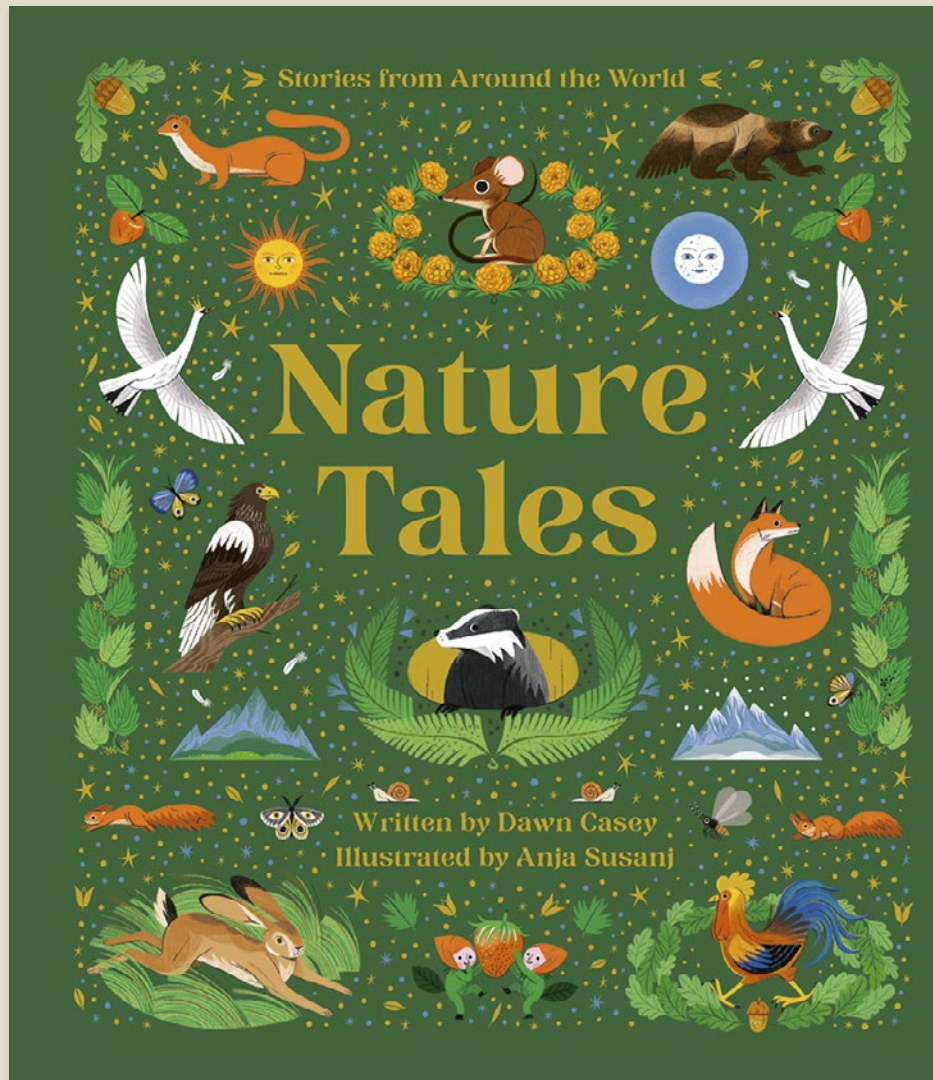




**SPAIN - FBF24 - Adult and Gifting**

# Nature Tales

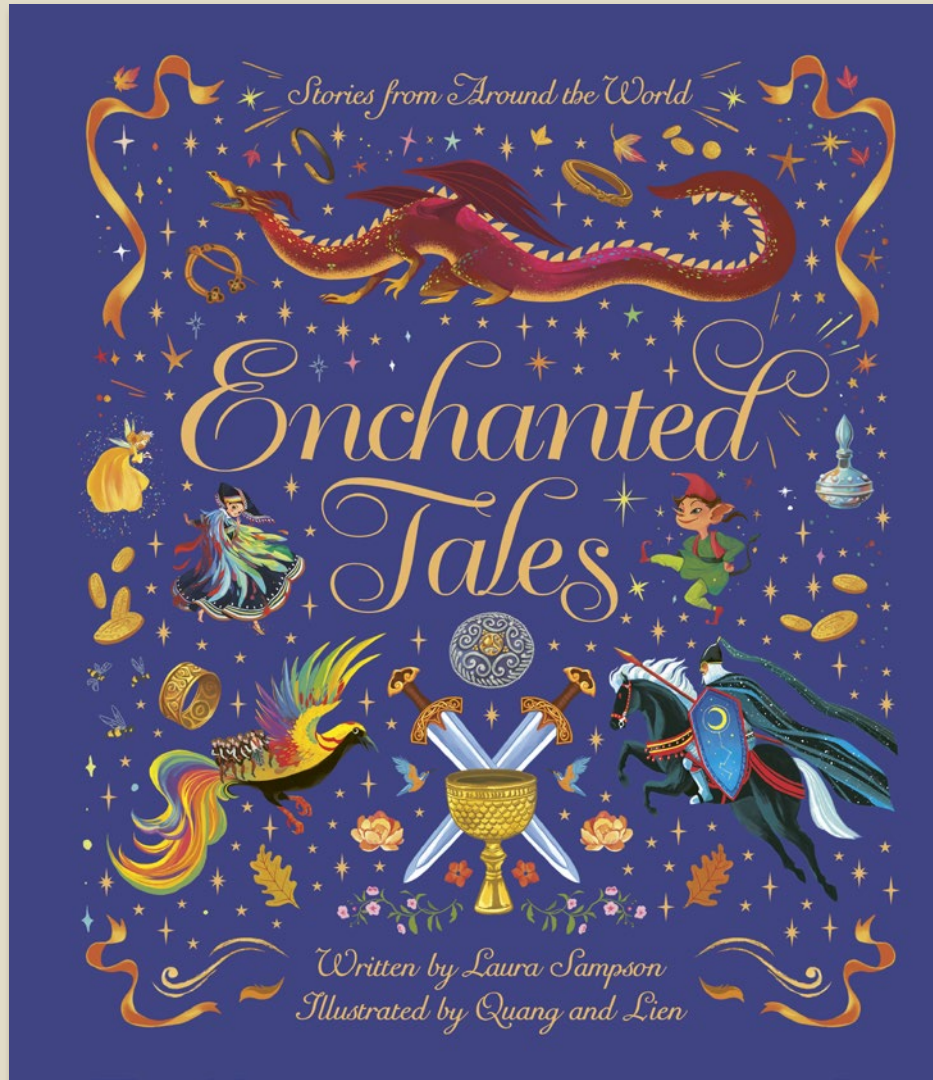


## A collection of nature folk tales

- CONTENTS: The Bramble's Gift **Greece**; Fox's Tail **Norway**; Little Brown Mouse **Himalayas**; Pigeon and Bee **Ukraine**; The Magic Acorn **Russia**; Wild Strawberries **Britain**; Eagle and Owl **Wales**; Hare's Ears **Siberia**; The Hedgehog and Hare **Germany**; Little Lark, Robin Redbreast and Jenny Wren **France**; Little Red Squirrel **America**; Rabbit's Tale **Brazil**; The Healing Apple Tree **Poland**; The Pine Tree **Japan**; Badger Boy **Ireland**; Bringing Back Wolf **Mexico**; The Birth of Bear **Finland**; The Stork's Nest **Morocco**.
- A timeless, treasured classic that speaks to all ages, following on from the success of *Star Stories* (2018), *Winter Tales* (2020) and *Enchanted Tales* (2023).
- Includes stories from every continent, giving it a universal appeal.



# Enchanted Tales



## A spellbinding treasury of magical tales

- A timeless, treasured classic that speaks to all ages, following on from the success of *Star Stories* (2018) and *Winter Tales* (2020)
- Universal appeal, including stories from cultures on every continent
- *Winter Tales* has sold more than 80,000 copies across 15 territories
- Cover: Arlin + foil

# Enchanted Tales



## The Magic Fish

A tale from China

The Brothers Grimm version of "Cinderella" is the one many of us are familiar with, but there are hundreds – maybe even thousands – of different versions of this tale from around the globe. This version from China was the first to be written down, over 1,000 years ago.

Once upon a time, in a little shed outside a little house in the cave mountains of Southern China, there lived an orphan called Ye-Tsien. She was bright-eyed, clever, kind and good at making things. Ye-Tsien's stepmother loved her own daughter best, so Ye-Tsien had to do all the heaviest, most dangerous work, like collecting firewood from the deep forest or water from the high mountain pools.

One day, Ye-Tsien was collecting water when up from the bottom of a deep mountain pool there was a shimmering and a glittering. It travelled up and up until something broke the surface – a tiny, shining golden fish! The fish looked up at Ye-Tsien, Ye-Tsien looked back – and from that moment, the fish

## The Magic Fish

and Ye-Tsien became friends. She took it home, placed it in a basin and fed it every day with scraps from her own plate. The fish grew and grew until, one day, it had grown so big she had to take it back to the pool. Still, Ye-Tsien visited the golden fish every day, and each time the fish would poke its shining golden head out of the water and greet her.

A few weeks later, the Stepmother was hungry and had an idea. Secretly, she fished Ye-Tsien to the pool. She saw how the huge, sparkling, delicious-looking fish always came out for Ye-Tsien but stayed deep under the water when anyone else came by. *How can I outwit this clever fish?* she thought.

The next day, back at home, the Stepmother gave Ye-Tsien new clothes to put on and sent her on a long errand down the mountain. Then she disguised herself in Ye-Tsien's old clothes, went to the pool and called the fish. When it bubbled up from the bottom of the pool, the Stepmother was ready with a knife. She took the golden fish home, chopped it up, cooked it and served it up to eat with her favourite daughter.

'Delicious!' they both said, wiping their mouths. They ate every morsel and threw its bones away on the rubbish heap.

The following day, Ye-Tsien hurried to the mountain pool and called – but no fish came. Big tears fell from her eyes and splashed into the empty pool. But as she cried, the air thickened, shimmering and glittering, and a figure appeared. It spoke in a voice that reminded her of safety:

*Today you cry, today you weep,  
But look upon the rubbish heap.  
Your fish friend's magic bones are there.  
They'll grant you wishes, never fear.*



Pub Date	<b>28/09/2023</b>
Pub Price	<b>£16.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800785915</b>
H x W	<b>265 x 228mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>7-9 years</b>
Author	<b>Laura Sampson</b>
Illustrator	<b>Phung Nguyen Quang and Huynh Thi Kim Lien</b>
Extent	<b>96pp</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# Winter Tales

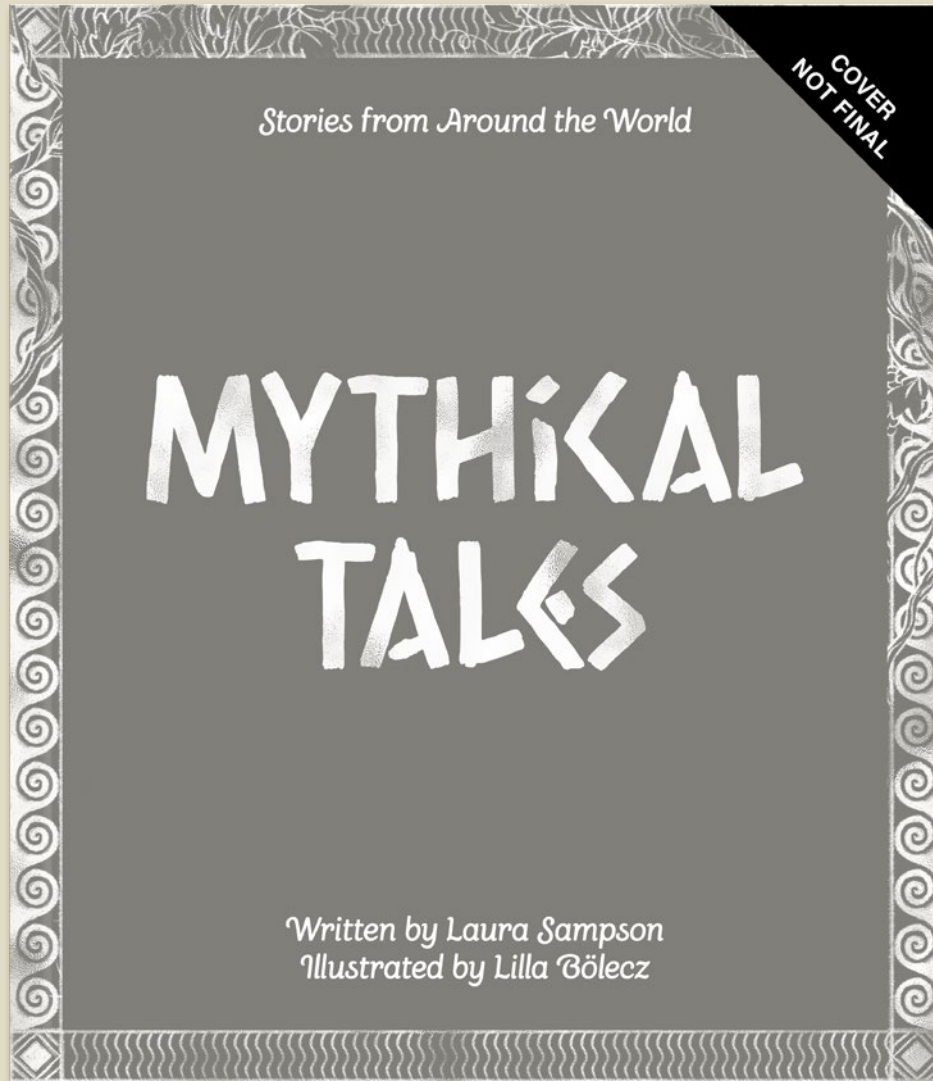


**A collection of winter tales from cultures around the world, beautifully brought together with striking gilt artwork.**

- A timeless, treasured classic that speaks to all ages - following on from the success of *Star Stories*
- Includes stories from cultures on every continent giving it a universal appeal
- Written by Dawn Casey - author of Templar's *My Nana's Garden*.
- Over 76,000 copies sold worldwide (as of October 2022).



# Mythical Tales

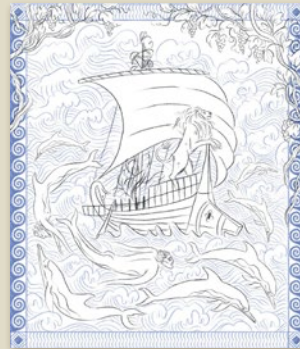


## A collection of mythical tales from around the world.

- A timeless treasury that speaks to all ages, following on from the success of *Star Stories* (2018), *Winter Tales* (2020), *Enchanted Tales* (2023) and *Nature Tales* (2024)
- *Star Stories* sold into 12 territories, *Winter Tales* has sold into 18 territories and *Enchanted Tales* has sold into 11 territories.
- With universal appeal, this collection of stories includes stories from cultures on every continent.
- Cover finishes: arlin and foil



# Mythical Tales



**DIONYSUS AND THE PIRATES**

Long ago, a fast ship sped East, her sunlight catching its shadow on the sparkling sea. The wind filled its sails and rows of wooden oars cut through the water, worked by strong sailors. On the ship's deck, twenty pirates smiled. The ship's hold was full of gold, jewels, fine delicacies, and something even better: a rich passenger who was going to make their fortunes!


That morning, a young man with diamond-bright eyes, rich purple robes and long dark hair, had wined and coliced from a cliff-top:

"Sailors! Take me to the island of Naxos. I'll pay you well!"

The pirates agreed, and the young man had boarded the ship. But the pirates didn't just take goods, they were kidnappers too. The ship sailed straight past Naxos, and the captain cried, "You're our captive now! Your family will pay a ransom, or we'll sell you as a slave!"

The young man did not answer. He did not look worried either. He just stood there, eyes glittering, mouth curled up in a secret smile.

