

## The Magdalen Girls

Magdalen Rising Republic of Shame The Monasteries, Magdalen Asylums and Reformatory Schools of Our Lady of Charity in Ireland 1853-1973 Mary, Called Magdalene The Leper King Under the Hawthorn Tree Speaking of Apraxia Disciplines of Virtue The American Girl The Irishman's Daughter Rebel Sisters The Traitor The Baby Laundry for Unmarried Mothers The Magdalen Girls A Century of Progress? The Magdalen Suffer the Little Children Shaped by Silence Kathy's Story What She Left Behind Ireland's Magdalen Laundries and the Nation's Architecture of Containment The Taster Shame, the Church and the Regulation of Female Sexuality The Light In The Window My Name is Bridget The Magdalen Martyrs Eclipsed Ireland and the Magdalene Laundries The Magdalen Laundries The Sculptress Origins of the Magdalene Laundries The Wild Rose Asylum Kathy's Story The Secret Magdalene Whispering Hope The Time in Between The Swan Garden The Magdalen Girls Do Penance Or Perish The Last Girls of Pompeii

## Magdalen Rising

From the acclaimed author of *The Magdalen Girls* and *The Taster* comes a powerful, unforgettable novel of strength and resilience, set against the backdrop of the Irish famine. Ireland, 1845. To Briana Walsh, no place on earth is more beautiful than Carrowteige, County Mayo, with its sloping fields and rocky cliffs perched above the wild Atlantic. The small farms

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that surround the centuries-old Lear House are managed by her father, agent to the wealthy, reckless Sir Thomas Blakely. Tenant farmers sell the oats and rye they grow to pay rent to Sir Thomas, surviving on the potatoes that flourish in the remaining scraps of land. But when the potato crop falls prey to a devastating blight, families Briana has known all her life are left with no food, no resources, and no mercy from the English landowner, who seems indifferent to everything except profit. Rory Caulfield, the hard-working young farmer Briana hopes to marry, shares the locals' despair—and their anger. There's talk of violent reprisals against the callous gentry and their agents. Briana's studious older sister, Lucinda, dreams of a future far beyond Mayo. But even as hunger and disease settle over the country, killing and displacing millions, Briana knows she must find a way to guide her family through one of Ireland's darkest hours—toward hope, love, and a new beginning. Praise for V.S. Alexander's *The Taster* “This haunting and engrossing novel will appeal to fans of Anthony Doerr and Kristin Hannah.” —Booklist “The ‘taster’s’ story adds to a body of nuanced World War II fiction such as Elizabeth Wein’s *Code Name Verity*, Anthony Doerr’s *All the Light We Cannot See*, and Tatiana de Rosnay’s *Sarah’s Key*. Book clubs and historical fiction fans will love discussing this and will eagerly await more from Alexander.” —Library Journal

## Republic of Shame

At last, a parents' guide to understanding, treating, and living with childhood apraxia (CSA). Written in an empathic style by a parent who has been there?, *SPEAKING OF APRAXIA* offers hope and practical advice for parents of toddlers to teens with this neurologically-based

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motor speech disorder. Characterized by difficulties with planning and producing the complex set of movements necessary for intelligible speech, CSA can be a child's only diagnosis or can be accompanied by other special needs such as learning disabilities, Down syndrome, or autism. Parents and professionals will appreciate the author's clear explanations of everything from diagnosing CSA, working with speech language pathologists (SLPs), to understanding how to distinguish it from other speech disorders, and getting appropriate early intervention and special education support. Drawing on the latest research, professionals' insights, her own and other parents' experience, the author covers these important topics: ?I: The Straight Scoop on Speech Basics--CSA definition; An Overview of Speech & Language; Where to Get Help and What to Ask; Your First Appointment with an SLP ?II: Now What?!--Getting, Coping with and Understanding the Diagnosis; Health & Genetics; All about Speech Therapy ?III: Helping Your Child--Complementary and Alternative Medical and Treatment Approaches (Diet, Music, Movement Therapy and More) ?IV: Off to School--Getting Ready; Special Education Ins & Outs; Phonological Awareness; Reading Issues ?V: Coping & Hoping--Dealing with Emotions and Family Life; What the Future May Hold; Networking, Support Groups, and Advocacy ?Appendices: Information on insurance, summer camps and enrichment programs, a history of CSA, and a glossary of terms. SPEAKING OF APRAXIA is a comprehensive and authoritative resource any family, SLP, occupational therapist, or pediatric practice will be glad to own or recommend.

