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vervebooks.co.uk/fragile-animals

FRAGILE ANIMALS

by GENEVIEVE JAGGER

THE BOOK

Struggling to deal with the familial trauma of her Catholic upbringing, hotel cleaner, Noelle, travels to the Isle of Bute. There, she meets a man who claims to be a vampire, and a relationship blooms between them based solely on confession.

But as talk turns sacrilegious, and the weather outside grows colder, Noelle struggles to come to terms with her blasphemous sexuality. She becomes hounded by memories of her past: her mother's affair with the local priest, and the part she played in ending it.

Bridging the gaps between contemporary gothic fiction, queer fiction and magical realism, *Fragile Animals* lures readers into Noelle's loose grasp on her world and immerses them in some of Scotland's most harsh and claustrophobic environments.

GENEVIEVE JAGGER (Location: Glasgow, UK)

GENEVIEVE JAGGER is a queer, autistic witch from Scotland. Her debut novel, *Fragile Animals*, was shortlisted for the Betty Trask Prize, a Saltire Award and a British Book Award. Genevieve is a tarot reader, dealing fortunes across Glasgow with her small tarot company, Two for Joy. She loves stuffed animals and farming video games with romanceable characters. Her favourite tarot card is The Star. Genevieve's second novel, *Lovers, Reversed*, will be published by VERVE Books in 2027.



MARKETING & SALES POINTS

When an ex-Catholic woman develops a sexual relationship with a vampire, she is forced to confront the memories that haunt her religious past

An atmospheric contemporary Scottish gothic exploring sexuality and religious trauma through an unconventional vampire story. For fans of Jenny Hval, Mariana Enriquez and Elle Nash, with echoes of *Carmilla*

Shortlisted for the 2025 Betty Trask Prize, the 2025 Book of the Year: Discover Award at the British Book Awards and the 2024 Saltire Society First Book Award

Ahead of publishing Genevieve Jagger's second novel in autumn 2027, VERVE are excited to release a new edition of her hit debut (previously published by 404Ink)

Deeply involved in the Scottish literary community, Jagger is a queer, autistic witch based in Glasgow

PRAISE FOR FRAGILE ANIMALS

'A slick literary vampire novel to sink your teeth into' - **Alice Slater**

'Shirley Jackson meets *The Wasp Factory*... Bold, beguiling and breathtaking' - **Carrie Marshall**

'A queer literary novel you simply must add to your TBR' - **Lucy Rose**

'To read Jagger's prose is to be riven; like the call of the ocean, one gazes into the story and becomes engulfed' - **Elle Nash**

'This strikingly accomplished debut novel is a fresh, psychologically astute take... Beautifully written. Jagger has a natural flair for eloquent, flowing yet visceral prose' - **Herald**

'Gorgeous and gothic' - **i-D**

'Visceral, vivacious and - though certainly not conventionally - vampiric' -

The Skinny

'Inventive and arresting... Horror and the supernatural are at their best when they make comment on the all-too-real-world, and *Fragile Animals* is an impeccable example of this' - **Snack Magazine**

'Captivating and original' - **Big Issue**

VERVE Books
Harpenden
Herts AL5 1EQ
Tel: +44 (0)1582 766348

UK Distribution: Turnaround
Second Floor, Crown House
47 Chase Side, Southgate
London N14 5BP
Tel: +44 (0)208 829 3000
www.turnaround-uk.com

