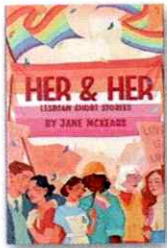
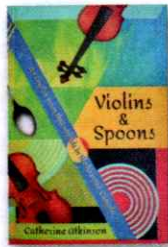


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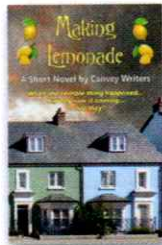
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Her & Her by Jane McKears
Her and Her is a powerful collection of short stories imagining the private and public lives of British lesbians from 1952 to 2003. Drawing on historical research into the social norms, political movements and everyday realities of each era, this collection captures half a century of change through the lens of intimate relationships and quiet revolutions. From secret partnerships and 'female husbands' to Gay Pride marches, these stories reflect the ordinary women leading extraordinary lives.



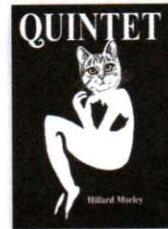
Violins & Spoons by Catherine Atkinson
 This intertwined story explores adoption and loss through the experiences of three mothers, one infertile, one who gave up her child, and one whose son was diagnosed with cancer. In 1990, Catherine began searching for her Canadian birth mother, stationed in London during World War II. She confronted many obstacles and challenges during her emotional, intriguing journey. Publisher: UK Book Publishing £8.99 ISBN 978-1-918077-47-6 Available online at Waterstones and Amazon.



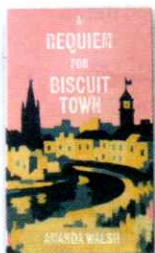
Making Lemonade – A Short Novel by Canvey Writers is a poignant exploration of community, loss and the cost of silence. When fourteen-year-old Joanne Wilson takes her own life, it shatters the local community. A beautifully written collaborative novel by Canvey Writers, with ALL publisher and author profits to POPYRUS – Prevention of Young Suicide, who they've worked closely with. Includes discussion points aimed at normalising conversation around suicide. Mission: to get this into every school and library. Available from bookshops and online, £8.50.



The Search, book one of *The Identity Thieves* by Karen Howard
 The truth can be liberating. But at what price? A woman's world unravels when she discovers the birth of a twin she never knew and her parents are lying to her. Increasingly threatened, her search leads from the Scottish Highlands to southwest France, via hostile encounters and a disturbing childhood memory. 'A traumatic topic handled with compassion though skilful writing. A gripping story of family intrigue.' – Tracey Icton, author. Cinnamonpress.com, [Waterstones](http://Waterstones.com), [Amazon](http://Amazon.com) and others. karen-howard.com



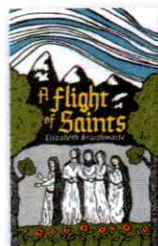
Quintet by Hillard Morley
 When Queenie gives birth to a litter of kittens, a beguiling tale full of sardonic humour and creeping unease begins. A fable for the feral-hearted, this novella explores how love mutates under pressure, and what it means to care for our creations, even when they don't resemble us. Part suburban parable, part gothic allegory, *Quintet* is a searing study of parenthood, shimmering with tension, which reviewers have called 'wonderous,' 'exquisite' and 'refined'. nakedfigleafpress.com/figmentum/quintet ISBN 978-1-068482847



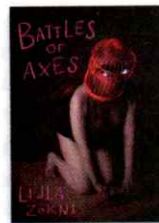
A Requiem for Biscuit Town by Amanda Walsh
A Requiem for Biscuit Town is Walsh's first collection of poems about grief, identity and survival. Told through the lens of working class life, it moves through the stages of grief, shock, denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance. It attempts to capture the essence of resilience that can be found in lives shaped by daily struggles. The poems can be read in any order and like the chaos of grief, they don't just ask you to reflect but ask you to feel. Available for pre-sale on Arkbound.



The Man in the Middle by Julie Lee Williams
 Based on true experience, this book pulls back the curtain on one family's saga. Spanning the period from war-torn Europe and the 1940s onwards, it exposes the story of twin sisters entangled in a romantic rivalry, spurned lovers, self-doubt and second chances, all against the shadowy backdrop of the evangelical religion and its judgements. The twists and turns of this epic tale are ones we can all relate to. Available on Amazon or in book stores.



A Flight of Saints by Elizabeth Braithwaite
 Northern Italy, 1179. A daring convent escape sends Sister Lucia and four others racing across the Alps for the sanctuary of Hildegard of Bingen's community. At least, that's the wild hope of a murderer, a thief, a sex addict, a stigmata fraud, and a fan girl. With bounty hunters on their tail, and a lame Templar in tow, unclioster-like behaviour takes hold as secrets are spilled, trust broken, and murder sanctioned. Available on Amazon.



Battles of Axes - All Wounds are Mothers by L.J.La ZoKni
 L.J.La ZoKni's first online picture chapbook chez Teesside Women Poets. L.J.La's magic brutalist style captures women in typically female stress positions such as abortion, birth, breastfeeding, sexual violence, over- and under-medicalisation of the female body. Its stuttering confessionals hark back to a Cold War youth, queer immigrant life in London's vibrant feminist and gay scenes, post-squat communal living. It breathes surreal, surmodern into every borrowed breath, borrowed word.



Godless Cosmologies by Christy Theodoulou
 This is a gothic, literary fantasy which follows an asylum patient facing one of life's greatest paradoxes: to cure one's mind through love, one may just have to lose it. When young Pear arrives at Kopolka's asylum following his mother's death, he is summoned to a midnight rendezvous where he meets the enigmatic Mystery. But before long the lines between reality and fancy begin to shake. The question is: will he let them crumble?