

# BF

**BRIAN FINNEY**  
*Media Kit*



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Dangerous Conjectures .....</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Money Matters .....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Suggested Interview Questions.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Fun Facts.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Author Bio.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Professional Credentials.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Publications and Editions.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Contact Information.....</b>	<b>9</b>

# DANGEROUS CONJECTURES

"Finney effectively draws from recent headlines to craft the novel's many aspects [and] vividly captures the chaos and mayhem of 2020, anchoring all the pandemonium with a daring duo that fights for love, justice, and humanity throughout an unforgettable year in human history. Timely, relevant, and frenetic, this bracing thriller brandishes a healthy social conscience."

—*Kirkus Reviews*

"Disturbing and prescient"

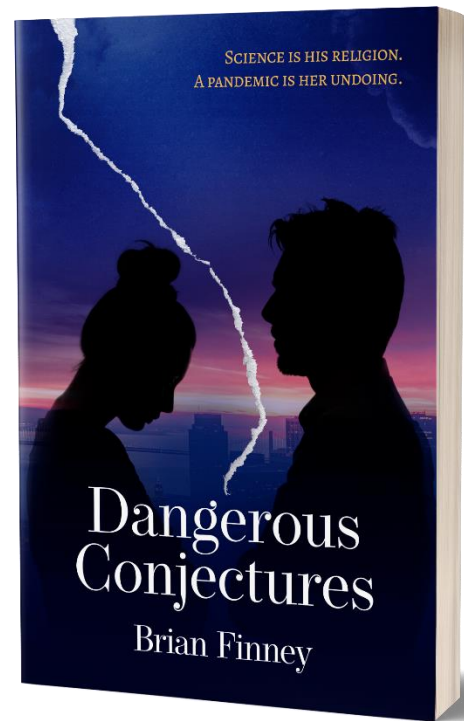
—*David St. John, author*

"Finney's characters are us, and their struggles are our own."

—*David Peck, author*

"This compelling allegory of privilege makes us question our own actions."

—*Sandra Ann Miller, author*



## SCIENCE IS HIS RELIGION. A PANDEMIC IS HER UNDOING.

Oakland, California, 2020.

Computer scientist Adam cannot understand the widespread appeal of conspiracy theories popularized by the president. He decides to investigate one, QAnon, which turns out to have hidden connections to a White House intent on subverting the upcoming presidential election.

His wife Julia, who works at the ACLU, is terrified by the outbreak of the coronavirus and is drawn to the fake online cures Adam detests. Further threatened by the reappearance of a violent ex-boyfriend, Julia sees her life unraveling and resorts to desperate remedies.

Brian Finney's *Dangerous Conjectures* is a powerful, gripping exploration of two Americans' inner lives living through a pandemic and a culture overrun with misinformation.

**"A riveting narrative."**

—*Meredith Maran, writer, journalist*

**"Don't miss this gripping and powerful novel."**

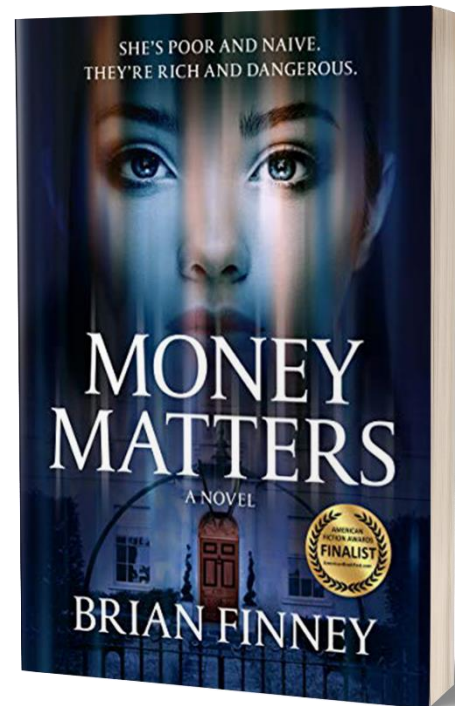
—*David St. John, author*

**"Compels the reader's attention from  
beginning to end."**

—*James Acheson, author*

**"Incredibly smart, current, witty, lively,  
and well-paced."**

—*Aurora Roman, bookseller*



**SHE'S POOR AND NAIVE.  
THEY'RE RICH AND DANGEROUS.**

At once a painful coming-of-age novel, an exciting amateur sleuth tale and an intriguing narrative involving social issues (immigration and wealth disparity), *Money Matters* has mystery at its core. This emotionally charged debut novel is firmly embedded in Los Angeles culture over the 2010 mid-term election, Jenny, the 27-year-old inexperienced protagonist, faced with the tragic disappearance of a friend, is forced to take on financial tycoons, corrupt politicians and the treacherous Baja drug cartel in her search to uncover the truth.

