What stories do you think about whilst looking at art?
And whose voice is speaking?
This is a book of new fiction written in response to contemporary visual art set alongside manuscripts and images of work by the artists who inspired it. It is an exploration of relationships between visual and written fictions, full of tangents and digressions, and of biographies imagined, embroidered and real. This book celebrates consonances between art writing and practice, and the pleasures of the fallible.
George Eliot was an English novelist, poet, journalist, as well as a translator. Her real name was Mary Ann Evans but she used a male pen name, as female authors were believed to be writing only lighthearted novels in those days and she wanted to be taken seriously as well as break that stereotype. She authored seven novels, known for their realism and psychological insight. Her books were mainly appreciated for their descriptions of rural society, and she believed that there was much interest and importance in the mundane details of ordinary country lives. George Eliot, born Mary Ann Evans, was an English writer of the Victorian era who covered issues of class, religion, and complex character psychology. At one point, a man named Joseph Liggins claimed that he was the real George Eliot. In order to head off more of these imposters and satisfy public curiosity, Eliot revealed herself soon after. Her slightly scandalous private life surprised many, but fortunately, it did not affect the popularity of her work.