

THE WIND ROAD

MEDIA KIT

JOANNA
EDEN

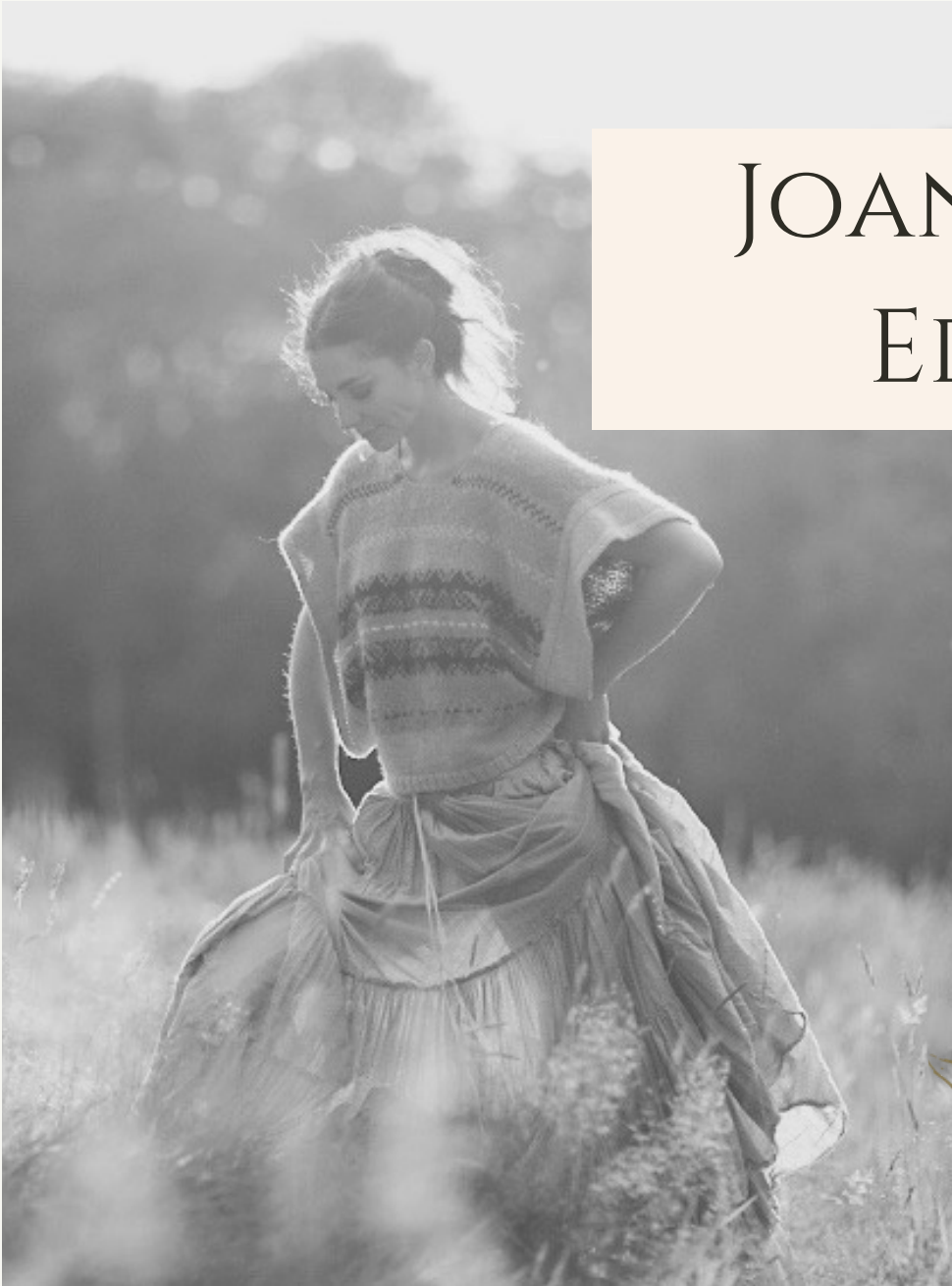


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Biography

Joanna Eden

AUTHOR, ARTIST & POET



About the author

Joanna currently lives on Dartmoor, where she homeschooled her son Atlas – who went on to win a silly amount of writing awards including the Young Walter Scott Prize, the BBC Young Writers' Awards, and the Author of Tomorrow Award. She grew up in the Welsh border village of Rossett. In 2020, she was a finalist in the Exeter Novel Prize and was the recipient of an Arts Council/The Literary Consultancy award. The Wind Road is her first novel. She is open to interviews (with or without her talented son).



