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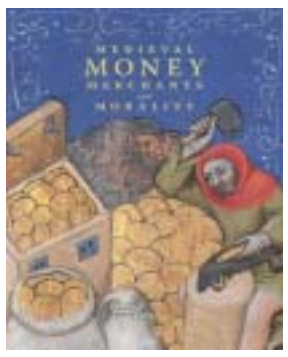

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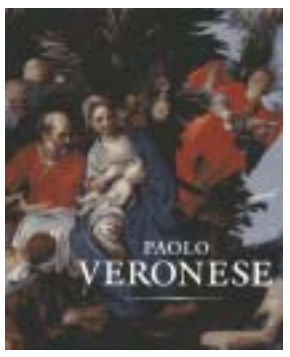

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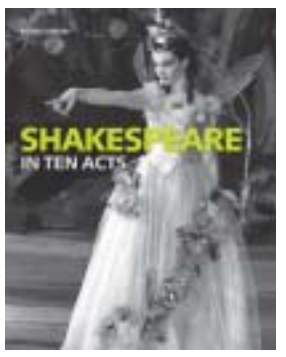

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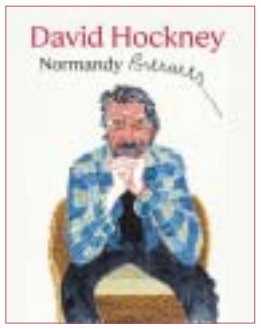
ART AND ARCHITECTURE

As long as autumn lasts, I shall not have hands, canvas and colours enough to paint the beautiful things I see.

- Vincent Van Gogh



97890 DAVID HOCKNEY: Normandy Portraits

Published to accompany a major exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery, this collection covers Hockney's Normandy Studio portraits between 2020 and 2022. It illustrates around 40 acrylic on canvas works depicting friends and visitors including his partner JP, pop star sensation Harry Styles in yellow and red striped cardigan and pearl necklace, Lola, Tilly, Albert Clark, Sylvia Weber and Hector the sleeping St Bernard dog, and dozens of self portraits, the last of which he is wearing his bright yellow spectacles, yellow and black checked suit and checked peak cap reclined in an armchair. This image-led book showcases some previously unseen portraits uninterrupted by text allowing us to engage directly with the artworks. It depicts a time when Hockney had returned to painting after using his iPad and these portraits were painted quickly and directly onto canvas without under drawing because as he said 'to do a portrait slowly is a bit of a contradiction'. Full of life and colour, NPG first edition 2023, 48 large pages 21 x 27cm.

£18.95 NOW £9.50

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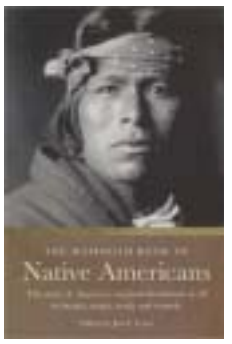
HISTORY

The queen appeared as innocent as one of those mountains which smoke a little, and then one day end up causing a whole civilization to become an art installation.

- Terry Pratchett, Raising Steam



97902 MAMMOTH BOOK OF NATIVE AMERICANS edited by Jon E Lewis

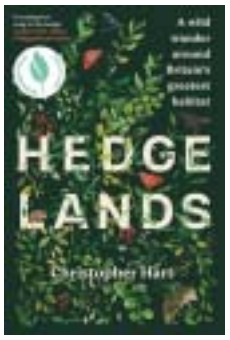
Native Americans make up less than one per cent of the total US population, but represent half the nation's languages and cultures. Here in one grand sweep is the full story of America's indigenous peoples, their society, culture and religion, everything from the land-based spirituality of their early creation myths, and

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

NATURE

Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns.

- George Eliot, Letter to Miss Lewis



97794 HEDGELANDS by Christopher Hart

Sub-titled 'A Wild Wander Around Britain's Greatest Habitat', this joyful journey takes us around the wild borders of Britain, through the life, ecology and history of the humble hedge. An ancient, human-made boundary, hedgerows have long been an important haven for wildlife and are now recognised as one of the greatest 'edge' habitats on earth. Through Christopher

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8

DALLAS TRADE SHOW

What other buyer from the UK attended the Dallas Remainder Trade show? *ONLY* Annie Quigley of Bibliophile! The GROLIER publications are rare, beautifully bound, on varied topics, and priced to give our customers a BARGAIN! We snapped up nearly all remaining stock. See pages 3 & 19-21.

Star Wars stickers and a plaster Mandalorian to paint, a Princess Castle, Lesley Anne Ivory 500 piece cat jigsaw puzzle, the Sherlock Holmes Case Files, the Good Bug book, Stonehenge, Venice, the brilliant life of the Duke of Buckingham, the Sex Pistols and David Bowie and Paul McCartney and Chic in Music, drawing and illustration handbooks, buses and trains, watch books and the Art of Dining and masses of bargain true crime fiction - as ever something for everyone this month.

The Grolier Club publications now remaindered immediately caught my eye! They are rare, beautifully bound and priced to give you all a bargain.

Wishing you all happy (hot) summertime reading!

and the Team (plus cats and whippet)

The Grolier Club New York EXCLUSIVES

97730 CALLIGRAPHY REVIVAL, 1906-2016 by Jerry Kelly and Christopher Calderhead (Intro)

The word calligraphy comes from the Greek kaligraphia- kallos "beauty" and graphein "to write." It is an art with a long and noble history, going back centuries and spanning many cultures. Exhibitions and collections of Asian, Islamic, and Medieval art have always included examples of beautiful writing, yet modern Western calligraphy has seldom been recognized as an art form. Correcting this oversight, Jerry Kelly presents major examples of calligraphic art by over 80 artists spanning the years 1906-2016 and demonstrates that in the computer age, the art of beautiful writing not only lives but thrives. The catalogue accompanied the eponymous Grolier Club. With a preface by Jerry Kelly and an introduction by Christopher Calderhead. Stunning examples of calligraphy throughout. 12 x 9". A deep red cloth hardback, 118 pages, well illustrated and very collectable and rare. Published by the Grolier Club of New York.

£36 NOW £17.50

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

CALLING ALL FERROEQUINOLOGISTS!

97761 BIOGRAPHY OF BRITISH TRAIN TRAVEL A Journey Behind Steam and Modern Traction by Don Benn

Railway journalist Don Benn discovered his love of trains as a schoolboy on the footbridge at Bromley South station, and he vividly remembers the long-ago day in June 1959 when the Kent Coast electrification programme was completed and he and his fellow enthusiasts realised with dismay that there would be no more steam from Victoria to Ramsgate and Dover. Although some Bulleid Pacific engines worked the boat trains for another two years, the procession of King Arthur class engines at three minutes before each hour had gone for ever. At the same time, though, the Kent Rover ticket gave the young enthusiasts the chance to travel further afield, and this kick-started the author's interest in timetables and running times, as well as the trains themselves. In this nostalgic recreation of the last days of steam the author reconstructs his teenage excursions from notebooks he kept at the time. 11 September 1960 saw the happy band catching the 12-coach 8.57 to Dover Priory, and although they left Bromley five minutes late, "some lively running" resulted in arrival at Dover two minutes early. The train to Ramsgate was accompanied by a lunch of Spam and Tizer before the circular return to Bromley and the next round trip of the day, this time to Chatham. For the railway enthusiast, this fascinating account with full specs of the locos and rolling stock and numerous archive photos from the author's collection is a glorious reliving of past

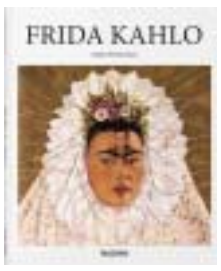
MORE INSIDE ON PAGE 5

Pain and Passion *The original and intimate art of Mexico's most famous female painter*

97829 FRIDA KAHLO: 1907-1954: Pain and Passion by Andrea Kettenmann

The arresting pictures of Frida Kahlo (1907-54) were in many ways expressions of trauma. Through a near-fatal road accident at the age of 18, failing health, a turbulent marriage, miscarriage and childlessness, she transformed the afflictions into revolutionary art. In literal or metaphorical self-portraiture, Kahlo looks out at the viewer with an audacious glare, rejecting her destiny as a passive victim and rather intertwining expressions of her experience into a hybrid real-surreal language of living: hair, roots, veins, vines, tendrils and fallopian tubes. Many of her works also explore the Communist political ideals which Kahlo shared with her husband Diego Rivera. The artist described her paintings as "the most sincere and real thing that I could do in order to express what I felt inside and outside of myself." One depicts her as wounded deer. This book introduces the rich body of Kahlo's work to explore her unremitting determination as an artist, and her significance as a painter, feminist icon, and a pioneer of Latin American culture. Colour illus, 21 x 26cm, 96 pages. New budget edition from Taschen.

ONLY £15



93043 FRIDA KAHLO 45th Edition by Luis-Martín Lozano

Among the women artists who have transcended art history, none had a meteoric rise quite like Mexican painter Frida Kahlo (1907-1954). Her unmistakable face, depicted in over 50 extraordinary self-portraits, has been admired by generations; along with hundreds of photographs taken by notable artists such as Manuel and Lola Álvarez Bravo, Nickolas Muray, and Martin Munkácsi, they made Frida Kahlo an icon of 20th century art. After an accident in her early youth which left he in pain for all of her life, Frida became a painter. Her marriage to Diego Rivera in 1929 placed her at the forefront of an artistic scene not only in the cultural Renaissance of Mexico, but also in the United States. Her work garnered praise from the poet André Breton, who added the Mexican painter to the ranks of international surrealism and exhibited her work in Paris in 1939 to the admiration of Picasso, Kandinsky, and Duchamp. We access the intimacy of Frida's affections and passions through a selection of drawings, pages from her personal diary, and an extensive illustrated biography featuring photos of Frida, Diego, and the Casa Azul, Frida's home and the centre of her universe this book allows readers to admire Frida Kahlo's paintings like never before, including unprecedented detail shots and famous photographs. It presents pieces in private collections and reproduces works that were previously lost or have not been exhibited for more than 80 years. 15.6 x 21.7cm, extended edition of 480 pages, quality golden paper on some pages, some double page colour spreads and intimate mono images like Frida with two birds or wearing flowers in her hair. New from Taschen.

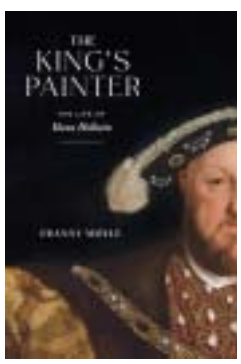
ONLY £25

97834 RIVERA 1886-1957: A Revolutionary Spirit in Modern Art by Andrea Kettenmann

Diego Rivera (1886-1957) is a loud presence on the art historical stage. With devout political principles and a turbulent romantic history, he was at once husband and paladin of Frida Kahlo, advocate and adversary of Stalin's Soviet Union, and liberator and traitor of Leon Trotsky. Vibrant, graphic, and often monumental, Rivera's paintings carry the same live political and passionate charge as his personal biography. Fusing European influences such as Cubism with a socialist ideology and an exaltation of Mexico's indigenous and popular heritage, he created a new iconography for art history and for his country. He became one of the most important figures in the Mexican mural movement and won international acclaim for his public wall paintings, in which he presented a utopian yet accessible vision of a post-revolutionary Mexico. In 1931, Rivera was the subject of MoMA's second ever monographic exhibition. This book explores the unique blend of influence and ideology which secure Rivera's place as both a unique and a universal painter, bound to the particular turbulent experience of early 20th century Mexico, apprenticeship in Europe, and Communist ideology for capitalist clients. Striking paintings include his wife Frida Kahlo distributing weapons to fighters 1928, Flower Festival and carnivals. With a detailed chronological summary of the life and oeuvre of the artist, covering his or her cultural and historical importance, a concise biography, approximately 100 colour illustrations with explanatory captions. 21 x 26 cm, 96 pages. New from Taschen.

ONLY £15

Rebel with a cause *A revolutionary spirit in modern art*



97800 KING'S PAINTER: The Life and Times of Hans Holbein by Franny Moyle

Tudor court painter, humanist and political propagandist, Hans Holbein the Younger immortalised Henry VIII and his circle through precise portraiture. A BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week, this is 'a great, thrusting codpiece of a book.' - The Times. Holbein is chiefly celebrated for his beautiful and precisely realised portraits of Henry VIII, Thomas More, Thomas Cromwell, Anne of Cleves, Jane Seymour and many Tudor lords and ladies he encountered during the course of two sojourns in England. Yet Holbein was a satirist and a deft man whose work was rich in layers of symbolism and allusion. This dramatic biography sees the Reformation that spread across Northern Europe and which would chase the young Holbein from his hometown of Basel in Switzerland to seek fame and fortune in London, and what is truly astonishing is his proximity and observation of the most extraordinary events of his century up close. With access to some of the most powerful men and women of his times, Holbein embodied Erasmus, a man whose pen was on fire and whose intellect was sought by kings and popes, in a series of images that have described the scholar ever since. And he captures some of the greatest poets in England like Thomas Wyatt, persecuted martyrs such as Bishop Fisher, women making strides like Margaret Roper, and foreign ambassadors who strode the corridors of Henry's palaces. Through Holbein we see a snapshot of the socio-economic web woven around the Tudor era and when we look at his works again, we will see an artist who constantly demands participation and interpretation from his viewer. 380pp, a wonderful 24 pages of colour plates including woodcuts and stunning colour portraits.

Portrait of Prince Edward 1538

Portrait of William Warham, Archbishop of Canterbury 1527

£35 NOW £10 SAVE £25!

97781 MODIGLIANI by Sandra Forty

Amedeo Modigliani (1884-1920) stood only five foot five inches tall, handsome, hugely attractive to women, addicted to drink and drugs, living in a Parisian garret, he died young on the verge of discovery as an artistic genius. His human subjects invariably have almond-shaped eyes with long, slightly twisted noses, small, pursed mouths, and elongated necks. Most of his works are semi-formal portraits that radiate a somewhat sculptural quality reflecting his early roots as a sculptor. Although their faces remain expressionless, he infuses them with personality. With his languorous and elongated nudes, he scandalised the polite world, outrageous because they showed bodily hair, something historically not portrayed in fine art. Born an Italian Sephardic Jew in the port town of Livorno on the northwestern coast of Tuscany, he sold few paintings and drawings in his lifetime, more often giving them away in exchange for a meal or as a token of friendship. His excesses earned him the nickname Modi, the French word moudit meaning 'cursed'. Honoured at his death by Léger, Derain, and even Picasso, the romance, passion and tragedy of his life was echoed after the death by the suicide of his pregnant 22 year old lover Jeanne Hébuterne who orphaned their 14 month old daughter. Compact hardback packed with colour photos on every page, index. 15.5cm square. 84 pages.

£9.99 NOW £5

97887 DE LEMPICKA by Gilles Néret

Tamara de Lempicka (1898-1980), icon of Art Deco, lived art in the fast lane. With an appetite for glamour and fame as much as Left Bank bohemianism, she fled St. Petersburg after the Bolshevik revolution and set about taking Paris by storm. Her style deployed cool colours and tight post-cubist forms. Her subjects are often nude and always sensual, aloof, and powerful. Bedecked in seductive light and textures, they command our attention but typically avert their gaze with an aspect of haughty grandeur. They include both high-society patrons and progressive portraits of emancipated and lesbian women, such as Women Bathing and Portrait of Suzy Solidor.

De Lempicka's notorious Self-Portrait Tamara in the Green Bugatti 1929 (featured large on the book's cover) was commissioned for the cover of German magazine Die Dame and became an icon of speed, sophistication, and female independence. Old Man with Guitar is moving, and Portrait of Dr Boucard in trench coat or HRH the Grand Duke is haughty and colourful. The nude women are very sensual. This marvellous brand-new introduction explores the artist's unique visual language and its privileged place not only in the annals of interwar art and our collective consciousness of the Roaring Twenties. 21 x 26cm, 96 pages. New from Taschen.

ONLY £15

96798 1920-1945 THE ARTISTIC CULTURE BETWEEN THE WARS ART OF THE 20TH CENTURY by Valerio Terraroli

This wide-ranging volume surveys the major artistic movements that shaped modern art from the aftermath of World War I through the mid-20th century. It opens with tracing the so-called "return to order" and the revival of figurative styles such as New Objectivity, Novecento Italiano, and Magic Realism - movements retaining strong symbolic and formal power. At the same time, it follows the evolution of avant-garde experimentation, from Dada in New York and Germany to Constructivism, Bauhaus, and De Stijl, alongside abstractionism in Italy and France, decorative arts, and propaganda art under totalitarian regimes. It also charts the development of Futurism and its second generation, the Six of Turin, Mexican muralism, and the intersection of film and visual culture. A major focus is the rise of Surrealism - its origins, key figures, and international spread along with surrealist sculpture and the emergence of abstract expressionism. Major artists featured include William Glackens, John Sloan, Pablo Picasso, Marc Chagall, Diego Rivera, George Grosz, Otto Dix, Salvador Dalí, and Edward Hopper. 22 x 29cm, 448 pages, colour reproductions.

