



Other stories



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Clare English, *The Book Cafe*, BBC Scotland



DEAR BOOKSELLER,

Visiting other places gives us an essential experience of other lives. With the right book we can all travel far. And yet British publishing is, with illustrious exceptions, often unwilling to risk telling these other stories.

And Other Stories is a grassroots not-for-profit publisher, bringing a new approach to publishing great writing in English and in translation. We work with readers, editors and translators in a uniquely collaborative way.

All our books are printed to a high quality and with durable card covers, to create a valuable and long lasting series.

The buzz

We are a social enterprise, and choose fiction for its originality after listening carefully to our circles of readers, writers and translators, many of whom are eminent figures.

Many people subscribe in advance to our books, helping to make them possible. Word is getting around about these books.

The books

We're honoured that Deborah Levy, one of Britain's best writers, has chosen us to publish her gripping new novel. Juan Pablo Villalobos' *Down the Rabbit Hole* is an astonishing comic delight, as Adam Thirlwell found. Iosi Havilio's debut *Open Door* was a sensation when it was released in Argentina. Clemens Meyer is a major voice in new European literature – a refined storyteller who really knows the fighters, the jailbirds, the wild and lost figures he writes about in *All the Lights*.

*Stefan Tobler, Bethan Ellis,
Jimena Gorraez & Sophie Lewis
April 2011*



DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE

JUAN PABLO VILLALOBOS

Introduction by Adam Thirlwell

Translated from the original Spanish by Rosalind Harvey

A hippopotamus and a young boy caught up in Mexico's drug wars

BOOK 01



JUAN PABLO VILLALOBOS
INTRODUCTION BY ADAM THIRLWELL

Tochtli lives in a palace. He loves hats, samurai, guillotines and dictionaries, and what he wants more than anything right now is a new pet for his private zoo: a pygmy hippopotamus from Liberia. But Tochtli is a child whose father is a drug baron on the verge of taking over a powerful cartel, and Tochtli is growing up in a luxury hideout that he shares with hit men, prostitutes, dealers, servants and the odd corrupt politician or two.

A masterful and darkly comic first novel, *Down the Rabbit Hole* is the chronicle of a delirious journey to grant a child's wish.

'A novel that breaks our hearts (which we knew were broken, but still hurt) and invites us to both laugh and think.'

El Economista

About the author

Juan Pablo Villalobos was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, in 1973. He now lives in Madrid, Spain, and has two Mexican-Brazilian-Italian-Catalan children. *Down the Rabbit Hole* is his first novel. It was published in 2010 and has already been translated into seven languages.

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Fiction, UK and COM
ca. 130pp
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ALL THE LIGHTS

CLEMENS MEYER

Translated from the original German by Katy Derbyshire

Winner of the prestigious Leipzig Book Fair Prize 2008

BOOK 02



A man bets all he has on a horse race to pay for an expensive operation for his dog. A young refugee wants to box her way straight off the boat to the top of the sport. Old friends talk all night after meeting up by chance. She imagines their future together...

Stories about people who have lost out in life and in love, and about their hopes for one really big win, the chance to make something of their lives. In silent apartments, desolate warehouses, prisons and down by the river, Meyer strikes the tone of our harsh times, and finds the grace notes, the bright lights shining in the dark.

'Fifteen stories, laconic yet full of longing, from the young star of German fiction.'

GQ

About the author

Clemens Meyer is one of Germany's most exciting writers. Born in 1977 in what was then East Germany, he worked as a security guard, forklift driver and construction worker while completing his first novel.

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SWIMMING HOME

DEBORAH LEVY

Introduction by Tom McCarthy

A taut, cinematic novel from an acclaimed British writer

BOOK 03

swimming
HOME

DEBORAH LEVY

INTRODUCTION BY TOM MCCARTHY

As he arrives with his family at the villa in the hills above Nice, Joe sees a body in the swimming pool. But the girl is very much alive. She is Kitty Finch: a self-proclaimed botanist with green-painted fingernails, walking naked out of the water and into the heart of their holiday. Why is she there? What does she want from them all? And why does Joe's enigmatic wife allow her to remain?

Profound and thrilling, *Swimming Home* reveals how the most devastating secrets are the ones we keep from ourselves.

'Levy's strength is her originality of thought and expression.'

Jeanette Winterson

'Delicate, calm, mysterious, both playful and terribly sad.'
Mary Gaitskill, New York Times

About the author

Deborah Levy writes fiction, plays and poetry. Her work has been staged by the Royal Shakespeare Company, and she is the author of highly praised books including *Beautiful Mutants*, *Swallowing Geography* (both Jonathan Cape) and *Billy and Girl* (Bloomsbury).

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OPEN DOOR

IOSI HAVILIO

Translated from the original
Spanish by Beth Fowler

*The talked-about debut novel
from Haruki Murakami's
Argentine cousin*

BOOK 04



When her partner disappears, a young veterinary assistant drifts from the city towards Open Door, a small town in the Pampas named after its psychiatric hospital. Embarking on a new life in the country, she finds herself living with an ageing ranch-hand and courted by an official investigating her partner's disappearance. She might settle down, although a local girl is also irresistible...

This evocative, atmospheric book makes a quiet case for the possibility of finding contentment in unexpected places, with unexpected people.

'Open Door really surprised me, it doesn't obey any of the laws of reading, it feels like it sprang out of nowhere.'

Beatriz Sarlo, Perfil

About the author

Iosi Havilio was born in Buenos Aires in 1974. *Open Door* is his first novel. His second novel is *Estocolmo* (Stockholm). Originally published in Argentina, both have now been issued in Spain. He is currently working on a novel that follows on from *Open Door*.

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CONTACT DETAILS

Distribution

Central Books
99 Wallis Road
London E9 5LN
United Kingdom
T: (UK) 0845 4589911
(International) +44 208 9864854
E: orders@centralbooks.com
centralbooks.com

European Sales

MG European Sales
14 Frognal Gardens
London NW3 6UX
Contact: Michael Geoghegan
T: +44 (0)20 7435 1662
F: +44 (0)20 7435 0180
E: michael@geoghegan.me.uk

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<i>London/Key Accounts</i>	<i>SW & SE England</i>
Mel Howells	Colin Edwards
T: 07970 700 506	E: colin@signaturebooksuk.com
E: mel@signaturebooksuk.com	

<i>N England/Scotland</i>	<i>South Midlands/ East Anglia</i>
Jim Sheehan	Barbara Hatton
T: 07970 700 505	E: barbara@signaturebooksuk.com
E: jim@signaturebooksuk.com	

And Other Stories

91 Tadros Court
High Wycombe
Bucks HP13 7GF
T: 01494 443797

Stefan Tobler, Publisher
stefantobler@andotherstories.org

Sophie Lewis, Editor-at-Large
sophie@andotherstories.org

Bethan Ellis, Associate Publisher
bethan@andotherstories.org

Jimena Gorraez, Marketing & Events
jimena@andotherstories.org

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