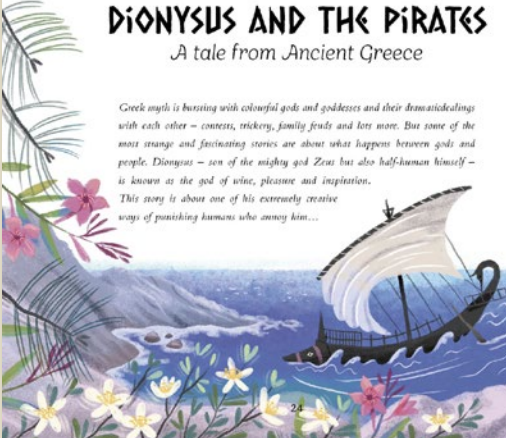





## DIONYSUS AND THE PIRATES

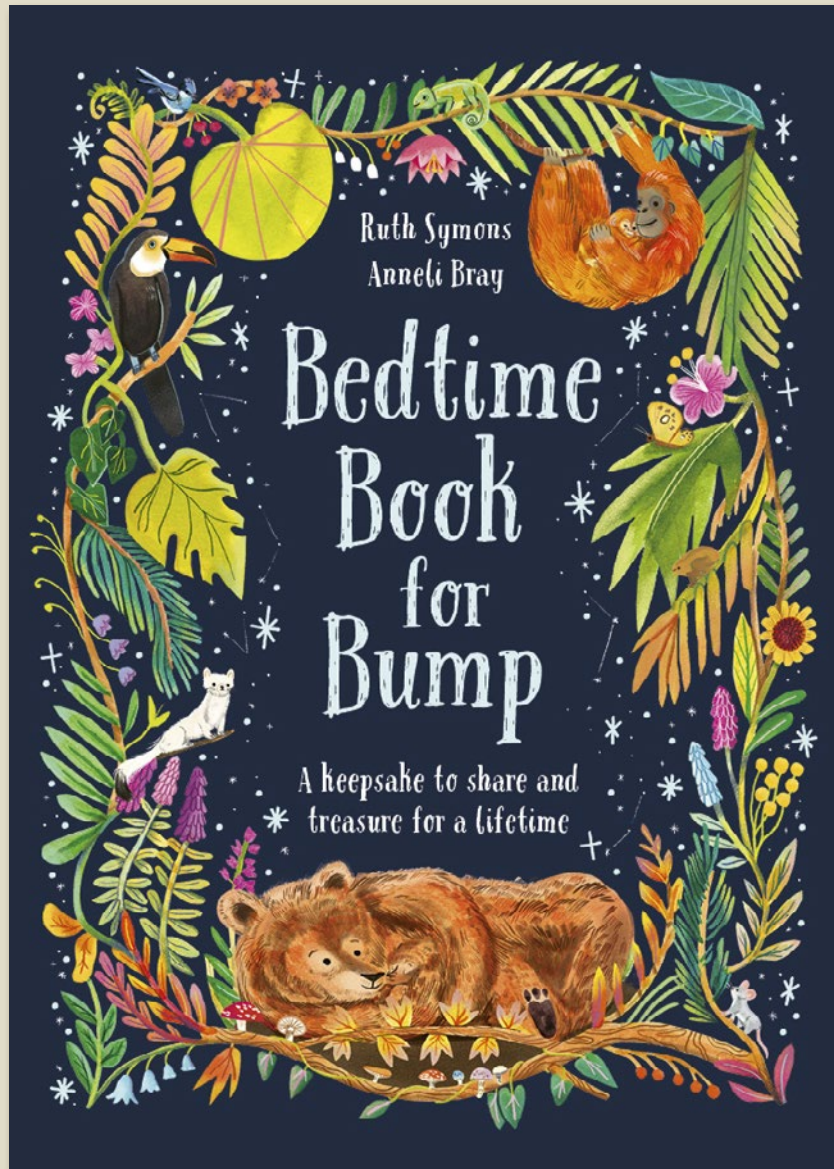
A tale from Ancient Greece

Greek myth is bursting with colourful gods and goddesses and their dramatic dealings with each other – conquest, trickery, family feuds and love more. But some of the most strange and fascinating stories are about what happens between gods and people. Dionysus – son of the mighty god Zeus but also half-human himself – is known as the god of wine, pleasure and inspiration. This story is about one of his extremely creative ways of punishing humans who annoy him...

Pub Date	<b>25/09/2025</b>
Pub Price	<b>£16.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800788398</b>
H x W	<b>265 x 228mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>7-9 years</b>
Author	<b>Laura Sampson</b>
Illustrator	<b>Lilla Bölec</b>
Extent	<b>96pp</b>
Word Count	<b>14000 words</b>
Translation Files	<b>10/02/2025</b>
Files To Printer	<b>05/05/2025</b>
Freight On Board	<b>10/07/2025</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# Bedtime Book for Bump



**A beautifully illustrated pregnancy keepsake with pages to personalise.**

- Hardback keepsake book with an arlin and foil cover finish.
- Includes an introduction by Dr Kimberley Bennett (creator of “The Psychologist’s Child”), backed by research, on the importance of reading to baby in utero.
- The perfect gift for parents-to-be.
- Written in an inclusive manner, to encompass same-sex and single parents.
- Secure envelope affixed to the interior back cover to keep scan photos and other treasured memories.

# Bedtime Book for Bump



Little One, this book's for you,

I'll read it loud and clear.



For though we  
haven't met you yet,  
I know that you can hear.



Your mother's beating heart  
Makes up the music  
of your day,



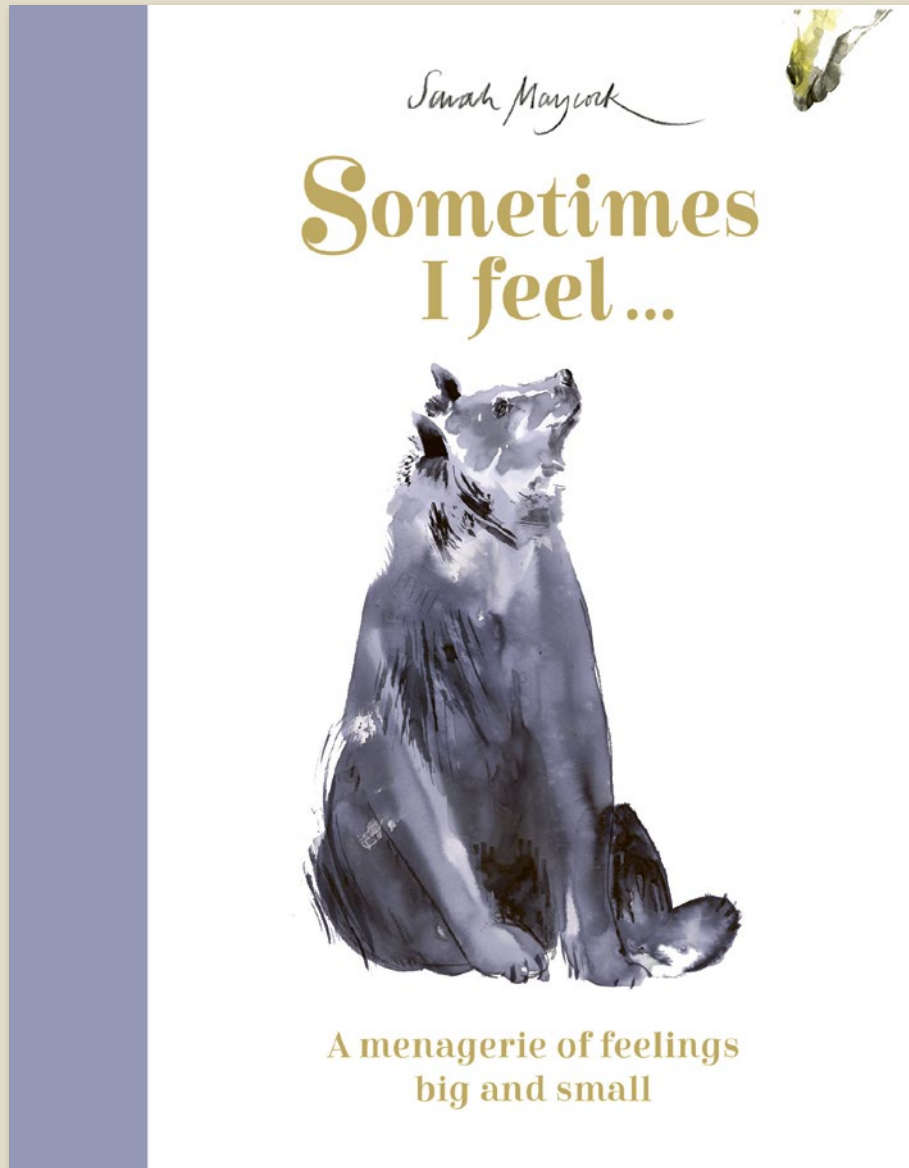
And when I sing,  
you listen in:

You wriggle and you play.



Pub Date	<b>16/03/2023</b>
Pub Price	<b>£12.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800784277</b>
H x W	<b>210 x 148mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>Adult</b>
Author	<b>Ruth Symons</b>
Extent	<b>48pp</b>
Word Count	<b>1000 words</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

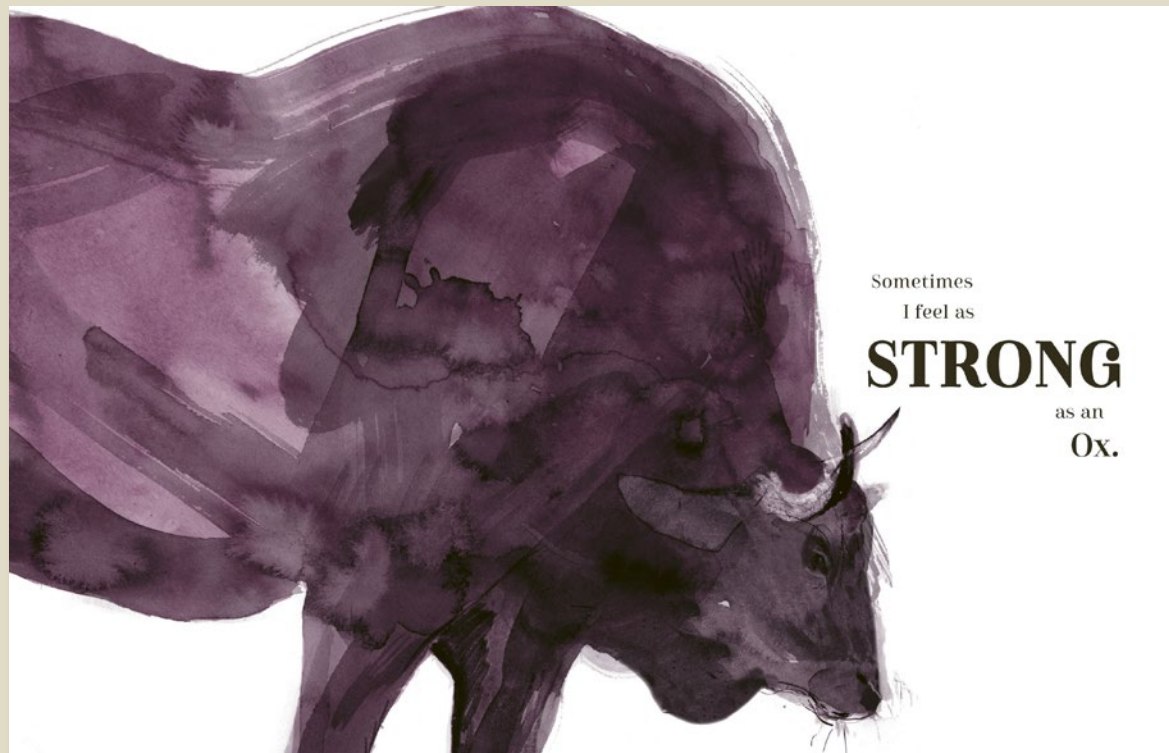
# Sometimes I Feel...



## A mini hardback edition of Sarah Maycock's beautiful *Sometimes I Feel*.

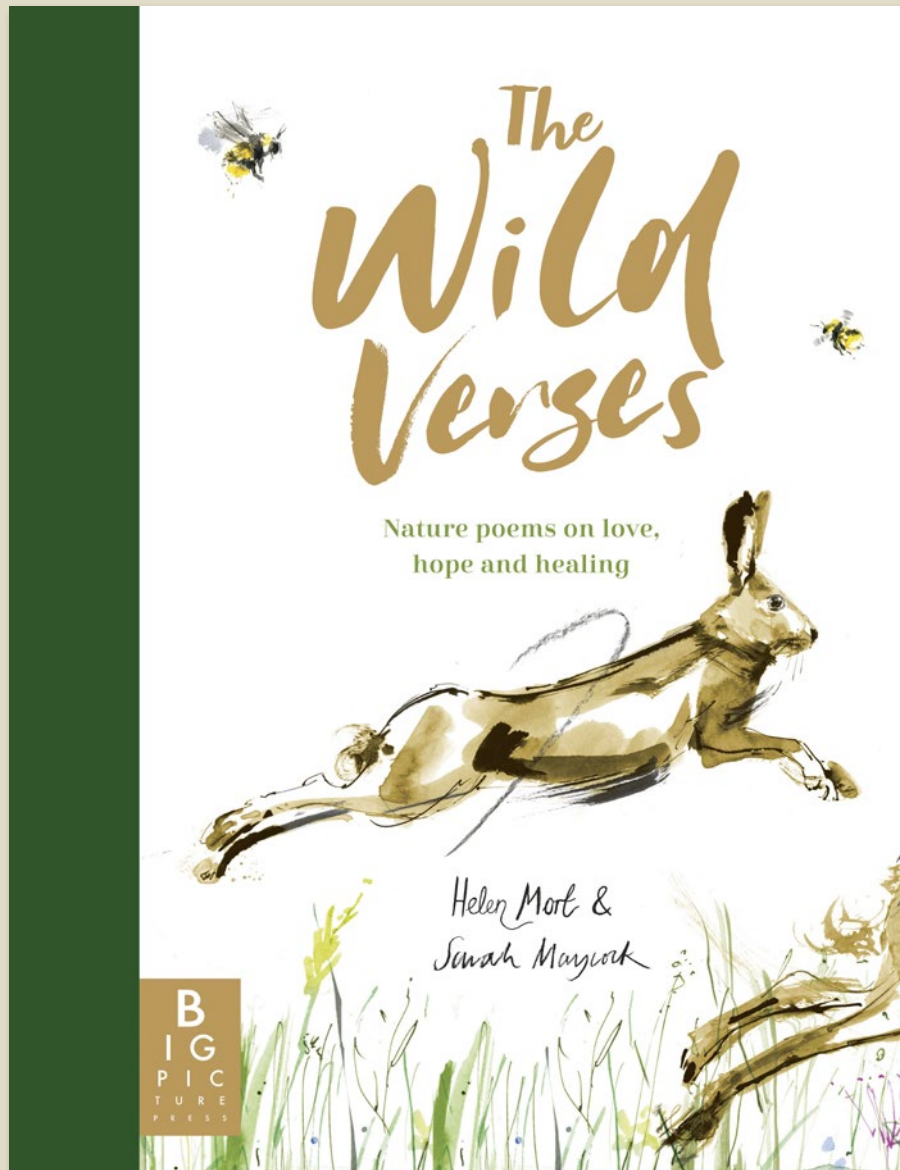
- *Sometimes I Feel* has been used by several teachers in lessons, to teach emotional literacy.
- Smaller format and lower RRP to make this a covetable gift purchase.
- Sarah is an extraordinary talent and someone we'd love to publish more with (and is no doubt getting enquiries for other children's projects).
- Cover Treatments: grained cover with 100% gold foil

# Sometimes I Feel...



Pub Date	<b>20/01/2022</b>
Pub Price	<b>£5.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800781283</b>
H x W	<b>169 x 132mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>5-7 years</b>
Author	<b>Sarah Maycock</b>
Illustrator	<b>Sarah Maycock</b>
Extent	<b>48pp</b>
Word Count	<b>250 words</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

