



# Addlands: A Novel

*Tom Bullough*

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**Addlands: A Novel** Tom Bullough

**The stark beauty of the Welsh countryside is given powerful life in this sweeping tale of one family from World War II to the present day, for readers of Alice Munro, Kent Haruf, Bruce Chatwin, and Louise Erdrich.**

***Addlands* (i.e., headlands): the border of plough land which is ploughed last of all.**

The patriarch of Funnon Farm is Idris Hamer, stubborn, strong, a man of the plough and the prayer-sheet, haunted by his youth in the trenches of France. The son is Oliver, a junior boxing champion and hell-raising local legend who seems from birth inextricably rooted to his corner of Wales. Bridging these two men's uneasy relationship is Etty, a woman born into a world unequipped to deal with her. Following the Hamer family for seventy years, this novel's beauty is in its pure and moving prose, and its brilliant insight into a traditional way of life splintering in the face of inevitable change. *Addlands* is also a tale of blood feuds and momentous revelations, of the great dramas that simmer beneath the surface of the everyday. Through all the upheavals of the twentieth century, the only constant is the living presence of the land itself, a dazzling, harsh, and haunting terrain that Tom Bullough conjures with the skill and grace of a master.

## **Advance praise for *Addlands***

“This is the book we have been waiting for from Tom Bullough, a complete work of art, astonishingly beautiful, deeply moving, and gripping from first to last. *Addlands* appears to be a tale of the Welsh borders, told through the battles, loves, and losses of its Heathcliff hero, Oliver, but it is much more—the story of how the land made us all, and how the last century has changed us. Zola would have saluted it and pressed copies on his friends.”—**Horatio Clare, winner of the Somerset Maugham Award**

“Tom Bullough's story of one family's struggle in a world of continuity and change is beautifully imagined and exquisitely told—passionate, lyrical, profound, sad, and sometimes, too, when you least expect it, very funny.”—**Carys Davies, winner of the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award**

“*Addlands* is a gorgeous and painstaking evocation of the land and those who work it. Bullough's writing is a joy—disciplined, observant, and musical, blissfully free of cliché.”—**Andrew Miller, winner of the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award**

“Marrow-deep in its connection to place yet global in its thematic exploration and significance, *Addlands* does what literature should unstintingly aspire to do: make individual lives the essential stuff of epic. In crystalline, perfect, and stunning prose, Tom Bullough sites, convincingly and movingly, the entire history of these islands in a small section of Radnorshire. The presence of this book—in shops, in libraries, in homes, in the minds of its readers—will improve the broken, atomised world. It's an astonishing work of words.”—**Niall Griffiths**

“*Addlands* is a mesmerisingly beautiful experience, a haunting fusion of person, place, and history. It is a really important contribution to the literature of the Welsh borders.”—**Gerard Woodward**

*From the Hardcover edition.*

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