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WEST MCCONNELL

Writing Historical Fiction AuthorHouse

'Our race is royal,' is the proud claim of the MacGregors. Yet for all their history and fighting prowess, they are a small clan and their lands too close for comfort to the great Clan Campbell. By the end of the 16th century, the heritage of their new young chieftain, Alastair MacGregor, is a poisoned chalice indeed. Not only has much of their land been lost, but their principal threat is Black Duncan of the Cowl, Campbell of Glenorchy. Campbell is as clever as he is unscrupulous - and he has the ear of King James VI. 'Through his imaginative dialogue, he provides a voice for Scotland's heroes' Scotland on Sunday

The Islesman Hachette UK

"Brimming with scandal and an equal amount of heart...a sweeping yet intimate look at the lives of some of history's most notorious figures from Vanderbilts to the Prince of Wales... A must-read."—Chanel Cleeton, New York Times bestselling author of *When We Left Cuba* and *Next Year in Havana* "Bryn Turnbull takes a story we think we know and turns it on its head, with captivating results... A beautifully written, meticulously researched and altogether memorable debut."—Jennifer Robson, USA TODAY bestselling author of *The Gown For fans of The Paris Wife* and *The Crown*, this stunning novel tells the true story of the American divorcée who captured Prince Edward's heart before he abdicated his throne for Wallis Simpson. In the summer of 1926, when Thelma Morgan marries Viscount Duke Furness after a whirlwind romance, she's immersed in a gilded world of extraordinary wealth and privilege. For Thelma, the daughter of an American diplomat, her new life as a member of the British aristocracy is like a fairy tale—even more so when her husband introduces her to Edward, Prince of Wales. In a twist of fate, her marriage to Duke leads her to fall headlong into a love affair with Edward. But happiness is fleeting, and their love is threatened when Thelma's sister, Gloria Morgan Vanderbilt, becomes embroiled in a scandal with far-reaching implications. As Thelma sails to New York to support Gloria, she leaves Edward in the hands of her trusted friend Wallis, never imagining the consequences that will follow. Bryn Turnbull takes readers from the raucous glamour of the Paris Ritz and the French Riviera to the quiet, private corners of St. James's Palace in this sweeping story of love, loyalty and betrayal. Looking for more sweeping historical fiction? Don't miss Bryn Turnbull's new novel. *The Last Grand Duchess* takes readers behind palace walls to see the end of Imperial Russia through the eyes of Olga Romanov, the first daughter of the last Tsar.

The Story of Scotland Hachette UK

Scotland's survival hangs on an outlaw king on the run. James Douglas vows to avenge his father's murder. Isabelle MacDuff prays to escape a fate worse than death. As the 14th century dawns, their fellow Scots scrap over the empty throne. Seizing the opportunity to enlarge his kingdom, the brutal Edward Longshanks of England invades his weakened neighbor to the north. Yet one young warrior--who will become feared by his enemies as the Black Douglas--stands in the path of three Plantagenet monarchs. Their clans are sworn rivals, but James pursues the ravishing Isabelle, whose forefathers for centuries have inaugurated kings on the hallowed Stone of Destiny. Their world is upturned when James befriends Robert Bruce, a bitter foe of the MacDuffs. Both James and Isabelle must make agonizing decisions that will draw the armies to the bloody field of Bannockburn. Here is the story of the remarkable events following the execution of William Wallace of Braveheart fame. Set during the Bruce wars of independence, *The Spider and the Stone* is the unforgettable saga of the star-crossed love, religious intrigue, fierce friendship in arms, and heroic sacrifice that preserved Scotland's freedom during its time of greatest peril. START READING THE STIRRING STORY OF THE BLACK DOUGLAS TODAY. *** Chaucer Award First-Place Historical Fiction ***** Foreword

