

Richard Francis

Author

Richard Francis writes both fiction and non-fiction. He taught American literature at Manchester University and then started the MA in Novel Writing there, with Michael Schmidt. More recently he was Professor of Creative Writing at Bath Spa University, where he is now an honorary research fellow. He has also been a research fellow at Harvard and a professor at the University of Missouri. He has published nine novels in all, and three works of non-fiction, all of which deal with important figures in American cultural and religious history.



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Publications

Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
PROSPECT HILL 2004 Fourth Estate	'An extremely readable and funny book' Sean O'Brien, TLS
FAT HEN 1999 Fourth Estate	'This beautifully paced, bitter-sweet novel' TLS
TAKING APART THE POCO POCO 1995 Fourth Estate	'A comic novel with a heart and soul.' Nick Hornby, Observer

Publication Details	Notes
THE LAND WHERE LOST THINGS GO 1990 Carcenet Press	"Impressive and moving ... all the hallmarks of a Francis novel: the logical illogicality; the wealth of startling images; and comic exuberance laced with the macabre." TLS
SWANSONG 1986 HarperCollins	'I would like to go on and on about how brilliantly funny and inventive and intensely enjoyable and, well, just how brilliant it is.' Selina Hastings, Daily Telegraph
THE WHISPERING GALLERY 1984 Andre Deutsch	'Part thriller, part strip cartoon, part black pantomime, the novel leaves an agreeably bitter taste in the mouth.' TLS
THE ENORMOUS DWARF 1982 Granada	'Beautifully written... should not be missed.' New York Times
DAGGERMAN 1980 Faber & Faber	'Original blend of the macabre and the comic.' TLS
BLACKPOOL VANISHES 1979 Faber & Faber	'Satire, poetry and real imagination.' Time Out

Non-Fiction

Publication Details	Notes
FRUITLANDS 2010 Yale University Press	This is the first account of Fruitlands, one of history's most unsuccessful - but most significant - utopian experiments, established in 1843 by Bronson Alcott (whose daughter Louisa May, future author of 'Little Women', was among the members.
JUDGE SEWALL'S APOLOGY 2005 Fourth Estate	The story of a good man and an evil event. Arts Council England Award; chosen by Margaret Drabble in the TLS as one of her three books of 2005
ANN THE WORD 2000 Fourth Estate	'This splendid Biography of Ann Lee offers rational insight into the power of belief.' New Yorker