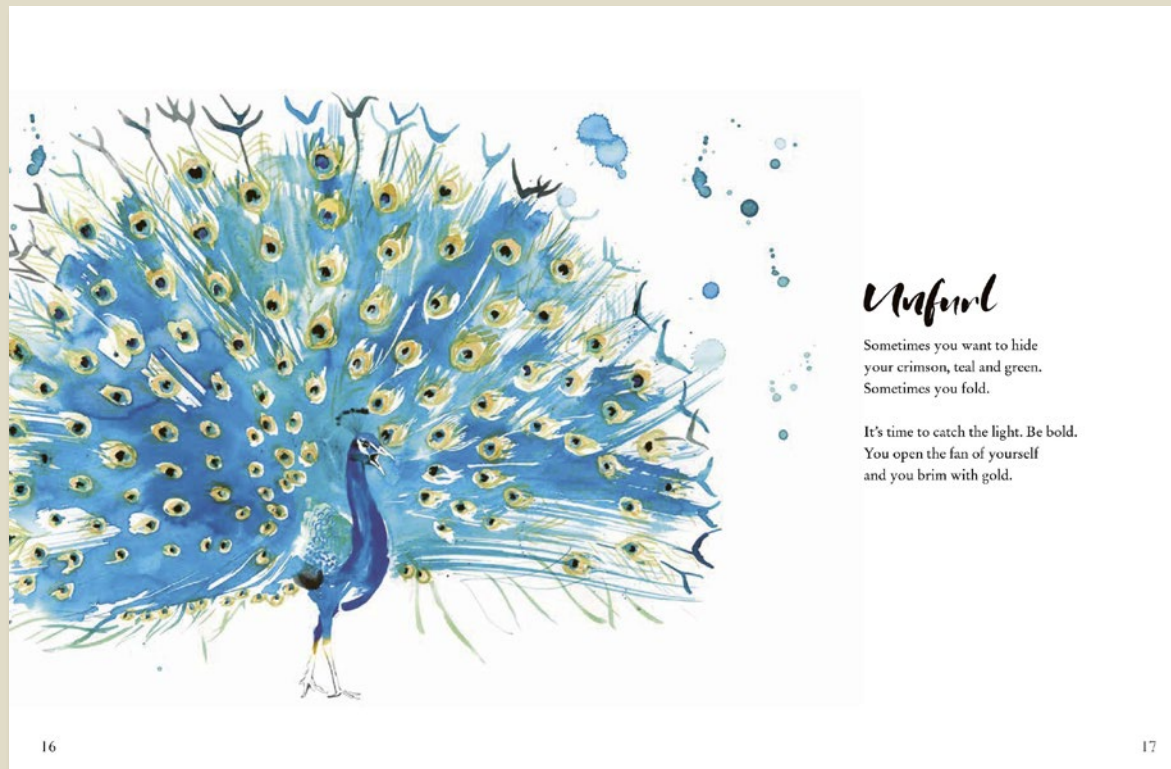
# The Wild Verses



## A striking poetry collection by Helen Mort.

- The book will be split into different sections/feelings - joy, hard times, love, loss etc.
- Tapping into the phenomenal success of books like *The Boy*, *the Mole*, *the Fox and the Horse* and *The Poetry Pharmacy*.
- An opportunity to reuse Sarah Maycock's artwork in a new format - for an adult audience
- The perfect offering for the Christmas gift market
- Luxy cover finishes - quarter binding and foil
- With poems by award-winning Helen Mort

# The Wild Verses



Pub Date	<b>10/11/2022</b>
Pub Price	<b>£16.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800784765</b>
H x W	<b>225 x 173mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>Adult</b>
Author	<b>Helen Mort</b>
Illustrator	<b>Sarah Maycock</b>
Extent	<b>112pp</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# On The Streets of New York



A vibrant illustrated poetry series celebrating cities around the world. This bright and bold book takes a tour through ‘the city that never sleeps’: New York.

- Each book in the On the Streets series is written by a poet from the city who celebrates the hidden parts of the city, as well as the main landmarks
- Each spread acts as a snapshot of a different part of the city. A non-fiction spread at the back of the book adds further information about landmarks and history
- Beautifully presented and produced with strong branding and a collectable feel

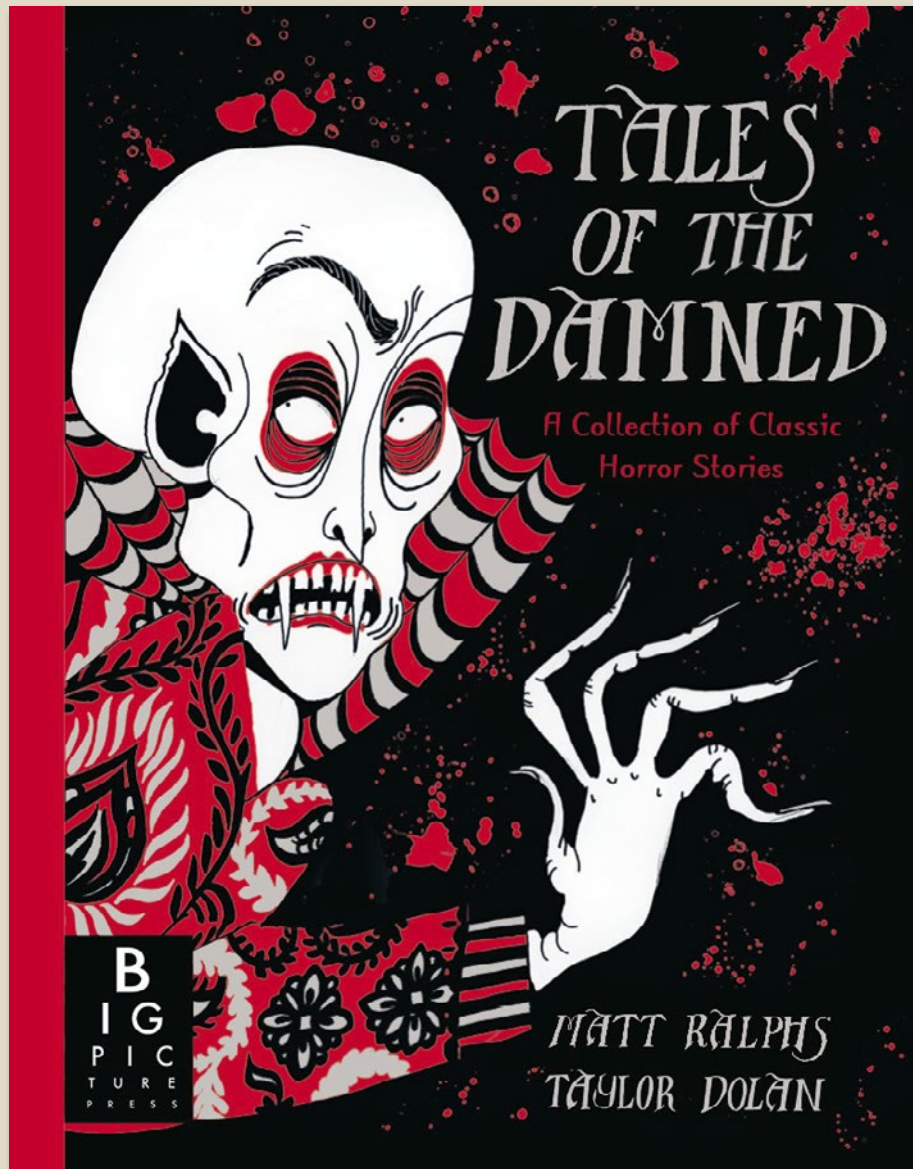


# On The Streets of New York



Pub Date	<b>06/11/2025</b>
Pub Price	<b>£14.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800787100</b>
H x W	<b>292 x 215mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>7-9 years</b>
Author	<b>Sarah Kay</b>
Illustrator	<b>Ryan Johnson</b>
Extent	<b>48pp</b>
Word Count	<b>500 words</b>
Translation Files	<b>24/02/2025</b>
Files To Printer	<b>16/06/2025</b>
Freight On Board	<b>04/09/2025</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

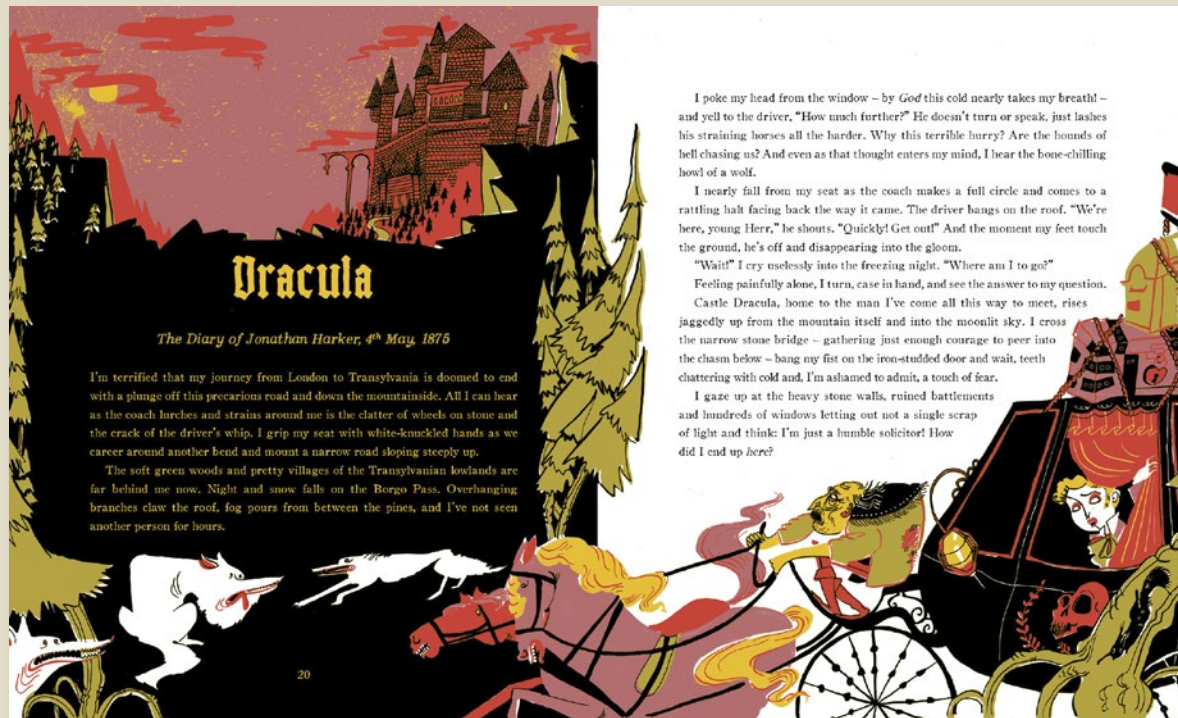
# Tales of the Damned



## An anthology of terrifying tales from around the world.

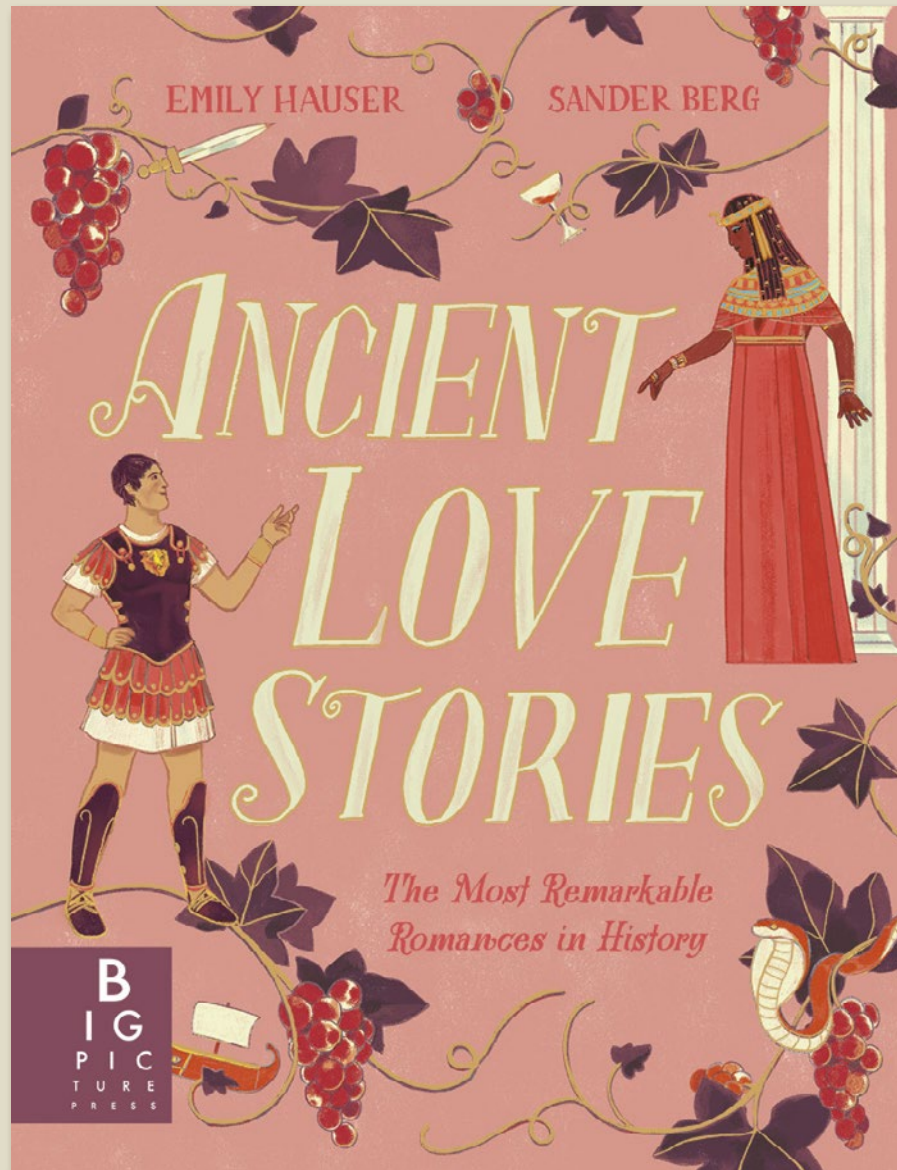
- Stories will be broken up with a series of 'theme' spreads, which will add a non-fiction element to the book. These spreads cover everything from the rise of the horror genre to famous monsters and vampire mass hysteria.
- There's a gap in the market for striking, beautifully illustrated horror anthology.
- Contents: The Mask of Red Death by Edgar Allen Poe; Edgar Allen Poe and the Birth of Horror Literature (NF); Dracula; Vampire Mass Hysteria (NF); The Monkey's Paw; Zombies and the Undead (NF); Red Riding Hood; The Original Dark Fairy Stories (NF); Frankenstein; Mary Shelley and the impact of Frankenstein (NF); Whistle and I'll Come To You; Ghosts and the Victorians (NF); Baba Yaga; Witches (NF); Bluebeard; Blood and Gore (NF)

# Tales of the Damned



Pub Date	14/09/2023
Pub Price	£20.00
ISBN	9781800781696
H x W	230 x 190mm
Binding	Hardback
Age Range	Adult
Author	Matt Ralphs
Illustrator	Taylor Dolan
Extent	128pp
Word Count	25000 words
Rights Available	World

# Ancient Love Stories



## A striking collection of love stories from ancient history.

- Final contents - Sappho (ancient Greek), Nebuchadnezzar II and Amytis (Babylonian), The Sacred Band of Thebes (ancient Greek), Sima Xiangru and Zhuo Wenjun (Chinese), Mark Antony and Cleopatra (ancient Rome), The Lovers of Pompeii (ancient Rome), Hadrian and Antinous (ancient Rome), Eloise and Abelard (French), Frances Howard and Robert Carr (English), Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal (Indian), The Sanchos (USA)
- Written by award-winning classicist and author, Emily Hauser.
- Featuring a range of true stories from around the world, discover the astonishing lengths humankind have gone to in the name of love.
- A list of Sander's publishers: US - Penguin Random House; Germany - Knesebeck Von Dem GmbH

# Ancient Love Stories



**THE SACRED BAND OF THEBES**

This was the final meeting place of the Sacred Band of Thebes, one of the most remarkable and most loyal armies that had ever lived. A bold experiment in an open town square by attacking war and heroes alike, who had died fighting for the freedom of the Greeks. As warriors, not just of soldiers, but of a hundred and fifty noble boys.