Jenny's investigation takes her into the twilight world of undocumented immigrants, which leads her to seek the help of the handsome director of an immigrant rights organization to whom she is strongly attracted. But will the deadly enmity of the rich and powerful thwart her search and end her budding romance?

# SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. What is the book about?
2. Why did you write this book?
3. What genre of fiction do you think this book belongs to?  
Why did you choose this one?
4. Does this book relate to any aspects of your life?
5. Why in both this and your previous novel do you place the individual action in the context of a wider political background?
6. What is your own opinion about the prevalence of conspiracy theories today?
7. If even scientific truth is relative, who or what is to be trusted?
8. Which authors have influenced you the most?
9. What process did your novel go through to reach the form it is in today?

## FUN FACTS ABOUT BRIAN

1. Brian's grandmother was an opera singer from Hartford, Connecticut
2. Brian's father was a professional artist and his grandfather a miniature painter
3. Brian's father's painting of his mother and himself is in the Carlisle Art Gallery, Cumbria
4. While in London Brian organized theatre workshops with the National Theatre and the Royal Shakespeare Company
5. Brian emigrated from England in his 50s
6. Brian met with Samuel Beckett at the Closerie des Lilas, Beckett's favorite cafe in Paris
7. Maria Huxley told Brian years before he immigrated that he would be living in LA
8. Brian was appointed a full professor five years after being made an assistant professor
9. Since 2015 Brian has been attending a weekly life-drawing workshop
10. Brian's wife is a fine art photographer (see: [J.K. Lavin Photography](#))

# AUTHOR BIO



Born in London, **Brian Finney** was educated at Bunce Court School in Wem, and Lord Williams's Grammar School in Thame. He obtained a BA (hons) in English and Philosophy at the University of Reading and a PhD on D. H. Lawrence's shorter fiction at the University of London. He spent three years as an officer in the Royal Air Force at Abingdon, then five years as an internal management consultant at Joseph Lucas Electrical in Birmingham and as a production controller at Standard Telephones and Cables in Harlow. In 1964 he transferred to the University of London's Department of Extra-Mural Studies where he taught literature and arranged extra-mural courses in the arts from 1964 to 1987.

In 1987 he emigrated to Southern California. After two years as a visiting professor at the University of California, Riverside and subsequent adjunct positions at UCLA and the University of Southern California, he became a full-time professor at California State University, Long Beach

teaching primarily in the English department, but also for Comparative Literature and the Honors Program. He is currently a Professor Emeritus in the Department of English.

He has published eight books. *Since How It Is: A Study of Samuel Beckett's Later fiction* (Covent Garden Press, 1972) was the first critical work to examine Beckett's later shorter fiction and incorporated responses by Beckett. His second book, *Christopher Isherwood: A Critical Biography* (Faber & Faber/ Oxford University Press, New York, 1979), was awarded the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for non-fiction that year. It was also voted one of the best three books of the year by Philip Toynbee in the Observer. He went on to publish *The Inner I: British Literary Autobiography of the Twentieth Century* (Faber & Faber / Oxford University Press, New York, 1985), the first full-length study of British literary autobiography; *D. H. Lawrence: Sons and Lovers: A Critical Study* (Penguin Books, 1990); *English Fiction Since 1984: Narrating a Nation* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), a widely cited book about British fiction in the eighties and nineties; and *Martin Amis* (Routledge, 2008). He went beyond his discipline in his next work, one of political and social commentary, *Terrorized: How the War on Terror Affected American Culture and Society* (Amazon, 2011). He has also edited three editions of D. H. Lawrence's work, and published a range of essays and reviews, mainly centered on recent and current British fiction, in various journals and newspapers.

In 2019 he published his first novel, *Money Matters*, which was a Finalist in the American Fiction Awards. It is an unconventional detective novel in which a young woman with no experience uncovers the whereabouts of a missing person with connections to the powerful CEO of a mutual fund company, a politician running for governor of California in 2010, and a drug cartel. *Dangerous Conjectures*, his second novel, is set in the Bay Area in early 2020 and features a computer professor determined to penetrate QAnon, and his wife who becomes terrified of the coronavirus and takes some dangerous actions to alleviate her fear. Both novels are available as a paperback, ebook and audiobook.

He is married and lives in Venice, California.



# PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

## EMPLOYMENT

**Department of English,  
California State  
University, Long Beach**

- 2010-Present Professor Emeritus, California State University, Long Beach
- 2008-2010 Professor, California State University, Long Beach

## EDUCATION

**1969-1973**

PhD, English, Birkbeck College, University of London, England (Title of doctoral dissertation: "The artistic development of D.H. Lawrence as a writer of short stories.").

