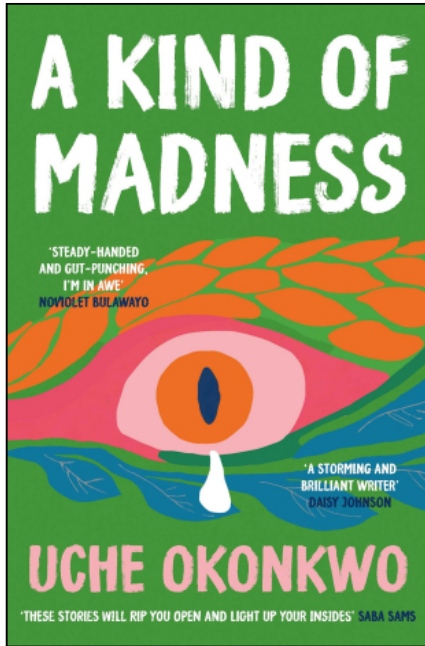




Pub. Date:	28 January 2025
Price:	£12.99
ISBN:	978-0-85730-901-3
Binding:	Paperback
Format:	B (198 x 129mm)
Extent:	224
Weight:	
Publishing Rights:	UK & Comm ex Canada, Nigeria & Anglophone West Africa. Open Market: RoW excl. North America, Nigeria & Anglophone West Africa
Sales Rights:	UK & Comm ex Canada, Nigeria & Anglophone West Africa. Open Market: RoW excl. North America, Nigeria & Anglophone West Africa
Market:	Commercial Literary Fiction, Short Stories, World Fiction
BISAC Code:	FIC000000: Fiction : General FIC045000: Fiction : Family Life LC0001000: Literary Collections : African
THEMA Code:	FYB: Short stories
Country of Manufacture:	UK
Rpt. Code:	IP
Overseas Publisher:	USA & Canada: Tin House TPB, \$16.95, 16 Apr 2024

Marketing & PR
publicity@oldcastlebooks.com

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

vervebooks.co.uk/a-kind-of-madness

ISBN 978-0-85730-901-3



9 780857 309013

A KIND OF MADNESS

UCHE OKONKWO

MARKETING & SALES POINTS

****An Oprah Daily Most Anticipated Book of 2024****

Includes the Caine Prize-shortlisted story, 'Animals'

A searing, unflinching collection of stories that portrays a lively and authentic narrative of life in contemporary Lagos, Nigeria, exploring community expectations, familial strife and the struggle for survival

A dynamic debut collection from an up-and-coming literary talent who has received high praise from influential writers such as NoViolet Bulawayo and Chinelo Okparanta

Perfect for fans of *Love in Colour* by Bolu Babalola (18K sold), *Unaccustomed Earth* by Jhumpa Lahiri (20K sold) and *Nearly All the Men in Lagos are Mad* by Damilare Kuku (1.4K sold)

THE BOOK

A one-eyed chicken, a chimpanzee forgotten in a cage, a tormented daughter searching for a link to past lives. Everyday madness and monsters are explored against the backdrop of an indifferent Lagos in Uche Okonkwo's dynamic debut collection.

Across ten evocative stories, *A Kind of Madness* dips in and out of the lives of Nigerians, unravelling the tensions between mothers and daughters, husbands and wives, best friends, siblings and more. Brimming with vitality, these bites of mundane madness mark the arrival of an extraordinary new talent in fiction and will leave you hungering for more.

PRAISE FOR

'Okonkwo is a storming and brilliant writer and it was a pleasure to step into her world' - **Daisy Johnson, author of *Fen* and *The Hotel***

'Steady-handed and gut-punching. I'm in awe of this mad collection, this necessary writer' - **NoViolet Bulawayo, author of *Glory***

'Crackling with energy and alive to our whole kaleidoscope of feeling, these stories will rip you open and light up your insides' - **Saba Sams, author of *Send Nudes***

'Uche Okonkwo's voice is absorbing. I was immersed in the familiar world of these tender, playfully haunting, darkly funny stories. Okonkwo is a writer to watch' - **Chinelo Okparanta, author of *Under the Udala Trees***

'I was utterly beguiled by the playful voices, wandering minds, and complex lives of the richly-drawn characters... An adeptly-crafted, highly expressive, arresting collection' - **LaToya Watkins, author of *Holler, Child***

'To read *A Kind of Madness* is to have an experience: of complex characters grappling with life's many troubles, of a robust culture, of history, of the battle between the domestic and the public, and all the big themes of life woven together. Like Jhumpa Lahiri, Okonkwo's mastery of the form is as rich as some of the short story's best practitioners and deserves every recognition it is sure to get' - **Chigozie Obioma, author of *An Orchestra of Minorities***

'Touched my heart. Uche Okonkwo's stories are among the very best' - **Sidik Fofana, author of *Stories from the Tenants Downstairs***

'Hilarious and heartbreaking... A delightful debut' - **Jennifer Nansubuga Makumbi, author of *A Girl is a Body of Water***

UCHE OKONKWO (Location: Oberlin, USA)

Uche Okonkwo's stories have been published in *A Public Space*, *One Story*, *the Kenyon Review*, *Ploughshares*, *The Best American Nonrequired Reading 2019*, and *Lagos Noir*, among others. A former Bernard O'Keefe Scholar at Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and resident at Art Omi, she is a recipient of the George Bennett Fellowship at Phillips Exeter Academy, a Steinbeck Fellowship, and an Elizabeth George Foundation grant. Okonkwo grew up in Lagos, Nigeria, and is currently pursuing a creative writing PhD at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

