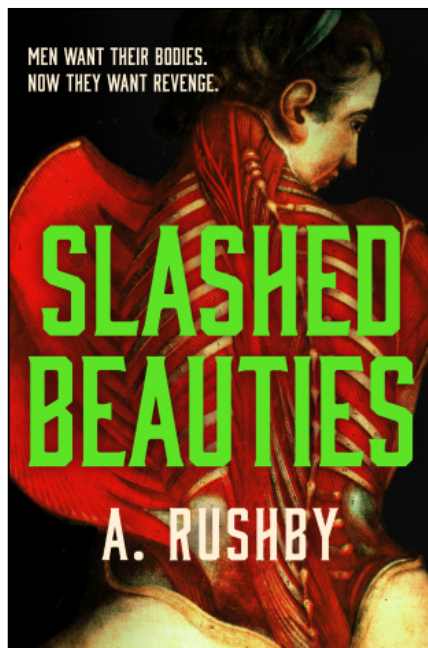


SLASHED BEAUTIES

A. RUSHBY



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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
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MARKETING & SALES POINTS

A mysterious dual-timeline narrative with four unforgettable women at its core, *Slashed Beauties* is an empowering feminist gothic fantasy about women's history, autonomy and trauma

Perfect for fans of *Weyward* by Emilia Hart (17K HB & 70K PB sold), *The Once and Future Witches* by Alix E. Harrow (15K PB sold) and *The Familiar* by Leigh Bardugo (17K HB sold), as well as readers of Jessie Burton and Stacey Halls

Key title supported by an extensive publicity and marketing campaign across traditional and social media

The hardback had a major global launch in September 2025 (published by Berkley PRH in US and HQ HarperCollins in ANZ) and the novel received extensive traction across BookTok and Bookstagram, as well as from key fantasy publications

A. Rushby is based in Queensland and has published more than thirty books for adults and children (mostly as Allison Rushby). *Slashed Beauties* marks her first novel in the historical fantasy space. VERVE will publish a second novel from Rushby in autumn 2026

THE BOOK

A spellbinding tale of sisterhood, betrayal and reclamation revolving around three 18th-century wax models of women, known as Anatomical Venuses or 'slashed beauties'. Legend has it, these beauties are bewitched, coming to life to murder men who have wronged them.

Finally, these men will get what they deserve. We will make sure of it. Together.

Seoul, present day: Antiques dealer Alys is offered a vast sum of money to transport one of three highly coveted Anatomical Venuses to London, with one key condition - she must destroy it when she reaches the city.

London, 1769: After a chance meeting at the Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, young and inexperienced Eleanor is promised a life of luxury by the beautiful and charismatic Elizabeth and her protégé, Emily. All she must do is allow Elizabeth complete control of her destiny.

In a darkly compelling and magical plot, prepare to discover the dangerous secret shared by these women - a secret that spans centuries, and which will unearth horrors not of this world.

PRAISE FOR SLASHED BEAUTIES

'The warped, witchy lovechild of Madame Tussaud and Jack the Ripper - an engrossing gothic tale of friendship, misogyny and the murderous consequence of denying women's autonomy' - **Ellie Marney, author of *None Shall Sleep***

'Utterly compelling from the first page to the final, shocking twist' - **Christine Wells, author of *The Paris Gown***

'Adored this gorgeous, sumptuously gothic feminist novel' - **Emma Cowing, author of *The Show Woman***

'An extraordinary tale... Left me spellbound' - **Emma Grey, author of *Pictures of You***

'Two timelines collide with imaginative verve' - **Sunday Times**

'*Slashed Beauties*, like all the best horror, uses its brilliant concept to lay bare uncomfortable truths about the world we live in... The perfect mix of old school horror chills and thoughtful social commentary, all delivered through compelling characters and unforgettable monsters. A horror classic for the ages' - **Fantasy Hive**

'Unsettling and addictive... A bold new voice in horror' - **Seattle Times**

A. RUSHBY (Location: Toowong, Australia)

A. Rushby (also writing as Allison Rushby), was gifted the middle name of Jane, for Jane Austen. Wordsmithing was duly destined and, under several pseudonyms, she has published more than thirty books. She has long been a fan of cities steeped in history, wild, overgrown cemeteries, red brick Victorian museums, the curious and the uncanny. She prefers to write with a cup of French Earl Grey tea by her side and a cat curled up in her lap.