Finalist Book-of-the-Year Historical Fiction ***** indieBRAG Medallion ***** BTS Magazine Reader's Choice Honorable Mention *** What Readers Are Saying: "The best book I've read this year. Touched my Scottish-American warrior's heart." -- JOHN GRAHAM, SENESCHAL, SOCIETY OF CREATIVE ANACHRONISM "Many a tale of Robert the Bruce has been told. This is the best of historical fiction.... I suspect my greatest great uncle Gilbert Hay would spin an equal tale but doubtfully one so enchanting. Thank you for a grand read. You are blessed in storyteller's craft!" -- WILLIAM HAY, DESCENDANT OF SCOTTISH POET GILBERT HAY "The battle scenes are detailed and vivid, giving the reader a ringside seat at Scotland's desperate fight for freedom.... Spider will hold readers in suspense." -- IND'TALE MAGAZINE "[B]est historical fiction I have read in years." -- TO READ, OR NOT TO READ "Sons of Scotland, sweep me away! [The story] will stay burning in my mind for days to come." -- AS THE FINAL PAGE TURNS "[Craney] has woven a well-crafted, interesting tale." -- HISTORICAL NOVEL SOCIETY "One of the best historical fiction novels I have read in a long time....a wonderful weaving of history, adventure, love, conflict and more." -- 2READANDREVIEWED

The Scottish Chiefs Albannach Publishing

This trilogy tells the story of Robert the Bruce and how, tutored and encouraged by the heroic William Wallace, he determined to continue the fight for an independent Scotland, sustained by a passionate love for his land.

Five Smooth Stones Simon and Schuster

Robert the Bruce (1274-1329) was the famous unifier of Scotland and defeater of the English at Bannockburn - the legendary hero responsible for Scottish independence. Michael Penman retells the story of Robert's rise - his part in William Wallace's revolt against Edward I, his seizing of the Scottish throne after murdering his great rival John Comyn, his excommunication, and devastating battles against an enemy Scottish coalition - climaxing in his victory over Edward II's forces in June 1314. He then draws attention to the second part of the king's life after the victory that made his name.

The Wallace Macmillan

Sir William Wallace of Ellerslie is one of history's greatest heroes, but also one of its greatest enigmas - a shadowy figure whose edges have been blurred by myth and legend. Even the date and place of his birth have been mis-stated - until now. James Mackay uses all his skills as a historical detective to produce this definitive biography, telling the incredible story of a man who, without wealth or noble birth, rose to become Guardian of Scotland. William Wallace, with superb generalship and tactical genius, led a country with no previous warlike tradition to triumph gloriously over the much larger, better-armed and better-trained English forces. Seven hundred years later, the heroism and betrayal, the valiant deeds and the dark atrocities, and the struggle of a small nation against a brutal and powerful empire, still create a compelling tale.

The Highland Clans MIRA

Based on the life of William Wallace.

Noble Traitor London : Blackie

This book examines literary examples concerning William Wallace against the background of various historical sources and evaluates the construction, the changes, and the relevance of this Scottish national myth. For over 700 years, William Wallace has been fascinating people. What he achieved for his country is almost unbelievable. Already during his lifetime, Wallace's reputation must have been legendary. Over the centuries, a powerful myth has been created around his person, which was fostered by diverse writers, and even by Hollywood. There have been several periods throughout Scottish history when the interest in William Wallace intensified enormously, resulting in an increase of literary publications on the freedom fighter. These climaxes appeared whenever the Scots were dissatisfied with the English rule and brought the old animosity between England and Scotland to new life. These tensions caused many writers to revive memories of Wallace and his

ideals by projecting the medieval story into their own time. Thus, more and more bits and pieces were added to the myth whose message seems to have had tremendous effects on the Scots. Wallace's unfulfilled quest of freeing Scotland even became an issue in several programs of political parties. With the release of the film "Braveheart" in the mid-1990s, the Wallace cult was reborn once more. Was it the prevailing political situation that stimulated such an overwhelming enthusiasm for William Wallace again? Did the Wallace myth influence the Devolution Movement? Is Wallace's spirit still alive today? Do the Scots still cherish what he fought for, and will they finally achieve his goal of a fully independent Scottish Nation? With regard to the current political situation, the author finds interesting answers to these questions and discusses the chances for a possible Scottish independence.