**1953-1956**

BA (Hon.s), English and Philosophy, University of Reading, England

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

Brian Finney was given two University of London Research Fund Traveling Scholarships and an Arts Council of Great Britain Writer's Award while researching D. H. Lawrence's shorter fiction. He received the James Tait Black Memorial Book Prize for the best work of non-fiction in 1979 for *Christopher Isherwood: A Critical Biography*. The following year he won a British Academy Research Fund Award to help research and write *The Inner I: British Literary Autobiography of the Twentieth Century*. During his time at California State University, Long Beach he was granted Assigned Time Awards towards research and writing on seven occasions.

**TEACHING  
COMPETENCE****Primary Fields**

Post-1900 British fiction; post-1900 British literature; post-1900 drama (in English); critical and literary theory; cultural studies.

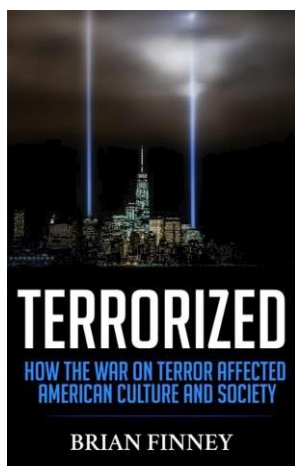
**Secondary Fields**

Introduction to literature, fiction, poetry and drama; English literature from Beowulf to the present; American literature since 1865; world drama from the Greeks to the present day; world literature; the humanities since the Renaissance.

**OTHER ACADEMIC  
ACTIVITIES**

- Occasional consultant reader, *PMLA*, *Tulsa Studies in Women's Literature*, *Papers on Language and Literature*, and *Twentieth Century Literature*, 2005-8
- Consultant Reader, *LIT: Literature, Interpretation, Theory*, 1990-present
- Consultant Reader, *Post Identity*, 1997-present
- Consultant Reader, *Modern Language Quarterly*, 1988-1994
- Organizer, Platform Lectures, National Theatre, London, England, 1978-1987
- Member, management committee, Consortium for Drama and Media in Higher Education, London, England, 1979-1987
- Organizer, public lectures, the Poetry Society, London, England, 1981-1987
- Organizer, public lectures, the New Fiction Society, London, England, 1980-1981
- Organizer, public lectures, the Institute of Contemporary Arts, London, England, 1986-87
- Joint organizer, drama workshops, Royal Shakespeare Company (at the Pit and the Warehouse), London, England, 1978- 1983
- Secretary and member, editorial board, *The London Review*, 1967-1976

# OTHER PUBLICATIONS



**Book Title: Terrorized: How the War on Terror Affected American Culture and Society**

Publisher: Amazon

Publication Year: 2011

ISBN-13: 978-0999800393

ISBN-10: 0999800396

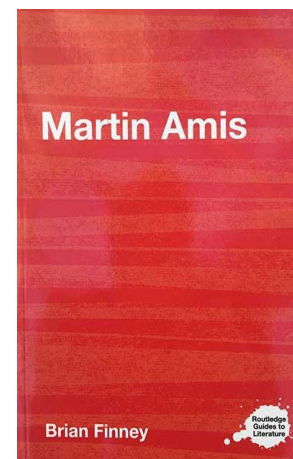
**Book Title: Martin Amis  
(Routledge Guides to Literature)**

Publisher: Routledge

Publication Year: 2008

ISBN-13: 978-0415402910

ISBN- 10: 0415402913



**Book Title: English Fiction Since  
1984: Narrating a Nation**

Publisher: Palgrave Macmillan

Publication Year: 2006

ISBN- 13: 978-0230008 SS7

ISBN-10: 0230008550

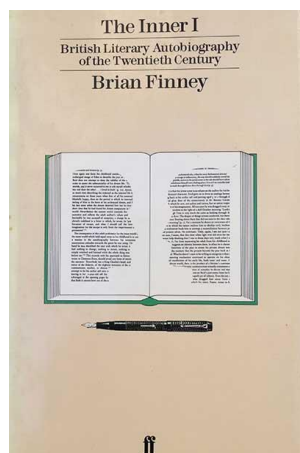
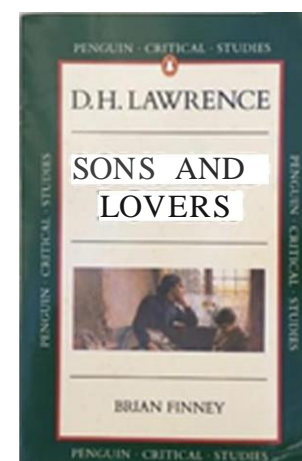
**Book Title: D.M. Lawrence's Sons  
and Lovers: Critical Studies**