## **The Monasteries, Magdalen Asylums and Reformatory Schools of Our Lady**

### of Charity in Ireland 1853-1973

The Magdalen laundries were workhouses in which many Irish women and girls were effectively imprisoned because they were perceived to be a threat to the moral fiber of society. Mandated by the Irish state beginning in the eighteenth century, they were operated by various orders of the Catholic Church until the last laundry closed in 1996. A few years earlier, in 1993, an order of nuns in Dublin sold part of their Magdalen convent to a real estate developer. The remains of 155 inmates, buried in unmarked graves on the property, were exhumed, cremated, and buried elsewhere in a mass grave. This triggered a public scandal in Ireland and since then the Magdalen laundries have become an important issue in Irish culture, especially with the 2002 release of the film *The Magdalene Sisters*. Focusing on the ten Catholic Magdalen laundries operating between 1922 and 1996, Ireland's Magdalen Laundries and the Nation's Architecture of Containment offers the first history of women entering these institutions in the twentieth century. Because the religious orders have not opened their archival records, Smith argues that Ireland's Magdalen institutions continue to exist in the public mind primarily at the level of story (cultural representation and survivor testimony) rather than history (archival history and documentation). Addressed to academic and general readers alike, James M. Smith's book accomplishes three primary objectives. First, it connects what history we have of the Magdalen laundries to Ireland's "architecture of containment" that made undesirable segments of the female population such as illegitimate children, single mothers, and sexually promiscuous women literally invisible. Second, it critically evaluates cultural representations in drama and visual art of the laundries that have, over the past fifteen years, brought them

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significant attention in Irish culture. Finally, Smith challenges the nation—church, state, and society—to acknowledge its complicity in Ireland's Magdalen scandal and to offer redress for victims and survivors alike.

### **Mary, Called Magdalene**

Jack Taylor is walking the delicate edge of a sobriety he doesn't trust when his phone rings. He's in debt to a Galway tough named Bill Cassell, what the locals call a "hard man." Bill did Jack a big favor a while back; the trouble is, he never lets a favor go unreturned. Jack is amazed when Cassell simply asks him to track down a woman, now either dead or very old, who long ago helped his mother escape from the notorious Magdalen laundry, where young wayward girls were imprisoned and abused. Jack doesn't like the odds of finding the woman, but counts himself lucky that the task is at least on the right side of the law. Until he spends a few days spinning his wheels and is dragged in front of Cassell for a quick reminder of his priorities. Bill's goons do a little spinning of their own, playing a game of Russian roulette a little too close to the back of Jack's head. It's only blind luck and the mercy of a god he no longer trusts that land Jack back on the street rather than face down in a cellar with a bullet in his skull. He's got one chance to stay alive: find this woman. Unfortunately, he can't escape his own curiosity, and an unnerving hunch quickly turns into a solid fact: just who Jack's looking for, and why, aren't nearly what they seem. The Magdalen Martyrs, the third Galway-set novel by Edgar, Barry, and Macavity finalist and Shamus Award-winner Ken Bruen, is a gripping, dazzling story that takes the Jack Taylor series to explosive new heights of suspense.

### The Leper King

"At least in *The Handmaid's Tale* they value babies, mostly. Not so in the true stories here." Margaret Atwood Until alarmingly recently, the Catholic Church, acting in concert with the Irish state, operated a network of institutions for the concealment, punishment and exploitation of "fallen women". In the Magdalene laundries, girls and women were incarcerated and condemned to servitude. And in the mother-and-baby homes, women who had become pregnant out of wedlock were hidden from view, and in most cases their babies were adopted - sometimes illegally. Mortality rates in these institutions were shockingly high, and the discovery of a mass infant grave at the mother-and-baby home in Tuam made news all over the world. The Irish state has commissioned investigations. But the workings of the institutions and of the culture that underpinned it - a shame-industrial complex - have long been cloaked in secrecy and silence. For countless people, a search for answers continues. Caelainn Hogan - a brilliant young journalist, born in an Ireland that was only just starting to free itself from the worst excesses of Catholic morality - has been talking to the survivors of the institutions, to members of the religious orders that ran them, and to priests and bishops. She has visited the sites of the institutions, and studied Church and state documents that have much to reveal about how they operated. Reporting and writing with great curiosity, tenacity and insight, she has produced a startling and often moving account of how an entire society colluded in this repressive system, and of the damage done to survivors and their families. In the great tradition of Anna Funder's *Stasiland* and Barbara Demick's *Nothing to Envy: Real Lives in North Korea* - both winners of the Samuel Johnson Prize - *Republic of Shame* is an astounding

