

On the Radio Seven days

Today

Spitfire: The People's Plane
World Service 11.30pm

Before a plane could save a country, the people had to build it. This is the story of how the beautiful icon of resistance was built against extraordinary odds.

Monday

Beethoven – New Pathways
Radio 3, 12pm

Part of Radio 3's Beethoven Unleashed season marking the 250th anniversary of Beethoven's birth, Composer Of The Week is returning to the story of Beethoven's life and music throughout 2020.

Tuesday

The Response: Coronavirus
World Service, 9.30am

The Response: Coronavirus gives people across the world a platform to broadcast their experience of a pandemic which is transforming lives and economies.

Wednesday

Hannah Cox
Scala, 7pm

Hannah selects the best music for your night-time, creating moments of mindfulness, and inviting listeners to share their classical music love stories

Thursday

Chris Hawkins
Radio 6, 6.30am

To mark Mental Health Awareness Week, Chris will embrace the nation's dawn chorus, highlighting how positive sound can be for our mental health.

Friday

Late Junction: Lee Ranaldo's
Mixtape
Radio 3, 11pm

Jennifer Lucy Allan presents a rare mix from the great American singer-songwriter Lee Ranaldo, who guides listeners through a lovingly compiled 30-minute collage of his favourite music and sounds.

Saturday

Graham Norton
Radio 2, 10am

In his last show before his summer break, Graham Norton mixes the latest music with classic oldies. There's also Grill Graham with Maria McErlane.

Books



Sorry Not Sorry

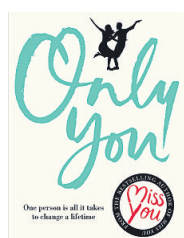
Sophie Ranald,
Sphere, £7.99

If you're in the mood for some laughs in lockdown this is the book for you.

Charlotte's love life is going nowhere, and her existence is a bit of a bore, until she stumbles on the podcast, Sorry Not Sorry.

It throws down the gauntlet to women to awaken their inner bad girl.

And boy does she go for it. The new Charlotte is now doing things the old Charlotte would balk at. Margarita in hand, Charlotte's life is becoming a whole load more exciting.



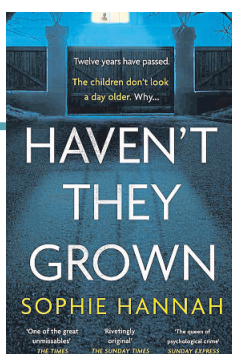
Only You

Kate Eberlen,
Pan, £8.99

Eberlen's debut, Miss You, was a hit with P.S, so we're pleased to see her impossibly romantic second novel, Only You, out now.

This tale is told in the present, past and future and follows Letty and Alf – the only English speakers in an Italian class who come together in a waltz around the Piazza Navona.

But what caused them to leave England? And when the unthinkable happens, will they spend a life apart or forge a future together?



Haven't They Grown

Sophie Hannah, Hodder & Stoughton, £19.99

A spooky, gothic tale that unfolds in just over 10 nail-biting hours. Beth and ex-best friend Flora are estranged. They haven't seen each other for a dozen years. But when Beth has to drive her 14-year-old son to a football match close to her ex-pal's home she can't help

Meet the Author

Jini Reddy Wanderland: A Search For Magic In The Landscape, Bloomsbury, £16.99

Author Jini Reddy admits to P.S: "Five years ago, this book wouldn't have been printed. People weren't ready for it, but now it's quite zeitgeist-y."

"Coronavirus is changing so much; how we perceive ourselves and how we perceive our world. When we do go out into nature now there is an intensity, a sweetness that every good thing in life is here, in this green space."

The award-winning writer's latest book, Wanderland, is a love letter to the spiritual in nature. And its chapter on Iona is, she confesses, her favourite.

London-born Reddy is the daughter of Indian parents who had fled the apartheid regime in South Africa. Her first book, Wild Times, took in everything from bushcraft to stargazing.

This latest foray into Britain's wild places is, she explains, propelled by natural magic. "As a travel writer, I've met indigenous cultures and am struck by the way it is perfectly normal for them to have a reciprocal relationship with the forces of nature. There is this inherent belief in the spiritual nature of everything around us."

"Wanderland was listening to guidance from a higher power in nature...the magical 'other'," she says.

"And I was exploring my own feeling of being 'other', an outsider. In the countryside, I didn't see too many people who look like me, and that made me feel self-conscious. By being open about my love for this magic, it made me realise I can be open about myself, and accept other parts of myself."

"I had a critic on my shoulder, though. I thought - how do I write about these things and not sound a total hippy?"

The book's commission was liberating, and gave her permission to be herself. And Iona - described in it as "a place where the veil between



the worlds is thin" - became an important part of that journey. "I decided I was going to Iona without any plan; I was asking the spirit of the land to guide me," she reveals.

"I was writing about my search for magic in the landscape so I needed to do this with synchronicity - not with my mind but with my heart."

"I got as far as Glasgow when I had a text from a landscape-energies expert who knew I was going to the island. It said, 'Seek out a temple in the land and ask yourself where and on what plane is this temple?'"

The writer says that arriving on the island she repeatedly asked local people, tourist and heritage officials to point her to the right spot without success.

"Each time there was resistance and I started to get frustrated," she says. "Then I decided to let it go and to just have a nice time on Iona."

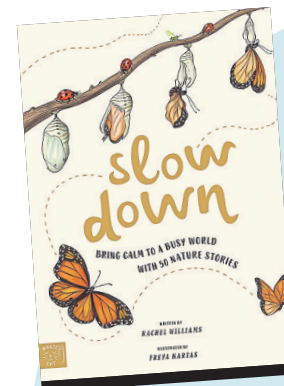
On the last day of the trip, she ran into a woman she had met three years before at the Findhorn spiritual community in Moray. They decided to hunt for "the temple" together and as they set off met another woman out for a hike. When they asked where was she heading they were amazed by the response: "The temple in the land".

"I thought this was extraordinary," says Jini. "I said, 'Are you kidding me? I've spent five days looking for this.' I was later told it was a sign of the land welcoming me."

According to the author: "There is no more delicious feeling than when the mysterious force behind the nature out there lets you know of its presence. It may not make logical sense but it feels better than anything, sometimes even better than sex."

Little 'wander' then that she is planning a return trip to Iona.

P.S. On Audio



but try to steal a peek at her. After dropping her son off, she parks up near the house and watches. What possible harm could come of that? But when Flora arrives, and emerges with her kids, Beth can't believe what she sees - neither child has aged a day.