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ENGLAND**

TLC The
Literary
Consultancy



Joanna Eden



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@JoEden

About the Book

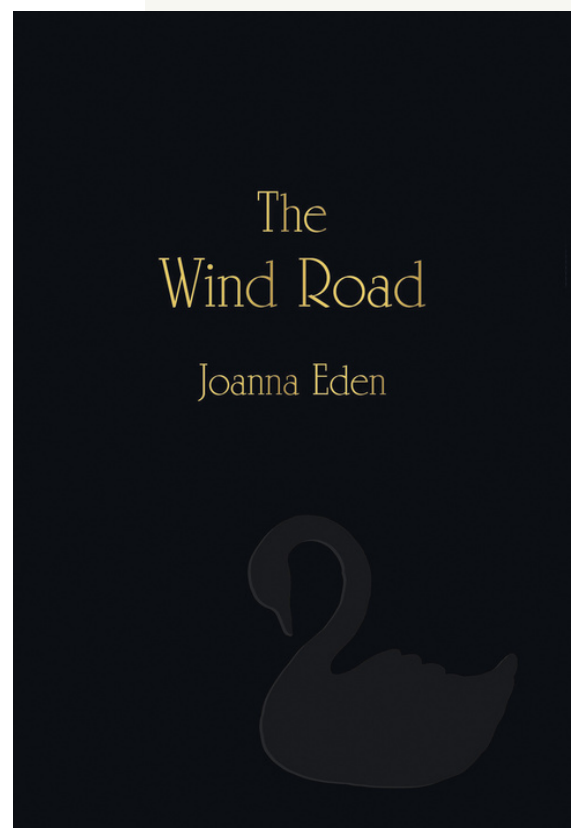
THE WIND ROAD

OVERVIEW

Inspired by actual events, this haunting time-slip tale tells the story of the men who survived the 1934 Gresford Colliery disaster, the hundreds who died, and the four-year-old girl who set them free.

SYNOPSIS

In 1984, a young girl named Jemima, born over an abandoned mine tunnel, forms a bond with a 'soot-man' she sees each night in her dreams. In 1934, Wey Smith, a miner down Gresford, glimpses a ghost girl following him around in the dark. In 2014, an old man sits alone in a colliery cottage, haunted by the legend of Weyland the Smith, a statue of a black swan, and the men entombed below. Set during the build-up and aftermath of the disaster, we uncover their mysterious connection through time.



BOOK TITLE	The Wind Road
PAGE COUNT	328
GENRE	Historical Fantasy
PUBLISHER	Ash Books
ISBN	978-1-83952-986-3
PRICE	£16.99
FORMAT	Hardback
RELEASE DATE	22 nd June 2026

REVIEWS

“

It has something which all real writing must have:
something indefinable but real.

PAUL KINGSNORTH
AUTHOR OF *THE WAKE*

”

“

I'm completely blown away by the depth and beauty of this novel. The touch remains light, but devastatingly effective. The prose style is so poetic, so evocative, and as crisp as an autumn morning. There's not a word wasted, but every image, every symbol is resonant and rich.

DR STEPHEN CARVER
AUTHOR, EDITOR & LITERARY HISTORIAN

”

“

One memory that was restored for me whilst reading [*The Wind Road*], was that of birds that were trapped down the pit...