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portrait of a deeply bizarre culture of control. "[A] furious, necessary book" Sinéad Gleeson "Achingly powerful There will be many people who don't want to read Republic of Shame, for fear it will be too much, too dark, too heavy. Please don't be afraid. Read it. Look it in the eye" Irish Times "A must read for everyone" Lynn Ruane "Republic of Shame is a careful, sensitive and extremely well-written book - but it is harrowing. It would break your heart in two" Ailbhe Smyth "Hogan"s captivatingly written stories of people who were consigned to what she calls the "shame-industrial complex" puts faces - many old now, and lined with pain - to the clinical data. Brilliant" Sunday Times "Utterly brilliant. Please read it" Marian Keyes "Riveting, immensely insightful and horrifically recognisable" Emma Dabiri "Compelling devastatingly human, [Republic of Shame] will make you shake with sadness and anger" RTÉ Guide "[A] sensitive, can't-look-away book Through moving stories, Hogan shows how the past is still present" NPR "A beautifully written and impeccably researched book We need more books like this" Caitriona Palmer "A vital and damning portrait of Ireland"s mother and baby homes" GCN.ie "I've laughed, cried & RAGED reading this book" Taryn De Vere "Caelainn"s book brings real people to the fore" Hot Press "A gripping, eye-opening and challenging read Hogan sheds light on the darkest corners of our recent history in Ireland, but also holds up a mirror to today" Dublin Inquirer "Caelainn Hogan"s harrowing account of the "shame industrial complex" shows how the legacy of Ireland"s treatment of "fallen women" remains part of the scenery of modern life" Totally Dublin "For anyone interested in understanding modern Ireland. A compelling and beautifully written investigation into institutions for "fallen women" and the culture which facilitated them" Siobhán Fenton

### **Under the Hawthorn Tree**

From acclaimed author V.S. Alexander comes an absorbing, immersive novel set during World War I, as a talented and ambitious artist finds an unusual calling. May 1917: The elegant streets of Boston are thousands of miles away from the carnage of the Western Front. Yet even here, amid the clatter of horse-drawn carriages and automobiles, it is impossible to ignore the war raging across Europe. Emma Lewis Swan's husband, Tom, has gone to France, eager to do his duty as a surgeon. Emma, a sculptress, has stayed behind, pursuing her art despite being dismissed by male critics. On the bustling sidewalk she spies a returned soldier. His brutally scarred face inspires first pity, and then something more--a determination to use her skill to make masks for disfigured soldiers. Leaving Boston for France also means leaving behind Linton Bower, a fiery, gifted artist determined to win her. Emma's union with Tom has been steady yet passionless, marred by guilt over a choice she made long ago. In Paris, she crafts intricate, lifelike masks to restore these wounded men to the world. But in the course of her new career she will encounter one man who compels her to confront the secret she's never revealed, not even to Tom. Only by casting off the façade she has worn for so long can she pursue a path through heartbreak and turmoil toward her own unexpected future

### **Speaking of Apraxia**

Shaped by Silence brings together the powerful stories of five women from Ireland, Canada,

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and Australia whose lives were shaped by forced confinement in Magdalene laundries and other institutions operated by the Roman Catholic Order of Sisters of the Good Shepherd. Their narratives include one teenager's experience in a Good Shepherd training school in Canada; another story of a child who was born in a Canadian Good Shepherd laundry; and three accounts of adolescent girls held in Good Shepherd Magdalene laundries in Ireland and Australia. In these institutions, women and girls became a coerced workforce. Hard, unpaid and relentless physical toil, isolation, enforced silence, and prayer constituted the nuns' strategy for converting their "fallen" charges into the Christian image of pure womanhood. Within this regime, girls and women suffered physical, psychological, and emotional abuse. While intimately capturing the dark and enduring after-effects of ill-treatment, the stories recounted in *Shaped by Silence* also describe survivors' efforts to heal and rebuild their lives. This important book shines a light on a pervasive and systemic pattern of cruelty and exploitation. It reveals the unwarranted confinement of generations of girls and women in Good Shepherd institutions around the world and constitutes a call for full acknowledgement of their suffering.

### **Disciplines of Virtue**

Dublin, 1962. Within the gated grounds of the convent of The Sisters of the Holy Redemption lies one of the city's Magdalen Laundries. Once places of refuge, the laundries have evolved into grim workhouses. Some inmates are fallen women, unwed mothers, prostitutes, or petty criminals. Most are ordinary girls whose only sin lies in being too pretty, too independent, or

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tempting the wrong man. Among them is sixteen-year-old Teagan Tiernan, sent by her family when her beauty provokes a lustful revelation from a young priest. Teagan soon befriends Nora Craven, a new arrival who thought nothing could be worse than living in a squalid tenement flat. Stripped of their freedom and dignity, the girls are given new names and denied contact with the outside world. The Mother Superior, Sister Anne, who has secrets of her own, inflicts cruel, dehumanizing punishments but always in the name of love. Finally, Nora and Teagan find an ally in the reclusive Lea, who helps them endure and plot an escape. But as they will discover, the outside world has dangers too, especially for young women with soiled reputations. Told with candor, compassion, and vivid historical detail, *The Magdalen Girls* is a masterfully written novel of life within the era's notorious institutions and an inspiring story of friendship, hope, and unyielding courage."