Born together by love loyalty to each other, the crack team of warriors was founded in Thebes in 378 BC by an extraordinary visionary by the name of Pammenes. It began as a resistance corps against the looming military power of Sparta (recovered the world over for its legendary military prowess across the continent to the south. These were chivalry, aristocratic, young, splashing blood across the pages of history, and well suited to the birth of a new kind of army.



**HERODIAS AND ANTHOCHUS**

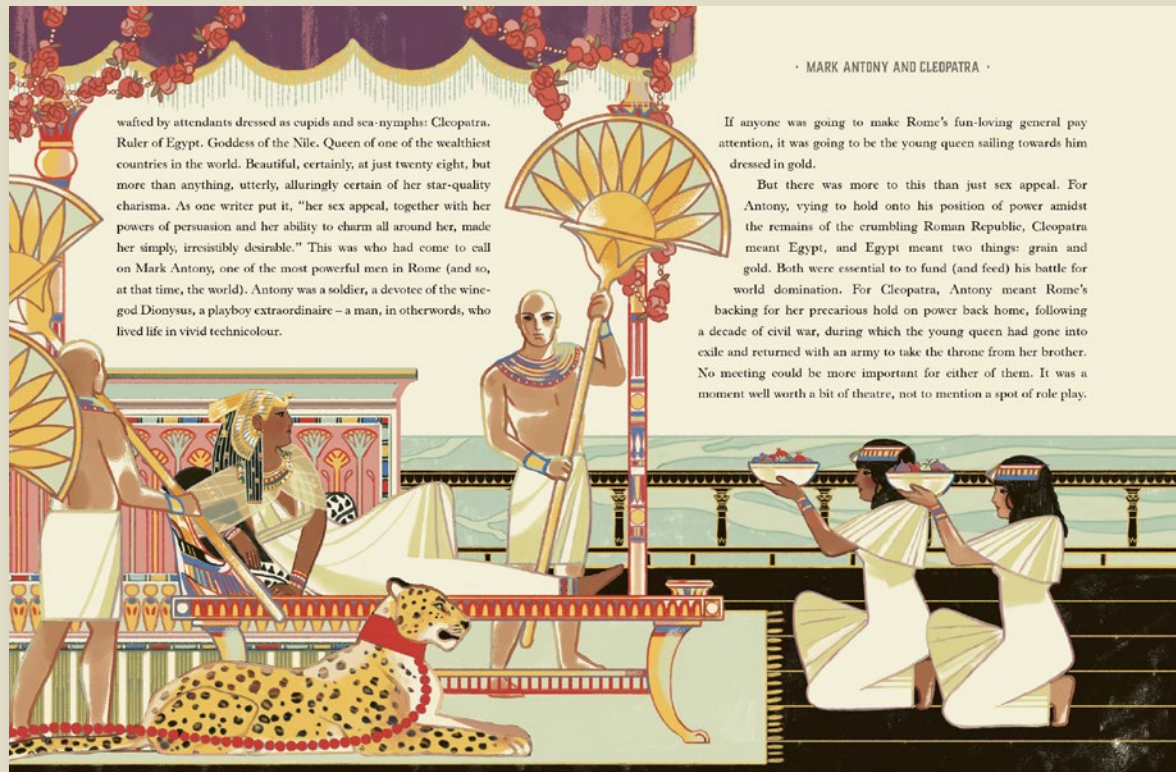
These parts first crossed across years earlier, when Herodias - ruler of the Roman world and self-proclaimed priestess - took a summer jaunt across the Roman province of Bithynia, in northern Turkey, where Antiochus had his home. The emperor, busy with his job, probably did not spot Antiochus among the crowds of adoring subjects and eager petitioners. But one of his maids did - and, as usual, with an eye to the emperor's taste, spent a night in the maids' quarters, the kitchen-baked young man. Antiochus was duly offered a dinner invitation to the palace's imperial suite along with a tuition package to the emperor's personal academy in Rome. To his boy from a dusty village on the fringe of the Roman empire, this must have seemed an offer too good to be true - a one-way ticket to live among the stars. But, in any good student of mythology would have known, by invitation to dinner and you might get burned.

Antiochus' rise to the top was meteoric even by Roman standards, where there were plenty of holy emperors who made it to the big time. Set among the other staff of the imperial household, Antiochus - handsome, good-looking, smart, with a magnetic personality and a nose for the emperor's favored boys - quickly caught the emperor's eye. Herodias was instantly besotted, and Antiochus became his paragon. In the summer of 118 AD, at the age of seventeen, Antiochus was personally selected to accompany Hadrian on a tour of Greece (Hadrian was a notorious Greek enthusiast, from what Asia Minor and, finally, Egypt.



**SHAH JAHAN AND MUMTAZ MAHAL**

The story of Shah Jahan and Mumtaz Mahal is one of the most beautiful love stories of all time. A tale of passion, devotion, tragedy and ultimate sacrifice, it is a story that has inspired millions of hearts over the centuries. Mumtaz Mahal, the great favorite of the emperor, was a woman of extraordinary beauty and intelligence. Her father, a nobleman, was a close friend of the emperor's, and she was raised in the emperor's court. Shah Jahan was captivated by her from the moment they met. They were married in 1629, and their love was so strong that they were often seen together in the emperor's gardens. Mumtaz Mahal was the emperor's favorite, and she was the only woman who was allowed to sit on the throne with him. She was the emperor's confidante, and she was the only woman who was allowed to see him when he was ill. She was the emperor's heart, and she was the emperor's soul. In 1657, the emperor died, and Mumtaz Mahal was crowned empress. She ruled for only five years, but her legacy lives on in the Taj Mahal, the most beautiful monument ever built. It was built in her memory, and it is a testament to their love. It is a story that has inspired millions of hearts over the centuries. It is a story that is as true as the stars.



wafted by attendants dressed as cupids and sea-nymphs: Cleopatra, Ruler of Egypt. Goddess of the Nile. Queen of one of the wealthiest countries in the world. Beautiful, certainly, at just twenty eight, but more than anything, utterly, alluringly certain of her star-quality charisma. As one writer put it, "her sex appeal, together with her powers of persuasion and her ability to charm all around her, made her simply, irresistibly desirable." This was who had come to call on Mark Antony, one of the most powerful men in Rome (and so, at that time, the world). Antony was a soldier, a devotee of the wine-god Dionysus, a playboy extraordinaire - a man, in other words, who lived life in vivid technicolour.

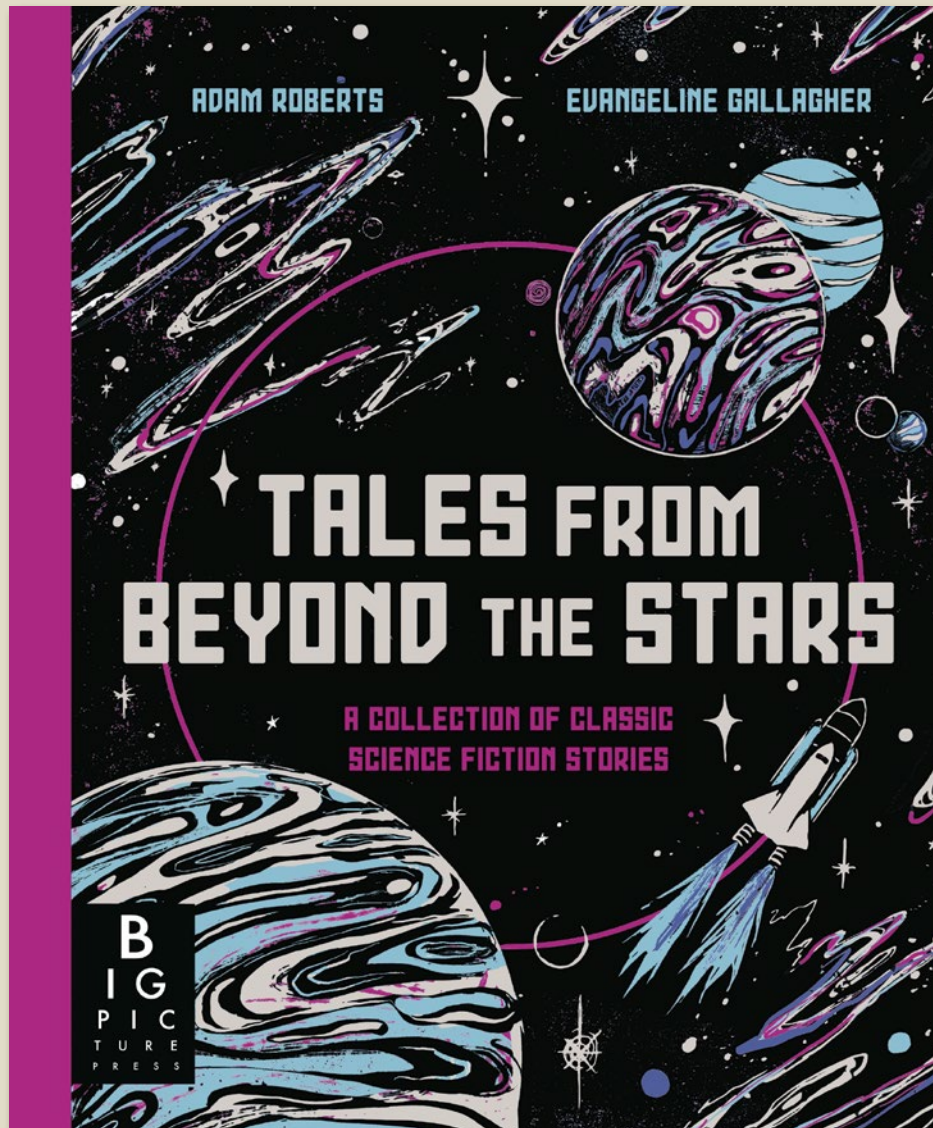
**MARK ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA**

If anyone was going to make Rome's fun-loving general pay attention, it was going to be the young queen sailing towards him dressed in gold.

But there was more to this than just sex appeal. For Antony, vying to hold onto his position of power amidst the remains of the crumbling Roman Republic, Cleopatra meant Egypt, and Egypt meant two things: grain and gold. Both were essential to fund (and feed) his battle for world domination. For Cleopatra, Antony meant Rome's backing for her precarious hold on power back home, following a decade of civil war, during which the young queen had gone into exile and returned with an army to take the throne from her brother. No meeting could be more important for either of them. It was a moment well worth a bit of theatre, not to mention a spot of role play.

Pub Date	<b>28/09/2023</b>
Pub Price	<b>£16.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800783225</b>
H x W	<b>246 x 189mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>Adult</b>
Author	<b>Emily Hauser</b>
Illustrator	<b>Sander Berg</b>
Extent	<b>96pp</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# Tales from Beyond the Stars



## An anthology of classic science fiction stories.

- Stories will be broken up with a series of 'theme' spreads, which will add a non-fiction element to the book. These spreads cover everything from the rise of the science fiction genre to how it has inspired real life inventions.
- There's a gap in the market for a striking, beautifully illustrated science fiction anthology.
- Evergreen publishing with strong backlist potential and global appeal.
- An opportunity to expand the Big Picture Press list into the adult gift market.
- Resurgence of interest in titles that offer readers 'escapism' on TikTok, including fantasy and science fiction

# Tales from Beyond the Stars



The other vessel, terrified by this development, turned back decks to tails, but my scientific curiosity was greater than my fear. I stood on the poop deck and called the boat to stop. It obeyed, and I went to watch from further to leeward - setting up a net, and about a thousand feet back.

Of course, he could not hear me! To his huge size, my voice was like that from the most remote landing of a gnat. But bringing up one of the microscopes, he examined at once and could see that I was on deck, gaff-rigging and moving my net.

"Is something?" he said to the third from the stern. "There is a creature here known as the ship on water, and it draws the eye to it being the form of an intelligent being. Might the creature of the eye be a vessel?"

"No one knows the eye without seeing the eye," the first replied.

And so Microscopist set out upon a mad quest within his ship and obtained a powerful microscope vision. To us, viewed the eye, it seemed that the eye had changed color and before we knew looked highly upon us - the light with which Microscopist illuminated his microscope glass was white and brighter than the Sun had ever been, and the intensity of the rays had, from our perspective, turned the smooth, clear ocean into fire, great clouds, white as the new sky, filled back and forth - Microscopist and the Solarium companion walking about.



## A JOURNEY INTO THE UNKNOWN

The dream of reaching off Earth is very old. In the second century AD, Lucian of Samosata imagined it when he was powerful enough to fly in a ship like that on the way to the Moon. In the 17th century, Robert Boyle and others were convinced on the basis of a flying whale, William Brouncker's The Moon in the Heavens (1638) inspired the idea of a flying machine by a flock of jays, the invention of Edgar Allan Poe's The Flight (1835) led to the Moon in a hot air balloon. These were the first steps towards space travel.

A practical step where serious scientific investigations took on for its position, to scientific possibility - at least up to 19th century. In 1869, a man named Konstantin Tsiolkovsky (1872-1935) in which explains by the Moon is a ship powered by jet engines. He found a way out, and it was not only a possibility, which he thought would be the best method of transportation. While he was working on his own ideas, he was also guided to the real science of his day in the 1890s, when the only way to the Moon would be through a space station being launched on to escape the Earth's gravitational pull. It would be the end of a great journey.



Her set up a rocket-like on wheels and made good use of them, sending small projectiles striking into the air to fall precisely five miles ahead and explode with the force of eight back shells, such as we used in the First World War.

The Plan soldiers were easy to catch. Under cover the Red Blood gang members, who knew they were fighting for their very lives. The Plan seemed to be shocked by the new kind of our attack to be able to fight back.

Some Plan soldiers moved through the sky overhead, but they could not use their mechanical legs for fear of being shot down, and when I launched a rocket-like that exploded out of them, they fell off, over the Atlantic and away.

In two Plan on our the battle was over, and New York was ours.

The effectiveness of our barrage tactics established a confidence in our ability to overcome the Plan. As I pointed out to Wilson, "It has been my belief all along that the American airplane maker is the more efficient weapon than the disintegrator ray of the Plan, since we can both of our planes to act independently and in a coordinated fashion. The disintegrator ray reveals its source of ammunition. The rocket gun does not. The disintegrator ray is to be regarded as the strongest line. The rocket may be easier to track in an air, over interesting obstacles, to an unseen target."

"I understand nothing," The Prince of Denmark grimaced, as the Plan soldier "I said, "And unless you said, you called the struggle was that line to one American like them, away from this land."



The soldiers scurried and ran, struggling to right their cannons, all aimed into the pit, to bear on this new target. But they were too slow! The giant tripod stepped easily amongst them, shooting its heat ray at this mist, and that, and in moments the artillery was all destroyed. Only one gun got off a shot, and it whistled past the tripod's legs and fell away into the far reaches of the common.

Now everything was chaos. Soldiers took up position, aiming their rifles and firing. The civilians were swarming away, screaming and shouting, running for their lives. I heard the snap of rifle fire and the ping as bullets bounced off the metal hood of the Martian machine, but I too was running, lumbering up a slope and away.

It was going uphill that saved my life, for the Martian tripod now deployed a second weapon: a noxious black smoke pouring out of the rear of its cockpit, sinking through

the air and asphyxiating all upon whom it fell. By the time I had reached the top of the hill I looked down upon a terrible scene: the black smoke was everywhere in the hollow, rolling like a foul mist, and all human resistance had been extinguished.

