

The Sunday Times memoir of the year **Featherhood by Charlie Gilmour**

Until this year Charlie Gilmour was best known for swinging from the Cenotaph during the 2010 student protests, and for being the adopted son of the Pink Floyd guitarist David Gilmour. He is now 31 and has a pet magpie that he and his partner rescued as a chick and reared in their south London flat. He finds from his mother, the novelist Polly Samson, that his (largely absent) biological father, the anarchist poet Heathcote Williams, once took in a bird too. This brings the book's key preoccupation – which is, as the punning title suggests, fatherhood – to the forefront, resulting in a tender coming-of-age memoir. It's an intelligent debut that shows that Gilmour, for all his celebrity family connections, is undoubtedly a [remarkable writer in his own right](#). **LK**

Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £16.99



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