### **The American Girl**

Three innocent girls endure the deprivations of Ireland's infamous Magdalen Laundries in "this tenderhearted story of sinners, saints, and redemption" (Booklist). Dublin, 1962. Within the gated ground of The Sisters of the Holy Redemption lies one of the asylums known as the Magdalen Laundries. Once places of refuge, the laundries have evolved into grim workhouses. Some inmates are "fallen" women—unwed mothers, prostitutes, or petty criminals. Most are ordinary girls whose only sin lies in being too pretty, independent, or tempting the wrong man. Among them is sixteen-year-old Teagan Tiernan, sent by her family when her beauty provokes a lustful revelation from a young priest. Teagan soon befriends Nora Craven, a new arrival who

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### **The Irishman's Daughter**

In British and American representations of girlhood during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, adolescent girls were viewed both as figures of adornment and as creatures in need of refuge, rescue, and reform. This engrossing book investigates such portrayals of girlhood by analyzing children's and adult's literature, conduct manuals, religious tracts, institutions for wayward girls, as well as social practices and phenomena, including the dowry system and the domestic science movement. Employing the methods of feminist theory and cultural studies, Lynne Vallone examines the historical and social production of girls' culture in Britain and America - from eighteenth-century English asylums for penitent prostitutes and rescue homes in late nineteenth-century America to such social and legal practices as marriage settlements in which the upper-class girl's "jewel" of chastity enhanced her bride-price. Vallone's study also brings new insights to a wide range of literature concerning female adolescence, offering in-depth readings of Pamela and Little Women, as well as works by Jane Austen, Frances Burney, Sarah Fielding, and Hannah More.

### **Rebel Sisters**

Bright, beautiful and intelligent, the Gifford sisters Grace, Muriel and Nellie kick against the conventions of their wealthy Anglo-Irish background. As war erupts across Europe, the spirited sisters are caught up in Ireland's struggle for freedom. They become involved in the Suffragettes, the 1913 Dublin Lockout and the growing Nationalist movement. Muriel falls for writer Thomas MacDonagh, artist Grace meets the enigmatic Joe Plunkett – both leaders of 'The Rising' – while Nellie joins the Citizen Army and bravely takes up arms. On Easter Monday, 1916, the biggest uprising in Ireland for two centuries begins and the world of the Gifford sisters is torn apart.

### **The Traitor**

The Swan Garden tells the story of a young woman who survives a brutal assault and rape, gives birth in a mother baby home, and the abuse she receives in the Magdalene Laundry. After finding a way to escape, she attempts to create a life for herself, but never forgets who was taken from her and why. As the years pass, she learns truths once denied to her.

### **The Baby Laundry for Unmarried Mothers**

Shame strikes at the heart of human individuals rupturing relationships, extinguishing joy and,

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at times, provoking conflict and violence. This book explores the idea that shame has historically been, and continues to be, used by an oftentimes patriarchal Christian Church as a mechanism to control and regulate female sexuality and to displace men's ambivalence about sex. Using a study of Ireland's Magdalen laundries as a historical example, contemporary feminist theological and theoretical scholarship are utilised to examine why the Church as an institution has routinely colluded with the shaming of individuals, and moreover why women are consistently and overtly shamed on account of, and indeed take the blame for, sex. In addition, the text asks whether the avoidance of shame is in fact functional in men's efforts to adhere to patriarchal gender norms and religious ideals, and whether women end up paying the price for the maintenance of this system. This book is a fresh take on the issue of shame and gender in the context of religious belief and practice. As such it will be of significant interest to academics in the fields of Religious Studies, but also History, Psychology and Gender Studies.

### **The Magdalen Girls**

"In the summer of 1942, as war rages across Europe, a series of anonymous leaflets appears around the University of Munich, speaking out against escalating Nazi atrocities. The leaflets are hidden in public places, or mailed to addresses selected at random from the phone book. Natalya Petrovich, a student, knows who is behind the leaflets--a secret group called the White Rose, led by siblings Hans and Sophie Scholl and their friends. As a volunteer nurse on the Russian front, Natalya witnessed the horrors of war first-hand. She willingly enters the White Rose's circle, where every hushed conversation, every small act of dissent could mean

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imprisonment or death at the hands of an infuriated Gestapo. Natalya risks everything alongside her friends, hoping the power of words will encourage others to resist. But even among those she trusts most, there is no guarantee of safety--and when danger strikes, she must take an extraordinary gamble in her own personal struggle to survive"--

### **A Century of Progress?**

For over 13 years, Frances Reilly experienced institutionalized cruelty at the hands of the nuns of the Poor Sisters of Nazareth Convent in Belfast. Writing with honesty and integrity, Reilly presents a moving account of her childhood suffering and her resolution to survive the tortures of her life.