£34 NOW £18

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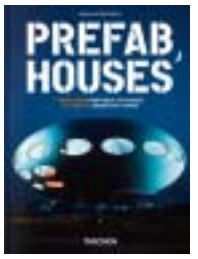

97832 PREFAB HOUSES: From 1830s Portable Cottages to Today's Essential Homes edited by Peter Gössel

A prefab is a mass-produced house, constructed in a factory and assembled on site in a few days or weeks, and some designs look amazingly futuristic. Once regarded as a cheap, easy solution for urgent housing problems, the prefab has evolved to become a synonym for ambitious design and sophisticated detailing solutions. The amazing history of prefabricated houses started in England in the 1830s with a building kit for emigrants moving to Australia. Even today, prefabricated houses provide a high percentage of living spaces in many countries of the world. This book covers prefabs from the USA via Europe to Asia and Africa, giving insight into the various industrially prefabricated components, the difficulties of delivery to the building site, and the intricacies of assembly and completion. As well as tracing the link between modernism and industrialisation that evolved to produce the latest prefabricated solutions, it also features a unique compilation of one-off prefabricated houses by well-known international architects, as well as successful dwellings manufactured off-site for everyday modern living. Really stunning colour photos, 15.6 x 21.7cm, 512 pages. New from Taschen.

ONLY £25

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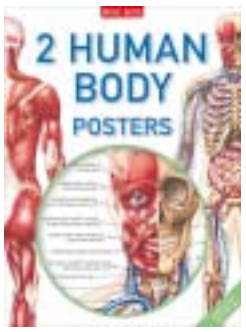
The Dallas show titles are a veritable medley of bargains - have a good rummage in all categories of these quality exclusive American remainders!

97737 INDUSTRIAL BRITAIN: An Architectural History by Hubert Pragnell

A fascinating insight into Britain's industrial past and historical architecture as evidenced by its buildings, richly illustrated with intricate line drawings. Going far beyond the mills and machine houses of the Industrial Revolution the book looks at the power stations and monumental bridges of Britain, including the buildings and engineering projects associated with the distribution of manufactured goods - docks, canals, railways and warehouses. The gasworks, temples of mass production, the mill, warehouse and manufactory, dock and harbour buildings, water power and water storage, waterways: canals and rivers, the railway age, breweries and oast houses, markets and exchanges, the 20th century: industry on greenfield sites. It's a story of industrial development, but also a story of its ultimate decline. As manufacturing has been increasingly replaced by services, new uses have been found for at least some of the country's great industrial buildings, not least as containers for art and heritage, such as the Bankside Power Station (Tate Modern) and Salts Mill. Other buildings featured are still used as originally intended today, such as Smithfield Market in London and the Shepherd Neame brewery in Faversham. Over 200 original line drawings, 18.7 x 18.7cm. 256 pages.

£12.99 NOW £7.50

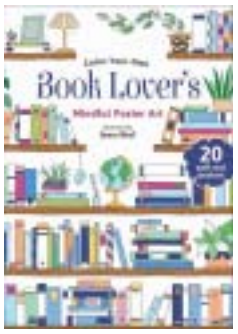


2 GIANT HUMAN BODY POSTERS SHOWING IN DETAIL ANTERIOR & POSTERIOR ANATOMY

97736 HUMAN BODY 2 WALL POSTERS PACK by Camilla De La Bedoyere

Two detailed full colour wall posters, this kind of product is hard to find and has been extremely popular in the past. Find out what goes on beneath your skin with these superbly illustrated and highly annotated wall posters. Anterior and posterior views are presented with colour-coded labels for the anatomy - arteries and veins, bones and cartilage, muscles, tendons and ligaments, plus the vital organs. Folds out, poster size 13.74 x 10.12". Colour.

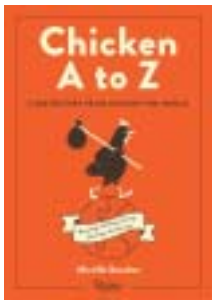
£17.50 NOW £8



97728 BOOK LOVER'S MINDFUL POSTER ART Colour-Your-Own 20 Pull-Out Posters by Grace West

Celebrate your love of books through mindful colouring and creative expression with the perfect colouring companion for readers and dreamers alike. This beautifully designed collection includes 20 book-themed illustrations featuring cosy reading nooks, tea cups, The Little Bookshop store front, a page of eight bookmark designs you could actually go ahead and use, and stacked novels. Each poster is printed on thick, single-sided paper for easy removal, letting you frame or gift your finished creations. With an elegant foil-accented cover and A4 format, this colouring book offers a relaxing, creative. 40 page softback, 11.7 x 8".

$9.99 NOW £6.25



97731 CHICKEN A TO Z: 1,000 Recipes from Around the World by Mireille Sanchez

Named "Best Cookbook of the Year" at the 24th Annual Gourmand Awards, this is the only collection of chicken recipes any home cook will ever need, a true Bible! Roasting, grilling, frying, stewing, simmering. Between the main recipes, their variations, and the sides, the book contains nearly 4,000 recipes. Domesticated long ago, the chicken, which can still be found in the wild in India, joined humankind in spreading across the globe. It is ubiquitous, but it is also a culinary star. Celebrating chicken's central place in the world's culinary repertoire, this book gathers more than 1,000 recipes along with anecdotes, stories and trivia from every continent. The recipes span the entire spectrum from family celebrations to intimate dinners and quick snacks to street food, and include variations from restaurant-style preparations to traditional home cooking. Organised by region and country, each recipe comes with complementary recipes such as side dishes, sauces, condiments, or beverages, as well as alternate preparations and variations. Of particular note is the marginalia that accompanies each recipe: historical anecdotes, information on particular chicken breeds or regional landraces, cultural information, and trivia, both serious as well as amusing. A global repertoire in a gorgeous chicken/coffee table high quality Rizzoli edition, 864 pages, 20 x 27cm.

£40 NOW £14 **SAVE £26!**

97755 WARFARE IN MEDIEVAL MANUSCRIPTS by Pamela Porter

There is a glamour associated with knights in shining armour, colourful tournaments and heroic deeds which appeals to the modern imagination. But brute force was the recognised way of settling a quarrel, and conflict formed a normal way of life at every level of society. This book illustrates the art of war with dozens of medieval images from books and manuscripts, and reveals a wealth of social and military background on heraldry, armour, knights and chivalry, castles, sieges, and the arrival of gunpowder. This new edition is completely revised with a selection of new illustrations from the British Library's medieval manuscripts. Few pieces of military dress and equipment have survived, so for a comprehensive view of the nature of medieval warfare we rely on written documentation and the information preserved in paintings, sculptures, carvings, and other pictorial sources. The most numerous of these are the miniatures and drawings found in manuscript books, partly because books tend to survive better that other artefacts and partly because many individual volumes contain multiple representations. A 2000 publication by Pamela Porter, a curator of German and Scandinavian manuscripts at the British Library, which presents a variety of evocative manuscript illuminations and reveals them as a source of information about military dress, equipment, and practices offering readers technical details, historical insights, and a visual record of how contemporaries portrayed the art of war. 15 x 19cm, 128 pages.

$18.99 NOW £8.99

A giant armed with a falchion is defeated by a knight, end of 13th century, beginning of 14th

97740 LESLEY ANNE IVORY JIGSAW: Phuan on a Chinese Carpet by Lesley Anne Ivory

This new jigsaw will satisfy your need for a challenge, with the now-famous charming and stunning Siamese cat Phuan on a blue and gold richly foiled background, sat on an oriental red, gold and blue design carpet, his head tilted over his shoulder. This 500-piece jigsaw is intended for adults and children over 13 years. Finished Jigsaw size 490 x 360mm or 19.3 x 14.2", the box set includes a helpful and frameable A4 poster for reference. Lesley Anne Ivory is one of the most prolific and prestigious painters of cats in the world today. Her meticulous attention to detail is legendary. Enjoy a night in or a quick me-time and challenge yourself.

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97724 ART OF BATHING: Soothing Rituals for Mind, Body, and Soul by Ophelia Wellspring

Your guide to creating the perfect mindful, multi-sensory home space. With everything you need to turn your bathroom into a relaxing, healing, and energising sanctuary, this book gives you the power to create a spa at home in the time it takes to fill the tub. Friendly introductions to the principles and practice of water therapy, aromatherapy and mindfulness are followed by a selection of 25 multisensory spa treatments, and it's easy to choose one that will work simultaneously on all of your senses to revitalise, repair, and reinvigorate. Need to puzzle over a difficult question? A playlist of Bach, sandalwood essential oils, and thoughtful meditations will help you find the solution with ease. Broken heart? Chamomile and rose aromas, with jazz ballads and restorative meditations, will help you recover and move forward. A big day ahead? Energise your mind with aromas of mint, confidence-boosting mantras, and empowering vocals. Trouble sleeping? Pair lavender with sounds of nature and breathing exercises to relax your body and lower your pulse. With each spa solution taking only a minute to prepare, and offering a completely immersive experience, this book will change your life in the time it takes to turn on the tap. 16 x 20.7cm. 143 pages.

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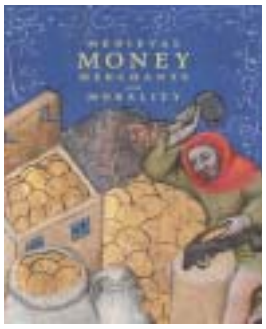

97743 MEDIEVAL MONEY, MERCHANTS AND MORALITY by Diane Wolfthal

A timely look at the economic revolution that took place in the late Middle Ages and early Renaissance. The rise of the monetary economy transformed every aspect of medieval Europe, including its values and culture. The book traces the origins of global money, and surveys economic history, focusing on the environment, the plague, Jews, and institutions, using a wealth of imagery including illuminated manuscripts, coins, artworks, money chests, and account books. The iconography, minting, and foreign exchange of coins are examined, and the choice that Christians faced is investigated: should they save their money or their soul? The authors explore images of Avarice, the greedy punished in hell, morality and immoral ways to earn and spend money, and analyse representations of charity and voluntary poverty. Final chapters examine the material culture of the monetary economy, from an illuminated oath for minters to purses and lockboxes, and images of medieval money management. Beautiful full page colour illustrations including illuminated manuscripts of Joseph, Governor of Egypt, Oversees the Sale and Distribution of Grain, during a Great Famine from the Crusader Bible 1244-54 and Robinet Testard, Avarice, from a book of hours 1475. Vibrantly illustrated with illuminations, panel paintings, prints, stained glass, sculpture, and all sorts of material objects. 150 colour illustrations. 10 x 8.25", 232 pages.

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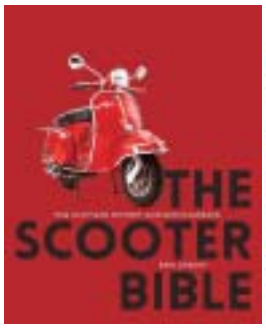

97746 SCOOTER BIBLE: The Ultimate History and Encyclopaedia by Eric Dregni

Today, nostalgia for vintage Vespas, Piaggios, Cushmans, Lambrettas, and other top brands drive a new thirst for retro-inspired scooters in showrooms around the world. This revised and updated edition of The Scooter Bible brings the story up to date with the drive for zero emissions via electric vehicles. The Scooter Bible is an entertaining, colourful, and authoritative history of the little motorbikes that could. Beginning with the first motor scooter in 1902, Eric Dregni is your guide to everything from the postwar American scooter boom to the golden age of Italian and European scooters, the rise of Mod scooter culture in England right up to modern electric scooters. Throughout, Dregni offers you a wealth of imagery: historic black-and-white photos, evocative period advertisements, manufacturer photos, and more - over 500 stunning images. Along the way, he also shows you scooter evolution, changing technologies, and scooter appearances in popular culture, from Puddlejumper to Piaggio, Ducati to Doodlebug, and Zündapp Bella to Genuine Stella and the two-stroke Adly from Taiwan. Chapters include The Pioneer Motorscooters 1902-1930, The Great American Scooter Craze 1935-1940, Military Motorscooters 1939-1945, The Mod Years 1960-1975, DIY years, and finishing with A New Millenium 2001-On, with an A-Z Scooter Encyclopaedia. Photos in b/w and colour and gorgeous alluring vintage advertising posters. 21.5 x 26.6cm. Paperback, 320pp.

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97734 GOOD BUG: A Celebration of Insects and What We Can Do to Protect Them by George McGavin

One of the UK's foremost entomologists and respected academics, George McGavin, explains all the amazing things that insects do, what we're doing as humans to threaten their habitats and most importantly what we can do now to protect them. Following on from the success of The Good Bee, this beautifully illustrated celebration of insects by leading entomologist George McGavin highlights the pivotal role they play in our ecosystems, and what we can do to help them survive and thrive. Insects are fascinating and ingenious. They also play an incredibly important role in maintaining life on planet Earth, and are particularly pivotal to our own survival. And yet they are under threat because of us. Since they appeared on land 420 million years ago, these small six-legged animals have been pioneers and ultimate survivors. Around 87 per cent of all plant species need animal pollination and most of this is delivered by insects; they also maintain healthy soil, assist in decomposition and are essential to the food web. This book is a celebration, and also a call to arms. B/w illus. Chapter one starting with The Nature of Insects and The Bug Blueprint. 192 pages, colour photos, 17.8 x 12.7cm.

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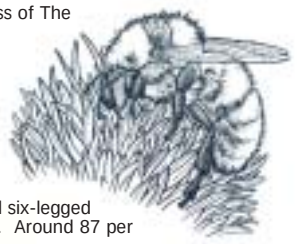

Once widespread in the UK, the Great Yellow Bumble Bee is now found only in the far North and West of Scotland where suitable habitat survives.

A customer online review after purchase:
Feedback Points: 5 *Absolutely brilliant*
"I didn't think I would be able to get this book having read a lot about it. It's a historical photographical document in a way the of transformation of post war China and he captured the various aspects of those changes."

95938 HENRI CARTIER-BRESSON: CHINA 1948-1949, 1958
by Michel Frizot and Ying-lung Su

In late 1948, Henri Cartier-Bresson travelled to China for Life magazine and spent ten months witnessing a nation in upheaval. He photographed Beijing in the final days of the Kuomintang and recorded the Communist takeover in Shanghai, moving through Peking, Qingdao, Hangzhou and Nanking during moments of chaos and transition and his fascination with Chinese culture later led him to Buddhism. A decade later, during the 1958 "Great Leap Forward," he travelled thousands of miles - from steelworks and oil fields to nurseries, villages and communal farms - always focusing on the people at the centre of these vast changes. The book brings together 112 photographs from 1948-49 and 39 from 1958, each forming its own self-contained sequence. Among them are scenes of men unloading barges by hand, students building a swimming pool at Beijing University, newly arrived Communist troops, Shanghai's flooded streets, a race-course crowd in Hong Kong, refugees at a station, vendors, beggars, parades and more. 120 monochrome images, maps and a parallel chronology of China and HCB's life. 288 page Thames & Hudson volume, 24.9 × 29.7 cm.
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95456 REMBRANDT THE COMPLETE PAINTINGS by Marieke de Winkel, Rudie van Leeuwen and Volker Manuth
This extra large monograph compiles all 330 of Rembrandt's paintings in stunning colour reproductions on quality paper and at a size we can appreciate. From Belshazzar's Feast, The Night Watch, The Return of the Prodigal Son, The Jewish Bride, The Abduction of Europa, Still Life with Peacocks, the miracle of Jesus calming the storm on the Sea of Galilee to The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp, we discover Rembrandt's painted oeuvre like never before. Rembrandt van Rijn, commonly known as 'Rembrandt,' produced some of art's most diverse and impactful works across portraiture, biblical, allegorical, landscape, and genre scenes. Biblical scenes, like Bathsheba at her Bath, become vehicles for meditations on human longing. Beginning in his youth and spanning until a year prior to his death, Rembrandt's self-portraiture is an intimate glimpse into his lifelong process of self-reflection. 25 x 34 cm, 744 pages from Taschen.
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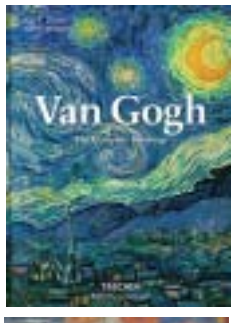

Tortured talent
The genius and the angst of an Expressionist master

95340 VAN GOGH: The Complete Paintings by Ingo Walther and Rainer Metzger
Vincent van Gogh's story is one of the most tragic in art history. Today, he is celebrated the world over as one of the most important painters of all time, recognised with sell-out shows, feted museums, and record prices of tens of millions of dollars at auction. Yet as he was painting the canvases that would subsequently become these sell-out modern masterpieces, van Gogh was battling not only the disinterest of his contemporary audiences but also devastating bouts of mental illness, with episodes of depression and paralyzing anxiety which would eventually claim his life in 1890, when he committed suicide shortly after his 37th birthday. This comprehensive study of Vincent van Gogh (1853-1890) pairs a detailed monograph on his life and art with a complete catalogue of his 871 paintings. Here are the wheat fields, sunflowers, self portraits, potato eaters, vases of flowers, gardens, starry nights and much more, all in blazing colour. 14 x 19.5cm, 744 pages. Beautiful colour, new from Taschen.
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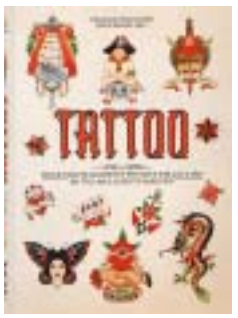
A Life in Tattoos *Henk Schiffmacher's Private Collection of the Art and Its Makers, 1730s-1970s*



