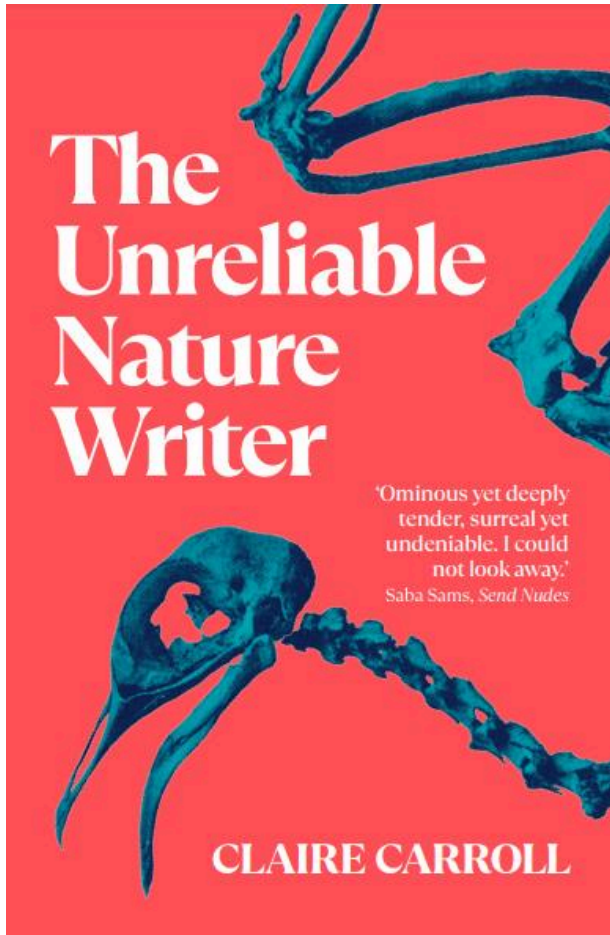


The Unreliable Nature Writer



—Did you say you were a certain type of nature writer?

Yes. An unreliable one.

—But don't you need to be an expert to write about nature?

I don't know.

Pbk 9781739830182 £10.99
eBook 9781739830199 £5.99

6 June 2024
tom@scratchbooks.org

'Ominous yet deeply tender, surreal yet undeniable. I could not look away.'

Saba Sams, *Send Nudes*

'Brilliant. A playful and witty take on our relationship with the natural world.'

Irenosen Okojie, *Nudibranch*

The Unreliable Nature Writer is the eagerly-awaited debut collection of exhilarating, unsettling and dreamy short stories from Claire Carroll.

Carroll portrays an unsettlingly hot world of people facing the strain of intimate and global anxieties – trying to live alongside new technologies and failing environments. Delightful to read and unsettling to imagine, these are haunting stories about love, loss and strangely-exposing housing applications.

Claire Carroll lives in Somerset and writes about desire, nature and technology. Her short stories and poetry have been published by journals including *Gutter Magazine*, *perverse*, *Lunate Journal*, *The Oxonian Review*, and *Short Fiction Journal*, as well as shortlisted for *The White Review Short Story Prize*.

Praise for *The Unreliable Nature Writer*

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“A high-concept, cleverly structured collection of stories set in a hot endangered world. The stories in *The Unreliable Nature Writer* are rangy and imaginative but they never stray far from an intensely felt reality.” **Daisy Hildyard, *Emergency***

“It unsettles the reader into stories of imagined natures, ones we live in & beside, & that might outlive us. Worlds of present & approaching dread, slow cooked in catastrophe, of transformed or extinct personhood.” **David Hayden, *Darker with the Lights On***

“This is an absolute stand-out. Reporting from the borderlands of continued human existence on earth. Bleakness opens out into something tender, and funny and beautiful. To be read urgently.” **Ben Pester, *Am I in the Right Place***

“When I say I loved this book, I genuinely did. The stories, though knitted together by the thread of nature, were all widely different – standouts for me included; ‘My Brain is Boiling with Ideas’ – A woman runs off into a peat bog Marshes, full of wine and in the arms of a robot AI man – that one got your attention, didn't it! ‘My Two Sons’ – the uneasiness of this really got to me. There was much that was left unsaid, and it created such an ominous atmosphere.

What I also loved was the reoccurring the Unreliable Nature Writer snippets, I could have basked in those awkward interactions for hours.

I highly recommend picking this one up. You won't be disappointed.”

The Literary Addict, Instagram

“This is a really outstanding collection full of thought-provoking, evocative and surprisingly funny stories. Carroll's collection is markedly strong throughout. Between them, the stories form a unique and thoughtful body of work, with a lot to say about the state we've left our planet in, and the scrappy remnants that we might have to salvage in the future.”

Brutish Library, Instagram

“Carroll's voice is distinctive, often wryly deadpan, and this is a rare collection that manages to maintain coherence as a single work. The stories are interspersed with snippets of a conversation being had by the titular unreliable writer at a wedding, which are actually



The Unreliable Nature Writer is out TOMORROW and I urge you to get hold of a

[n_reads](#), [instagram](#)

“Each of the stories in the collection is abrupt, with a dreamlike quality that feels like being jolted awake. Surreal, unexplained things happen: a boy, startled by a horse in an enclosure, is suddenly packed away into a case; a woman at a sound bath is drawn away from the yurt and into the forest; hundreds of dead birds litter the tarmac on a cold morning. These strange incidents, alongside a constant heat and underlying worries about digitisation, allude to larger issues at play, an unsettling near-future where the climate crisis has surpassed anxiety and is heading towards destruction.

Read *The Unreliable Nature Writer* for stories of how humans and nature can interact, in ways that may not necessarily feel entirely normal.”

Mslexia

“An impressive and always engaging debut from a writer whose future work I look forward to reading. Original and entertaining, these stories make full use of the form to hold attention in a world designed to distract from critical thinking.”

3:AM Magazine