

BIRD SPOTTING IN A SMALL TOWN

SOPHIE MORTON-THOMAS

MARKETING & SALES POINTS

A chilling literary suspense novel by up-and-coming English author Sophie Morton-Thomas, set in the North Norfolk coast

An unsettling story of strange occurrences and buried secrets, perfect for fans of Francine Toon's *Pine* and hit British crime dramas like *Broadchurch* and *Hollington Drive*

Received high profile endorsements from the likes of Jennie Godfrey (author of *The List of Suspicious Things*) and Ian Moore (author of *Death and Croissants*), as well as review coverage across regional and online press, and in the *Sunday Times*

Sophie Morton-Thomas is the author of *Travel by Night* (Darkstroke/Crooked Cat, 2021), which was a #1 Bestseller across multiple Amazon Kindle categories

Morton-Thomas will tour key bookshops and crime festivals throughout the UK on publication and beyond, with a focus on West Sussex, where she currently lives, and Norfolk, where the novel is set

THE BOOK

In an isolated town on the North Norfolk coast, Fran's life is unravelling. Her one source of solace is slipping out to the beach early in the morning, to watch the birds.

Small-town tensions simmer when a new teacher starts at the local school and a Romany community settle in the field adjoining Fran's caravan park. Then the schoolteacher and Fran's brother-in-law both go missing on the same night and accusations fly. Yet all Fran can seem to care about is the birds.

Eerie and unsettling, *Bird Spotting in a Small Town* is a psychological suspense featuring unreliable narrators and the perfect balance of mystery, tension and family drama.

PRAISE FOR BIRD SPOTTING IN A SMALL TOWN

'Morton-Thomas challenges assumptions about class in this atmospheric piece of rural noir' - *Sunday Times*

'The kind of book that gets under your skin, hugely atmospheric and dark in the best possible way' - **Jennie Godfrey, author of *The List of Suspicious Things***

'A haunting, disquieting novel, exquisitely written. The detail throughout is like acupuncture and the whole thing is difficult to pull away from. I read it in short bursts because each sitting left me with something new to think about' - **Ian Moore, author of *Death and Croissants***

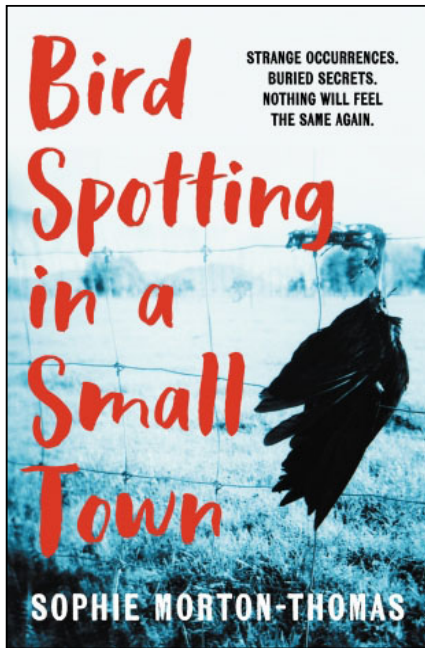
'A slow, dark, slippery tale set on the Norfolk coast... Disquieting and atmospheric, this is a book which lingers in the mind' - **Sussex Life, 'Book of the Month'**

'A remarkable feat of storytelling rich with a literary feel ... The setting, atmosphere, characters who see the world through a mirky window pane, strained relationships, deeply troubling events... it's slow burn psychological crime which warns that buried secrets will come back to hurt you' - **Crime Fiction Lover**

SOPHIE MORTON-THOMAS (Location: Chichester, UK)

Sophie Morton-Thomas was born in West Sussex and has always loved reading and writing - she had about ten penfriends as a child. She is now an English teacher as well as a mum to three (two grown-up!) children and two cats. Her first novel, *Travel by Night*, was published by darkstroke, an imprint of Crooked Cat Books, and was a #1 Bestseller across multiple Amazon Kindle categories.

She is currently a student on the University of Cambridge's Crime and Thriller Writing master's degree and recently moved to the coast for work - but also for inspiration for her stories!



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THEMA Code: FH: Thriller / suspense fiction
FHX: Psychological thriller
FBA: Modern & contemporary fiction

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