97835 TATTOO: HENK SCHIFFMACHER'S PRIVATE COLLECTION
by Henk Schiffmacher, edited by Noel Daniel
One part history book, one part art book, and one part fascinating memoir, this book is an overview of more than two centuries of tattoo history intermixed with an intimate look at the lives of tattoo artists, and the personal struggles and triumphs, occupational hazards, and artistic courage that have defined so much of this history. For the last 40 years, Henk Schiffmacher has poured his heart and soul into his collection, amassing tattoo drawings, designs, photographs, and artifacts from around the world. Each of the book's chapters features many never-before-seen highlights from this collection and includes lithographs, etchings, tattooing instruments, original drawings, and tattoo designs known in the business as flash, among them extremely rare vintage flash sheets from major players in early Western tattooing. The vastness and variety of tattooing includes the indigenous tattooing of the Maori and South Pacific islanders, the ancient traditions of Asia, and the origins of old-school Western tattooing in Europe and the United States. The book also features a dozen original illustrations by Schiffmacher in his inimitable style, plus classic art of intricate Aztec, flower, animals, Indians, flames, skulls, beautiful women, Celtic crosses and extraordinarily artistic depictions of real people, cowgirls, skulls and lions, pirate ships and naked ladies and photos form his tattoo parlour in Amsterdam. 15.6 x 21.7cm, 512 pages. New from Taschen.
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96213 BOOK OF MIRACLES by Till-Holger Borchert
The Book of Miracles first surfaced several years ago and is one of the most spectacular discoveries in the field of Renaissance art. Created in Augsburg around 1550, this near-complete manuscript contains 169 large gouache and watercolour illustrations ranging from biblical scenes and apocalyptic visions to contemporary events witnessed by the manuscript's author-shooting stars, locust swarms, monstrous creatures, floods, and other extraordinary signs. Many images draw on woodcuts by Holbein the Younger and Hans Sebald Beham, while others echo the workshop of Lucas Cranach the Elder. Highlights include Beham's Moses and the Israelites Crossing the Red Sea, Elijah Taken Up to Heaven, and a jewel-toned Jonah and the Whale. The full manuscript with translated texts. 15.6 × 21.7 cm, 512 pages.
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96353 ART NOUVEAU: The World's Most Beautiful Buildings by Arnold Schwartzman
Photographer Arnold Schwartzman brings together 50 years of work to create a vivid global tour of Art Nouveau - from Paris and Barcelona to South America, the South Pacific and the edges of Asia. This final volume in his architectural trilogy celebrates the movement's sensuous, fin-de-siècle style, known variously as Jugendstil, Secession or Liberty. Drawing on influences from William Morris and Charles Rennie Mackintosh to Guimard, Gaudí, Horta, Hoffmann and Tiffany, the book gathers more than 200 glorious colour photographs. Architecture, metalwork, tiles, textiles, jewellery and graphic design all appear: mosaic lizards in Park Güell, the American Hotel in Amsterdam, stained glass in Antwerp, a lion-headed post box in Bilbao, the ornate Boutique Fouquet in Paris and much more. 224pp, 23.5 × 29 cm.
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96696 ARTISTS MAKING LANDSCAPE IN POST-WAR BRITAIN by Margaret Garlake
The landscape of post-war Britain is expressed in the work of painters such as Nash, Sutherland and Piper, and also in the more abstract canvases of Prunella Clough, Ben Nicholson or Peter Lanyon. The visible landscape of 1945 was very different from that of 1939, especially in heavily bombed areas, and over the next decades it was further transformed by road building, new towns and a shift to large-scale farming. Edward Burra's "English Countryside" is a semi-abstract design of intense colour in which electricity pylons are dwarfed by the big fields and sky. In the city, one of the major buildings to be built in London was the Shell building on the South Bank, captured in its bleak immensity by Frank Auerbach's "Shell Building Site", 1959. Piper's Welsh landscapes are wild yet picturesque, while Ivon Hitchens brought a sweeping abstract style to the wooded scenes of Sussex. The Scottish painter Joan Eardley was a notable colourist who used impasto to replicate the physicality of weatherbeaten landscapes. 302pp, colour reproductions.
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96844 EL GRECO by Michael Scholz-Hänsel
To his contemporaries in 16th-century Venice, El Greco (1541-1614) was a brilliant yet headstrong outsider, determined to follow his own artistic path. Born in Crete and shaped by Venice and Rome before settling in Toledo, he fused diverse Western traditions into a style unlike any other and developed a dramatic visual language of elongated, twisting figures, unearthly colour and daring spatial effects. Masterpieces such as The Disrobing of Christ, The Burial of the Count of Orgaz and The Vision of St John reveal a painter unafraid to challenge convention. This quality Taschen introduction explores the influences behind his singular vision-from Byzantine icon painting to Renaissance humanism-and reassesses his lasting impact. 96 pages, 100 colour illustrations with explanatory captions, concise biography and chronology. 21 × 26cm.
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96697 MEDICI: Portraits and Politics 1512-1570
edited by Keith Christiansen and Carlo Falciani
Cosimo I de' Medici ruled Florence from 1537 to 1574, restoring hereditary rule after a republican interlude. Backed by Emperor Charles V, the 17-year-old duke quickly proved a capable and strategic leader, expanding Florentine control across Tuscany and strengthening its role as a centre of art, politics, and learning. His court attracted major artists including Agnolo Bronzino, Jacopo Pontormo, Francesco Salviati, and sculptor Benvenuto Cellini. Giorgio Vasari's Lives of the Artists, dedicated to Cosimo, helped define Michelangelo as the model of artistic greatness. Cosimo also reshaped Florence, enlarging the Palazzo Vecchio and commissioning the Uffizi Gallery. This volume examines how portraiture under Cosimo was closely tied to power and politics. Bronzino's armour portrait of Cosimo asserts authority through classical symbolism, Cellini elevates him as a Roman emperor, and portraits of Eleonora di Toledo combine grandeur with refinement. Salviati's more fluid, psychological style contrasts with the formal elegance of Pontormo and Bronzino. 328 pages, colour illus.
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97225 ART FOR ALL. ART HISTORY by Barbara Hess, Cathrin Klingsöhr-Leroy, Karin H. Grimme, Klaus Honnef, Norbert Wolf
This comprehensive Taschen volume surveys five seminal art movements that shaped modern visual culture from the late 19th century through the 20th: Impressionism, Expressionism, Surrealism, Abstract Expressionism, and Pop Art. Though each emerged with distinct aesthetics and philosophies, all had immediate impact and lasting influence on the course of contemporary art. Impressionism, led by Claude Monet and Pierre-Auguste Renoir, broke from academic tradition by capturing fleeting moments, light, and colour. Expressionism, driven by figures such as Edvard Munch and Wassily Kandinsky, turned inward, distorting reality to express emotional intensity and human anxiety. Surrealism, associated with Salvador Dalí and René Magritte, explored dreams, the subconscious, and the irrational, merging reality with fantasy. Abstract Expressionism, led by Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko, emphasized spontaneity and gesture, establishing New York as the post-war centre of the art world. Pop Art, driven by Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein, fused advertising, mass media, and high art into a defining visual language of contemporary culture. Richly illustrated 504 page Taschen hardback 17 × 24cm, over 250 high-quality reproductions alongside insightful texts.
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Beneath the Kimono
The master's complete erotica, gathered in one arresting volume

96551 HOKUSAI: SHUNGA by Andreas Marks
Joyful, highly erotic, and often laugh-out-loud funny, this comprehensive portfolio brings together eight complete books and print sets from 1786-1823. Think you know Hokusai? This collection reveals a very different side of the great master. Long before The Great Wave, he created shunga - playful, intimate "spring pictures" that capture lovers, courtesans, curious onlookers, and even the famously frisky octopuses. Gathered here are eight complete books and print sets from 1786-1823, many accompanied by Hokusai's own witty narratives. In Edo-period Japan, sexuality was viewed as a natural part of life, and artists - often under pseudonyms - happily sidestepped censorship to explore the genre. These works were meant to amuse, to arouse, and even to bring luck; samurai sometimes carried them into battle as charms. Thanks to advances in printing, Hokusai filled his pages with rich colour, intricate fabrics, and lively, very human moments. Beautifully reproduced with new photography and introduced with expert essays, this slipcased, silk-bound volume (480 pages) showcases the humour, artistry and surprising openness of Hokusai's shunga.
£60

96852 HOKUSAI: Thirty-Six Views of Mount Fuji by Andreas Marks
Mount Fuji has long stood at the heart of Japanese cultural imagination, and few works capture this more powerfully than Katsushika Hokusai's (1760-1849) landmark woodblock series Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji. The celebrated printmaker documents 19th-century Japan with extraordinary artistry, portraying its countryside, cities, people, and serene natural landscapes with vivid colour and exquisite detail. Created at the height of Hokusai's ambition, the series is a defining achievement of ukiyo-e and brought him worldwide recognition as a master of the form. It reflects both his lifelong fascination with Mount Fuji and the rise of domestic travel in the late Edo period, when the mountain served as a constant landmark for travellers along the Tokaido road into Edo (modern Tokyo). Mount Fuji becomes a unifying backdrop across all scenes, from bustling everyday life to dramatic natural moments, most famously including Under the Great Wave off Kanagawa (The Great Wave off Kanagawa). Together, the compositions reveal a vivid portrait of pre-industrial Japan and Hokusai's unmatched sense of rhythm, movement, and atmosphere. This extra-large edition presents the complete series, 36 original prints plus 10 later additions in a carefully produced facsimile that honours the original colours and compositions. Bound in the Japanese folded page tradition and presented in a box (37.5 × 25cm, 1.18 kg, 224 pages.
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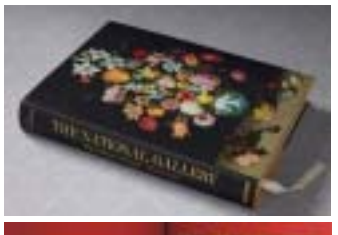

95454 NATIONAL GALLERY PAINTINGS, PEOPLE, PORTRAITS by Annetta Berry and Christine Riding
An extraordinary selection of the National Gallery's masterworks through the eyes of leading cultural figures and contemporary artists organized chronologically, this book tells the story of 700 years of art history through a selection of over 200 paintings in the collection, with works by Duccio, Van Eyck, Raphael, Titian, Rembrandt, Vigée Le Brun, Gainsborough, Morisot, and Matisse, to name just a few. Punctuating this story are contributions by and photographic portraits of 25 cultural figures, such as Frank Auerbach, David Hockney, Kim Jones, Damian Lewis, Sahara Longe, Chris Ofili, Ai Weiwei, Rachel Whiteread, and Flora Yukhnovich, among others. Since it was established in 1824, the National Gallery has expanded both its collection and its footprint to become one of the world's leading galleries. This book brings together over 200 of the Gallery's paintings, which were made between the 13th and 20th centuries, including memorable masterpieces from both the famous and the forgotten. Rich colourful full page artworks and photos many in double page spreads,. 29 x 39.5cm, heavyweight 6.3 kg, 582 pages, pagemarker. Taschen.
£150 REDUCED

97761 BIOGRAPHY OF BRITISH TRAIN TRAVEL cont...

pleasures. An Area 2 Rail Rover in 1962 covered the south western line from Waterloo to Woking as well as Guildford to Redhill, which was 100% steam worked until the end of 1964. Saturday 18 August 1962 saw the 12 noon down train from Waterloo arriving 19 minutes late and running behind the 12.15 and enlivened by a heated argument at Southampton between the driver and guard. The author's photography on this journey includes a couple of dozen superb shots of engines in action. In 1963 the author went further afield to Euston and was hauled to Rugby by 46228 Duchess of Rutland, while 1964 saw him venturing to Scotland. There are also chapters on the 012 Pacifics, the Seaton branch, steam in Europe and heritage events today. 18.5 x 25cm, 264pp, 350 photos in mono and colour.
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97769 FLYING SCOTSMAN STORY by James Baldwin
One of the most beloved steam trains of all time, in fact restored at one point in her long history by a great dear long lost friend of ours at Bibliophile Bill McAlpine, few locomotives are as widely known or excite so much interest as Flying Scotsman. Designed by Sir Nigel Gresley in 1923, the locomotive became a flagship for the LNER and represented them at the British Empire Exhibition in 1924 and 1925. She broke records and became the first to be authenticated to reach 100mph in 1934, and completing the longest non-stop journey of any steam loco in 1989. Passing through such hands as Alan Pegler's, Pete Waterman's and Sir William McAlpine's, after her retirement from British Railways, Flying Scotsman is now in public hands for restoration. Baldwin uses his expert knowledge and unrivalled collection of images to highlight her illustrious career. There are full page colour photographs, sepia, magazine page reproductions, fact boxes, Did You Know? such as that she has travelled 2,076,000 miles since being completed in 1923, boiler and other engineering plans, a compilation of Alan Pegler's photographs taken from when he was an eight year old schoolboy, the Pullman Car Lydia and Observation Car No. SC281 and ending with Flying Scotsman seen in wartime black livery at the NRM's 2012 Railfest event. 128 pages, packed with colour photos, 19 x 13cm.
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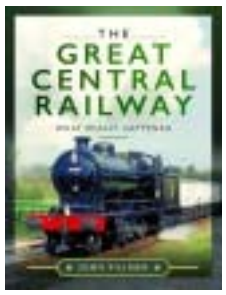

97772 GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY: What Really Happened by John Palmer
The Great Central Railway from North Nottinghamshire towards London was the last main line to be built in the UK and the first to be closed. It was conceived for the expansion of free trade across international borders by a man who had earned the support and loyalty of those who were willing to risk capital investment on this controversial railway. This book examines the railway from a business perspective and follows the relative fortunes of the railway through the years of ownership of the LNER and finally British Railways. For generations of railway enthusiasts and latterly for social historians, this railway and in particular its extension towards London in the 1890s have generated considerable interest. The book provides not only a photographic record and nostalgic look in retrospect at what was generally perceived as happier times for the railways and this route, but also looks at successive private and public ownerships through war and peace, times of industrial, social and political change, that influenced and shaped the demand for a railway service. It identifies the role played by successive governments, the electricity and coal industries, and the effect of social change that resulted in a case for closure. The final part acknowledges the fine work over half a century of volunteers dedicated to saving a section of the line in Leicestershire. Chapters also include Sir Sam Fay, Sir Edward Watkins, Movement of Coal, Dr Beeching and the Transport Act 1962, and with examples of working timetables and their interpretation. Some splendid colour photographs on glossy pages plus many others in black and white together with charts and tables and maps in both colour and black and white. 344 glossy large pages, 22 x 29cm.
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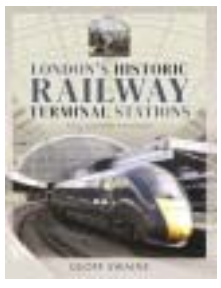

97779 LONDON'S HISTORIC RAILWAY TERMINAL STATIONS by Geoff Swaine
By the 1850s, the great long-distance railways had become established but there was one more thing that big companies desired at this point - a grand cathedral-like terminus station at the end of the line to firmly make a statement of their greatness. At every major London terminus there were adjacent goods yards. Brunel's Great Western Railway (GWR) opened completely between London and Bristol in 1841. He had sought to make it as level as he possibly could. In the 1850s the magnificent Paddington Station appeared. The 15 chapters cover: Charing Cross, Euston, Blackfriars, London Bridge, Cannon Street, Waterloo, Victoria, King's Cross, St Pancras, Marylebone, Paddington, Baker Street, Liverpool Street, Fenchurch Street and Docklands Light, Moorgate & Farringdon. Lovely modern colour photographs on glossy white pages adorn this entire big book which begins with a London Central diagram of connections in a hand drawn map, and ends with useful abbreviations and index, and a pre-Eurostar section of St Pancras Station 1980 in a gorgeous line drawing. The book captures in pictures the spirit of these changes shown through interesting and colourful photographs of these often-beautiful structures, extended captions and short texts. Approximately 200 photos, 208 large pages, 22 x 29cm.
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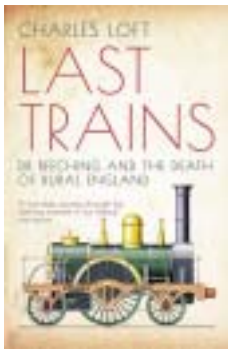

