

## THESE ENVOYS OF BEAUTY

### A MEMOIR

#### ANNA VAUGHT

- A new edition of a critically acclaimed memoir.
- A moving collection of essays about reclaiming a sense of identity in extremis through a connection with nature.
- Beautifully written, lyrical prose.
- The latest from a respected and well-followed author.

*Nature has not been my cure. It has been my inspiration, teacher and companion. I am not better, but I have never been alone.*

*These Envoys of Beauty* is a carefully crafted compendium of essays in which Dr Anna Vaught explores her relationship with the natural world, how it feeds her imagination and has given her hope.

Growing up in a rural setting, and at times in extremis, nature was a centring power on Anna's early years – wishing trees, talking streams – and she explores how an enduring love of foraging, a sensual consideration of how things smell, licking the rain from leaves, drinking, growing and cooking, has shaped her life.

Over the course of twelve essays, as herbs spill out and roots dig in, Anna's relationship with the natural world becomes a lens for exploring themes of loneliness, depression and trauma, and she discusses how these great systems of healing and sustenance continue to exert their power decades later.

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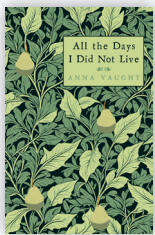
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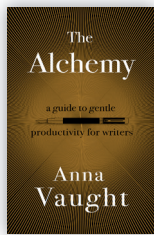
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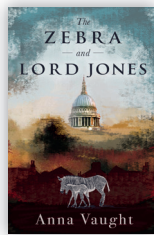
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#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr Anna Vaught is an English teacher, Creative Writing teacher, mentor, editor and author of ten previous books. Her short creative works and features have been widely published, and she has written for the national press and has had a column with *The Bookseller*, *Mslxia* and other publications. She is the founder of The Curae, a literary prize for carers, a tutor for Jericho Writers, a freelance mentor, occasional university lecturer, a volunteer with young people from disadvantaged backgrounds and campaigns for SEN provision. She has particular interests in magical realism and trauma and literature, psychology and chronic illness, subjects in her recent DPhil. She is the mother of three sons, comes from a large Welsh family and lives in Wiltshire.

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