



NEWS FROM

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**Henry Holt to publish**

## ***A Memoir of My Former Self*** ***A Life in Writing***

**the final book from**

**Hilary Mantel**

**on October 24, 2023, Holt, \$40.00, 432 pages**

NEW YORK, NY (September 7, 2023) — Henry Holt, an imprint of Macmillan Publishers, will publish the final book from Hilary Mantel, *A Memoir of My Former Self: A Life in Writing* on October 24, 2023.

Hilary Mantel is widely known as the bestselling, two-time Booker Prize-winning author of the Wolf Hall trilogy, a critically acclaimed, historical fiction series that tells the captivating tale of Thomas Cromwell in 1500s England. But Mantel's writing didn't only explore the past—far from it.

Featuring pieces from the 1980s to shortly before her death in 2022, *A Memoir of My Former Self* invites readers into the mind and world of Hilary Mantel, sharply observed and beautifully rendered. With a combination of playful humor and elegant delivery, Mantel reveals what was going through her head in the moments before Donald Trump was elected in 2016, and reminisces about what it was like the day that she first met her stepfather.

Ever piercing and poignant, *A Memoir of My Former Self* takes us through Mantel's childhood, women's rights, the joys of stationery, Goodfellas, Marie Antoinette, and the practice of writing—showing how a sharp intellect can make any topic, however large or small, endlessly riveting.

"To read Hilary Mantel's journalism and nonfiction writing is to see another side of her and the way her mind worked," said VP, Executive Editor at Holt, Tim Duggan. "There was no other writer in our time with this kind

of range and this depth of insight. Her writing was brilliant, irreverent, evocative, and wise, and we're deeply honored to be able to publish her last book, which is a tribute to an author who was one of a kind, and who will be sorely missed."

Her agent, Bill Hamilton, said of *A Memoir of My Former Self*: "This provocative, intimate, and often hilarious collection of Hilary's best pieces shows one of our great essayists writing with dazzling precision across a huge spectrum of topics, from the deeply personal to the sublime and the absurd. It is full of memorable delights and gives us a grandstand view of the life and career of an outstanding writer."

Henry Holt acquired North American rights for *A Memoir of My Former Self* from Bill Hamilton of A.M. Heath Agency. The book will be published by John Murray Publishers in the UK on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

#### **About Hilary Mantel:**

**Hilary Mantel** was a renowned English writer who twice won the Booker Prize, for her best-selling novel *Wolf Hall* and its sequel, *Bring Up the Bodies*. The final novel of the Wolf Hall trilogy, *The Mirror & the Light*, debuted at #1 on the *New York Times* bestseller list and won worldwide critical acclaim. Mantel wrote seventeen celebrated books, including the memoir *Giving Up the Ghost*, and she was awarded the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction, the Walter Scott Prize, the Costa Book Award, the Hawthornden Prize, and many other accolades. In 2014, Mantel was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire (DBE). She died at age seventy in 2022.

#### **About Henry Holt & Company:**

Great trade publishers define their times and endure beyond them. For more than 150 years, **Henry Holt & Company** has distinguished itself with a dynamic list of award-winning and bestselling fiction, history, politics, mysteries and thrillers, biography, science, popular culture, and psychology. Some notable Holt titles include Hilary Mantel's magnificent Wolf Hall trilogy, Susan Choi's *Trust Exercise*, winner of the 2019 National Book Award, and Elizabeth Kolbert's Pulitzer-winning *The Sixth Extinction*. Over the years, Holt has published such lauded authors as bell hooks, James Baldwin, and was the original publisher of *The Bluest Eye* by Toni Morrison. Current authors include bestselling and critically acclaimed writers such as Liane Moriarty, Jocelyn Nicole Johnson, Mary Louise Kelly, Mehdi Hasan, Virginia Sole-Smith, Minka Kelly, José Olivarez, Andy Cohen and Neil deGrasse Tyson.

#### **About Macmillan Publishers:**

Macmillan Publishers is the U.S. trade division of the Holtzbrinck Publishing Group, a large family-owned media company headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany. Its publishing companies include prominent imprints around the world that publish a broad range of award-winning books for children and adults in all categories and formats.

U.S. publishers include Celadon Books, Farrar, Straus and Giroux, Flatiron Books, Henry Holt & Company, Macmillan Audio, Macmillan Children's Publishing Group, The St. Martin's Publishing Group, and Tor Publishing Group. In the UK, Australia, India, and South Africa, Macmillan publishes under the Pan Macmillan name. The German company, Holtzbrinck Deutsche Buchverlage, includes among its imprints S. Fischer, Kiepenheuer & Witsch, Rowohlt, and Droemer Knaur.

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