ALAN JONES
FORMER VENTILATION MANAGER OF GRESFORD COLLIERY

”

no memorial to his 200
dead colleagues, writes
Alison Coulthard.
Mr Ted Andrews, of 1
Maes Eithan, Bryn Teg,
Wrexham, spent a total of

Gresford
memorial

cific cause of the disaster,
it helped to bring about
improvements in mining
conditions.
"But the past should be
remembered too and I am
ay when a
t up to my
es."
Jane, has
n for lon-
aorial, her
l in the di-
Janewere
en it was

PRESS RELEASE

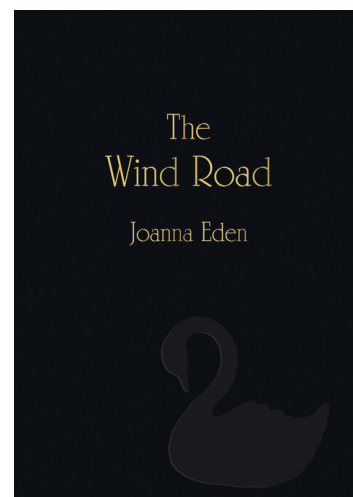
A MYTHICAL REIMAGINING OF THE WORST COAL-MINING DISASTER IN NORTH WALES

Inspired by actual events, *The Wind Road* is a haunting time-slip tale about the men who survived the 1934 Gresford Colliery disaster, the hundreds who died, and the four-year-old girl who set them free.

In 1984, a young girl named Jemima, born over an abandoned mine tunnel, forms a bond with a 'soot-man' she sees each night in her dreams. In 1934, Wey Smith, a miner down Gresford, glimpses a ghost girl following him around in the dark. In 2014, an old man sits alone in a colliery cottage, haunted by the legend of Weyland the Smith, a statue of a black swan, and the men entombed below. Set during the build-up and aftermath of the disaster, we uncover their mysterious connection through time.

Joanna Eden's debut novel was inspired by her childhood growing up in the Welsh border village of Rossett, near Gresford, and the 'soot-men' she saw in her dreams. 'They say traces of memory get caught in the rock,' says Joanna, 'and play like tape recorders over time. I believe they are traces of love.' *The Wind Road* is a tale of magic, coal mining, and the meaning of myth in our lives.

ORDER NOW FROM WWW.ASHBOOKS.UK



PRICE: £16.99

ISBN: 978-1-83952-986-3

'Devastatingly effective.'

DR STEPHEN CARVER,
AUTHOR, EDITOR & LITERARY HISTORIAN


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Q&A

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Why did you write *The Wind Road*?

As a child in the 80s, I lived over the abandoned tunnels of Gresford mine and saw ‘soot-men’ each night in my dreams. In 2012, I learned about the Gresford disaster and was inspired to share the miners’ untold story, a creation that would take me the next ten years.

Why did you choose to self-publish?

I created Ash Books with my son, Atlas, as a homeschool project to learn about every aspect of publishing. I also wanted to ensure my book had the feel, quality and attention to detail that I imagined.

Which authors inspire you?

Hilary McKay and Terry Pratchett for their hilarious innocence, Anthony Doerr for his astonishing sentences and teaching me how to love a line into life, J.R.R. Tolkien for his timeless, mythical depth, and Lyall Watson for making non-fiction magical.

What is the premise of *The Wind Road*?

Innocence sets you free.

How will you celebrate the publication?

With sandwiches. Brambly jam on brown.



BOOK PITCH

A MYTHICAL REIMAGINING OF THE WORST COAL-MINING DISASTER IN NORTH WALES.

Perfect for fans of *A Terrible Kindness* and *Pan's Labyrinth*, this unique angle, seen partly through the eyes of an innocent girl, helps make this heavy part of Welsh history accessible to a wide range of people and to a younger generation. There is great interest in the Gresford disaster, as the bodies of the victims were never recovered, and while there are reference books, there has been no novel to tell the tale. Until now...

The Wind Road is a story of magic, coal mining, and the meaning of myth in our lives.



“

The willow-tree girl slipped from the stable and
skipped up the road, as though she went not
into a poorly ventilated, overworked mine
tunnel a mile-and-a-half underground,
but into the deep dark magic of a
faerie mound.

”

CONTACT ME



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