97777 LAST TRAINS by Charles Loft
'Dr Beeching and the Death of Rural England' is the sub-title of this 'First-class journey through this defining moment in our history' - Ian Hislop. Dr Richard Beeching joined the British Transport Commission (BTC), the publicly owned body with responsibility for the railways, in March 1961 and became Chairman on 1st June, remaining in the post until 1st June 1965. The context of his appointment was the railways' burgeoning deficit. Under his chairmanship BTC and BRB closed 2,479 route miles to passengers, less than a third of the total contraction. In March 1963 the BRB published 'The Reshaping of British Railways' or the Beeching Report as it soon became known. However, between 1950 and 1962, the passenger network had already shrank by over 2,300 miles. A total of 189 people used the ten daily trains on the Sheringham-Melton section of the Cromer line in the summer of 1963. 166 in the winter. Closure was expected to save £26,700 and only 31 objections were made. Sir John Betjeman eulogised the railways and complained that Beeching was creating a world 'where motorcar is master'. This impression was bolstered by the removal of steam locomotives from Britain's railways by 1968, a process Beeching did not start but did accelerate. The failing steam-powered local railways run by Colonel Blimp symbolised everything that was wrong with the country. Surely the future lay in motorways and high-speed express trains? Along came Dr Beeching with his diagnosis and suddenly branch-line Britain was gone forever. The debate about the Beeching cuts has raged ever since, and in this superbly researched examination Charles Loft exposes the political failures that bankrupted the railways, and lays bare the increasing alienation of bureaucrats from the public they were trying to serve. It is the state of a nation grappling to come to terms with modernity. The chapters follow a chronological approach to the development of government policy around the contraction of the railway system and is generally structured around individual cases. Chapters include The Bluebell and the Primrose Line, Westerham, Marples and the M25 and Wells-Next-The-Sea and the General Election. 330 page paperback, eight pages of photos.
£14.99 NOW £7

"The debate about Dr Richard Beeching will rage until the Second Coming – and probably beyond. But, in Charles Loft's careful examination of the making of the Beeching Report, we have as fine a study as we are going to possess in the meantime."
— **Peter Hennessy**

97763 BRITISH STEAM MILITARY CONNECTIONS London, Midland and Scottish Railway Steam Locomotives by Keith Langston
From the beginning of railway travel British steam locomotives had numbers, and many also were given names, with aristocratic, engineering and military themes predominating. This comprehensive study of locomotive naming opens with a highly entertaining correspondence from 1936, when representatives of "The Old Contemptibles", the nickname of the professional soldiers of the British Expeditionary Force in WWI, requested that an engine be named after them. The request was rejected by the legendary W. A. Stanier, chief engineer of the LMS Railway, on the basis that it would arouse negative comment, but he was overruled by the top brass and the engine 6127 "Novelty" was duly renamed the following month while the band played "It's a Long Way to Tipperary". Stanier designed 14 classes of LMS locomotive and his 2-cylinder 4-6-0 engines colloquially known as the "Black Five" class were said to be the most efficient design of mixed traffic locomotives seen in Great Britain, remaining in service until 1961, with many surviving until the end of steam in 1968. Only four were named, none of which has been preserved: Lanarkshire Yeomanry, Ayrshire Yeomanry, The Glasgow Yeomanry and The Glasgow Highlander, the latter seen here in 1947 before the renumbering by British Rail the following year. Stanier's 4-6-0 Jubilee Class, commencing in 1934 with the Silver Jubilee of George V, is the subject of an extended section, with detailed notes on the battles and commanders commemorated. Elizabethan mariners include Raleigh, Hawkins, Howard of Effingham and Frobisher, and from the 18th century Nelson and Hood, after whom the doomed HMS Hood battlecruiser was also named. The Jubilee engine Cyclops, one of a group of names from Greek mythology, is pictured here emerging from the Forth Bridge, and other featured classes include the 1927 Royal Scot class commemorating regiments such as the Lancashire Fusiliers and Royal Ulster Riflemen. The Royal Scot class Grenadier Guardsman is pictured here in Birmingham New Street station when electrification was already under way in the 1960s, while The Royal Irish Fusilier is accompanied by a photo of the regiment in the trenches on the Gallipoli peninsula during WWI. 23 x 28cm, 224pp, colour and archive photos on every page together with a highly informative historical commentary.
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96220 FAUSTO & FELICE NICCOLINI: Houses and Monuments of Pompeii by Sebastian Schütze and Valentin Kockel
When the excavations at Pompeii were first placed on a scholarly archaeological footing in the 19th century, brothers Fausto and Felice Niccolini were close at hand and ready to respond. Making use of the newly introduced technique of colour lithography, they documented the buildings, frescos, statues, as well as the most ordinary everyday objects, of the city buried in just 24 hours by the catastrophic eruption of Vesuvius and preserved for over 1,600 years under a mantle of volcanic ash. Their publication, Le case ed i monumenti di Pompei ("The Houses and Monuments of Pompeii"), which was issued in instalments between 1854 and 1896 in Naples, presented over 400 colour plates providing not only views, maps, and ground plans of the city and its public buildings, but also offered unprecedented access to Pompeii's private residences. They revealed the remains of mosaics, frescos and astonishing painted wall decorations that adorned these long-buried abodes, plus workshops, taverns, and shops, its public squares, and in its temples, theatres, and baths. Across painting, sculpture, and interior design, we trace the Pompeii legacy in the work of Robert Adam, Anton Raphael Mengs, Angelika Kaufmann, Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, Lawrence Alma-Tadema, Pablo Picasso, and Giorgio de Chirico, right through to recent masters Duane Hanson and George Segal. 15.6 x 21.7cm, 512 pages, Taschen.
ONLY £25

96625 RAVILIOUS & CO: The Pattern of Friendship by Andy Friend
This acclaimed biography details the lives of the British inter-war artists and designers centred on Eric Ravilious, now recognised as one of the most important British artists of the 20th century. He worked within a much wider network of artists, friends and lovers, influenced by Paul Nash's teaching at the Royal College of Art - Edward Bawden, Barnett Freedman, Enid Marx, Tirzah Garwood, Percy Horton, Peggy Angus and Helen Binyon among them. The Ravilious group bridged the gap between fine art and design. Chapters cover South Kensington, Earls Court and Eastbourne, London and Metropolitan, Brickhouse, Furlongs, New Haven, Paris and Mayfair, Bristol and Rye and To Iceland. 80 years after Ravilious's untimely death, Andy Friend also reveals the significance in this pattern of friendship of women artists whose place within the history of British art has often been neglected. Generously illustrated and including a wealth of newly discovered material, excuse the pun but one of our favourite images is on page 223 a hand-blocked printed material fabric display in Enid Marx's studio, 1936. Enjoy lush countryside from the 1930s in subtly coloured watercolours, sheep shearing, tea parties and cafés, and Ravilious's stunningly detailed wood engravings for example of a woman reading in front of a doorway opening onto a courtyard. Plus colour posters and bookplates, colourful sketches and more. 336 page Thames & Hudson publication, 24 x 16.8cm.
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97574 CECIL BEATON: The Royal Portraits by Claudia Acott Williams
For more than 50 years, Cecil Beaton was the photographer who helped define the public image of the British royal family. This sumptuous V&A publication brings together 223 superb portraits, many previously unpublished, capturing everyone from the Duke of Windsor and Wallis Simpson to Queen Elizabeth II photographed for LIFE magazine, the beautiful Princess Margaret at Buckingham Palace in 1949 in white, the Queen Mother and the young King Charles III. Arranged chronologically from the 1930s to the 1970s, the book reveals not only Beaton's glamorous finished portraits but also the creative process behind them. Contact sheets, sketches, letters, journals, test shots and outtakes offer a fascinating glimpse into his working methods and the relationships he built with his royal sitters. Each of the book's four chapters comprise of an introductory essay, plates with extended captions, and one or two in-depth analyses of a particular sitting. Throughout there are contact sheets, test shots, outtakes, sketches, letters, journals and tear-sheets. This beautifully produced Thames & Hudson volume draws on the V&A's unrivalled archive to celebrate one of the 20th century's greatest portrait photographers. 240 large-format pages with outstanding b/w, sepia and colour photographs. 25.4 x 30cm.
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95946 VIENNA 1900 COMPLETE by Christian Brandstatter et al
A truly magnificent volume from Thames & Hudson, Vienna 1900 Complete brings together more than 1,250 illustrations spanning painting, drawing, decorative arts, fashion, photography and architecture. Beautifully produced - with Art Deco detailing, bronze tooling, and a tipped-in back illustration - it is as much an object of design as the works it celebrates. Part One explores the Vienna Secession and its major figures: Gustav Klimt, Oskar Kokoschka, Egon Schiele, Max Oppenheimer, Richard Gerstl and even Arnold Schoenberg. Later chapters open out to the Wiener Werkstätte, covering interiors, book design, glass, ceramics, metalwork, textiles, jewellery, accessories, graphic design and furniture. The final section surveys the architecture of Otto Wagner and his school, along with Joseph Maria Olbrich, Josef Hoffmann and Adolf Loos, before an epilogue traces Vienna's influence around the world. An excellent A-Z of artists, makers and institutions. 24.5 × 31 cm, 544pp, packed with colour.
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MORE OVER PAGE

97598 RODIN: Artist Monograph by Daniel Kiecol
One of the greatest sculptors of the modern age, Auguste Rodin (1840-1917) transformed sculpture with works of extraordinary realism, emotion and power. After training in Paris and working as a decorative plasterer, he achieved his breakthrough with The Age of Bronze, before creating many of his best-known masterpieces, including The Thinker, The Kiss and the monumental The Gates of Hell. His groundbreaking The Burghers of Calais further established his international reputation, while his later years saw an increasing focus on expressive drawings and studies of the human figure. Rodin increasingly focussed on drawing and sculpting representations of the female body, including numerous erotic drawings. This handsome multilingual edition celebrates Rodin's remarkable career through 216 glossy pages of superb colour reproductions. It also includes a concise biography, a map of museums where his works can be found, this is a wonderful showcase of Rodin's long and productive career. 18cm square. Published by Könemann.
ONLY £11

95941 RODIN AND THE ART OF ANCIENT GREECE by Farge, Garnier and Jenkins
Created to accompany the British Museum's exhibition Rodin and the Parthenon, this book reveals how deeply ancient Greek sculpture shaped Rodin's artistic vision. He sketched the Parthenon sculptures- better known as the Elgin Marbles - during repeated visits to the British Museum and studied plaster casts in the Louvre, absorbing their power long before and after the 1889 commission of The Gates of Hell. Rodin himself believed coloured marble captured the human body more vividly than bronze. His remarkably precise drawings of the Parthenon friezes show the same expressive depth he brought to works like The Earth and the Moon or the 1895 Thought, where figures appear to emerge from the stone. Elements of the friezes also fed into his free-standing sculptures - from The Age of Bronze to The Martyr, inspired by the dramatic metope Death of a Lapith. Even The Kiss and The Thinker reflect a classical grandeur fused with modern emotion. 240-page volume (25.5 × 28.5 cm) includes a chronology and over 200 superb mono and sepia reproductions.
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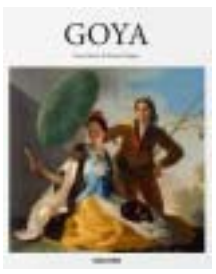

96847 GOYA by Rose-Marie and Rainer Hagen
From elegant court portraits to nightmarish visions of war and suffering, Francisco José de Goya y Lucientes (1746-1828) remains one of Spain's most celebrated and provocative artists. Apprenticed to the Spanish royal family in 1774, Goya painted aristocrats and royals with a fluid, expressive style, while also producing tapestry cartoons for grand palaces. After illness, his work darkened, exploring witches, ghosts, and fantastical creatures, culminating in his harrowing series The Disasters of War (1810-1820), which depicted the horrors of the Spanish struggle for independence with unflinching brutality. This book traces Goya's remarkable career from court painter to seer of suffering, featuring iconic works such as Don Manuel Osorio Manrique de Zúñiga, the Naked Maja, and The Third of May 1808 in Madrid. With around 100 colour illus. 21 × 26cm, 96 pages, Taschen.
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96848 HIROSHIGE 1797-1858 Master of Japanese Ukiyo-e Woodblock Prints by Adele Schlombs
Utagawa Hiroshige (1797-1858) was among the last great masters of ukiyo-e, the Japanese woodblock tradition known as 'pictures of the floating world.' which captured the pleasures, landscapes and daily life of Edo-period Japan with remarkable elegance and clarity. This introductory volume brings together highlights from Hiroshige's vibrant oeuvre: blooming cherry trees, Kabuki actors, beautiful women, bustling streets and sweeping natural vistas. Series such as The 53 Stations of the Tokaido and Famous Views of the Sixty-Odd Provinces reveal his gift for atmosphere - mist over mountains, sudden rainstorms, rough seas, ferries crossing wide rivers and travellers pausing on bridges. Whether depicting the bright energy of Edo (modern Tokyo) or tranquil studies like Pair of Mandarin Ducks, Hiroshige combined bold colour accents with moments of lyrical calm. 96 pages, colour, 21 × 26 cm, Taschen.
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97601 SPANISH PAINTING 1665-1920 by Emma Hansen
Multilingual edition in lovely compact format softback with gorgeous glossy pages and sturdy binding with full coverage of epoch-making painters like Murillo, the still lifes of Meléndez, Goya and the painter of light, Sorolla. We see rocks on the Mallorca coast, beaches and flowers, patios and fountains, vines and beggars. Black backgrounds playing with light, here are the almost caricature faces of Goya's Procession of the Flagellants, and his Burial of the Sardine, his lively The Parasol with skilful use of light and shadow drawing on the legacy of Velázquez. Page after page of familiar and unfamiliar images, multilingual short captions, 450 outstanding illustrations in this lavish production.
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Concrete was first developed by the Romans using sand, volcanic ash, and hydrated lime c. 126AD. Often dismissed, concrete is in fact a far more versatile "liquid stone," capable of remarkable strength, durability, and architectural expression when properly used. Modern concrete owes much to pioneers such as Eugène Freyssinet and Robert Maillart, whose innovations shaped its structural possibilities. This Taschen volume highlights projects by Zaha Hadid, Herzog & de Meuron, and Steven Holl, alongside the Russian studio SPEECH and artist James Turrell, who reimagined Frank Lloyd Wright's Guggenheim Museum as a light installation. Other highlights include Sunset Chapel, Sliced Porosity Block, Jubilee Church, Bicentennial Civic Centre, Contemporary Art Centre Córdoba, and the Stadio San Nicola. 624 page Taschen edition, 14 x 19.5cm.
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97228 CHARLES AND RAY EAMES: Pioneers of Mid-Century Modernism by Gloria Koenig
Charles Eames (1907-1978) and Ray Eames (1912-1988) were best known for furniture, they were also pioneers in architecture, textile design, photography, and film, defining a new multifunctional modernity rooted in the integration of craft, design, and materials such as plywood and plastics. Key works include the Eames Lounge Chair Wood, made using moulded plywood and now an icon of 20th century design, and their contributions to the Case Study Houses, which explored adaptable floor plans and industrial materials that shaped postwar modern architecture. The book also features projects such as the Kwikset House, Max De Pree House, the lounge chair and ottoman, the IBM Pavilion, and their influential film Powers of Ten. Richly illustrated with sketches, plans, conceptual diagrams, and colour photography. 96 page Taschen volume, 21 x 26cm.
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97233 MIES VAN DER ROHE: The Structure of Space by Claire Zimmerman
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Raphael (1483-1520) is considered the most important artist of the Italian High Renaissance. In his short lifetime he created around 100 paintings and numerous frescoes, including nine fresco cycles, on an unsurpassed variety of themes, from sensual female beauties, antique myths and portraits of wealthy Romans and church dignitaries to history cycles and biblical scenes. He produced altarpieces, as well as designing tapestries for the Sistine Chapel under Leo X, the Roman Altarpieces, portraits and devotional paintings, and directed construction of St Peter's Basilica. His Sistine Madonna is one of the most frequently reproduced religious paintings of all time. Raphael's mastery would pave the way for Mannerism and the Baroque era. Covers also themes of beauty, desire, literature and scholarship, and projects like chapels, loggia and the Sala di Constantino. Bursting with hundreds of colour quality reproductions, protective wraparound endpaper, 15.6 x 21.7cm, a nice compact size, 512 pages, Taschen.
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95929 BODY: The Photography Book by Nathalie Herschdorfer
For nearly 180 years, photography has shaped how we see and understand the human body, whether in medicine, science, advertising, politics, documentary work or art. It can break the body down into organs and functions, or, with today's 3D imaging, help build a complete atlas of the human form. The book explores the body in consumer culture - eating, washing, shaving, exercising - and the shifting fashions and ideals that surround it. A section on "Mutations" looks at the pursuit of high performance and the technologies aimed at enhancing physical, cognitive and emotional capacities. "Celebration" examines the dream body, often filtered through the female form: stylised, retouched, idealised. Some images are unsettling, such as scenes of injury or distress, but the volume remains a fascinating survey of how photographers have interpreted the body. Featuring 360 colour and mono images by Araki, Bettina Rheims, Juergen Teller, Wolfgang Tillmans and many others. 431 pages, 21.8 × 30.7 cm.
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Mughal painting brings to life epic heroes, prophets and emperors - from Rustam of Persian legend to Joseph, Moses, Elijah, and the great Mughal rulers Babur, Humayun and Akbar. These images draw on poetry, sacred texts and courtly history, depicting everything from Akbar overseeing an elephant hunt in 1564 to princes and lovers parting, harem women bathing by lamplight, and opium smokers sharing melon and bread. Blending Persian and Indian traditions with Central Asian and European influences, Mughal art is intense, delicate, richly coloured and exquisitely detailed. This volume presents superb reproductions alongside provenance, publication history, technical notes and full transcriptions of the Persian and Arabic calligraphy. Paperback, 368 pages, 24 × 27.94 cm, in full colour.
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A century after his death, Viennese artist Gustav Klimt (1862-1918) still startles with his unabashed eroticism, dazzling surfaces, and artistic experimentation. With top-quality illustration, including new photography of the celebrated Stoclet Frieze, the book follows Klimt through his prominent role in the Secessionist movement of 1897, his candid rendering of the female body, and his lustrous "golden phase" when gold leaf brought a shimmering tone and texture to such beloved works as The Kiss and Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I, also known as The Woman in Gold. Gatefolds and hundreds of colour illus and photos and close ups of mosaics etc. 14 x 19.5cm, 672 quality pages, gold foil glamourous book jacket and golden pages inside too.
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75157 MONET: Or The Triumph of Impressionism by Daniel Wildenstein
In 1874, when Claude Monet first exhibited the painting 'Impressionism, Sunrise', the critics were outraged. Impressionism went on to become one of the major art movements of the late 19th century but at the time was considered 'subversive'. Monet lived long enough to become a prophet honoured in his own country and his influence on 20th century art was to be a lasting one. He drew his inspiration from nature - landscapes and the plant life that inhabited them, water and its reflection, the air glittering with light or mistily luminescent. He saw the world as if reflected by the rays of the sun, a dream refracted in a prism and this dream led him in later works to the 'Water-Lilies' and the borderline of abstraction. This biography is a revised version of the first volume of the four-volume catalogue also published by Taschen. Beautifully bound, hundreds of reproductions in colour, 488 pages.
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96883 CAILLEBOTTE by Guillaume Morel
Known as the "Patron of the Impressionists," Gustave Caillebotte is celebrated for works such as Paris Street; Rainy Day, with its near life-size figures, glistening wet pavements, and strikingly unusual perspective. More than many of his contemporaries, Caillebotte focused on the people in his life - brothers, friends, employees, and the residents of his Paris neighbourhood. Key works include The Floor Scrapers, Man at His Bath, Young Man at His Window, and Boating Party, alongside his more intimate, everyday scenes along the Seine: blooming roses, drifting sailboats, bathers, readers, and quiet domestic moments rendered with calm precision and tenderness. 150 full-colour reproductions and museum maps, 190-page, 24 × 28cm.
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Through sections on furniture, lighting, glass, ceramics, textiles, industrial and product design, graphic design and posters, architecture and interiors, a sweeping survey of modernist design across furniture, lighting, glass, ceramics, textiles, product design, graphics, architecture and interiors. Nearly 100 influential creators are profiled - from Bruno Mathsson, Charlotte Perriand and László Moholy-Nagy to architects such as Aalto, Le Corbusier, Saarinen and Gropius. American innovators including Norman Bel Geddes, Henry Dreyfuss, Raymond Loewy, Buckminster Fuller and Ferdinand Porsche also feature. Modernism's radical shift toward function, new materials and new ways of living reshaped the 20th-century world, and this ambitious volume captures that transformation in depth. 650 illustrations, most in colour, A-Z of designers, architects and manufacturers. A Thames & Hudson edition, 480pp, colour, 24 × 30.8 cm.
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97480 WHITE: The History of a Colour by Michel Pastoureau
From the acclaimed author of Blue, a beautifully illustrated history of the colour white in visual culture, from antiquity to today. Illustrated throughout with a wealth of captivating images ranging from the ancient world to the 21st century, White examines the evolving place, perception, and meaning of this deceptively simple but complex hue in art, fashion, literature, religion, science, and everyday life across the millennia. From antiquity until the height of the Middle Ages, white formed with red and black a chromatic triad that played a central role in life and art. Through the Middle Ages, the true opposite of white was red. White also has an especially rich symbolic history, and the colour has often been associated with purity, virginity, innocence, wisdom, peace, beauty, and cleanliness. With its striking design and compelling text, it is a fascinating visual, social, and cultural history of the colour white. Well illus, incl colour! 240 pages.
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Spanish-language edition (purchased in error) - perfect for practising your Spanish or simply enjoying the images. American painter Roy Lichtenstein (1923-1997) helped launch a new era in art when he burst onto the New York scene of the late 1950s, challenging the dominance of Abstract Expressionism. With his bold use of comic strips, advertising imagery and industrial printing techniques, he redefined what painting could be. Alongside artists such as Andy Warhol and James Rosenquist, he both celebrated and satirised American mass culture. Iconic works including Look, Mickey! (1961), Drowning Girl (1963) and Whaam! (1963) employ his signature Ben-Day dots and dramatic "blow-up" style. 96 pages, 21 × 26cm. Text in Spanish, Taschen.
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93054 MASTERPIECES OF FANTASY ART edited by Dian Hanson
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Myth, Muscles & Sexy Maidens - The Wonders of Fantasy Art