### **The Magdalen**

"Historically compelling and vividly staged alternately scalding and magical in its theatricality" -Los Angeles Times. This all-woman play is set in one of the old Mary Magdalen laundries run by an order of nuns. It tells the woeful tale of a group

### **Suffer the Little Children**

The poems of The Wild Rose Asylum give to the women of the Magdalen laundries a voice

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that sharpens the air. The testimonies rendered here are stark yet fiercely lyrical, bearing witness to generations of lost women and lost freedom.

### **Shaped by Silence**

The first book in the famine trilogy *Under the Hawthorn Tree* is Ireland's top selling children's book. The phenomenal success of this original and enthralling book is celebrated with this beautiful hardback gift edition. This novel has become a classic for young readers worldwide. *Under the Hawthorn Tree* continues to go from strength to strength and this new edition is a must for any collection. Ireland in the 1840s is devastated by famine. When tragedy strikes their family, Eily, Michael and Peggy are left to fend for themselves. Starving and in danger of the dreaded workhouse, they escape. Their one hope is to find the great aunts they have heard about in their mother's stories. With tremendous courage they set out on a journey that will test every reserve of strength, love and loyalty they possess. Also available on DVD.

### **Kathy's Story**

Amid the turbulence of World War II, a young German woman finds a precarious haven closer to the source of danger than she ever imagined—one that will propel her through the extremes of privilege and terror under Hitler's dictatorship . . . In early 1943, Magda Ritter's parents send her to relatives in Bavaria, hoping to keep her safe from the Allied bombs strafing Berlin.

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Young German women are expected to do their duty—working for the Reich or marrying to produce strong, healthy children. After an interview with the civil service, Magda is assigned to the Berghof, Hitler's mountain retreat. Only after weeks of training does she learn her assignment: she will be one of several young women tasting the Führer's food, offering herself in sacrifice to keep him from being poisoned. Perched high in the Bavarian Alps, the Berghof seems worlds away from the realities of battle. Though terrified at first, Magda gradually becomes used to her dangerous occupation—though she knows better than to voice her misgivings about the war. But her love for a conspirator within the SS, and her growing awareness of the Reich's atrocities, draw Magda into a plot that will test her wits and loyalty in a quest for safety, freedom, and ultimately, vengeance. Vividly written and ambitious in scope, *The Taster* examines the harrowing moral dilemmas of war in an emotional story filled with acts of extraordinary courage. Praise for V.S. Alexander's *The Magdalen Girls* "Fans of Barbara Davis and Ashley Hay will enjoy this tenderhearted story of sinner, saints, and redemption." --Booklist "Alexander has clearly done his homework. Chilling in its realism, his work depicts the improprieties long abandoned by the Catholic Church and only recently acknowledged. Fans of the book and film *Philomena* will want to read this." --Library Journal

### **What She Left Behind**

On 19 February 2013 the Irish Taoiseach Enda Kenny apologized to the women who had been incarcerated in Ireland's Magdalene laundries. In the audience sat Steven O'Riordan, a documentary filmmaker and founder of the Magdalene Survivors Together group. And by his

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side were some of the women he had helped. Nancy, Kathleen, Diane, Marie and Marina were confined in Magdalene laundries throughout Ireland during the 1950s, 60s and 70s. The physical and psychological abuse they suffered at the institutions, run on behalf of the State, led to a lifetime of shame and secrecy. Inspirational and moving, these women tell their stories for the first time.

### **Ireland's Magdalen Laundries and the Nation's Architecture of Containment**

A historical novel follows the life of Mary Magdalene, detailing her privileged childhood, her prophetic visions, her study in the Great Library of Alexandria, her fascination with John the Baptizer's cousin Yeshu'a, and her role as teacher and advisor to Jesus.

### **The Taster**

The discovery of the remains of 796 children at a Mother and Baby home in Ireland in 2014 was prompted in part by the actions of those in this biography; as Anna Corrigan recounts her mission to discover the fate of her missing brothers.

### **Shame, the Church and the Regulation of Female Sexuality**

The Leper King is a story of authentic history and imaginative fantasy interwoven with faith and

