

Books of the Month

April 2019



IT'S NOT ABOUT THE BURQA

EDITED BY MARIAM KHAN
An incredibly important collection of essays that explores the pressures of being a Muslim woman today... passionate, angry, self-effacing, nuanced and utterly compelling in every single way.
Nikesh Shukla, editor of *The Good Immigrant*

IT'S NOT ABOUT THE BURQA

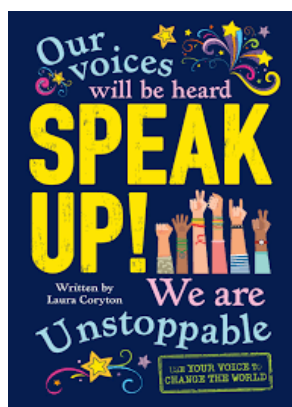
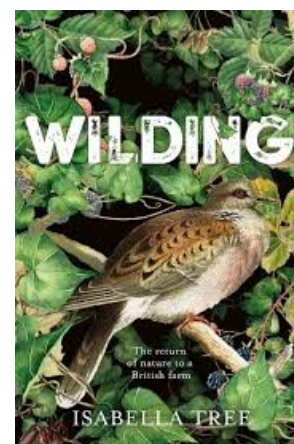
Mariam Khan £14.99

In Britain today, Muslim women's voices are pushed to the fringes. Taking one of the most politicised and misused words associated with Muslim women and Islamophobia, this book is poised to change all that. Here are seventeen Muslim women speaking frankly about the hijab and wavering faith, about love and divorce, about feminism, queer identity, sex and the twin threats of a disapproving community and a racist country. Funny, warm, sometimes sad and often angry, each of these essays is a passionate declaration calling time on the oppression, the lazy stereotyping, the misogyny and the Islamophobia. What does it mean, exactly, to be a Muslim woman in the West today? According to the media, it's all about the burqa. Here's what it's really about.

WILDING: The return of nature to a British farm

Isabella Tree £9.99

Forced to accept that their farm was economically unsustainable, Isabella Tree and her husband Charlie Burrell made a leap of faith: they decided to step back and let nature take over. Thanks to the introduction of free-roaming cattle, ponies, pigs and deer, the project has seen extraordinary increases in wildlife numbers and diversity in little over a decade. Extremely rare species are now breeding, including nightingales, peregrine falcons and purple emperor butterflies, and populations of other species are rocketing. The Burrells' degraded agricultural land has become a functioning ecosystem again, heaving with life. *Wilding* is an astonishing account of the beauty and strength of nature when it is given as much freedom as possible.



SPEAK UP! We are unstoppable! Our voices will be heard!

Laura Coryton £8.99

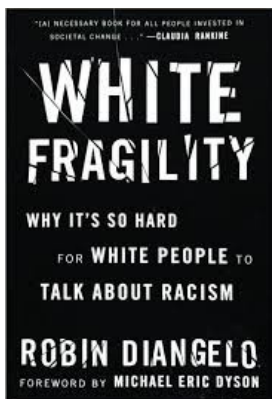
Use your voice to change the world! Don't just read about inspiring women: become one! Speaking up can be difficult, but did you know just how powerful your own voice can be? Written by Laura Coryton, who led the international campaign against tampon tax, *Speak Up!* is a vital and timely book exploring what it means to stand up for what you believe in on both a public and personal level. Laura explores how to make sure your voice is heard as well as what happens when your voice is challenged by others. She tackles tricky subjects like feminism, consent, online bullying and self-confidence in a meaningful and entertaining way.

NATION IN TRANSIT: A Manifesto for a Post-Brexit Britain

Phil Anderson £14.99

In 2011 the borough of Thurrock in Essex stepped into the national spotlight when it came bottom of the league table for life satisfaction. In 2015 Thurrock led Britain out of the EU with one of the highest 'leave' votes in the country. Starting from the underlying causes of the mass dissatisfaction that brought us to here, this book spells out a clear vision for what a post-Brexit Britain should look like. From unemployment to immigration, council estates to the banking industry, and local communities to the global environment, it takes a long, hard look at what really creates the conditions for people and communities to flourish. The answers combine radical political ideas with grass roots Essex reality – because if the solutions don't work for White Van Man then they probably won't work at all.





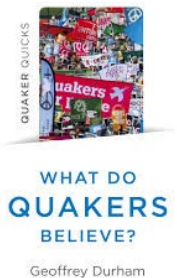
WHITE FRAGILITY: Why it's so hard for white people to talk about racism
Robin DiAngelo £9.99

Antiracist educator Robin DiAngelo first coined the term "white fragility" in 2011. "White fragility" refers to the defensive moves that white people make when challenged racially. These include emotions such as anger, fear, and guilt, and behaviours including argumentation and silence. In this book, DiAngelo unpacks white fragility, explaining the underlying sociological phenomena. She draws on examples from her work and scholarship, as well as from the culture at large, to address these fundamental questions: How does white fragility develop? What does it look like? How is it triggered? What can we do to move beyond white fragility and engage more constructively?

WHAT DO QUAKERS BELIEVE?

Geoffrey Durham £6.99

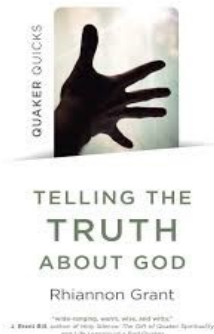
'So what do you believe?' It's the question Quakers are always asked first and the one they find hardest to answer. Quakerism is a religion of doing. They base their lives on equality and truth; they work for peace, justice and reconciliation; they live adventurously. In *What Do Quakers Believe?* Geoffrey Durham answers the crucial question clearly, straightforwardly and without jargon. In the process he introduces a unique religious group whose impact and influence in the world is far greater than their numbers suggest. This is a friendly, direct and accessible book for readers who have often wondered who these Quakers are, but have never quite found out.



TELLING THE TRUTH ABOUT GOD

Rhiannon Grant £6.99

How do Quakers tell the truth about God? This book explores this key theological process through fourteen short chapters. Theology isn't just for wordy people or intellectuals, it's for everyone. And that's important because our religious language is related to, not separate from, our religious experience. Denying other people's claims often leads to making your own and even apparently negative positions can also be making positive statements. As Quakers, we say that we know some things, but not very much, about God, and that we are in a constant process of trying to improve our ways of saying what we do know. Telling the truth about God can be a challenge for Quakers – but this book helps us meet it.



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