96904 ILYA REPIN
by T. J. Krull
Ilya Yefimovich Repin (1844-1930) was a leading figure of the Peredvizhniki (Wanderers) movement and one of the greatest masters of psychological realism in Russian art. Closely connected to Ukraine, his work often explores national identity, social tension, and the emotional depth of ordinary and historical life under the Russian Empire. His paintings are renowned for their realism and intensity, most famously Ivan the Terrible and His Son Ivan, where the ruler's shocked expression and his son's bloodied body create a powerful psychological drama. Other major works include the monumental Ceremonial Sitting of the State Council on 7 May 1901, intimate portraits of friends, actresses, and aristocrats, and narrative scenes such as The Duel between Onegin and Lensky (1899), a Communards rally, and an operating theatre study. He also captured quieter moments, including landscapes and the barge haulers on the Volga. 192 pages, 150 colour reproductions.
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96932 RUSSIAN EXPERIMENT IN ART 1863-1922 by Camilla Gray
Part of the acclaimed Thames & Hudson World of Art series, revised, updated and enlarged. The Mamontov circle, declaring their secession from the Academy of Art in 1863, embraced the idea of "bringing art to the people," travelling the countryside with exhibitions. Like their contemporaries Dostoevsky and Tolstoy, or composers Borodin and Rimsky-Korsakov, these artists sought to make their work socially useful-art that engaged with reality, explained life, and commented on society. Moscow became the hub of this modern school, guided by Mamontov himself. The book features portraits by and of key figures including Ilya Repin, Valentin Serov, Konstantin Korcin, Natalia Goncharova (with her 1912 Looking Glass), Ilya Mashkov (1909), and Robert Falk (1915). With 256 illustrations, 21 in colour-spread across 324 glossy paperback pages.
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by Fiona Kerlogue
Part of the acclaimed Thames & Hudson World of Art series, this comprehensive introduction explores the art and culture of Southeast Asia, from the soaring pagodas of Burma and the temples of Angkor to the monumental Buddhist site of Borobudur. It also covers the wider artistic traditions of the region, including textiles, sculpture, vernacular architecture, and village crafts. Spanning Brunei, Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam, Dr. Kerlogue traces how indigenous beliefs and major world religions - Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, and Christianity - have shaped artistic expression, along with developments in the post-colonial era. Illustrated works include gold-thread brocade and batik shawls, Khmer-style prangs, shadow puppets, masks, burial beads, Javanese temple rooftops, Burmese lacquerware, and a wide range of paintings. 224-page softback.
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96862 RENOIR Italian Edition by Gilles Néret
Italian-language edition (purchased in error) - perfect for practising your Italian or simply enjoying the artworks! Pierre-Auguste Renoir (1841-1919) remains one of the most beloved painters in history, celebrated for his warmth, charm, and luminous depictions of happiness, love, and beauty. Influenced by Corot, Courbet, and the Barbizon painters, he developed a style of quick, silvery brushstrokes and vibrant experimentation with colour and form. Though he began with Impressionist landscapes, Renoir eventually found his true voice in portraiture, reinventing the painted female form with his signature softness, rounded contours, and everyday goddesses. This compact edition highlights his later Bathers series, where a renewed focus on the female nude led to his most innovative and influential work. Chronology, sketches and stunning colour reproductions, 488 pages 15.6 × 21.7cm. Text in Italian, Taschen.
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96894 END IS ALWAYS NEAR: Apocalyptic Moments by Dan Carlin
Sub-titled Apocalyptic Moments from the Bronze Age Collapse to Nuclear Near Misses, Dan Carlin examines violent, dramatic, and world-altering events-from the Bronze Age Collapse and Assyrians to the Black Death, Operation Barbarossa, Stalingrad, and the Cuban Missile Crisis-asking why societies fail and what lessons they hold for our future. Organised into short, compelling chapters such as Suffer the Children, The End of the World as They Knew It, and A Pandemic Prologue, Carlin investigates the decline of civilisations, the collapse of political and economic systems, and the ever-present threat of human technology and warfare. Slightly US-centric, it is a fascinating study of humanity's recurring brushes with disaster. 270 pages.
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96215 DAVID HOCKNEY: 220 FOR 2020
edited by Hans Werner Holzwarth
From a small farmhouse in the Normandy countryside, David Hockney spent 2020 capturing the shifting seasons in a burst of colour and immediacy. Using his iPad, he recorded bright spring fields, bare winter trees, glowing sunsets, starry nights, cherry blossom, summer streams, and the deep, saturated tones of autumn. The result is 220 - and four extra - vivid digital paintings, reproduced in six colours to reflect their richness. A short introduction by Hockney explains how the project became a lifeline during the COVID lockdown, a way to share optimism through nature's rhythms and his now-famous reminder: "Remember they can't cancel the spring." Published by Taschen, this large-format volume (32.5 × 24.8 cm, 236 pages) offers an impressive window into a year seen through Hockney's eyes.
£85

96154 JOAQUIN SOROLLA
by Sabine Von Kienlin
Joaquín Sorolla y Bastida was a master of Mediterranean light, capturing plein air scenes of beach life with unmatched brilliance. One of Spain's most popular painters around the turn of the 20th century, he influenced Spanish Impressionism profoundly. This compact 240-page colour monograph showcases sailors sewing sails, landscapes and castles, and sun-drenched woodlands. Sorola's exquisite handling of shadows - whether on a Valencia beach, under the midday sun, or in the evening glow - brings his scenes to life. Highlights include workers sharing a meal on the sand, boats pulled ashore by oxen, and intimate portrayals of his wife and daughters, often in flowing dresses and parasols. More formal portraits, such as Clotilde in Mallorca, capture golden sunlight against rugged cliffs. A beautifully illustrated celebration of Spain through Sorolla's eyes.
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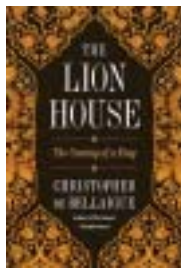

97468 LION HOUSE: The Coming of a King
by Christopher De Bellaigue
Rich in colourful historical anecdotes Venice, 1522. With Christendom divided, Suleyman the Magnificent has his hand on its throat. From the palaces of Istanbul to the blood-soaked fields of central Europe and the scorched coasts of north Africa, the book tells the true story of two civilisations in an existential duel and the rise of the most feared man of the 16th century. Narrated through the eyes of the intimates of Suleyman the Magnificent, the 16th century sultan of the Ottoman Empire, it animates with stunning immediacy the fears and stratagems of those brought into orbit around him: the Greek slave who becomes his Grand Vizier, the Venetian jewel dealer who acts as his go-between, the Russian consort who becomes his most beloved wife. Within a decade and a half, Suleyman held dominion over 25 million souls, from Baghdad to the walls of Vienna, and with the help of his brilliant pirate commander, Barbarossa, placed more Christians than ever before or since under Muslim rule. And yet the real drama takes place in close-up: in small rooms and whispered conversations, behind the curtain of power, where the sultan sleeps head-to-toe with his best friend and eats from wooden spoons with his baby boy. 16.2 x 24cm, 304 pages.
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96148 IF WALLS COULD TALK: An Intimate History of the Home by Lucy Worsley
From sauce-stirring to breast-feeding, teeth-cleaning to masturbation, getting dressed to getting married, this book will make you see your home with new eyes. Popular TV historian Lucy Worsley takes us through the bedroom, bathroom, living room and kitchen, covering the architectural history of each room, but concentrating on what people actually did in bed, in the bath, at the table and at the stove. It is a juicy, smelly and truly intimate history of home life. Why did medieval people sleep sitting upright? Why did gas lighting cause Victorian ladies to faint? Why for centuries did people fear fruit? Why did the flushing toilet take two centuries to catch on? What was a 'groaning chair'? When did women start wearing knickers? A brilliant quirky history about how people really lived, loved and died from medieval times to the present day, packed with anecdotes, jokes and fascinating facts in a brilliantly entertaining book. One of the many woodcut illustrations is of a rather spotty faced Regency lady showing the positioning of her face patches proclaiming her whiggish political tendencies in a revealing language of beauty spots. 351 page well illustrated paperback.
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97464 HEYDAY: The 1850s and the Dawn of the Global Age by Ben Wilson
Describing nothing less than "the birth of the modern world". Over the course of the 1850s, the world was reshaped by technology, trade, mass migration and war. The global economy expanded fivefold, millions of families emigrated to the ends of the earth to carve out new lives. The 1850s were witness to the laying of the first undersea cable in 1851, the rush for gold from California to Australia, and fleets of pirate vessels docked in Hong Kong harbour, eager to take advantage of booming trade. The West's insatiable hunger for land, natural resources and new markets. Reckless economic expansion led to lasting ecological damage with the blistering pace of capitalism and free trade. We encounter Muslim guerrilla fighters in the Caucasus Mountains and freelance empire-builders in the jungles of Nicaragua, British free trade zealots preying on China and Samurai warriors resisting Western incursions in Japan. Illus, 520 pages.
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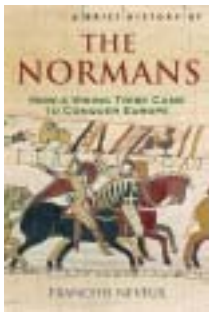

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by Françoise Neveux
The Normans began as Norsemen and that is how they are referred to in Western sources. Christian authors also use names such as 'pagans' or 'Danes'. From the 10th century onwards most Normans i.e. inhabitants of Normandy, were in fact Franks. Their history began a long time before 1066. One of the most successful warrior tribes of the Dark Ages, the 'Norsemen' eventually came to dominate Europe from the Baltic Sea to the island of Sicily and the borders of Eastern Europe. As Viking raiders in the 8th century, the Normans not only changed the landscape and culture of Europe but were themselves changed by their new conquest. As a military force they became unstoppable - as conquerors they established their own kingdom in Normandy from where they set out a number of devastating campaigns, spreading innovations in politics, architecture and culture. With chapters on Robert the Magnificent, William the Conqueror, The Story of the Hauteville Brothers, The Battle of Hastings and other military movements in 1066 depicted in maps. 280pp in paperback with superb chronology and eight pages of b/w photos.
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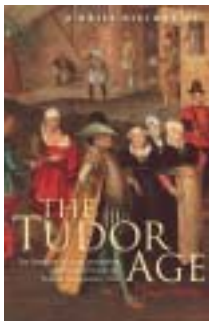

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Henry Tudor began the age named after his family, arriving at Milford in 1485. The Tudors' demise came when Queen Elizabeth I died in 1603, ending an era of diverse contrasts in English history when both opulence and extreme poverty overtook the people. This narrative fact-filled study shows the contrast for the 'haves' and 'have nots' in terms of life in London and in the countryside - the costumes, travel, food, medicine, sport, pastimes and English drama, as opposed to life as a peasant, a heretic, a traitor, or a victim of the plague. Colour and b/w plates. Paperback. 344 pages.
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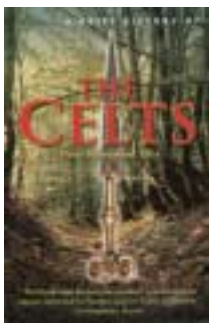

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by Peter Berresford Ellis
The author is one of the foremost living authorities on the Celts and under the pseudonym Peter Tremayne has written murder mysteries. Peter Berresford Ellis is a British historian, literary biographer, and novelist who has published over 98 books to date. First published in 1998 and reprinted for fans of all things Celtic, this is an excellent book for both reference and enjoyment. Chapters include An Illiterate Society? Celtic Kings and Chieftains, The Druids, Celtic Warriors, Women, Farmers, Physicians, Cosmology, Road Builders, Artists and Craftsmen, Architecture, Religion, Myth and Legend and History. Dozens of illustrations are included in black and white of recently uncovered finds and objects showing a rich and complex society. 235pp, paperback.
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Elizabeth II in her coronation robes, photographed by Cecil Beaton, 1953.