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love, war and magic set amidst the turbulent times of the Crusades. Upon the premature death of his father, BALDWIN IV, stricken with leprosy from a young age, ascends to the throne of Jherusalem at the age of thirteen. Immediately, enemies threaten his reign as war looms with the great leader of Islam, SALEHDIN. Guided by his trusted friend and Chancellor, Archbishop WILLIAM of Tyre, the young leper sets out to prove himself worthy of the crown, despite the political intrigues of his own High Court. Among those at Court with whom he must contend are his recently returned mother, AGNES de Courtenay, a grasping woman of immoral character, and his sister, SIBYLLA, who comes to Court after spending most of her life shut away from the world in a convent to marry a Western lord against her will. Being a minor, Baldwin must submit to the Regency of his much older cousin, RAYMOND III of Tripoli; but the young king chaffs beneath the Regents authority, longing to put it behind him so he can pursue his own course of action against the enemy. While Raymond continually argues for peace with the Muslims, Baldwin and the new lord of Kerak, REYNALD de Chtillon, hope to bring the Sarrazins to war before the sultans power grows too strong to push back. Unbeknownst to the king and the lords of Outremer, an old and secret cabal of heretic conspirators known only as the Order of Sion led by one, AMALRIC de Lusignan, that seeks to gain control of the kingdom. Their purpose is to proclaim a new form of Christianity with Jherusalem as its ecclesiastical seat of power in opposition to Rome and to crown a sacred king of their own making. That sacred king is none other than Amalrics brother, GUION de Lusignan, whom they claim is a blood descendant of Jhsu Christ. In this conspiracy, two influential men of the kingdom aid them: HERACLIUS, Archbishop of Caesarea and OTHON de Saint-Amant, Master of the famed warrior-monks, the Knights Templar. Saint-Amant, however, is a deeply conflicted man

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who begins to question how Sion, and the secretive master he reluctantly follows, is manipulating him and his Order. With Agnes diseased son crowned king, it isnt long before Lusignan draws her into the intrigues of the conspiracy as well with the belief she can protect her son. Seeking divine guidance in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher in the aftermath of battle, Baldwin meets, by chance, an elderly woman who thanks him for a simple act of his kindness. He is astonished, though, when she casts aside her cloak and disguise, revealing to him that she is MARY MAGDALEN, a beautiful and immortal woman of Faerie who vows to guide and befriend him. Only later does she tell him that his leprosy is not the result of disease, but of a magic spell cast by an unseen enemy; a spell that not only devours the kings life, but also becomes the enemys own undoing. So begins a tale of history and fantasy, in which a young king must determine whether his faith or fate will guide him in the defense of his fragile kingdom. Visit the Authors Website at [www.scottrezer.com](http://www.scottrezer.com) to learn more about the novel and to read the prologue.

### **The Light In The Window**

The convents, asylums, and laundries that once comprised the Magdalene institutions are the subject of this work. Though originally half-way homes for prostitutes in the Middle Ages, these homes often became forced-labor institutions, particularly in Ireland. Examining the laundries within the context of a growing world capitalist economy, the work argues that the process of colonization, and of defining a national image, determined the nature and longevity of the Magdalene Laundries. This process developed differently in Ireland, where the last laundry

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closed in 1996. The book focuses on the devolution of the significance of Mary Magdalene as a metaphor for the organization: from an affluent, strong supporter of Jesus to a simple, fallen woman.

### **My Name is Bridget**

Maren Bradigan is just sixteen years old when she is taken under false pretenses from her comfortable life on her family farm. Concerned at the level of intimacy developing between Maren and the boy who helps her father with his farm work, the village priest takes it upon himself to remove her from school and bring her to one of the convent laundries, where he delivers her into the care of the nuns. Now, alongside many other "Magdalens" - named for Mary Magdalen - Maren must spend her days washing dirty linens, symbolically cleansing herself of her sins while repeating endless penance to a God that she soon comes to feel is no longer listening to her. Only the presence of Ceara, a young pregnant girl who befriends her inside the institution, gives Maren strength to continue through abuse, humiliation, beatings and near-starvation. Set in Ireland in 1961, *The Magdalen Laundries* is based on the true stories from one of the most shameful chapters in Ireland's history, and tells of the redemptive power of faith, friendship and forgiveness.

### **The Magdalen Martyrs**

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A history of the Sisters of Our Lady of Charity in Ireland, an order of French origin which was invited to Dublin in 1853 to take charge of Magdalene asylums and went on to hold a significant role in Irish social history.

### **Eclipsed**

"Smart and earthy . . . richly imaginative . . . the epitome of the storyteller's art."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch, named one of "The Year's Best Books" "This amazing book could well become a classic of women's literature."—Booklist, named one of the "Year's Ten Best Fantasy Books" Young Magdalen and Jesus, brimming with youthful charm and arrogance, find each other and fall in love, forging a bond that is stronger than death. Their pleasure is overshadowed by a brilliant but unbalanced druid who knows a perilous secret about Maeve's past. The prequel to The Passion of Mary Magdalen. Now in paperback!

### **Ireland and the Magdalene Laundries**

Famously described as the 'Apostle to the Apostles', after her discovery of Jesus' resurrection, Mary has sparked curiosity, controversy and veneration since her name first appeared in the Gospel of Mark. But who was Mary Magdalene? Was she a prostitute, a goddess, a feminist icon, a church leader or all of these things? Using testaments, letters and narrative Margaret George brings to life one of the most mysterious and controversial characters in the bible,

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creating an epic that is both immediate and moving. 'Margaret George proves herself to be the very best when it comes to historical fiction. Her new novel is a gripping and moving story'  
Barbara Taylor Bradford

### **The Magdalen Laundries**

The Time in Between, the third and final book in the Magdalene series, will be out on August 29, 2017. More details on this book coming soon!

