

Curriculum Vitae – Owen Nicholls

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Biography

OWEN NICHOLLS is an author, screenwriter and podcast writer.

His debut novel, *LOVE, UNSCRIPTED* received a Kirkus Starred Review. It received numerous positive reviews, with *EMPIRE* describing it as 'pure pleasure' and Holly Bourne calling it 'a complete delight'. Josie Silver labelled it, "Nostalgic, tender and achingly cool".

His second novel, *PERFECT TIMING* is a love story about a musician and a stand-up comic who meet at the Edinburgh Festival. It follows them for the next few years as they struggle to navigate success, each other and themselves.

Owen has written more than 50 episodes of the critically acclaimed, internationally popular podcast *History Daily*. He also contributed to *Business Movers*, a history-led series from premium podcast network Wondery.

He lives in Norfolk with his wife and two children.

Education

- MA in Scriptwriting, University of East Anglia – 2007-2009
- BA (Hons) Film Studies, University of Kent at Canterbury – 2000-2003

Publications

- Nicholls, O. (2019). *Love, Unscripted*. Hachette, Penguin Random House and HarperCollins.
- Nicholls, O. (2021). *Perfect Timing*. Hachette, Penguin Random House and HarperCollins.

Professional Experience

Airship – Writer

June 2023 – Present

I research, write and edit for the internationally renowned History Daily podcast. This role requires a great deal of planning and preparation. It also calls for close collaboration with producers and editors on tight timescales.

Speechmatics – Senior Copywriter

July 2021 – Feb 2023

Lead copywriter for start-up tech company in Cambridge. This role required establishing the tone of voice and output for the marketing department. I had one junior writer new to the working world who required support and education for their professional development.

National Centre for Writing - Mentor

Sep 2021 – May 2022

To select and mentor two writers for the Escalator Writer Development Programme. My role was to engage in one-to-one sessions with each writer to provide feedback and support on their work and understanding of the industry. This role required evaluation and regular reports detailing the progress of the mentoring relationship and the mentees' projects.

Virgin Money – Conceptual Copywriter

July 2014 – October 2018

To create above-the-line marketing material for the UK's leading challenger bank. This was a collaborative role working as part of a studio team to deliver a wide-range of collaterals across different media. It required a great deal of organisation and planning.

Film Journalist – NME, EMPIRE, Total Film

Oct 2008 – April 2013

My first foray into professional writing was to transfer my own film blog over to NME. This role required meeting strict deadlines, learning about digital output and building an audience. It also required extensive expertise in the areas of Film, TV and Music.

Projectionist – Odeon/UCI

Oct 2003 – June 2011

My first full-time job outside of academia. This role required excellent personal skills, working in a small team. It also required effective use of new technology, which would then need to be taught to new recruits.

Teaching

- Mentor on the National Centre for Writing's Escalator Programme: guided emerging writers in novel writing and career development.
- Guest craft talks and workshops on narrative structure, adaptation, and writing careers.
- Contributor to public-facing writer support platforms including *The Writer's Workshop*, *Page One*, and *Brit Lit Podcast*.

Contributor to Podcasts

- Page One: The Writer's Podcast
- The Brit Lit Podcast
- The Writer's Workshop

Volunteering

- Appropriate Adult Volunteer – Supporting vulnerable individuals during police interviews.
- Mulbarton Wolves Football Team – Coaching and assisting U9s football

Skills

- Narrative development across formats (fiction, screen, podcast)
- Digital storytelling and production
- Mentorship and student support
- Collaborative writing and editorial work
- Time and project management
- Public speaking and workshop facilitation