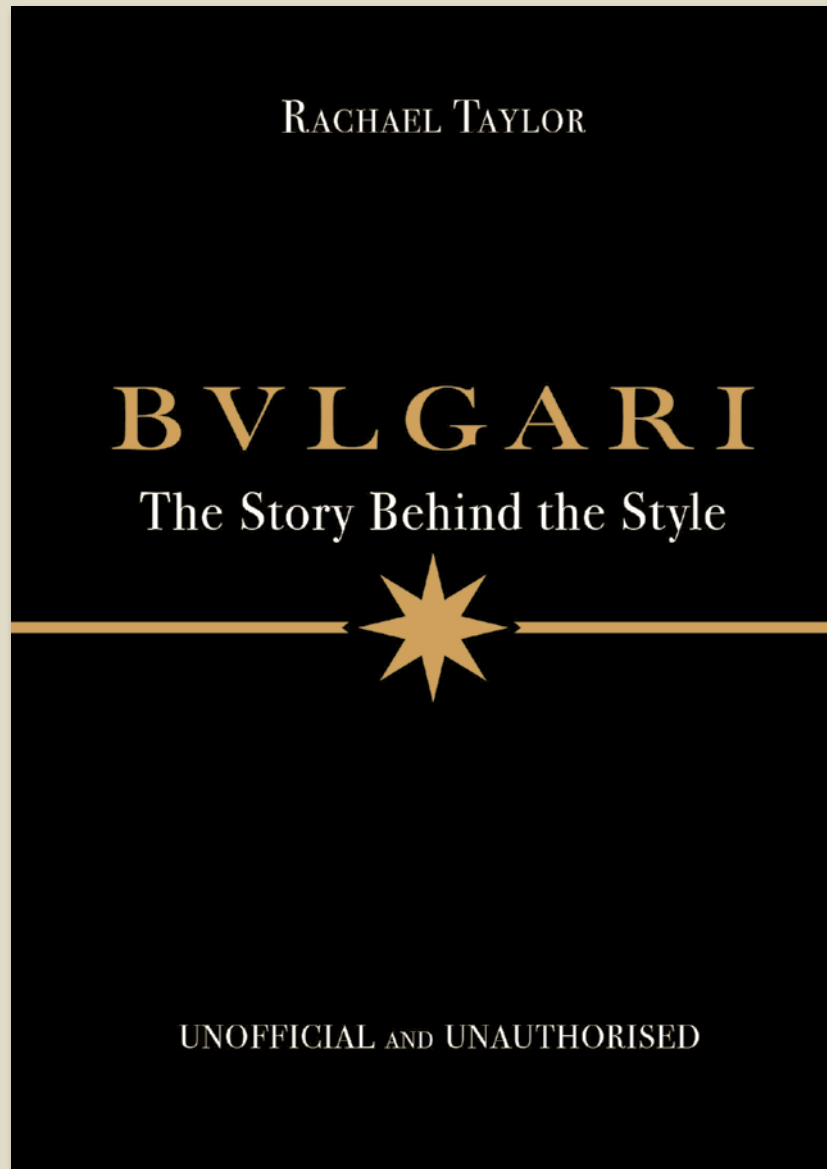
From the Martian tripod came an awful, howling cry, loud enough to bowl me over. I pressed my hands to my ears but the sound penetrated: ulaaaaah!

I stumbled away from the common, the horrible shrieks of the Martian splitting the air behind me.

My bicycle was lost. My clothes were covered in dirt. I hid behind a wall for a while to catch my breath and listened: screams, crashes, the cackling sound of burning buildings, the thud of tripods - for there were several now - stomping about the countryside, and again and again the cries of ulaaaaah!

Pub Date	07/11/2024
Pub Price	£20.00
ISBN	9781800786752
H x W	230 x 190mm
Binding	Hardback
Age Range	Adult
Author	Adam Roberts
Illustrator	Evangeline Gallagher
Extent	128pp
Word Count	25000 words
Rights Available	World

# Bulgari: The Story Behind the Style



## Visual history of the iconic jewellery brand.

- Written by Rachael Taylor, author of *Tiffany and Co*, *Cartier* and *Rolex*. Rachael is a journalist specialising in jewellery who has written for *The Financial Times*, *Conde Nast* publications and *Retail Jeweller*.
- Illustrated with full colour photographs showcasing the brand's history.
- Cover finishes: mat lam and foil.
- Comp title *The Little Book of Chanel* has sold in excess of 70k copies TCM.



# Bulgari: The Story Behind the Style



## Elizabeth Taylor

One of Bulgari's most famous clients in its *La Dolce Vita* era – and long afterwards – was Elizabeth Taylor. The American actress first discovered Bulgari when she was filming *Cleopatra* in 1962. Some of the film was shot on location in Italy, and it is said that when she had time between takes, or wished to escape the paparazzi, she would head to Via Condotti to try on Bulgari's masterpieces. When she did, she was allowed to enter through a secret side door that provided her with a private courtyard in which to park.

Taylor was a famous jewellery collector, and often negotiated pieces of jewellery as part of her film contracts. She even published a book about her obsession in 2002 titled *Elizabeth Taylor: My Love Affair with Jewellery*. Therefore, it was little wonder that downtime in Rome led her to Bulgari.

Taylor's portrayal of Cleopatra also helped to make a Bulgari icon truly iconic: the Serpenti watch. Although she

didn't wear her watch during filming, she was photographed wearing it on set for a publicity still, and the snake-like design chimed perfectly with the Egyptian theme of the film. Her endorsement of the Serpenti watch transformed a quirky accessory created by a local Roman jeweller into a global icon.

Bulgari wasn't the only burgeoning love affair in Taylor's life at that time. She was also starting a romance with her *Cleopatra* co-star Richard Burton, who would become her

OPPOSITE: Elizabeth Taylor (above) in costume for *Cleopatra* in Rome in 1962, wearing an exquisite all-diamond Bulgari necklace.

BELONG LEFT: Elizabeth Taylor at Cleopatra in the 1960s film of the same name.



BELONG RIGHT: Diamond and sapphire Bulgari Serpenti necklace.



movement made it another record breaker. The ultra-thin minute repeater movement – housed in a titanium case to amplify the sound of the chiming mechanism that is the hallmark of this complication – was 3.12mm thick.

The following year, Bulgari presented another ultra-thin watch. The Octo Finissimo Automatic was not complex in terms of watchmaking, but it set a new record for size as the thinnest automatic watch on the market at 5.17mm, with a movement just 2.23mm tall.

Bulgari's next attempt would break two records. In 2018, it presented the Octo Finissimo Tourbillon Automatic. It was the thinnest automatic watch at 3.95mm, and also the thinnest tourbillon in the world.

The obsession with record-breaking ultra-thin watchmaking rolled on. In 2019, the Octo Finissimo Chronograph GMT became the thinnest mechanical chronograph movement at 3.3mm, set in a 6.5mm titanium case. In 2020, the Octo Finissimo Tourbillon Chronograph Skeleton Automatic

was named the thinnest tourbillon chronograph with a case depth of 3.5mm. And in 2021, the Octo Finissimo Perpetual Calendar became the thinnest perpetual calendar watch at 5mm thick.

In 2022, to mark the 10-year anniversary of the relaunch of the Octo line, Bulgari presented another impressive watch that smacked the others out of the park. The Octo Finissimo Ultra became the thinnest mechanical watch on the planet, with a case size of just 1.8mm.

OPPOSITE: Automatic tourbillon from Bulgari Octo Finissimo collection.



BELONG LEFT: Bulgari Octo Finissimo Skeleton 8 Days 8015 watch (shown next to an Armani Green bracelet) at an exhibition of Fondazione del Grande Polo d'Arte e Cultura in Rome in 2017.



BELONG RIGHT: A watch from the Bulgari Octo Finissimo collection.

## New York

New York was the location of the brand's first international store since Sartoris's early expansion ended. The brand's products were already being sold in the US through an agent, but in 1972 it opened a boutique within the Pierre Hotel on the edge of Central Park.

In America, Bulgari positioned itself as luxury jewellery for women who wanted to have fun. It was tapping into the easy-going sexiness reinvented in a campaign starring the American singer Cher. Bulgari described its jewels as 'real, but not too serious'. In that campaign, Cher was wearing a collection called Stars and Stripes that Bulgari had created to celebrate the Pierre boutique opening. The collection used coral, lapis lazuli, enamel and diamonds to create stars



OPPOSITE: A Bulgari ring with diamonds, lapis lazuli and white enamel on the American flag which was worn by Nancy Reagan in 1966.

BELONG: When Bulgari opened its New York store, Bulgari's first international boutique, it was located in the Pierre Hotel on the edge of Central Park.



and stripes motifs in reference to the American flag. Bulgari added pieces to the Stars and Stripes collection throughout the 1970s and into the early 1980s, but today it is a rare find on the secondary market, making it the holy grail for Bulgari collectors.

A special Stars and Stripes ring was made for former First Lady Nancy Reagan to wear at the centenary celebration of the Statue of Liberty. The ring on the gold ring was constructed with rubies, blue sapphires and diamonds. The ring came up for sale at Sotheby's in 2016 and fetched \$19,000.

By the late 1980s, Bulgari had expanded in Pierre Hotel boutique and moved to a larger location at 730 Fifth

## Bulgari's First Signature Design

Every great jewellery house needs a signature design, and for Bulgari its first was the Trombino ring, which was created in 1932. The design was a labour of love for Giorgio



Bulgari, quite literally: it started out as a sketch for a ring with which he hoped to propose to Leonilde Gulienetti. For someone as passionate about jewels as Giorgio, the ring had to be perfect.

His design was for a ring that would elevate the central stone above the band, creating a sense of volume. This prominent setting is what inspired the name Trombino, which translates from Italian as "little trumpet", as the profile does indeed look trumpet-like.

He worked purely in white diamonds, as was the fashion at the time. As well as a central stone, diamonds crowded the band, but rather than simply creating a blanket of stones in a pavé setting, Giorgio sought to add a little flair.

In addition to pavé diamonds, he added graduated baguette-cut diamonds that led away from the central stone, almost like a ladder. This placement of baguettes created an even more prominent stage for that elevated central diamond, drawing the eye to it.

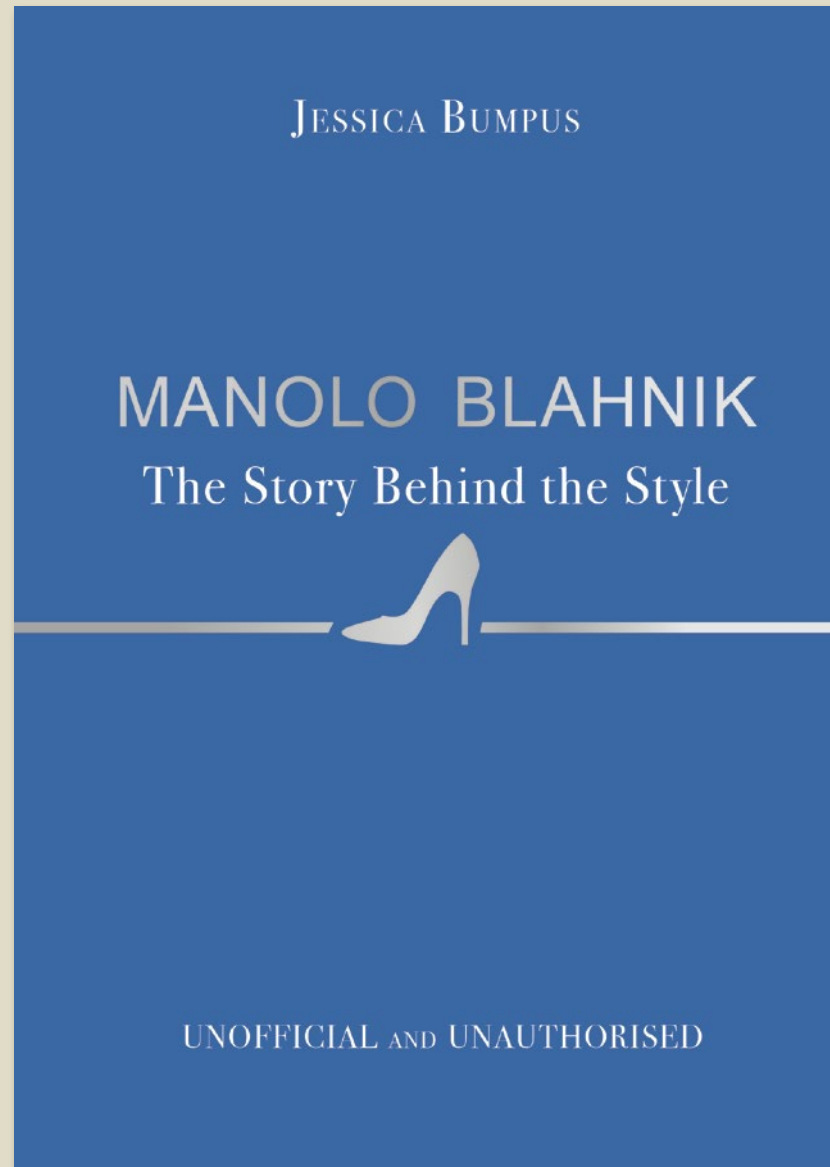
Giorgio was delighted with his final design, and steered his nerves for the proposal. Leonilde must also have been pleased with it, as she agreed to marry him.

So striking was the ring that it soon caught the attention of Rome society, and Giorgio realised that what had started as a personal project had huge potential for his company. And so, he began to produce the Trombino for his clients, and the 1930s design remains popular to this day.

OPPOSITE: An all-diamond and platinum Bulgari Trombino ring, which sold for US\$57,150 at Sotheby's in 2023.

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# Manolo Blahnik: The Story Behind the Style



## Visual history of the iconic shoe designer.

- Written by Jessica Bumpus, fashion editor formerly with *British Vogue* and author of *Vivienne Westwood: The Story Behind the Style*.
- Illustrated with full colour photographs showcasing the brand's history.
- Cover finishes: mat lam and foil.
- Comp title *The Little Book of Chanel* has sold in excess of 70k copies TCM.

# Manolo Blahnik: The Story Behind the Style

Anna Winston was actually one of Blahnik's first customers when she was living in London in the 1980s, and it is from this that their friendship grew. She is often photographed wearing a certain style: custom versions of the Callalli, which Blahnik simply refers to now as the "AW".



© PICTURE: Fashion Week  
Grand atelier, Anna Prizzi

© BONE: Jack Nicholson and English  
Baroness of the Academy Awards, 1976.



her first in line of a ring (though its embellished buckle does a very good job at standing in). But the brand's success was not confined to *Sex and the City*. Indeed, it was only just beginning. The 2000s also saw further celebration of Manolo Blahnik's work through exhibitions, accolades and awards – and some other surprise artistic outlets.

In 2004, Blahnik designed a shoe horn for the furniture store Habitat as part of its VIP collection. The flashy object was made from silver-plated polished aluminium and came in a curvaceous shape with the designer's name on the outside, and accompanying box. It was among several pieces that saw famous design names put their stamp on household/interior items.

While no longer available to buy in stores, there seems to be a strong resale market for the shoe horn, with various sellers offering what is actually a very useful (if somewhat forgotten) object.

© PICTURE: manolo  
Blahnik, Habitat  
shoe horn

## Accolades

Manolo Blahnik has devoted countless feet and been there for many an important moment in fashion and culture (how many awards have been won by Manolo Blahnik?). He has received many prestigious accolades in recognition of this. They include an Honorary Doctorate by the Royal Society of Arts and an Honorary Doctorate of Arts by the Royal College of Art in 2001, La Medalla de Oro en Merito en las Bellas Artes by the King of Spain in 2002, an Honorary CBE from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in recognition of the fact that he was one of the most successful and influential designers of our time in 2007. The then-Culture Secretary, James Patten told press: "Manolo Blahnik is one of only a handful of designers whose name is synonymous with their product."

