANUARY
Faber & Faber £9.99

Richard and Tess live in a rural Somerset cottage with their twin boys Sonny and Max, who spend much of their time escaping into worlds of make-believe. A poignant and beautifully written meditation on grief, belonging and family.

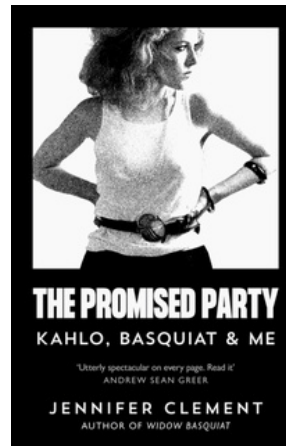


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THREE WILD DOGS
by **MARKUS ZUSAK**
MEMOIR - 23RD JANUARY
Macmillan £16.99

The *Book Thief* author opens his family's home to three huge, wild, pound-hardened dogs. The result: absolute chaos. This charming and loving memoir of one family and its unruly pets delivers all the warmth and truth fans have come to expect from Zusak's writing.

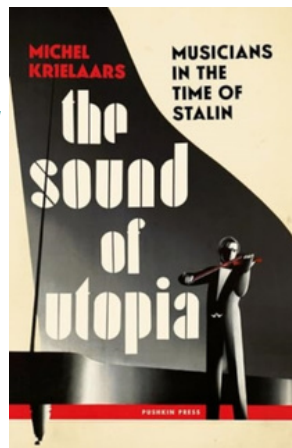


THE PROMISED PARTY
by **JENNIFER CLEMENT**
MEMOIR - 2ND JANUARY
Canongate £10.99

Growing up in Mexico City, Clement lived next door to Frida Kahlo's old house. As a teenager, she headed for NYC, where she befriended Keith Haring, Colette Lumiere, and Jean-Michel Basquiat. A formally inventive and utterly brilliant and unique memoir.

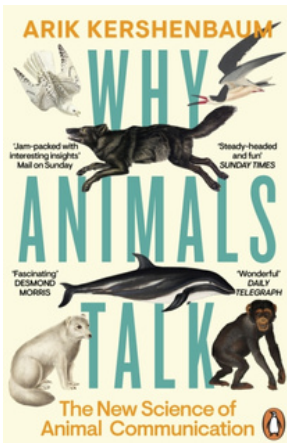
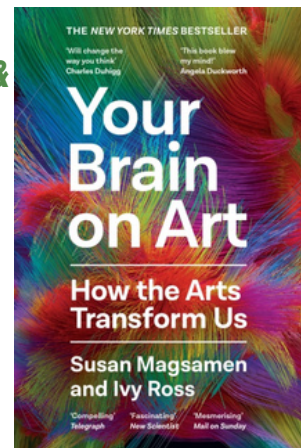
THE SOUND OF UTOPIA
by **MICHAEL KRIELAARS**
HISTORY - 16TH JANUARY
Pushkin Press £25

When Stalin came to power in the Soviet Union, music suddenly became life or death: make the wrong type and you could end up in a gulag. Journalist Krielaars thrillingly profiles the lives of composers struggling to create in an environment of suspicion and fear.



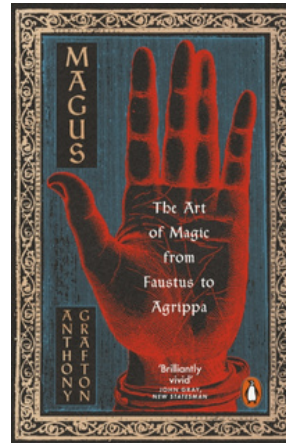
YOUR BRAIN ON ART
by **SUSAN MAGSAMEN & IVY ROSS**
SCIENCE/ART - 30TH JAN
Canongate £10.99

Research shows that just 45 minutes of work on an art project reduces stress and can extend your life. Learn how even the least skilled artists can use dance, painting, writing, and more to look after their wellbeing – the perfect start to the new year!



WHY ANIMALS TALK
by **ARIK KERSHENBAUM**
NATURE/SCIENCE - 30TH JAN
Penguin £10.99

The howls of wolves, the clicks of dolphins, the chatter of parrots – these are not just noise, but communication. Zoologist Kershenbaum unlocks the mysteries of these animals and many more in an accessible book for fans of *An Immense World* and *The Secret Life of Trees*.



MAGUS
by **ANTHONY GRAFTON**
HISTORY - 2ND JANUARY
Penguin £10.99

As a wild mix of scientist, bibliophile, engineer, fabulist and fraud, the magus ushered in the study of physics, biology, and magic tricks. This fascinating history takes us into the lives of these oddball characters and the intertwined histories of science, religion and magic.

A LANGUAGE OF DRAGONS
by **S. F. WILLIAMSON**
TEEN - 2ND JANUARY
Harper Fire £16.99

In a 1920s London where dragons soar overhead, Viv studies dragon languages and tries to keep her family on a level footing. Then her family disappears and Viv is recruited by a mysterious outfit based at Bletchley Park... An epic new teen dark academia adventure.



THE RESTAURANT AT THE END OF THE WORLD
by **GERLACH & SILVA**
TEEN GRAPHIC NOVEL - 2ND JAN
Faber & Faber £10.99

Soup is 17 and keen to make her mark on the world, only she's reluctant to leave the restaurant she calls home. But when her boss snaps at her, she challenges him to a bet: the winner takes the restaurant. *Nimona* meets *Heartstopper!*



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THE WHISPERWICKS
by **JORDAN LEES**
CHILDREN'S - 2ND JANUARY
Puffin £7.99

Benjamin is all about science and logic – he certainly doesn't believe in magic. But when he receives a mysterious gift in the post, a whole other world opens up in front of him... a spellbinding new novel for fans of *Skandar* and *the Unicorn Thief* and Philip Pulman.



HUNT FOR THE GOLDEN SCARAB
by **M. G. LEONARD**
CHILDREN'S - 30TH JANUARY
Macmillan £7.99

Sim's mum has been keeping secrets: for a start, she can open doors in time. Now they are on the run from the sinister Council of Keys – can they solve the mystery of the golden scarab before it's too late? A brilliant new series from the author of *The Highland Falcon Thief*.

SCARLET: DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSE
by **JAMES DAVIS**
CHILDREN'S - 2ND JANUARY
Harper Collins £7.99

Scarlet only replied to the job advert in the Beano for Defender of the Universe to prove to her brother it was fake... now she's facing down aliens who want to destroy the planet! A hilarious new sci-fi novel for fans of *Loki* and *Charlie Changes into a Chicken*.



THE COMET
by **JOE TODD-STANTON**
PICTURE BOOK - 2ND JANUARY
Flying Eye £7.99

Nyla's family has moved to the city, but all she can think about is their old life in the countryside. Could the glowing comet that appears in the sky offer escape – or finally make her feel at home? A heartfelt picture book from a Mr B's favourite.



All of these books - and many more - are available to buy at:

www.mrbsemporium.com

Get in touch:



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Or you can come and chat books with us in person at:

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