Not for Glory Chicago Review Press

From the No.1 Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Ashes of London* comes the next book in the phenomenally successful series following James Marwood and Cat Lovett.

Bruce Trilogy Albannach Publishing

Rob Roy MacGregor's name and reputation stride through late-17th- and early 18th-century Scottish history and he is probably the nation's best-known historical figure next to Robert the Bruce, William Wallace and Bonnie Prince Charlie. Along with those three, Rob Roy's portrayal in book and film has created a figure that does not really tally with the man that Nigel Tranter believes was much more than a mere Trossachs-based cattle thief, blackmailer, outlaw and protection racketeer. That he stole cattle, forced lairds to pay money to ensure their cattle were safe and lived on the wrong side of the law is not in dispute, but there are two sides to every story, and Rob's is one of the most fascinating in Scottish history. In this comprehensible portrait of Rob Roy, master storyteller Nigel Tranter reveals a strange man who always had to stay one step ahead of everyone around him, be it in the business of cattle, his financial and political dealings with the dukes of Montrose and Argyll, his endeavours in support of the Jacobite cause, or his continual struggle with Montrose's factor, Graham of Killearn. When he failed to manage this complex set of activities, the repercussions were dire, not only for himself and his clan, but most importantly for his relationship with his remarkable wife, Mary. That he managed to survive in the political cauldron that was Jacobite Scotland, reconcile himself with his wife, maintain his nephew's clan lands and somehow survive into relative old age to die in peace in his bed is wholly remarkable. This is Rob Roy's story, warts and all.

The Last Protector (James Marwood & Cat Lovett, Book 4) Yale University Press

Scotland's story cannot be told merely in terms of documentary evidence, for this would be to neglect an integral part of the nation's heritage. The legends, myths, stories and memories handed down from generation to generation must be added to the bare bones of factual record if the character of the country is to be truly revealed. Nigel Tranter was able to combine the two with a masterly hand, expertly weaving the colourful threads of folklore into the fabric of historical fact. Tranter was impeccably qualified to tell the story of Scotland, having written many books detailing the nation's rich past and he possessed an exceptional gift for storytelling. His account begins in the years before records made traditional history possible and ends with the transformation of Scotland during the 19th century into a workshop of the world and a source of pioneers for Britain's empire. In this perennial bestseller, Nigel Tranter's incomparable tale of a nation's enthralling history is the most comprehensible primer on the subject yet published. Before he passed away in January 2000, Tranter had written over 70 novels and several works of non-fiction, almost all of them historical works set in Scotland.

Robert the Bruce: the Steps to the Empty Throne Penguin Books

A Romeo & Juliet tale for Hamilton! fans. In post-American Revolution New York City, Theodosia Burr, a scholar with the skills of a socialite, is all about charming the right people on behalf of her father—Senator Aaron Burr, who is determined to win the office of president in the pivotal election of 1800. Meanwhile, Philip Hamilton, the rakish son of Alexander Hamilton, is all about being charming on behalf of his libido. When the two first meet, it seems the ongoing feud between their politically opposed fathers may be hereditary. But soon, Theodosia and Philip must choose between love and family, desire and loyalty, and preserving the legacy their flawed fathers fought for or creating their own. Love, Theodosia is a smart, funny, swoony take on a fiercely intelligent woman with feminist ideas ahead of her time who has long-deserved center stage. A refreshing spin on the Hamiltonian era and the characters we have grown to know and love. It's also a heartbreaking romance of two

star-crossed lovers, an achingly bittersweet "what if." Despite their fathers' bitter rivalry, Theodosia and Philip are drawn to each other and, in what unrolls like a Jane Austen novel of manners, we find ourselves entangled in the world of Hamilton and Burr once again as these heirs of famous enemies are driven together despite every reason not to be.