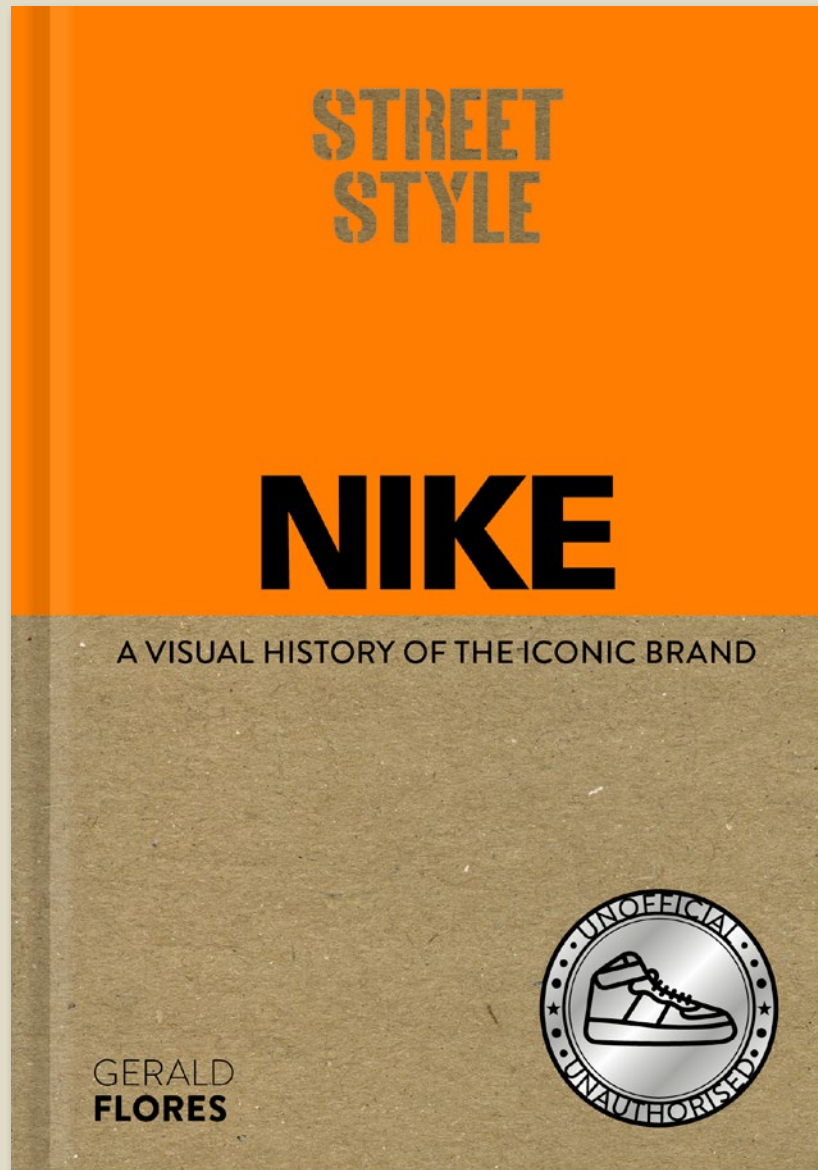


© BONE: Manolo Blahnik at the British Fashion Awards 2012 at the Savoy Hotel



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# Street Style: Nike



## Visual history of the iconic street style brand.

- Illustrated with full colour photographs showcasing the brand's history.
- Cover finishes: mat lam and foil.
- Written by sneaker connoisseur Gerald Flores. With over a decade of journalistic experience, Gerald is fascinated by the people, designers and stories behind sneakers. He has interviewed personalities including Kobe Bryant, Tinker Hatfield and Virgil Abloh.

# Street Style: Nike

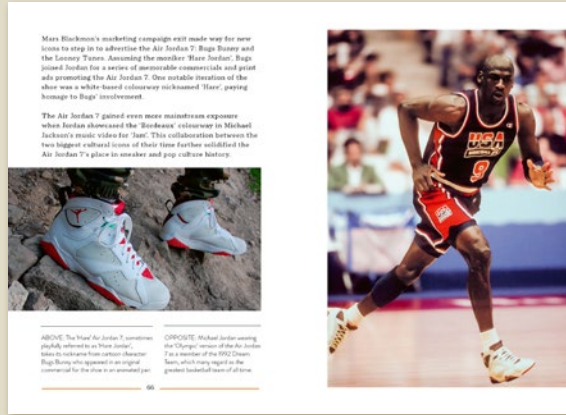


Nike's terms included \$500,000 in cash for five years, an endorsement figure that was unprecedented in that era. The highest number endorsement before 1984 was New Balance's deal with the Los Angeles Lakers. Larry Nystrom for \$150,000 a year for eight years. Other perks offered to Jordan included stock options and a custom built shoe for the basketball to play in.

There were some stipulations, however. Nike wrote a clause in the initial contract that required Jordan to accomplish one of three things - win NBA Rookie of the Year, to become an All-Star, or to average 20 points per game within his first three years. If Jordan didn't, Nike reserved the right to end the deal two years early.

By the time Jordan's first year in the NBA ended, he averaged 28 points per game after playing every game of the season. Not only did he win Rookie of the Year honors during the 1984-85 season, but the rising star became the darling of the League with his acrobatic style of play that made the name of his signature Nike shoe acronym: Air Jordan.

Nike made over \$500 million in revenue thanks to the sale of Air Jordans by the end of that first year - a new industry standard for how brands would market, design and distribute through signature products was set.



Max Blackman's marketing campaign still made way for new shoes to step in to advertise the Air Jordan 7. Bugs Bunny and the Looney Tunes. Among the number three Jordan. Bugs joined Jordan for a series of memorable commercials and print ads promoting the Air Jordan 7. One notable iteration of the shoe was a white-based colorway nicknamed 'Yare,' paying homage to Bugs' involvement.

The Air Jordan 7 gained even more mainstream exposure when Jordan showcased the 'Bugs Bunny' colorway in Michael Jackson's music video for 'Jam.' This collaboration between the two biggest cultural icons of their time further solidified the Air Jordan 7's place in sneaker and pop culture history.



ABOVE: The 'Yare' Air Jordan 7, sometimes playfully referred to as 'Yare Jordan,' is a member of the Air Jordan 7 line that was designed by Bruce Knigge. Bugs Bunny also appeared in an original commercial for the shoe in an animated form.

OPPOSITE: Michael Jordan wearing the 'Yare' version of the Air Jordan 7. It's a member of the Air Jordan 7 line, which many regard as the greatest basketball shoe of all time.



## Nike Air Max 180

The Nike Air Max 180 was a collaborative effort between two giants in the footwear design industry: Tinker Hatfield and Bruce Knigge. At the time of its creation in 1991, Hatfield was renowned for his groundbreaking work on previous Air Max models, pushing the boundaries of sneaker design and technology. Meanwhile, Knigge had achieved legendary status for his iconic creation, the Air Force 1. Together, they set out to make Air Max bigger and better than it had ever been.

The duo's goal for the shoe was to once again make Nike's patented Air technology larger and more visible than it had ever been. To achieve this, they leaned in on a hotbed concept for the Air unit, which allowed for increased visibility along the sides and underfoot of the shoe. They utilized a blow molding process to create a version of the bag that provided maximum visibility and impact absorption. Moreover, the Air 180 was the first shoe to feature a swooshbase outside embedded

directly to the Air unit, further enhancing its visibility and performance capabilities. The heightened visibility of the Air technology directly inspired the name Air 180.

During a period when Michael Jordan's endorsement could significantly impact any product, he was photographed wearing a pair of Nike Air 180s in the 'Concord' colorway for a photo shoot preceding the 1992 Olympics. This high-profile shoot provided the Air 180 model with exposure to a wider audience and bolstered its mainstream appeal.

While the Nike Air 180 didn't initially receive the same level of fanfare as its contemporaries, its significance and appreciation have grown considerably over the years. As time has passed, the Air 180 has emerged as a standout and essential release within the Nike Air Max series.



OPPOSITE: The Nike Air Max 180 is an original colorway of white, crimson and blue red.

LEFT: Designer and former Nike collaborator Bruce Knigge is seen with the Nike Air Max 180 in 2007.



'Well, I don't love it,' Knight was heard saying upon the first review. 'But it will grow on me.'

The Swoosh definitely grew on Knight as the shape also bore a resemblance to the wings on the Greek goddess that Nike was named after. It would go on to become one of the most well-known logos in the world.

While Davidson was initially paid just \$35 for her design, Knight saw her as one of the original minds behind the brand and wanted to acknowledge this. In 1983, the founder rewarded Davidson with 500 shares of Nike, as well as a golden ring



with a Swoosh-shaped diamond, which is possibly the biggest remuneration for any logo design in history.

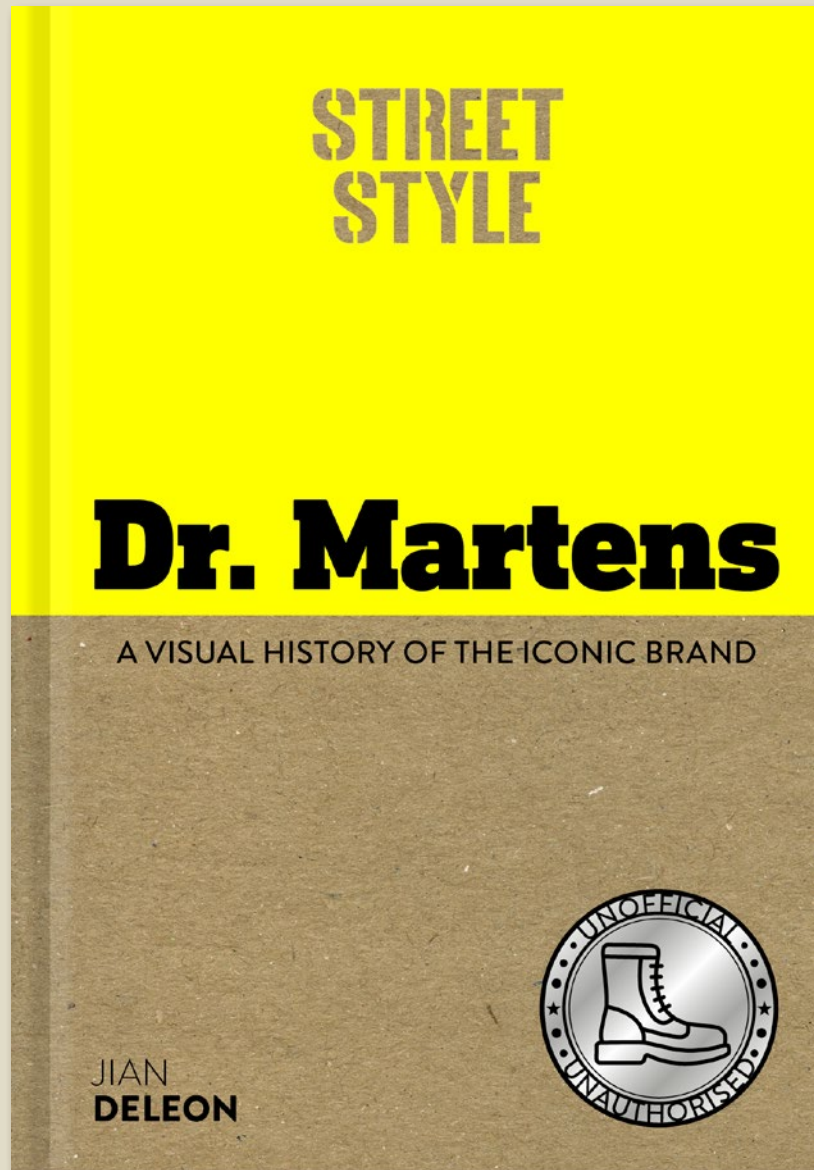
The marking is such a part of Nike culture that every new athlete that signs with the brand is tasked to draw their own version of the Swoosh. There have been different evolutions of the Swoosh and you can see the various iterations if you look through Nike's back-catalogue of products. Designer and Nike collaborator Virgil Abloh nodded to Davidson's original Swoosh design on the cover of his book *Something's Off* and the marking has been reversed on signature product for eccentric players, like Dennis Rodman's Air Darwin sneaker. But the essence of the Swoosh remains in its simplicity, its elegance and the way it represents movement.

OPPOSITE: Giannis Antetokounmpo's first signature sneaker implemented its performance features in the midsole in the shape of a reverse Nike Swoosh.

ABOVE: A lightning bolt effect on the Nike Swoosh printed on a pair of track spikes.

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# Street Style: Dr. Martens



## Visual history of the iconic street style brand.

- Illustrated with full colour photographs showcasing the brand's history.
- Cover finishes: mat lam and foil.
- Written by Jian DeLeon, the editorial director for Highsnobiety. Jian is an expert on the intersection of streetwear, sneakers and luxury fashion. He co-hosts 'The Dropcast', Highsnobiety's weekly news podcast,

# Street Style: Dr. Martens



The original pair of Dr. Martens' AirWair shoes were still a far cry from the instantly recognisable models the brand is known for today. The uppers were much more minimal in decoration and the sides were much wider with a very visible contrast thanks to a lighter-coloured sole.

The first more traditional designs have more in common with a modern-day hybrid dress shoe than the sleek, utilitarian shapes of popular Dr. Martens styles, now set atop a well-translucent lug sole. Perhaps the unintentionally fashion-forward aesthetic is one of the reasons why women gravitated towards them long before more conservatively-dressed men did. It's hard to imagine one trying to pull these off within the strict dress codes of the 1950s, where leather-soled, dark-hued bottom footwear was still the norm for doing business. But looking back now, it set the perfect stage for what Dr. Martens would become: the ultimate anti-dress shoe.

LEFT: A modern pair of Dr. Martens 1460 boots.



## The Spring Behind Every Step

It's hard to believe that an orthopaedic shoe could be synonymous with rebellious style around the world. Yet that is what the Dr. Martens brand continues to represent to millions of its ardent fans.

It can be challenging to maintain one's cool factor over the decades, but by intentionally aligning itself with subcultural style, the nearly octogenarian footwear manufacturer hasn't lost a single step when it comes to cultivating an alternative type of timeless footwear. Considering the United Kingdom also has a rich history of fine Savile Row tailoring, Scottish wools and ruggedly elegant Harris Tweeds, fashion houses like Burberry and tastefully tough outerwear from brands like Barbour, Dr. Martens is singular in that canon of classic British style. Indeed, Dr. Martens is a staunch iconoclast, a bastion of anti-establishment ideals for people who prefer to dress against the grain.

But despite the modern connotation of what Dr. Martens has become, its roots are built on a comfortable foundation. Dr. Klaus Maertens first conceived of the footwear's signature 'AirWair' sole while recuperating from a World War II foot injury.

Finding his standard-issue German Army boot severely uncomfortable for his ailing foot, he utilised soft leather for

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## The Birth of Bouncing Soles

Now that you've briefly had a glimpse at Dr. Martens' future, it's time to rediscover the past. How did a German town based in a distinctly British? That story begins in 1901. A man named Benjamin Griggs and his business partner, Rufinus, have begun a company to manufacture boots in Wollaton, north Nottinghamshire. By 1901, they had incorporated as R. Griggs & Co. Ltd., eventually becoming the R. Griggs Group.

In just a couple of decades, Wollaton had become one of England's shoe-making capitals. As early as 1881, one of its shoe factories was established as a workers' co-operative of local cobblers (known as 'The Buffers'), and it was now being run as the Nottinghamshire Productive Society, still making shoes as NPS, where its manufacturers may well know high-end footwear brands.

But the R. Griggs Group continued to flourish well into the 1950s under the leadership of Bill Griggs, who inherited the family business around that time. His fortunes would grow even more when he decided to take a risk in 1959. Backing on the success of their fledgling footwear business, Dr. Klaus Maertens and Dr. Herbert Funk began soliciting advertisements for Dr. Martens' AirWair shoes in international magazines. Griggs saw the fit of this innovative air-cushioned sole by two German doctors and instantly recognised its potential. After

all, having grown up in factories his whole life, he understood the need for sturdy, robust work boots, but also knew how uncomfortable they could be.

Ironically, the rest of his family disagreed with his foresight, seeing the air-cushioned sole as a gimmick, the kind of fad in the past that would fade out over time while leather-soled boots would be around forever. But he treated his intuition and went ahead to meet with Dr. Maertens and Dr. Funk, later developing a rapport with them and taking the exclusive licence for their AirWair-soled shoes in the United Kingdom.