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97817 NEW BIG 5 by Graeme Green
Sub-titled '**A Global Photography Project for Endangered Wildlife**', the original Big 5 referred to the five animals that were the most difficult for colonial hunters in Africa to shoot and kill. Wildlife photographer Graeme Green set about to turn that gruesome, antiquated term on its head by asking people around the world to vote for their five favourite animals to photograph and see in photographs, shooting with a camera and not a gun. Hence this project was born. This massive volume brings together the world's greatest wildlife photographers celebrating the natural of the New Big 5 - Elephants, Polar Bears, Lions, Gorillas, and Tigers. There are thought-provoking essays by conservationists such as Jane Goodall and Wes Sechrest highlighting the challenges faced from habitat loss and wildlife crime and climate change. The final chapter of the book focuses on species that are endangered. The quality of the photography is stunning. You feel like you are with the leopard in the tree as she stares down at her prey; with the baby elephant stretching his trunk up to a tree in Tanzania, and we admire the iridescent blue of the dung beetle, a close up of a blue-eyed Anglehead lizard, and also the elephant families, fighting, the babies, bathing, playing, curling their trunks together, bright white polar bears against a glacial icy blue scene in Norway, families of African lions, or a close up of a face covered in blood and the expressive eyes of the mountain gorillas in Volcanoes National Park in Rwanda. The Bengal tiger splashing in a river, it is the snow leopards we stand to lose and the white-headed Black Langur on the critically endangered list that are photographed here on a nature reserve in China, and the wonderful giant glass frogs and star-eyed bush frogs, Atlantic puffin and oriental storks, Condor and blue whale. 200 spectacular, well-chosen full page colour photos with caption in a huge quality tome of 272 pages. 28 x 31cm.
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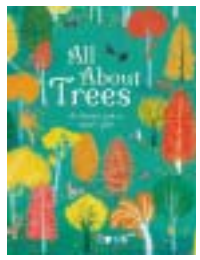

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Designed for ages 5-7 but for all collectors of natural history, this delightfully illustrated introduction to the majestic wonders of the world even has a useful glossary. Trees are the silent guardians of the earth. They create the food we eat, the air we breathe and the shelter we need. Young readers discover the importance of trees, their various species and how they grow from seedling to towering trunk and we follow the life cycle of an oak, take a tour of the Amazon rainforest, meet woodland creatures and learn how trees change with the seasons. We meet the creatures who make their homes in trees, how to make a leaf rubbing, and with clear text and vibrant visuals this is sure to become a family favourite. 48 large pages, rich colour illus., 22.5 x 28cm.
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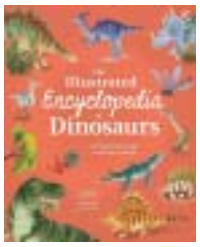

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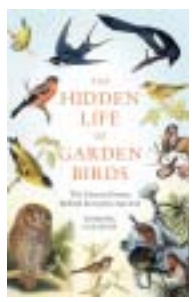

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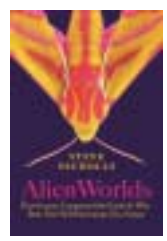

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CHILDREN'S

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- Winnie the Pooh - *See our special feature on Page 40*

97797 DISNEY TIM BURTON'S 13 FRIGHTS OF HALLOWEEN
by Tim Burton
DISNEY and Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas has charmed everyone. Beginning on October 19th - or any day you like - open one surprise a day with a countdown calendar packed with goodies, games and gifts. Each envelope whether large or small is beautifully decorated with pumpkins, ghosts, skulls, Jack Skellington and other Disney style Tim Burton colourful designs. In one pocket for example is a Disney credit card-sized 3D holographic image from one of the films complete with fires, and in pocket number two a special holiday party guide for haunting fun like a claw foot bathtub race, never-ending wrapped present, shrunken apple heads, potion bottles, Halloween Town mistletoe, black light bugs, spiders and scorpions, card games, decorations and more. Trivia, recipes and more for every Halloween fan. A Disney publication, 25.4" square and including stickers and ornaments.
$24.99 NOW £8

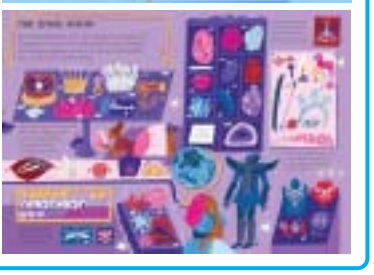
97824 ULTIMATE COLOUR IN ANIMALS
by Miles Kelly
All over Earth, there are animals. They live in all kinds of habitats, from the driest desert to steep mountain slopes. Why not add your own drawings to the pages? Have fun learning about all the animals and colouring them in - the African elephant, giant tortoise, macaws, insects like the dragonfly, the hammerhead shark, hornbills and orangutans in the rainforest, the salamander, fruit bats, hummingbirds, the zebra, cheetah and giraffe in grassland, butterflies to sea slugs and spiders. There are 32 tear-out pages to colour in, and every page packed with fun facts and new animal vocabulary to learn. Quirky black and white illustrations, for youngsters aged 5 years and up. 64 pages, 29 x 23cm, softback.
£6.99 NOW £3.50

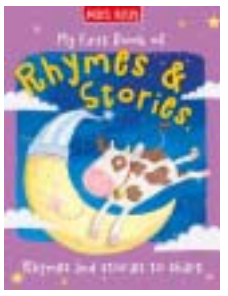
96971 HOW TO SEE BIRDS: An Enthusiast's Guide
by Matthew Stadlen
These bright and beautiful photographs alone are stunning and printed on glossy paper in quality colour, mostly full page, whether they are owls or puffins, starlings or canaries, Canada geese, stonechats, Tawny Eagles or a striped kingfisher in iridescent colour. The book is organised by garden, countryside, water birds, foreign birds, owls, birds of prey and visitors like the Nightingale, waxwing, swallow and cuckoo. Stadlen combines practical advice with essential skills for birdwatching, including how to use binoculars effectively, recognise flight patterns and calls, and approach birds without disturbing them. It also explores the best habitats and times of year to spot different species, along with tips for keeping a journal or photographic record of your sightings. Packed with illustrations, photographs and clear descriptions. 192 very large pages stunning colour photos.
£20 NOW £9

97582 FIELD GUIDE TO MAGNIFICENT BIRDS: 500 Piece Jigsaw
A birdwatcher's dream come true, a challenging 500 piece jigsaw puzzle featuring some of the most stunning avian species from around the world like the Scarlet Macaw, Great Horned Owl, Eastern Bluebird with its iridescent blue plumage and red breast, the Great Frigatebird with its huge red belly or the Great Hornbill with its yellow beak and neck to the humble Budgerigar and the multi-coloured plumed Resplendent Quetzal. Designed in homage to the classic style of zoological catalogues, the box set is accompanied by a 32 page colourful book providing more information on the various species in the puzzle and detailing key stats for bird-watching enthusiasts of all ages. Finished size 20 x 14" (50 x 36cm). Colour, boxed.
£16.99 NOW £10

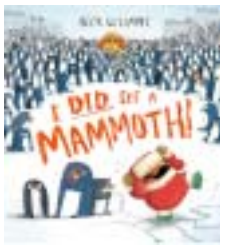
Book & Puzzle to introduce you to the most fascinating birds

97819 PRINCESS CASTLE: 3D Model Castle
by Marnie Willow and Madalina Andronic
In a distant wintry world, beneath the dazzling Northern Lights, there is a magical place called Chrystalia. At its heart is a twinkling ice palace, home of Merissa the Snow Princess who loves to explore the wild wilderness all around. There are mountains steep and dangerous crossed only by riding dragons, firebirds or other magical flying creatures. There is a wild magical forest and tree covered with blossoms even in the heart of winter. Thermal lakes are warmed by underwater volcanoes and home to magical mermaids, and in the mountain caves magical crystals are found. The 20 page large softback book is packed with colour illustrations and introduces us to Chrystalia castle, the family, Merissa's bedroom, party planning, dragons' den, glacial gardens, the jewel room and provides castle model building instructions. Fold out the front and back pages of the box to create the scene and then use the 30+ press-out pieces to build your own dazzling ice castle and get ready for a Royal ball. Ages 5+, sturdy box with Velcro fastener.
$29.99 NOW £10



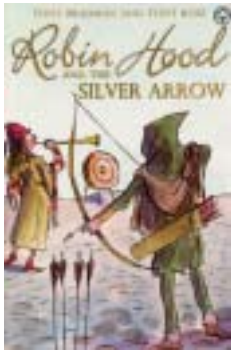


97816 MY FIRST BOOK OF RHYMES & STORIES by Miles Kelly
With Dedication page 'This Book Belongs To...' above a charming woolly lamb illustration, page after page we meet a beautifully imagined character illustrated for younger children ages three and up. The Wheels on the Bus, Hot Cross Buns, Ladybird Ladybird, The Muffin Man, I Had A Little Nut Tree, This Little Pig, Round and Round the Garden, Ring-a-Ring-o-Roses, The Lion and the Unicorn, Who Killed Cock Robin?, A Cat Came Fiddling, There Was An Old Woman, Lavendar's Blue, Little Boy Blue, Mary Mary, Hey Diddle Diddle, Hickory Dickory Dock, Jack and Jill, See Saw Marjory Daw, Old Macdonald Had A Farm - here are best-loved rhymes, favourite animal friends, playing together, tasty treats, out and about, number rhymes, whatever the weather, bedtime rhymes, story time and more. Colourful page edges and beautiful decorations and borders alongside and grouped into those categories above for every member of the family to use as they read along, sing aloud and enjoy the pictures. For little ones finding this magical world for the first time. 384 page large softback, 17 x 22cm and very good quality shiny paper.
£16.99 NOW £8



97775 I DID SEE A MAMMOTH!
by Alex Willmore
A hilarious award-winning illustrated picture book for ages 3-7 which is a wintery spin on 'The Boy Who Cried Wolf' with expressive illustrations and a clever twist. Welcome to the Antarctic, where an intrepid bunch of explorers is making an in-depth study of penguins. So many penguins... But one young explorer has discovered something different, totally wild, spectacularly cool and quite a lot... EXTINCT. Will anyone believe it? Would you? Penguins are fabulous, cute, glorious, but I'm not here to see penguins...but I'm going to see a MAMMOTH. Look! I saw a great big mammoth on a skateboard, wearing sunglasses! And a tutu and a top hat, and it was also swimming using flippers and a snorkel! Yes I did! Lots of snowy snowfalls and a super happy family ending. We learn on the last page that the southern hemisphere is home to 18 different species of penguin and that woolly mammoths are ancient relatives of today's elephants and have been alive for over 10,000 years. Appealing colour illus., 32 large pages, 24.5 x 27.5cm.
£7.99 NOW £4

97782 PIRATES TREASURE by Igloo Books
Beautifully crafted and gently educational big picture book with gorgeous colour illustrations for ages 3-6 years. 'Ship ahoy, shipmate,' cried Captain Bluebelly. 'We've got treasure to steal.' The crew of the Rotten Rose leapt into action and within minutes they were skimming across the ocean toward their target. Captain Bluebelly fired a canon shot in front of the other ship's bow and the rest of the pirates pulled out their cutlasses. Bluebelly and his loyal crew are the laughing stock of the pirate world when their ship starts to fall apart. Can they find the buried treasure they need to fix their ship and their reputation? With rockpools and map reading, treasure hunt and an adventure across a rope bridge over a ravine and finding some sort of pit, will they find the treasure? A swashbuckling tale of pirate fun and adventure. 24 very large pages, 25cm square.
£5.99 NOW £3.50



97783 ROBIN HOOD AND THE SILVER ARROW
by Tony Bradman and Tony Ross
Particularly known for his bestselling Dilly the Dinosaur series, Tony Bradman has teamed up with Tony Ross who has written and illustrated hundreds of bestselling books for children with his inimitable line art style decorating every page of this slim paperback with a colour image on the front cover. Chapters include The Norman Invaders, Robin and the Sheriff of Nottingham, The Archery Contest, The Sheriff's Embarrassment and with notes on the story of Robin Hood, an outlaw with a sense of humour. The Sheriff of Nottingham is holding a contest to find the best bowman. Robin Hood knows it's a trap to draw him out of hiding, yet he is determined to enter, but with Norman soldiers surrounding the contest, how can he win and escape unnoticed? Ages 6-11 years, 48 pages, large print. 13 x 19cm.
£4.99 NOW £3.25

96644 BEAR CALLED PADDINGTON AND OTHER STORIES by Michael Bond
Meet everyone's favourite marmalade-loving bear in this bumper paperback of his first three classic adventures. With Peggy Fortnum's charming line drawings throughout, these early stories follow Paddington from the moment the Browns discover him at the station to the many mishaps that follow - from DIY disasters to river picnics and trips underground. Includes eight much-loved tales such as Please Look After This Bear, A Bear in Hot Water, Paddington Goes Underground and Adventure at the Seaside. With a postscript by Michael Bond. Compact and chunky, 447pp.
£10.99 NOW £4

96692 WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ
by Karen Saunders
A beautifully illustrated picture-book retelling of L. Frank Baum's classic tale, with artwork by award-winning artist Robert Ingpen. When a Kansas tornado sweeps Dorothy and her dog Toto into the magical land of Oz, she must follow the Yellow Brick Road to the Emerald City in search of the mysterious Wizard. Along the way she meets the Scarecrow, Tin Woodman and Cowardly Lion, and together they journey through a world full of wonder and adventure. Retold for younger readers by Karen Saunders. Ages 3+, 32-page large-format paperback.
£9.99 NOW £2.50

MORE OVER PAGE

97188 PARP IN SPACE!
by Mike Henson and Jorge Martin
PARP! What's that smell? In this interactive lift the flap board book, a group of animals board a rocket headed to the moon - but it smells like someone keeps breaking wind! Was it one of them? Or was it egg sandwiches, false teeth or stinky socks? It must be you, Penguin, you horrible beast! Make it stop, make it cease! As the animals throw smelly items out through the rubbish chute it slowly becomes clearer who the 'parper' is... and it's not who you expect! This sturdy board book includes pull-out sliders, which reveal hidden extra story details. Bright, playful illustrations, and lovable animal characters including an elephant, gorilla, tiger and alligator, hours of hilarious fun for all ages.
£8.99 NOW £2.50 REDUCED

96949 ALICE IN WONDERLAND PUZZLE BOOK by Fabiana Attanasio
A magical three-in-one experience for ages 5-8. Children can follow the beloved Alice's Adventures in Wonderland story and bring it to life with five full-size 48-piece jigsaw puzzles. Lift each puzzle to reveal a black-and-white scene underneath, ready to colour. From a sunny garden afternoon to the frantic chase after the White Rabbit, Alice's journey winds through Wonderland, past the Mad Hatter's tea party, the Queen of Hearts, the hookah-smoking Caterpillar, and the mysterious Cheshire Cat. Designed to delight little readers while gently challenging problem-solving skills, the large format and sturdy, high-quality puzzle pieces make this a book children will return to again and again. 31.5 × 23cm, colour.
£12.99 NOW £6

97160 GINGERBREAD MAN: A Read Aloud Story to Share
Retold by Ronny Randall
The gingerbread man meets Mum, Molly, cat and dog, cow, pony, and fox. One day Molly and her mum decided to make a gingerbread man for their tea. Molly gave the gingerbread man bright eyes and a cheeky smile made of icing. Mum gave him a sailor suit. What a jolly gingerbread man he was! From the Very First Story Time series designed to encourage little ones with their reading progress, this big picture book boosts word power and includes fairytale activities. A timeless story to delight very young children ages 2-4. 48cm square in large softback. Gorgeous, appealing colour illus.
£6.99 NOW £3

96898 GIGANTOSAURUS - ROAR, GIGANTO, ROAR! PUPPET BOOK by Templar Books
This delightful puppet book is a colourful, safety-approved board book designed for ages 2-5, with a fun glove puppet built into a circular cut-out. Based on the animated TV series and book by Jonny Duddle, the story introduces Mazu, Tiny, Rocky, and Bill as they hold a roaring contest. The lively cartoon characters make rumbling, snoring sounds, dance to Tiny's tunes, and spark giggles and laughter on every page. Kids can make Giganto ROAR as loudly as possible using the soft green plush glove puppet, which measures approximately 9" and opens its big red mouth with white jagged teeth. Ten vibrant pages, 26.8cm square for hilariously fun story time.
£14.99 NOW £6

97001 WIZARD OF OZ PUZZLE BOOK AND JIGSAW by Fabiana Attanasio
Children follow Dorothy and her friends through the magical land of Oz, with each illustrated spread doubling as a 48-piece jigsaw puzzle. Beneath each puzzle is a scene from the story, ready to be brought to life with colour. While the Emerald City glows its iconic green, the rest of Oz is left to the child's imagination, inviting them to decide how this dazzling world should appear. Young readers can play an active role in helping Dorothy confront the Wicked Witch of the West and find her way home to Kansas. 31.5 × 23cm, 14 large card pages, all in colour. Ages 5-8.
£12.99 NOW £3.50 REDUCED

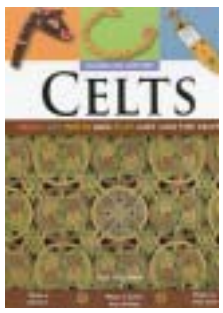
96641 WHERE'S OLAF?: A Disney Frozen Search-and-Find Book by Walt Disney
Explore the enchanting lands of Arendelle from the royal castle to the mysterious Valley of the Living Rock while you search for Anna, Elsa, Kristoff, Sven and of course Olaf! With delightful hidden details in every double page scene like the great hall, the ice rink, market place, mountains or the enchanted forest, play hide and seek with a special treat on every page. The artworks themselves are simply glorious and official Disney imagery has been used throughout these big colourful pages. 22 x 30cm, 40 pages, colour. The scenes are from both popular Disney films Frozen and Frozen 2.
£9.99 NOW £3.75

EARLY LEARNING

When I am king they shall not have bread and shelter only, but also teachings out of books, for a full belly is little worth where the mind is starved.