The Great Scot Neil Wilson Publishing

Originally published: New York: Crown Publishers, 1966.

The Big Rounds Cicerone Press Limited

In a small Hampshire village, Irish labourer Patrick O'Riordan has been arrested for the brutal murder of elderly Lavinia Fanshaw and her live-in nurse, Dorothy Jenkins. What lies lurk beneath the surface of their world?

My Name Is Resolute Brigid's Fire Press

The second book in the *Insurrection* trilogy, which tells the thrilling story of Robert the Bruce. King Edward I of England marches on Scotland, inspired by an Arthurian prophecy and aiming to unite the British Isles under a single crown. One man alone can thwart Edward's plan. But on the run in Ireland, hunted by a relentless assassin, Robert Bruce seems a long way from achieving his ambition. Born to a line of kings, Robert will not bow to a conqueror. Robert finds that to survive he must abandon everything he holds dear. He was always prepared to die on the battlefield - but who else must he sacrifice to keep his hopes alive? *Renegade* is a dazzling story of conspiracy and divided loyalties, battle and betrayal, and a superb portrait of the medieval world.

Love, Theodosia Hodder & Stoughton

Sir James the Good, one of the finest soldiers Scotland ever produced, is sometimes better known by the name given to him by the English - the 'Black Douglas'. He terrified the northern shires of England throughout the reign of King Robert the Bruce and the Wars of Independence. When Robert the Bruce died Sir James, as his champion, was entrusted with his heart which he carried on the Crusades. David R Ross brings history alive as he tells the story of Sir James' life. Ross' research found him retracing Sir James' journey to the Holy Land and rediscovering battle grounds, providing a personal view of history. With a refreshing look at the subject, and featuring all new information and research, interesting maps, battleplans and photographs, this book will make Scottish history accessible and understandable for the casual reader, while delighting history buffs.

Stone Voices Granta Books

Captured by pirates in Jamaica and sold into slavery in New England, Resolute Talbot and her siblings are taught to spin and weave before Resolute finds herself alone in a harsh Lexington culture torn by a brewing Revolutionary War. 50,000 first printing.

In Freedom's Cause Columbia University Press

Scotland, 1306. Young Thomas Randolph is thrilled to swear fealty to the rightful King of Scots, his uncle, Robert the Bruce. But when the Scots are defeated in battle, he is taken prisoner, one among many to be executed under the Dragon Banner. Saved from execution by a friend, he must swear fealty to King Edward or betray the man who saved him. With no choice, Thomas serves the English, but his heart is with Scotland. Now whatever he does, Thomas will be a noble traitor.

Children of the Mist Neil Wilson Publishing

This is the thrilling story of Angus Og MacDonald, Lord of the Isles, during the turbulent days of Robert the Bruce. The grandson of the great Angus Mor, direct descendant and successor of Somerled himself, the semi-independent prince of the Hebrides and much of the West Highland mainland, Angus was a worthy representative of a notable line, living in dramatic and exciting times for Scotland and England, for Ulster, Man and Ireland. He took his part in it all, an active supporter of Robert the Bruce, chief of chiefs. He was a man who sought peace and prosperity for his so scattered people, encouraging trade, seeking to heal the feuding propensities of the clans, allying the Isles with Orkney and Shetland and Norway; travelling as far as the Baltic. He was also a man of humble mind, and a proud husband and father.

The Wallace HarperCollins

This broad selection of Australian poets begins with Kenneth Slessor, and offers a challenging view of 'early modern' poetry up until the 1960s. It also presents the decade of turmoil from 1965 to 1975 in a new light, identifying currents of energy among the young writers and balancing new reputations with old. The years from 1965 to the 1990s are revealed as a time of growing vigour and diversity.