ABOVE: The Griggs brothers owner of the R. Griggs Group that went on to own all of Dr. Martens.

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## Mod Squad

One of the most prominent British music subcultures to arise in the 1960s and early 1960s was the Mod subculture – or 'Mod' for short. Musical taste was just one part of the complete lifestyle. Mods were obsessed with clean-cut fashion pieces like polo shirts, modish suits and military issue MCI (British) parkas, regularly seen embellished with the signature rounded of the Royal Air Force. It was a subculture focused on executing everything with intention – the hair you had, the clothes you wore, the music you listened to and the scooter you drove.

An avid fan of The Who, it's no surprise that Dr. Martens became an inimitable part of Mod's uniform. The sleek lines of the boots looked good with suits and usually complemented the minimalist style of the subculture and could also be worn on the Mod vehicle of choice: the Vespa scooter.

RIGHT: Two customising mod with a brother outside Horse Bus, Acton, London in 1963.



In contrast, the like-minded subculture of Rockers who favoured leather motorcycle jackets, creepers, engine boots and denim saw the Mod obsession with current fashion, jazz and R&B as effeminate, and numerous physical altercations between the two groups led to a moral panic about the rise of overly youth. Style was the Mod's mortality was not as their way of dress slowly seeped into the British mainstream, leading to the Swinging London phase of the 1960s. But as all trends go, as one fad falls out of favour, another one is right behind it to take its place.

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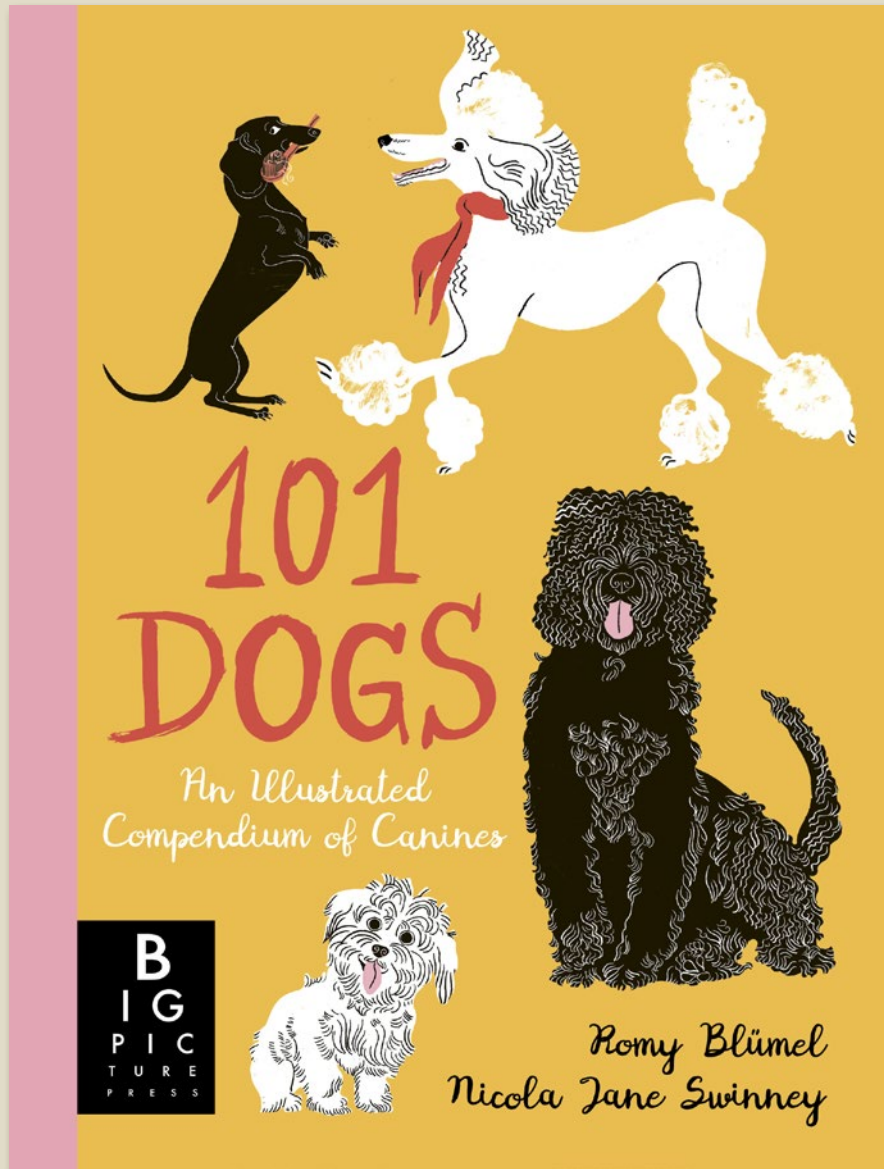
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ABOVE: A classic pair of Dr. Martens 1460 boots, broken in with wear.

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**Gorgeous canines of every shape, size and colour bound through this book - all 101 of them!**

- The perfect gift for dog lovers big and small
- Beautiful cover treatments including foil and ribbon
- Humorous and engaging text written by dog expert Nicola Jane Swinney



### Basenji



**I**n the native Africa, the Basenji is known as 'the dog that doesn't bark'. While many dogs are often said to be 'sage to please', that just doesn't apply to this one. It is lively, imaginative and playful, but it does have a children's streak. The Basenji will usually learn what you want to teach it, but whether it will obey your commands depends entirely on its mood. That impertinent mind can be a problem, too, as anything you have lying around is likely to be investigated by your Basenji – usually by means of chewing. All that said, the Basenji makes a lovely pet as it adores people and playtime.

Life Expectancy 12-15 years | Height 45-50cm | Trainability Learns quickly if it wants to | Grooming Weekly brushing | Exercise An occasional walk | Most likely to say I can get up there | Least likely to say No, I'm fine, you go off and leave me all alone...

### Tibetan Mastiff



**I**f you look like a giant teddy bear but this mighty mastiff is not the dog for everyone. While it has a gentle and loving nature, its sheer size can be a bit off-putting, and it is strong-willed. The Tibetan Mastiff sees itself as an equal, rather than a pet, and can be very stubborn. It is thought these amazing dogs lived in Tibet thousands of years ago and were used as guards (not many people would stand up to a 60kg dog) for monks, known as 'lamas'. This is where they developed their thick coat to cope with the harsh climate.

Life Expectancy 10-14 years | Height 60-70cm | Trainability Good for children | Grooming Needs brushing but doesn't shed much | Exercise Vigorous walks | Most likely to say I'll be on your side | Least likely to say I can get up there!

### Shiba Inu



**T**he resident of its dog breeds native to Japan, the Shiba Inu greets the world with quiet dignity. But it's like a little single warrior, moving quickly and nimbly. The Japanese have three words to describe this breed, *harae* (upright backbone), *oyasoi* (good nature) and *shibui* (elegant). It also tends to be possessive – like a nosey toddler, the Shiba Inu doesn't like to share and if it could spare, it's first word would be 'mine'. It's also a natural hunter, so if you let it off the lead while out on a walk, it will probably disappear in the direction of the nearest squirrel.

Life Expectancy 12-15 years | Height 35-40cm | Trainability It has a stubborn streak | Grooming Very little | Exercise Needs to be exercised | Most likely to say I'll be on your side | Least likely to say I can get up there!

### Parash Hound



**T**his elegant hound was developed to hunt gazelle with pharaohs in ancient Egypt, more than 4,000 years ago. Despite its noble past, the Parash loves people and simply loves life. It's a natural clown – you can even teach a Parash to 'roll' and it's possibly the only breed that can blink – when it's happy or excited, its nose and ears will turn a deeper shade of pink. But as a hunting hound, it has a strong prey drive and is likely to chase anything it sees, so keep it on the lead at all times.

Life Expectancy 12-15 years | Height 50-60cm | Trainability Good for children | Grooming Very little | Exercise Needs to be exercised | Most likely to say I'll be on your side | Least likely to say I can get up there!

### Saluki



**P**raised by the travelling people of the Middle East, this ancient breed is thought to take its name from the Arabian city of Sals. To the Greeks, it was a noble dog indeed and they kept precise records of breeding and hunting prowess. They hunted hare, fox and gazelle from horseback, so their heads had to be fast of foot. There were once two different types of Saluki – short and mountain – but the two have merged into the modern breed. It has, however, retained its beauty and some of its speed, so be prepared to do a lot of jogging...

Life Expectancy 12-15 years | Height 60-70cm | Trainability Good for children | Grooming Weekly brushing | Exercise Vigorous walks | Most likely to say I'll be on your side | Least likely to say I can get up there!


### Alaskan Malamute



**T**his impressive breed is one of the oldest in the world and has changed very little, still resembling its wolf ancestors. It was used by the Mahomet people to pull sleds and hunt seals. It is a strong and imposing animal, but it isn't much use as a watchdog – Malamutes regard everyone they meet as friends. They rarely bark, but make a charming 'woo-woo' noise. They're intelligent too, which means they can easily get bored... and a bored Malamute is trouble to watch. They love to dig holes in the garden, or sniff across the kitchen counters for something tasty, so keep them busy!

Life Expectancy 10-12 years | Height 60-70cm | Trainability They can be quite stubborn | Grooming Lots of brushing | Exercise Needs to be exercised | Most likely to say I'll be on your side | Least likely to say I can get up there!

### Tibetan Spaniel



**T**his little dog likes to climb! Almost cat-like, it will try to find the highest perch from which it can watch over everyone and everything. Resembling a small lion (a powerful symbol in Tibet), it was highly prized as a watchdog. This watchful quality has been bred into the Tibetan Spaniel for thousands of years and it takes its role very seriously – don't even think about farting and blaming it on someone else in its presence! But don't expect your dog to be happy on its own. Tibetan Spaniels like company and get bored quickly – left to themselves they are likely to bark.

Life Expectancy 12-15 years | Height 25cm | Trainability Learns quickly if it wants to | Grooming Weekly brushing | Exercise An occasional walk | Most likely to say I can get up there | Least likely to say No, I'm fine, you go off and leave me all alone...

### Afghan Hound



**W**ith its slender, exotic face, long silky hair and lithe body, the Afghan Hound is surely the supermodel of the dog world. And as well as being one of the most beautiful breeds in the world, the Afghan is possibly the oldest. It comes from Afghanistan, where it was known as the Tazi, and was used to hunt dangerous animals, such as leopards. It was not only brave, but also extremely fast, capable of running at speed for many kilometres. Its independent nature means it does like attention, but on its own terms.

Life Expectancy 10-12 years | Height 60-66cm | Trainability This independent mind can be challenging | Grooming Lots of brushing | Exercise It needs plenty of room to move | Most likely to say Look how beautiful I am! | Least likely to say Give me a cuddle

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# Creature Features: Jungle



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- Suitable for ages 2+. Made from FSC materials.
- Creature Features Dinosaurs puzzle also in the range
- Celebrating 10 years of extraordinarily illustrated books

# Creature Features: Jungle

Pub Date	<b>18/04/2024</b>
Pub Price	<b>£14.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800789272</b>
Binding	<b>Board Book</b>
Age Range	<b>0-5 years</b>
Author	<b>Natasha Durley</b>
Illustrator	<b>Natasha Durley</b>
Extent	<b>Opp</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# Creature Features: Dinosaurs



**Match all 10 dinosaurs together in this stylish jigsaw pair puzzle.**

- Gorgeous fun artwork from the bestselling illustrator Natasha Durley
- Includes 10 x 2-piece die-cut puzzles (total size 180mm x 100mm)
- Match up all 10 dinosaurs including T.Rex, Triceratops, Ankylosaurus and Diplodocus
- Cylinder packaging makes these easy to tidy away and the perfect gift
- Suitable for ages 2+. Made from FSC materials.
- Creature Features Jungle puzzle also in the range
- Celebrating 10 years of extraordinarily illustrated books.

# Creature Features: Dinosaurs

Pub Date	<b>18/04/2024</b>
Pub Price	<b>£14.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800789289</b>
Binding	<b>Board Book</b>
Age Range	<b>0-5 years</b>
Author	<b>Natasha Durley</b>
Illustrator	<b>Natasha Durley</b>
Extent	<b>Opp</b>
Word Count	<b>0 words</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

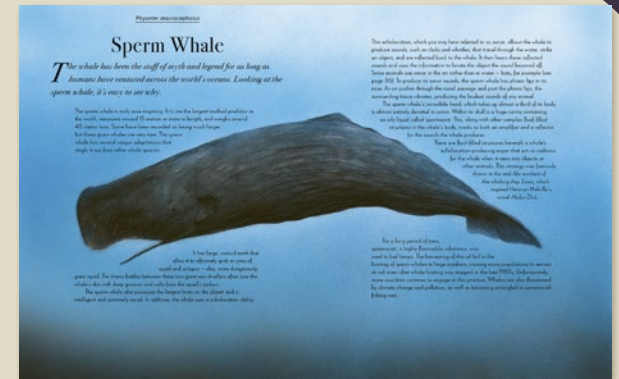
## BEAUTIFUL

A Celebration of Evolution

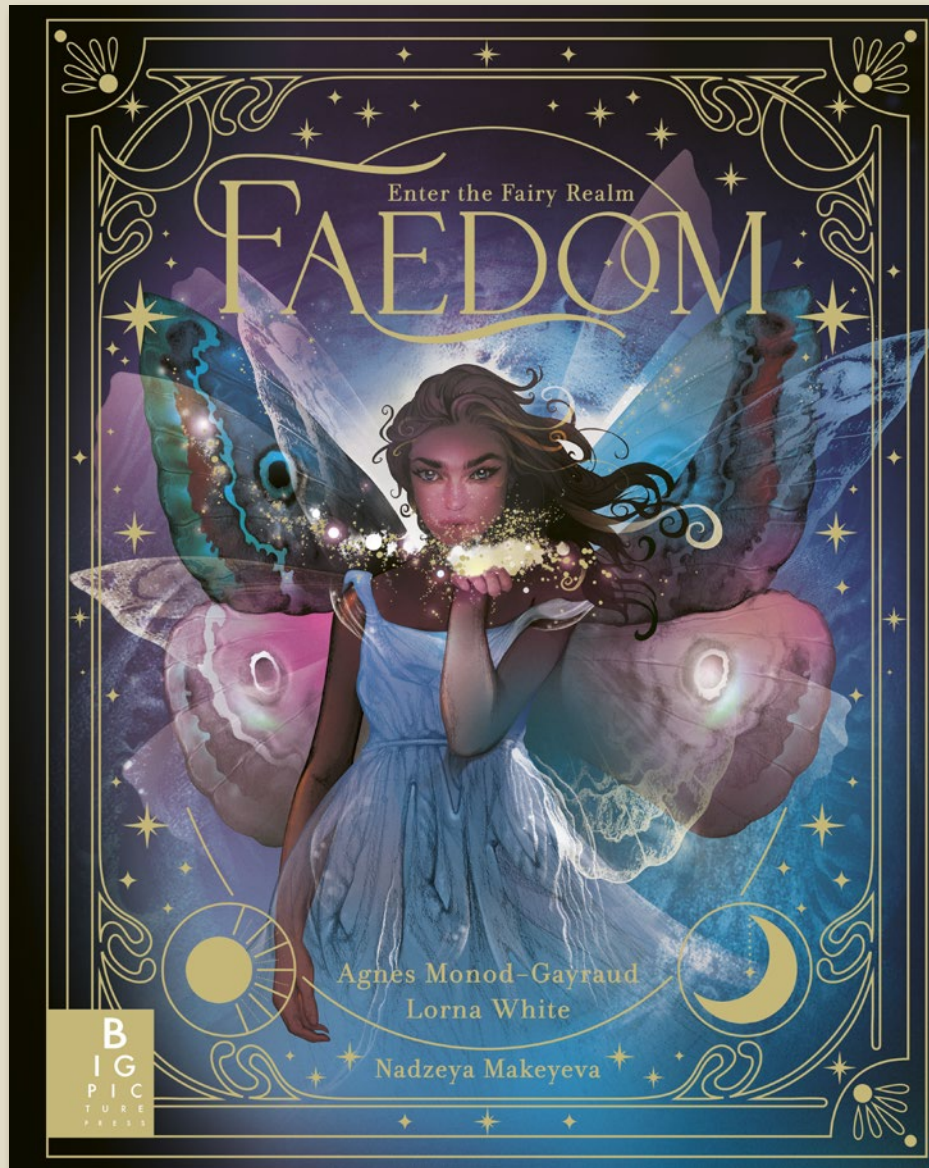


**All of nature is beautiful. This stunning book shows how a variety of amazing creatures have evolved to look and behave the way they do.**

- Stunning watercolour artwork by the phenomenally talented natural history artist William Spring.
- Large format with 100% foil cover treatments makes this the ideal gift book.
- A poignant message with significance for today's world.
- Includes 50 beautiful creatures to marvel at.
- The perfect book for fans of *Hidden Planet* by Ben Rothery and *The Golden Mole* by Katherine Rundell.