Publisher: Penguin Books

Publication Year: 1990

ISBN-13: 978-0140772371

ISBN-10: 0140772375



**Book Title: The Inner I: British Literacy  
Autobiography of the Twentieth Century**

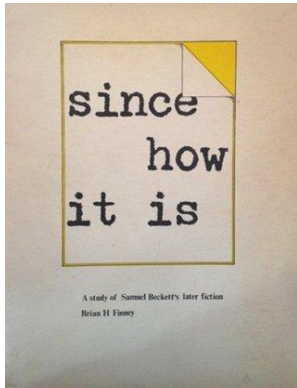
Publisher: Oxford University Press, New York

Publication Year: 1985

ISBN- 13: 978-0195037388

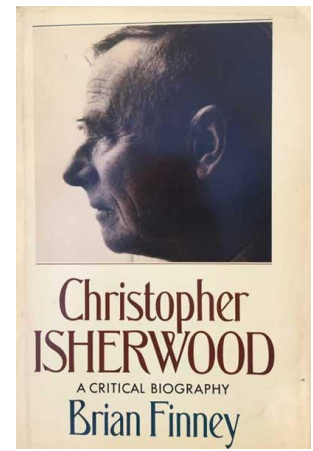
ISBN- 10: 0195037383



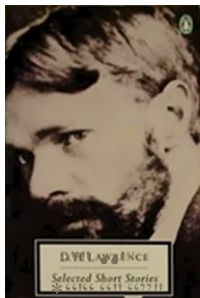


**Book Title: Since "How It Is":  
A Study of Samuel Beckett's Later  
Fiction** Publisher: Covent Garden  
Press Publication Year: 1972  
ISBN-13: 978-090284336 3  
ISBN-10: 0902843362

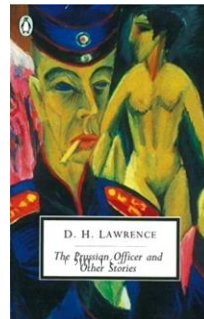
**Book Title: Christopher Isherwood:  
A Critical Biography**  
Publisher: Oxford University Press  
Publication Year: 1979  
ISBN- 13: 978-019520 1345  
ISBN- 10:0195201345



## EDITIONS



**Author: D.H. Lawrence (Edited  
with an introduction and notes by  
Brian Finney)**  
**Title: Selected Short Stories of D. H.  
Lawrence**  
Publisher: Penguin Books  
Publication Date: 1982  
ISBN-10: 0140182144  
ISBN -1 3: 978- 01 401 821 49



**Author: D. H. Lawrence (Edited by  
John Worthen with an introduction  
and notes by Brian Finney)**  
**Title: The Prussian Officer and Other Stories**  
Publisher: Penguin Books  
Publication Date: 1981  
ISBN -1 0: 0140005137  
ISBN -1 3: 978—0 140005134  
ISBN: B001 KRSUK4



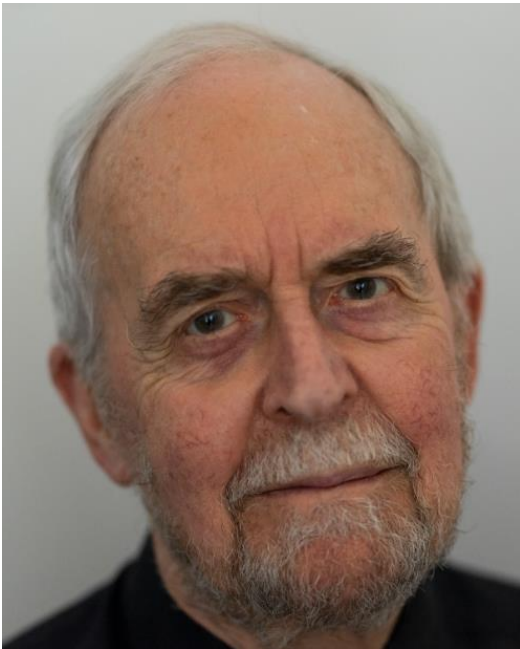
**Author: D. H. Lawrence (Edited by Brian Finney)**  
**Title: St Mawr and Other Stories (The Cambridge  
Edition of the Works of D. H. Lawrence)**  
Publisher: Cambridge University Press  
Publication Date 1983  
ISBN 10: 0521222636  
ISBN- 13: 978-0521222655



# CONTACT INFORMATION

## BRIAN FINNEY

[www.bhfinney.com](http://www.bhfinney.com)



[brianfinneywriter@bhfinney.com](mailto:brianfinneywriter@bhfinney.com)



[@brianfinneywriter](https://www.instagram.com/brianfinneywriter)



[@brianfinneywrit](https://twitter.com/brianfinneywrit)



[www.pinterest.com/brianfinneywriter](http://www.pinterest.com/brianfinneywriter)