- Mark Twain, The Prince and the Pauper

97799 HALLOWEEN COLOR AND ACTIVITY BOOK
by Nicola Friggens and Sarah Powell
What horrible things are for sale at Herman's Spooky Store? Which of the eerie bats have gone to sleep? Can you colour in Felix the Spider and his friends? Trace the dotted lines to draw the gruesome pumpkin. How many scary ghosts can you find in the haunted house? Now colour in Vinnie the Vampire! Draw lines between the matching Halloween costumes, follow the Werewolf Trail, find stickers to give Vlad the Vampire a smiley face, decorate your Halloween bedroom to make it more spooky, connect the dots to complete the picture of the black cat and more. With 60 colour spooktacular stickers and simple fun puzzles and colouring to keep ages 3+ busy and encourage problem solving, imagination and hand-eye coordination.
$3.99 NOW £3

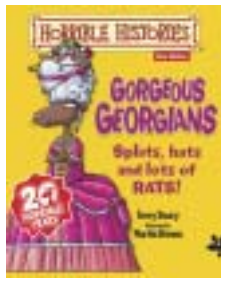


97764 HANDS-ON HISTORY: CELTS
by Joe Fullman
15 step-by-step projects and over 400 exciting pictures and illustrations including diagrams, historical maps and a pictorial timeline, find out fascinating facts about the many different Celtic clans. Discover the reasons for their migration, their mysticism and beliefs, how they crafted exquisite metalwork and delve into everyday life and the deadly weapons with which they armed themselves. A selection of 15 practical projects will make learning fun either at home or in the classroom. Reproduce the famous Gundestrup bowl, make a Welsh harp, tuck into traditional Celtic oat cakes, make a Celtic chariot, wear a torc, create face paint for battle, use Ogham to write your name, and make tribal coins. We look at food and drink, dress, buildings, festivals, family life and how society was organised, and all is written by a subject specialist. 32 pages in very large softback, ages 6-13 years, 24 x 30cm.
£5.99 NOW £3.75

96376 HOW TO TIE YOUR SHOES
by Lake Press
A fun, hands-on book that teaches children how to tie their shoelaces. With one yellow and one blue lace threaded through the cover, kids can practise each step along the way. Friendly bear characters guide them through criss-cross lacing, tying a starter knot, making bunny-ear bows, and finishing with a double knot. The book also includes a pop-out model shoe for extra practice. 10 sturdy pages, 19 × 23.5 cm, full colour.
ONLY £1.90

96592 FUNKO POP! IRON MAN: MARVEL by Funko
Iron Man, created by Stan Lee in 1962, became a founding Avenger and one of Marvel's most iconic heroes. This collectible Funko Pop! figure (No. 1282) captures his classic red-and-yellow suit with a cheerful bobble head and a bright green bag. Made from sturdy vinyl and standing 9.5cm tall, it's perfect for desks, shelves or any Marvel fan's display. Gift boxed and ready to enjoy. Official merchandise.
ONLY £5 REDUCED

96593 FUNKO POP! THE RIDDLER BATMAN FOREVER TOY by Funko
A classic DC supervillain and one of Batman's most enduring foes, the Riddler is known for his purple-and-green style, clever crimes and obsessive riddles - traits that often land him back in Arkham Asylum. This collectible Funko Pop! vinyl figure (No. 530) stands 3.75" tall and features his oversized head, bright pink hair, mismatched glasses, silver suit with green question marks, matching shoes and trademark green staff topped with a yellow skull. Gift-boxed and perfect for fans and collectors.
ONLY £5 REDUCED



97771 GORGEOUS GEORGIANS: Horrible Histories New Edition
by Terry Deary
Filling children's heads with foul facts since 1993, here is history with the nasty bits left in, in a brand new edition of the bestselling book where we discover all the gory details about the Gorgeous Georgians including who wore false eyebrows made from mouse skin and the school children who went to war with their teachers. There are splats, hats and lots of rats in a time when people went over the battlefield looking in the mouths of corpses for nice shiny teeth and pulling them out when the Jacobite rebellions were crushed and when George II comes to the throne and when George I has a violent attack of diarrhoea and dies. Poo! Bonnie Prince Charlie, Captain Cook claiming Australia, the first gas lighting in houses, Britain defeating Napoleon and his French armies at Waterloo, full of vicious verses and cruel cartoons, big quotes and fun facts and answers, here are the heroes and villains, gory games and gruesome facts for children of all ages. Very well illustrated 235 page paperback.
£6.99 NOW £3.75

97776 i-SPY MY FIRST BIRDS: Spy it! Stick it!
by Collins Michelin
Bird watching is so popular and why not get little ones aged 3-5 years started with their first i-SPY sticker book with more than 100 birds to spot from swifts to sparrows, ducks to gulls, baby birds, bird words, bird care, songbirds and birds of prey, birds on the cliffs and on the seashore, on the water and on the farm and in parks and gardens from the humble blackbird and the wren to pheasants and peacocks. On each colourful and interactive page there are points to collect, fun facts to keep children entertained and many colourful stickers to peel off and add to each spot together with points that you collect and tot up at the end. Colour photos, 32 page softback, 17.8 x 25cm.
£4.99 NOW £3.50

97146 FINGER PAINTING FARM: My Epic Easel by Claire Mowat
What child aged between three and six can resist these cute hedgehogs with colourful spikes, sweet little ducks and froggy friends, and dabbing their fingers in awesome paints? Make friends with the dogs, create easy colourful birds in a treetop scene, follow three steps to paint a strawberry, a bee, a butterfly, cats snoozing in a barn, an owl with lots of colourful feathers, rabbits ready to play and vegetables growing in the garden among the many colourful pre-prepared scenes. There are six colour paints - red, orange, yellow, dark green, blue and purple in the spiral bound sturdy publication for ages three and up. 18 pages, 18.5 x 23cm.
£9.99 NOW £5

97335 GREEN RUBBER FROGS BATH TOYS: 3 Pack by Rysons
Set of three very cute looking 5cm bright green smiling frogs in a plastic mesh bag. Baththime fun is guaranteed! The set includes three bright green frogs. These bath toys are designed to be easily handled by small hands, promoting dexterity and coordination, the bright colours and familiar shapes stimulate visual development and sensory exploration. Easy to clean and maintain.
ONLY £2.75 BACK IN STOCK

97503 YELLOW RUBBER DUCK BATH TOYS: 3 Pack by Rysons
These Rubber Ducks Bath Toys provide a classic and engaging bath time experience for children (and adults!). The set includes three bright yellow ducks, encouraging imaginative play during bath time and can help make bath time a more enjoyable experience for both children and parents. These bath toys are designed to be easily handled by small hands, promoting dexterity. Easy to clean and maintain. Set of three adorable 5 cm bright yellow ducks with cheeky eyes and orange beaks in a plastic mesh bag.
ONLY £2.75 BACK IN STOCK

97194 CLARICE BEAN SMILE by Lauren Child
Witty and charming, Clarice Bean is back with all her trademark humour in this heartwarming story by former the Children's Laureate and creator of Charlie and Lola. 'At the moment I am daydreaming about inventing something exceptionordinarily good that could change the world for the better, because of all the things, it's the better that's needed. And if you are thinking I'm too small to make a difference then remember the plankton...'. The utterly wonderful Clarice Bean is thinking about the endangered things but it's not just the planet that needs help - there's her whole family too. Fun typography and line art, 280 pages.
£14.99 NOW £3.75

97786 THINGS THAT GO!
4 Book Set
by Claire Philip
On the Road, On the Tracks, On the Water and In the Air appealingly illustrated for ages four and up, littles ones will soar with excitement as they discover fascinating facts about airplanes, helicopters, and hot air balloons, cars, trucks, and bicycles, trains and trams, and the wonders of boats, ships, and submarines. With every turn of the page children will be captivated by brilliant facts and super-bright illustrations for all curious minds. We go electric, take to two wheels on bicycles and emergency workers race to the rescue. We learn about famous trains like the Blue Train in South Africa and the Royal Scotsman, sleeper trains and the Underground; we take a deep dive under the sea in a submersible or go at high speeds as we lift out of the water on a hydrofoil and life onboard houseboats and the design of a racing yacht. And last but not least In the Air we take to drone power, airships, balloons, helicopters, motor gliders and even flyboards and a blended wing plane. Each large softback was published at £6.99 and we have a special price for the set. Colour illus.
£27.96 NOW £10 SAVE £17.96!

97774 ANCIENT ROMANS: History Activity
by Richard Sykes and Giorgia Broseghini
With their huge appealing eyes whether lifting a huge urn or striding about in a toga, plus their donkeys, mules and horses and sheep and goats, there are plenty of press-out pals to add as you build your own 3D model of a Roman villa. Pull out the pages carefully tearing along the perforated lines and fold along the dotted lines forward or backward as instructed by the blue or green dots. Slot the characters into the bases so that they can stand upright around the villa. The first few pages of this softback instruct little ones ages 5-8 about life in Rome where politicians made speeches on the steps of the Temple of Jupiter to get support for new laws. Spot a statue of the goddess Victory, or a Roman wedding in a busy picture where you can see the Colosseum and huge aqueducts. Admire the mosaic following the Roman numeral colour key below and bathe like a Roman in the hot tub making sure your attendant is paid to watch your clothes as you take a leisurely swim in the warm tepidarium. Learn all about toilet paper, soap and other cosmetics, Roman food, practical jokers, follow a recipe for little Honey and Sesame Seed Biscuits, and a little about patricians, plebs and proles. And there are quizzes and maps, emperors and gladiators too. 16 page large softback, 28 x 21cm.
£4.99 NOW £3.25

97542 TALES OF MYTH AND MAGIC FOR FEARLESS GIRLS
by Samantha Newman and Claudia Martin
This beautiful hardback anthology of 31 myths and folk tales with inspiring heroines at their centre, featuring breathtaking colour illustrations full of expressions and decorative detail and fearless animals like horses, dogs and serpents by artist Khoa Le. This collection brings together folk tales from different countries and cultures, showcasing narratives that celebrate strong, independent women and girls who run free and possess self-confidence, strength, wits, courage, fearlessness, and independence. Tales include: Freyja's Necklace (Norse), Amaterasu and the Cave (Japanese), Pandora and the Jar (Greek), Pele Fights with her Sister (Hawaiian), Leelinau the Lost Daughter (North American, Chippewa) and Isis Discovers the Name of Ra (Egyptian). This beautiful hardback compendium features striking printed endpaper designs and gold cover embossing, creating a magnificent way to enjoy these empowering tales for readers aged 7+. 256 pages, full price by arrangement with the publisher Arcturus.
ONLY £19.99

97186 MY FIRST 100 ART WORDS
by Chris Ferrie
A beautifully presented spiral bound write and wipe clean book with big glossy pages and appealing illustrations and 82 wipe clean activities for the budding artist. Includes writing, matching, tracing, dot to dot, circle the answer, and mazes, and we meet characters like Mona Lisa and the Film Director, the cast and stage, a guitar, brush, palette, acrylic paint, a drum, a digital camera and learn about portraits and tracing and matching and uppercase and lowercase letters, and the letter X for exposure. With lots of lines to follow as little ones ages three and up gain confidence. Large softback.
$14.99 NOW £4

GREAT BRITAIN & THE ENVIRONMENT

There are two places in the world where men can most effectively disappear - the city of London and the South Seas.

- Herman Melville

97778 ROUGH GUIDE TO LONDON: 12th Edition by Samantha Cook, Henry Fry et al

From the famous series we are delighted to have a discounted price guide to the great city which is more than the sum of its parts. With over 3,000 pubs, 8 million trees and 300 languages spoken across the city, London is pretty impressive. Whether you get lost in the arcades of Brixton Market or wander the genteel streets of Hampstead, ride the subterranean Mail Rail or ascend one of the City's new fleet of skyscrapers, find the historic shops of St James's, Soho and Fitzrovia, Covent Garden and the Strand, Bloomsbury and Holborn, the City, the Tower of London and surrounds, East London and the Docklands, the Southbank, Southwark, Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens, Knightsbridge and Chelsea, and further afield to the suburbs, there are not only listings of accommodation, eating, drinking, nightlife, classical music, theatre and cinema, shopping and sports, but also kids attractions and LGBT+ London. With maps, fantastic index, colour photos, not too much has changed since this 12th edition February 2018! Nice neat heavyweight paperback, large pocket sized 490pp.

£14.99 NOW £6

97531 CLAYTON AND OPENSHAW by Jill Cronin and Frank Rhodes

From the Images of England series published by The History Press here are street and rural scenes, shopping and work, people, places and transport, the villages at war and peace and in church and at school. Clayton and Openshaw in East Manchester both experienced rapid industrial growth. The name Openshaw means 'unenclosed woodland', and its population rose from around 117 in 1641 to 23,927 in 1891 through industrialisation. Industry developed in diverse forms: iron and chemical works, automobile and locomotive production, toolmaking, electrical engineering and suet refining. Workers' houses sprung up around the mills while the better-off built their houses in North Road Clayton and Fairfield in Higher Openshaw. A fascinating collection of around 200 old photographs and advertising. 129 page well illustrated large softback.

£12.99 NOW £4

97536 SUNDERLAND IN 100 DATES by Robert Woodhouse

Poisoner Mary Ann Cotton hanged in Durham on 24th March 1873; Joseph Wilson Swan inventor of the early electric lightbulb and bromide paper was born on 31st October 1828; Sunderland FC's official highest attendance was on 8th March 1933 with an incredible 75,118 spectators crammed into the ground. On 14th December 2011 a local Sunderland man discovered a football-sized dinosaur bone in his back garden which mystified all the experts. Songwriter Dave Stewart, BBC News correspondent Kate Adie, tragic incidents, the opening of the Sunderland Orphan Asylum, the invention of a 'self-moving machine' for travelling on roads carrying seven passengers, all this and 100 more key dates and facts connected with Sunderland in bitesize chunks. 124 page illustrated paperback.

£7.99 NOW £3.75

97253 DICKENS'S KENT by Peter Clark

Few novelists are as closely associated with a place as Charles Dickens is with Kent. From an idyllic childhood in Chatham, Kent appears throughout his work, from Sketches by Boz and The Pickwick Papers to his personal favourite, David Copperfield, and shaping major novels such as Great Expectations and The Mystery of Edwin Drood. He spent summers in Broadstairs, honeymooned near Gravesend, and in 1856 bought Gad's Hill Place near Rochester, where he died in 1870. This book follows Dickens's own footsteps, including the Medway towns, Rochester, Chatham, Canterbury, Broadstairs, Margate, Deal, Dover, Folkestone, and Staplehurst, the site of the railway accident that nearly killed him. 135 page paperback offers biography, geography, and fiction. 135 page paperback.

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The MARVEL Universe... All in Powerful Glowing Colour!

97524 SPIDER-MAN 1962-1964 MARVEL COMICS LIBRARY by Ralph Macchio

When Stan Lee first pitched the idea of Spider-Man in 1962, his boss was full of objections: people hate spiders! Teenagers aren't lead characters; they're sidekicks. He should be glamorous and successful, not a friendless loser. But Stan persisted and Martin Goodman let him give the unlikely hero a try-out in Amazing Fantasy, which was already slated for cancellation. With Spider-Man on the cover, No. 15 shot to the top of Marvel's bestseller list for the year, and the rest is history. Amazing Spider-Man, which debuted seven months later, broke the comics mould. Peter Parker lived in uncool Queens, was always broke, continually worried about his Aunt May, was unlucky in love, and was constantly getting yelled at by his boss, Daily Bugle publisher J. Jonah Jameson. Spider-Man had the quips and confidence that Parker lacked, but learning to use his powers wasn't always easy. He often seemed on the verge of defeat against the rogue's gallery of classic foes that debuted in the first couple of years: Vulture, Doctor Octopus, Sandman, Lizard, Electro, Kraven the Hunter, Mysterio, and the Green Goblin. Much of the credit for Spider-Man's greatness goes to co-creator and artist Steve Ditko, who had a knack for portraying teenagers and their problems. His artwork infused Spider-Man with a loose-limbed energy, and, while maybe everyone was scared of spiders, Ditko made swinging through New York seem like the coolest adventure ever. 14 x 19.5cm, 704 pages. Powerful glowing colour illus. New from Taschen.

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Spider-Man: Brand New Day - film out now

97525 MARVEL COMICS LIBRARY AVENGERS 1963-1965 by Kurt Busiek

By early 1963 the foundations of the Marvel Universe had been laid. Following the introduction of the Fantastic Four in 1961 came the amazing (Spider-Man), the astonishing (Ant-Man), the strange (Doctor, that is), the incredible (Hulk), the invincible (Iron Man) and the mighty (Thor). Still, Marvel editor in chief Stan Lee realised something was missing. "I was writing these characters and I thought it would fun to put them together in a team," he recalled. So Lee and artist Jack Kirby assembled Iron Man, Ant-Man and the Wasp, Thor, and the Hulk to create the Avengers. Right away it was clear this team was different. If the Fantastic Four were family, then the Avengers were the co-workers you didn't choose. Not everyone got along - the Hulk fought with everyone - but working together they could defeat the baddest of Marvel's bad guys, like Loki, Kang the Conqueror, the Masters of Evil, and Immortus. The lineup was ever changing: The Hulk departed, Captain America joined, and Ant-Man grew up to become Giant-Man. Then, remarkably, villains Hawkeye, Quicksilver, and the Scarlet Witch became heroes, and Avengers, and the group's founding members shockingly departed, leaving Captain America to lead the newly-minted heroes. Relive the classic early adventures of Avengers Nos. 1-20 now available as a compact trade edition. The most pristine pedigreed comics have been cracked open and photographed for reproduction in close collaboration with Marvel and the Certified Guaranty Company. Accompanying the stories are an in-depth history by the Eisner Award-winning writer Kurt Busiek that's illustrated with original art, little-seen photographs, and rare documents. This mighty collection about Earth's Mightiest Heroes is worthy of Tony Stark's library, or yours. 14 x 19.5cm, 648 pages. Powerful glowing colour illus. New from Taschen.