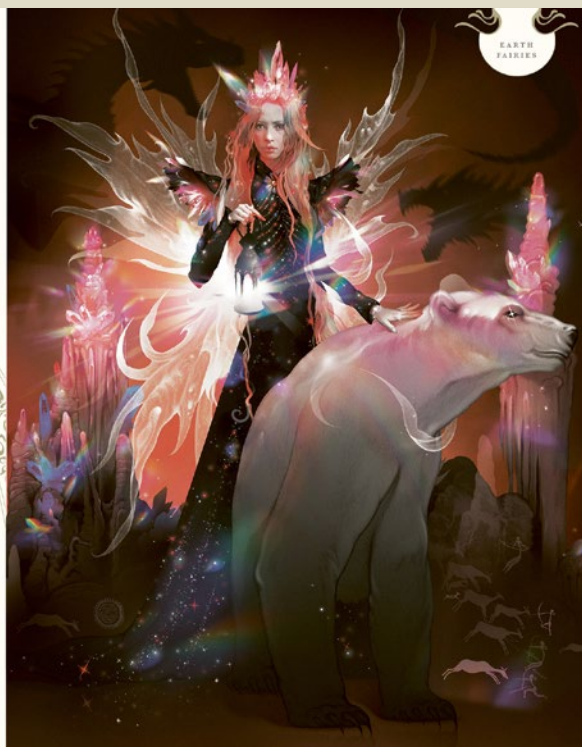
Pub Date	<b>01/08/2024</b>
Pub Price	<b>£18.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800786165</b>
H x W	<b>340 x 270mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>9-11 years</b>
Author	<b>William Spring</b>
Illustrator	<b>William Spring</b>
Extent	<b>112pp</b>
Word Count	<b>25000 words</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>



**Explore the legendary world of fairies in this stunningly illustrated guide to the mythical realm.**

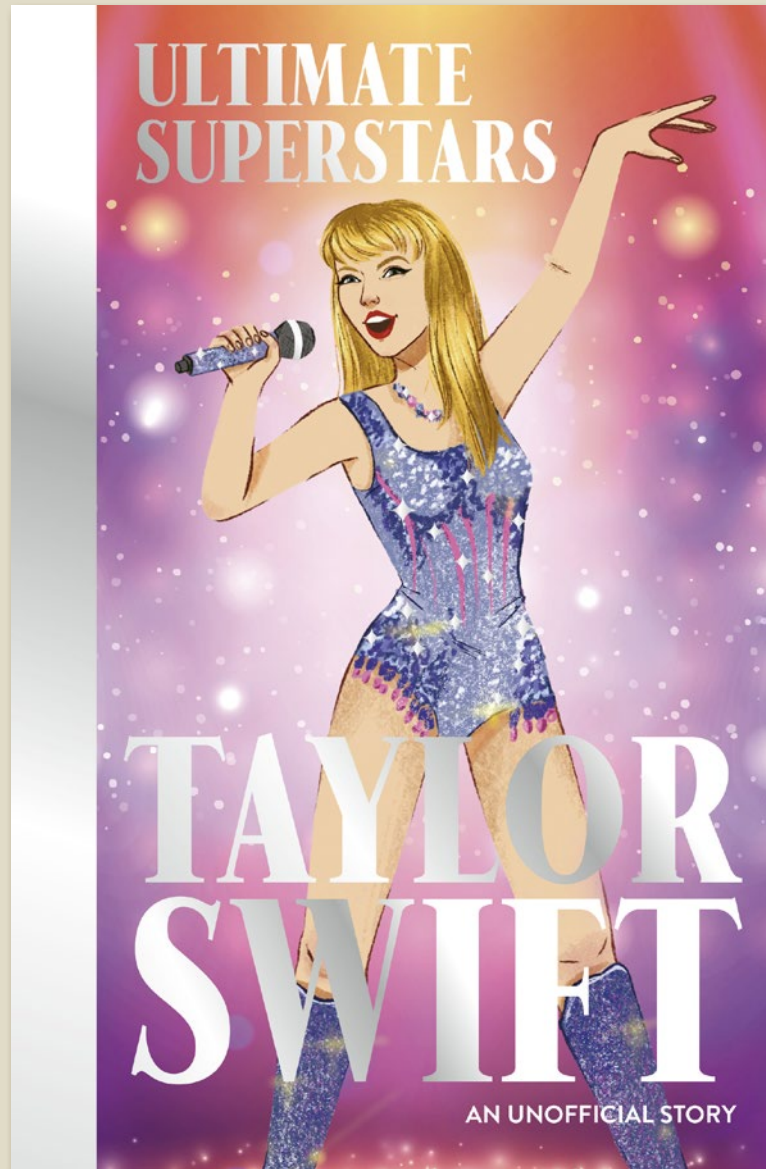
- An incredible collection of fairies to be enjoyed by children and adults alike.
- *Faedom* also includes facts about the natural world including lunar cycles, astrology, crystal healing and herbology, bringing the world of fairies to life.
- Stunning ethereal artwork by debut talent Nadzeya Makeyeva.
- Large format and foil cover finish makes this the ideal gift.
- Agnes Monod-Gayraud is an award-winning translator and editor. Lorna White is a writer and researcher whose focus and expertise is in Ancient Mythology and Folklore.
- **Celebrating 10 Years of Extraordinary Illustrated Books**





Pub Date	<b>24/10/2024</b>
Pub Price	<b>£20.00</b>
ISBN	<b>9781800784956</b>
H x W	<b>340 x 270mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>9-11 years</b>
Author	<b>Agnes Monod-Gayraud Lorna White</b>
Illustrator	<b>Nadzeja Makeyeva</b>
Extent	<b>96pp</b>
Word Count	<b>30000 words</b>
Freight On Board	<b>01/09/2024</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# Ultimate Superstars: Taylor Swift



## Taylor Swift's rise to global stardom, retold for young readers.

- Taylor Swift has sold 40 million albums worldwide and 130 million single downloads.
- Perfect for young fans to find out all about their favourite star.
- Unofficial story of Taylor Swift's rise to stardom.
- Spin-off of the bestselling Ultimate Football Heroes books, which have sold 340,000 copies across the series.
- New edition featuring the Eras tour.

# Ultimate Superstars: Taylor Swift

Pub Date **20/06/2024**

Pub Price **£6.99**

ISBN **9781835870501**

H x W **198 x 129mm**

Binding **Paperback**

Age Range **9-11 years**

Author **Melanie Hamm**

Extent **176pp**

Rights Available **World**

# Icons of Cinema: Baz Luhrmann



**A celebration of the iconic movie director behind *Moulin Rouge!* and *Elvis*.**

- Written by Emily Maskell, freelance film critic who has written for BBC Culture, GQ, W Mag and more.
- Illustrated with full colour photographs including events and movie stills.
- The next title in this series, **Icons of Cinema: Greta Gerwig**, will publish in 2025.
- With home streaming services expanding and multiplying at an incredible rate, as well as the Barbenheimer Effect of 2023, there is a renewed interest in film and cinema.

# Icons of Cinema: Baz Luhrmann

## Paso Doble Flare

Though Scott and Fran perform several ballroom dances throughout *Strictly Ballroom*, their sub-breaking paso doble is the most memorable. The Latin ballroom dance initiates a ballfight; the male dancer is the mascot, while the female dancer is the real sayer of a romance. After another heated argument with his mother, Scott arrives at Fran's house and confides his desire to dance with her at the competition. However, Fran's Spanish family does not readily receive his declaration. Fran's father, Roco (Antonio Vargas, one of the world's leading Flamenco dancers), especially scowls at the young man and demands to see his paso doble in action.

They gather on the wooden terrace, lit by lanterns with Fran's family playing live instruments as Scott and Fran's dance is met by raucous laughter. Roco can't just stand by and watch his son assume the outsider position, head held high with smug confidence and effortless grace. The family forms a ring in which Roco challenges Scott with a "who is how it's done" game. They look like two bullfighters facing off. Luhrmann holds an extreme close-up on the intensity of Roco's forehead, while the sound design focuses on the increasingly loud clicking of his heels. Rapid fire editing cuts jump between close-ups of Fran's dancing and Scott's wonderment. The fiery



moment melts into a scene of schooling between the two men, who are very different from one another.

Roco becomes Scott and Fran's unofficial dance coach to help them perfect their paso doble. Fran's grandfather Yi Yi (Antonio Banderas) also assists, the film Scott's choreographer. The rhythm of the music into his soul to help him "dance from the heart". Their nightly rehearsals are brought forward into the daylight, no longer hiding in the dark – it's a subtle callback to Fran's sentiment that "his life lived in fear is a life half lived". Luhrmann characterises such scenes with a traditional soundtrack composed of the nearly railway system, deliberate cutting, the family's clapping, and the humming of a map.



OPPOSITE TOP: Fran (Damon Gameau) and Scott (Eric Robson) dance together. OPPOSITE BOTTOM: Scott (Eric Robson) rehearsing with Fran's father, Roco (Antonio Vargas).

A 21-year-old DVCaptiv called the character's complicated blend of emotions, cycling through all of these emotions in a few seconds. His anger is tangible in his unrelenting gaze and taunting expression as he faces the gun, but then comes shame. Luhrmann cuts to an extreme close-up of Roco's expression. DVCaptiv's face the only thing visible in the frame. Roco's anger turns to regret as tears spill from bloodshot eyes and blood trickles down his cheeks. There is no soundtrack for Roco's breakdown, just the patter of falling rain as he whispers: "I am Roco's fool".

Luhrmann jumps so quickly between the tranquil love and agonised violence that there is no character left untouched by the threat of death. The murder of both Mercutio and Tybalt demonstrates that this burning desire to defeat the enemy is destined to fill its wish. Through Tybalt killing Mercutio and Romeo killing Tybalt,

Romeo has not only lost his best friend but left a devastating mark on the household's legacy. The self-destruction of youth vulnerability with Romeo's Juliet's heartbreaking conclusion as the two lovers tragically take their lives in each other's arms.



ABOVE: Romeo (DVCaptiv) reflects the true moment of his love.

## Luhrmann's Outback

On horseback, Luhrmann's epic drama captures the landscapes of Australia with wonder. This vast romance resonates over the landscape as much as Lady Sarah and Dorothea's infatuation. As the pair roam across endless miles of land, driving cattle, cinema-epicist Mandy Walker highlights the non-Melbourn Outback's outlying nature.

Luhrmann's signature style of visual opulence infuses with Walker's long-drawn-out dusty scrubbed plains, incredible sunsets and formidable mountainous terrain. As Walker sweeps over various terrains, the aerial shots are borderless panoramas. The cinematography borrows from the classic American western – capturing cattle drives like Howard Hawks' *Red River* – with grand vistas reduced to the expansive Outback. Further bolstering Australia, unlike Jill Blacklock's hyperactive editing, Dody Dorn and Michael McCook take a more restrained approach. The Outback lingers on the screen as viewers can properly absorb its grandeur.

Light is a central component of Luhrmann's storytelling. Walker's wide frames find each character under the blazing Australian sun, but the exposure quality of light and the noticeable absence of it imbues Australia's frames with a fantastical quality. Filming in Queensland, a remote region of northern Western Australia, temperatures soared to a grueling 43°C and the intensity of sunlight bleached the cattle driving scenes. The sun is a guiding light but a punishing force in the outback, and the New South Wales desert that borders nature.

Luhrmann's lens appreciates Australia's landscapes, whether observing King George atop a mountain or Lady Sarah trudging through the sands. The film explores through several characters and their differentiating outlooks as Luhrmann examines the beauty of the desert and plains while contemplating the harsh reality of the country's history.



TOP: Dorothea (Lily Laune) gazes at the Outback. MIDDLE: Lady Sarah (Lily Laune) and Dorothea (Lily Laune) in the Outback. BOTTOM: Lady Sarah (Lily Laune) in the Outback.

## THE CURTAIN RISES...

### The Showman

Over three decades, Mark Anthony Luhrmann, who goes by the moniker Baz Luhrmann, has cemented himself as one of cinema's most recognisable filmmakers. The Australian film director, producer, writer and actor has worked across television, opera, theatre and music, but it is in the cinematic realm where he has really flourished. He is regarded as a contemporary auteur renowned for his theatrical aptitude, opulent aesthetic and sweeping romances.

Luhrmann is a showman as much as a director, known for conducting dramatic narratives that play out on a flamboyantly grand scale. Culturally, his significance spans the arts as he takes classic narrative structures and morphs them through new perspectives, not limiting himself to the boundaries of realism. This signature style marks the Australian filmmaker as a pioneering storyteller where the fusion of high and low pop culture creates an entirely singular body of films.

OPPOSITE: Luhrmann on the set of *Moulin Rouge!*



Pub Date	07/11/2024
Pub Price	£13.99
ISBN	9781800789869
H x W	181 x 126mm
Binding	Hardback
Age Range	Adult
Author	Emily Maskell
Extent	160pp
Word Count	16500 words
Rights Available	World

# Icons of Cinema: Greta Gerwig



**A celebration of the iconic movie director behind *Barbie* and *Little Women*.**

- Written by Laura Venning, film critic specialising in feminist cinema who has written for BBC Culture, Empire Magazine and Little White Lies.
- Illustrated with full colour photographs including events and movie stills.
- Barbie earned more than \$1.38 billion worldwide to become Warner Bros' highest grossing film ever, as well as the highest grossing film ever from a female filmmaker at the domestic box office, and was the largest global film release of 2023.
- Will publish simultaneously with **Icons of Cinema: Wes Anderson**.

# Icons of Cinema: Greta Gerwig

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Pub Price	<b>£13.99</b>
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H x W	<b>181 x 126mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>Adult</b>
Author	<b>Laura Venning</b>
Extent	<b>160pp</b>
Translation Files	<b>27/01/2025</b>
Files To Printer	<b>19/05/2025</b>
Freight On Board	<b>07/08/2025</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>

# Icons of Cinema: Wes Anderson



**A celebration of the iconic movie director behind *The Grand Budapest Hotel* and *Moonrise Kingdom*.**

- Written by Emily Maskell, author of **Icons of Cinema: Baz Luhrmann** and freelance film critic who has written for BBC Culture, GQ, W Mag and more.
- Illustrated with full colour photographs including events and movie stills.
- Will publish simultaneously with **Icons of Cinema: Greta Gerwig**.
- With home streaming services expanding and multiplying at an incredible rate, as well as the Barbenheimer Effect of 2023, there is a renewed interest in film and cinema.



# Icons of Cinema: Wes Anderson

Pub Date	<b>09/10/2025</b>
Pub Price	<b>£13.99</b>
ISBN	<b>9781835871515</b>
H x W	<b>181 x 126mm</b>
Binding	<b>Hardback</b>
Age Range	<b>Adult</b>
Author	<b>Emily Maskell</b>
Extent	<b>160pp</b>
Translation Files	<b>27/01/2025</b>
Files To Printer	<b>15/05/2025</b>
Freight On Board	<b>07/08/2025</b>
Rights Available	<b>World</b>



# SPAIN - FBF24 - Adult and Gifting

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