### **The Sculptress**

Esther Doyle is a young Irish girl growing up in a small fishing community in Connemara in the 1950s. Her life is a stable one, bound by the slow rhythms of farming life and the joy of looking after her handicapped sister Nonie. But her existence is horribly changed when she becomes pregnant and is sent to the home for fallen women in Dublin, the Magdalen Laundry

### **Origins of the Magdalene Laundries**

Between 1922 and 1996, over 10,000 girls and women were imprisoned in Magdalene Laundries, including those considered 'promiscuous', a burden to their families or the state, those who had been sexually abused or raised in the care of the Church and State, and

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unmarried mothers. These girls and women were subjected to forced labour as well as psychological and physical maltreatment. Using the Irish State's own report into the Magdalene institutions, as well as testimonies from survivors and independent witnesses, this book gives a detailed account of life behind the high walls of Ireland's Magdalene institutions. The book offers an overview of the social, cultural and political contexts of institutional survivor activism, the Irish State's response culminating in the The Ryan Report, and the formation of the Justice for Magdalenes campaign, a volunteer-run survivor advocacy group. Ireland and the Magdalene Laundries documents the ongoing work carried out by the Justice for Magdalenes group in advancing public knowledge and research into Magdalene Laundries, and how the Irish State continues to evade its responsibilities not just to survivors of the Magdalenes but also in providing a truthful account of what happened. Drawing from a variety of primary sources, this book reveals the fundamental flaws in the state's investigation and how the treatment of the burials, exhumation and cremation of former Magdalene women remains a deeply troubling issue today, emblematic of the system of torture and studious official neglect in which the Magdalene women lived their lives.

### **The Wild Rose Asylum**

In *A Century of Progress? Irish Women Reflect*, Hayes and Meagher collect a series of essays to survey the position of women in Irish society over the past century. The volume's wide-ranging timespan and its frame of equality and social justice issues sets it apart from similar anthologies. Contributors tackle abortion, human rights, the gendered order of caring, poverty,

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violence against women, the constitution and legislation, as well as media and the arts. In both the North and South of Ireland, this book gives voice to the powerful and effective women and men working together to overcome inequalities and injustices.

### **Kathy's Story**

'I promised that I would one day write a book and tell the world about the home for unmarried mothers. I have at last kept my promise.' In Ireland, 1951, the young June Goulding took up a position as midwife in a home for unmarried mothers run by the Sacred Heart nuns. What she witnessed there was to haunt her for the next fifty years. It was a place of secrets, lies and cruelty. A place where women picked grass by hand and tarred roads whilst heavily pregnant. Where they were denied any contact with the outside world; denied basic medical treatment and abused for their 'sins'; where, after the birth, they were forced into hard labour in the convent for three years. But worst of all was that the young women were expected to raise their babies during these three years so that they could then be sold - given up for adoption in exchange for a donation to the nuns. Shocked by the nuns' inhumane treatment of the frightened young women, June risked her job to bring some light into their dark lives. June's memoir tells the story of twelve women's experiences in this home and of the hardships they endured, but also the kindness she offered them, and the hope she was able to bring.

### **The Secret Magdalene**

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In Pompeii, in the summer of A.D. 79, Julia and Sura appear to lead opposite lives. Julia is the daughter of a wealthy ship-builder; Sura is an orphan. Julia bears the Curse of Venus—a withered arm; Sura's beauty turns heads. Julia is free; Sura is her slave. Then Julia learns that her parents are planning to put her in the service of the Temple of Damia, the center of a cultish new religion, and Sura will be sold to an awful man who plans to make her his concubine. But when Mt. Vesuvius erupts, Julia's and Sura's fates are forever altered, forcing them both to face the true meaning of freedom.

### **Whispering Hope**

Half a million copies sold! The breakout novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Orphan Collector*, *What She Left Behind* weaves together riveting stories of past and present, exploring the strength of women in two different times as they face adversity in two very different ways. Go inside the horrifying walls of a 1920s New York asylum as a wrongly imprisoned woman fights for what is most important to her—and meet the young woman confronting the pain and mystery of her own family's mental illness two generations later. Ten years ago, Izzy Stone's mother fatally shot her father while he slept. Devastated by her mother's apparent insanity, Izzy, now seventeen, refuses to visit her in prison. But her new foster parents, employees at the local museum, have enlisted Izzy's help in cataloging items at a long-shuttered state asylum. There, amid piles of abandoned belongings, Izzy discovers a stack of unopened letters, a decades-old journal, and a window into her own past. Young flapper and suffragette Clara Cartwright is caught between her overbearing parents and her

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desire to be a modern woman. Furious when she rejects an arranged marriage, instead finding love with an Italian Immigrant, Clara's father sends her to a genteel home for nervous invalids. But when his fortune is lost in the stock market crash of 1929, he can no longer afford her care—and Clara is committed to the public asylum. Even as Izzy deals with the challenges of yet another new beginning, Clara's story keeps drawing her into the past. If Clara was never really mentally ill, could something else explain her own mother's violent act? Piecing together Clara's fate compels Izzy to re-examine her own choices—with shocking and unexpected results. "Screams with authenticity, depth, and understanding." —The New York Journal of Books "A real page turner...will appeal to all readers of fiction." —The Historical Novels Review "Amazing...A great read!" —The San Francisco Book Review "Will both haunt and inspire you... a moving, and at times chilling story that totally endears you to her characters." —SpaWeek "A great coming-of-age story." —School Library Journal

### **The Time in Between**

In 1963, London was on the brink of becoming one of the world's most vibrant cities. Angela Patrick was 19 years old, enjoying her first job working in the City, when her life turned upside down. A brief fling with a charismatic charmer left her pregnant, unmarried and facing a stark future. Being under 21, she was still under the governance of her parents, strict Catholics who insisted she have the baby in secret and then put it up for adoption. Shunned by her family and forced to leave her job, Angela was sent to an imposing-looking convent for unmarried mothers in north-east London. Run like a Victorian workhouse, conditions in the convent were decidedly

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Spartan. Vilified and degraded by the nuns for her 'wickedness', her only comfort came from the other pregnant girls, all knowing they too would have to give up their babies. After a terrifying labour with no pain relief, Angela gave birth to a beautiful son, Paul, with whom she fell instantly in love. At eight weeks he was taken from her and forcibly put up for adoption, leaving Angela bereft and heartbroken. Not a day went by without Angela thinking about him. Then, thirty years later, she received a letter. It was from Paul, and a reunion was arranged. This vital slice of social history is a shocking reminder of how cultural mores have changed around the issue of single motherhood since the early 1960s. It is also an honest, heartfelt memoir that explores the closest of human bonds.

### **The Swan Garden**

Boston, 1968. Rose Moroney is seventeen, smart, spirited - and pregnant. She wants to marry her boyfriend. Her ambitious parents have other plans. She is sent to Ireland, their birthplace, to deliver her daughter in a mother and baby home - and part with her against her will. Dublin, 2013. Martha Sheeran's life has come undone. Her marriage is over, and her husband has moved on with unsettling speed. Under pressure from her teenage daughter, she starts looking for the woman who gave her up for adoption more than 40 years ago.

### **The Magdalen Girls**

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The Magdalene Sisters made international headlines with Peter Mullan's award winning film of the same name which put the abuse which went on in the Magdalen Laundries on to a world stage. The laundries operated for over eight decades. Thousands of young Irish girls, already orphaned or at risk in the community, were incarcerated in homes run by nuns and subjected to punishing work routines. Many were beaten and sexually abused. Those who became pregnant had their babies taken from them and shipped to the US. However, a survivor of the horrific system has never told their personal story - until now. Kathy O'Beirne spent nearly 14 years under the Magdalen Laundry regime. At the age of eight her father called and asked if she wanted to go to the seaside. She was thrilled and ran to the front door only to find a nun waiting for her. She was taken to a Magdalen Laundry and didn't return home until she was 21. For the next two years she was sexually abused and beaten. After attempting to rebel against the system she was classified as mentally ill and transferred to a mental hospital where the abuse continued with the addition of regular electric shock treatments. Her baby was born with an illness and spent the rest of her short life in a home run by nuns who buried her in a mass grave. Kathy still doesn't know where her baby is buried. Miraculously she survived but has chosen to tell her story in the hope that she can help other victims of the Magdalene Sisters Laundry Scandal and help remember all those who died and were buried in mass graves, without coffins or headstones. In Kathy's Story, the author recounts her tragic experiences in unflinching detail, along the way stirring up many extreme emotions. It details her will to survive horrific circumstances and her subsequent fight for justice that will inspire and impassion many.

### **Do Penance Or Perish**

Frances Finnegan traces the history of the Magdalen Asylums in Ireland, homes founded in the 19th century for the detention of prostitutes undergoing reform, but which later received unwed mothers, wayward girls and the mentally retarded, all of them put to work as forced labour in church-run laundries.

### **The Last Girls of Pompeii**

The infamous Magdalen Laundries operated for over eight decades. Thousands of young Irish girls were incarcerated in homes run by nuns and subjected to punishing work routines. Many were beaten and sexually abused. Kathy O'Bierne survived and has chosen to tell her story in the hope that she can help other victims.

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