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97522 FANTASTIC FOUR 1961-1963: MARVEL COMICS LIBRARY by Mark Waid

Hoping to break out of a sales slump at Marvel in the early 1960s, veteran comic creators Stan Lee and Jack Kirby hit on the idea of doing a super-team. Kirby, who thought superheroes were due for a revival after 15 years of being pushed aside by romance, horror, and war comics, saw it as smart business. Lee just once wanted to "do the type of story I myself would enjoy reading." The Fantastic Four forever changed their careers, their lives, and the comic book industry. Some of the most iconic moments in Marvel history are here, starting with Reed Richards, his girlfriend Sue Storm, his best friend Ben Grimm, and her little brother Johnny Storm crash landing their rocket after it has been hit by cosmic rays and discovering they have been transformed into Mr. Fantastic, the Invisible Girl, the Thing, and the Human Torch in issue No. 1. They were emotionally complex characters, who weren't always sure whether their powers were a benefit or burden. Stories were set in New York City, not some fictional stand-in, and Marvel heroes regularly crossed over into each other's books. The art was dynamic and the writing conversational and engaging. Lee and Kirby were like the Lennon and McCartney of comic books. Collected here are the first 20 issues reproduced from the most pristine, pedigreed original comics, which were cracked open and photographed in close collaboration with Marvel and the Certified Guaranty Company. Featured alongside the comics are an in-depth essay by acclaimed Marvel writer Mark Waid and original art, photographs, and other rarities. Welcome true believers to the Marvel Age of Comics. 14 x 19.5cm, 720 pages. Powerful glowing colour illus. New from Taschen.

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97523 X-MEN 1963-1966 MARVEL COMICS LIBRARY by Fabian Nicieza

When Marvel publisher Martin Goodman asked Stan Lee to deliver another new team book for his line of comics, he had no idea he'd be getting something like The X-Men. In fact, nobody could have imagined the extraordinary phenomenon the X-Men would eventually grow into - not Goodman, not Lee, not even the forward-thinking futurist Jack Kirby. What they started out as was a charming, ragtag team of misfits, devised by Lee and Kirby to be mutants, youngsters born with "X-tra" powers thrust upon them not by accidentally crossing paths with cosmic rays or a nuclear blast, but by the fate of birth, led by a no-nonsense professor who trained them to become heroes that could protect the world from menaces, mutant and otherwise. The first years of storytelling laid the foundation for much of what has put the X-Men at the crossroads of comics and popular culture. Hounded by a public that fears and misunderstands them, mutantkind find themselves at the heart of their own civil rights struggle; Cyclops, Marvel Girl, Angel, Beast, and Iceman found safety amongst themselves despite the challenges that set them apart from others in society. Professor Xavier lined up against his ideological foe, Magneto, who had assembled a Brotherhood of Evil Mutants to take the fight for their self-preservation directly to humankind. Along the way, Lee and Kirby, who were on fire taking comics into the Marvel Age, introduced a menagerie of villains and supporting characters that would become mainstays of Marvel and its lore: the super-powered siblings Quicksilver and Scarlet Witch; the formidable Blob; the unstoppable Juggernaut; the jungle dweller from the Savage Land, Ka-Zar; the demigod from the stars, the Stranger; and Bolivar Trask and his army of mutant-hunting Sentinels. And as Lee and Kirby gave way to new talents so they could move on to new corners of the Marvel Universe, Atlas era art veteran Werner Roth teamed with writing newcomer and future X-Men legend Roy Thomas to begin their long run on the title. This edition features the first 21 stories of our favourite oddball superheroes from 1963 to 1966. The most pristine, pedigreed comics have been cracked open and photographed for reproduction in close collaboration with Marvel and the Certified Guaranty Company. Each page has been photographed as printed more than half a century ago, then digitally remastered using modern retouching techniques to correct problems with the era's inexpensive, imperfect printing, as if hot off of a world-class 1960s printing press. In addition to these seminal tales are an in-depth essay by X-Men writer Fabian Nicieza as well as original art, photographs, and memorabilia from the early years of X. Powerful glowing colour illus. 14 x 19.5cm, 684 pages. New from Taschen.

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95930 CONRAN QUANT: Swinging London: A Lifestyle Revolution by Geoffrey Rayner and Richard Chamberlain

Fashion designer Mary Quant opened her first boutique in 1955 and her friend Terence Conran set up Habitat in 1964. Both of them were ready to take the lead in the momentum for social and cultural change as the Pop era took hold among radical young architects, designers, photographers, film makers, musicians, and arty dilettantes who lived and worked around the bohemian area of Chelsea, where coffee bars, bistros, brasseries, the clothes people wore and the furniture and décor that surrounded them. Laura Ashley emerged from this group, and the pop artist Eduardo Paolozzi defined some of its artistic principles. Pictured here are Quant's black and white striped jacket for Alligator Rainwear in 1965, an iconic pinafore dress in grey flannel from 1962, and signature Peter Pan collars. A distinctive Conran piece is the S1 Cabinet of 1952. Well-illustrated in colour. 22 x 27.5cm, 240pp.

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97187 OH JOY FOR ME! SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE by Kier Davidson

Subtitled The Origins of Fell Walking in the Lake District, 1790-1802, the book focuses on Samuel Taylor Coleridge, who arrived in the Lake District in 1799 and began making solitary ascents of peaks such as Skiddaw, Helvellyn, Dungeon Ghyll Force, an ascent of Skiddaw in June, Saddleback and Bannerdale Crags, Helvellyn Ridge to Grasmere, Coledale Fells, Walla Crag and Nab Scar, and the final walks in 1803 with Southey and Hazlitt through Borrowdale into Watendlath. His notebooks and letters capture a new, personal response to the landscape, recording immediate impressions of the fells and valleys. These early journeys helped establish the idea of independent hill walking. Includes colour photos, coloured maps, and line drawings.

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96969 GREAT BRITISH DIG by Dr Chloe Duckworth

The book reveals Britain's hidden past, from cosmopolitan Roman life and prehistoric ceramics to medieval communities in Yorkshire, rebellious monks in Nottingham, and porcelain finds at Pow Camp, Greater Manchester. Each chapter brings a site vividly to life, exploring glass bottles, coins, everyday objects, and medieval ceramics while showing how landscapes quietly preserve centuries of human activity. Plus - how to research your local area, lay out a trench, understand soils, dig safely and legally, and identify finds from bones and pottery to tools and coins. With tip boxes, step-by-step advice, colour photographs, line art, diagrams, and architectural plans. 256 pages.

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97275 HOW TO BE AN ALIEN IN NGLAND: A Guide to the English by Angela Kiss

'In England everything is typical…' This wry, affectionate memoir follows Angela Kiss, who arrived in the UK from Hungary without speaking English and carrying little more than a sense of adventure and a well-thumbed copy of George Mikes' How to be an Alien. She navigates the realities of modern Britain - flat shares, low-paid jobs, awkward dates, office mishaps, commuting, and the famously unpredictable weather and develops a sharp, humorous perspective on British life, observing its politeness, understatement, awkwardness, optimism, and love of ritual. Along the way, she also finds herself growing increasingly fond of a country full of green spaces, pubs, puddings, and singing train drivers. 195 page illustrated paperback.

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EROTICA

Sex is one of the nine reasons for reincarnation... The other eight are unimportant.

- Henry Miller

97886 NAKED TRUTH JOURNAL illustrated by Beryl Cook
Very saucy colourful image of three curvy naked ladies munching cake under a tree with their bright red lips and nipples very much in the fun style of artist Beryl Cook. Inside there are full page colour illustrations of a lady being chatted up by a cigar-smoking, pinstriped gentleman, full-figured ladies drinking and smoking at bar stools, a lady lion tamer with her blue rinse hair inside the jaws of her pet, middle aged folk line dancing, a larger lady climbing into a black cab with a full plate of fish and chips, strip poker with two couples - all the gaiety and enjoyment of life in an inspiring journal featuring humorous pieces of advice exposing truths and with plenty of space on lined sections to jot down your own thoughts. Reasons to be Cheerful, Make Time for Important Hobbies, Time Spent with Friends is Never Wasted and more. 128 pages, colour illustrations encouraging us to live life to the full. 15 x 20cm, flexicover and ribbon bookmark.
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Looking at existentialism and dating, the best chat up lines, how to prove attractive to someone on a date, what to talk about, eat and drink, what to wear, why our very first kiss maybe the best sex we ever had, what we miss about our dating years, here is a guidebook to the joys and anxieties of romantic love - and the key to finding a long term partner. And how to politely extricate oneself without causing offence. Illus. 114 small pages.
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Tom of Finland's Manly Bikers
Leather-clad outlaws with big strong motorcycles

97831 LITTLE BOOK OF TOM: BIKERS edited by Dian Hanson
In 1953 Marlon Brando donned a black leather Perfecto motorcycle jacket, military cap, denim jeans, and engineer boots to portray Johnny, sneering leader of the Black Rebel Motorcycle Club, in The Wild One. In 1954 Tom of Finland abandoned brown leather in his artwork to create his own wild ones: with rippling greased muscles, hyper-masculine, black leather-clad rebels with powerful engines between their legs and just as often a young man there too. "Horny models wanted for Tom's drawings!" screamed the poster. The look was adopted by the Satyrs Motorcycle Club, the first gay outlaw club, that same year, making Tom's fantasy world reality. Of course, being Tom, he soon customized his new gay icons, adding leather jodhpurs, knee high boots and leather caps, and every motorcycle bore the brand name "Tom" on the gas tank. Tom's bikers first appeared as two "Motorcycle Boys" in Physique Pictorial, Winter 1958. Another made the cover of the April 1960 issue. Bikers dominated his PP content from then on, as a nod to its American readership as much as his growing obsession. When he sought an ongoing character, a personal avatar, in 1968, he created Kake as the ultimate biker leatherman, and elaborated on his riding adventures - of every kind - through 26-panel stories. Tom adopted Kake's gear as his own, presenting in black leather jacket, white t-shirt, jeans, and high boots to the end of his life. The book includes Tom's earliest images for Physique Pictorial, Kake in motorcycle gear, biker panel stories, and sizzling single drawings mono and colour, all packed into 192 pages of sexy, masculine men enjoying other masculine men. 14 x 19.5cm, 192 pages. Warning - very graphic content! New from Taschen.
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Fashion Dynamite *Mario Testino's tribute to his greatest muse*

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Some nudity, one with only white stilettos on, one pregnant shot, some with celebrities, her own children, casual shots to high glamour and plenty of lingerie and semi-naked images, always alluring with her golden shiny long blonde tousled hair... Mario Testino is recognised as the ultimate fashion photographer of his generation, and his pictures of Kate Moss since 2000 transcend fashion. Follow the journey of one of fashion's most creative collaborations, from early days backstage at the shows to behind-the-scenes glimpses of the ground-breaking editorials they continue to produce for the world's most respected magazines. Of the 100-plus images, many photographs have been chosen from Testino's private archive, this book is Mario's personal homage to his greatest muse, a young girl that captured his heart and eye with her beauty, humour and spirit, and whose image in his photographs has captured imaginations the world over. They are accompanied by a foreword by Testino and an exclusive essay by Kate Moss. New expanded multilingual edition with text in English, French, German and Spanish. Softcover with flaps, 25 x 34.5 cm, 232 pages. New from Taschen.
ONLY £40 ***OVER 100 STUNNING IMAGES***

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The first in a werewolf paranormal trilogy packed with kink. Eleven years ago a powerful ancient werewolf ripped Iris's life apart. One full moon night it attacked the two people she loved most in the world, killing her twin brother and leaving her boyfriend Alfie changed forever. Iris and Alfie vowed revenge on the Beast, but when Alfie began to show a twisted loyalty to the creature who had made him, Iris lost him too. Now, Alfie is back in Oxford where Iris - still haunted by her dead brother - is heading up the Vix, a shadowy organisation dedicated to killing his kind. But Alfie needs Iris's help or what the Beast did to him that night may yet prove fatal. His only hope of keeping his deadly beast under control is the Silver Collar. 272 page Black Lace paperback.
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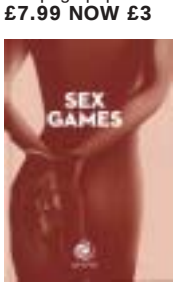

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Ever wondered what we get up to behind closed doors? This anonymous collection of postcards will show you, in glorious technicolour detail. "Have spent two days in bed reading a trilogy of absolute filth." "Even typing the work Spanking makes may cock twitch." Queen of postcards Eleanor Tattersfield put out a call on social media for people to reveal their deepest, darkest, funniest and even their most unsavoury sex habits, in postcard form sent anonymously to a little shop in central London. Illicit liaisons, undisclosed longings, outrageous behaviour, life-affirming sexual shenanigans, all salacious, scurrilous and very definitely saucy, a fascinating record of how we take our pleasures. Colour images, 192 pages.
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Swinging, dogging, group sex, cross-dressing, spanking, female domination, corporal punishment and extreme fetishes - this collection of true life erotic stories from fetish enthusiasts explores the length and breadth of erotic obsession, real experience and sexual fantasy. It is an encyclopedic collection of the bizarre and utterly inappropriate, collected by the world's leading publisher of fetish fiction. Office girl Linda dresses to tease her older boss from whom she secretly craves punishment. Sharon is an up-skirt exhibitionist who uses her husband's friends as an audience. 231pp, paperback.
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She plans to control her proclivity for younger men who like to play at work by accepting a job in a remote fire lookout tower. But the wilderness setting amplifies rather than tames Michelle's desires... 20 sexy short stories that give a new meaning to job satisfaction, from encounters with the boss to affairs with colleagues or forbidden liaisons with clients, these stories revolve around all manner of workplace relationships and environments. There are orgies at the office, frisky fun at the factory and even tales of a tailor shop which provides that extra special customer service. 208 page paperback.
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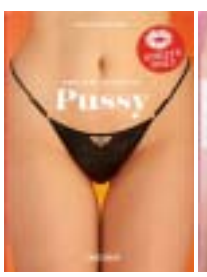

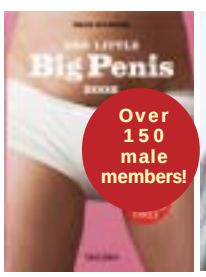

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The first in-depth exploration of the female pudendum, that coveted orifice man spends nine months trying to escape, and a lifetime attempting to re-enter! Dian Hanson delves into the historical significance to show how the yoni has been coveted, feared, reviled, and worshipped by civilizations worldwide, from New Guinea to old Ireland. The text is supported by playful photographs of women exposing their vulvas, from 1900 to the present day. Because depiction of this body part has long been wrapped in unwarranted shame, The Little Big Book of Pussy reframes the subject, featuring models who expose their most private part enthusiastically, happily, with smiles spread wide as - well, you get the picture. And with hundreds of photos the point is made emphatically, in images both naturally furry and stylishly groomed. A petite little kitten of a book that puts those in-your-face photos in proper perspective, with over 150 photos - 36 new to this book - and no bothersome text to interrupt the flow. 14 x 19.5cm, 192 pages. New from Taschen.
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Middle wicket, Percy, John Thomas ... one of the few things not discussed in this book is the myriad of euphemisms and pet names for the penis. Features over 150 massively endowed male members of models from the 1940s through the 90s, including photos by Bob Mizer of AMG, David Hurles of Old Reliable, Rip Colt of Colt Studio, Craig Calvin Anderson of Sierra Domino, Hal Roth of Filmco, Jim Jaeger of Third World Studios, Falcon Studios, Mike Arlen, Fred Bisonnes, Carlos Quiroz, and Charles Hovland. Photos come not just from the original overstuffed 384-page edition, but from subsequent Big Penis Calendars, meaning that 30% of the content is unique to this edition. Add a reduced text to make more room for the stunning black-and-white and colour photos and how could anyone - big, small, or just right - ask for a better deal? Hardcover (natch!), 14 x 19.5cm, 192 pages. New from Taschen.
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This ode to the male physique celebrates the evolving, at one time illicit, art form from anonymous 19th century erotica through to contemporary work from David Hockney and Duane Michaels. Through the classic, the playful, and the provocative, it explores the compositions, postures, and role-playing of this often under-explored genre. Esteemed masters such as Herbert List, George Platt Lynes or Robert Mapplethorpe, Pierre et Giles, Jeff Palmer, Andy Warhol, David Hockney are all there, alongside Baron Wilhelm von Gloeden, famed for his homoerotic images of nude youths in classical postures in Taormina in Sicily. Further highlights include illustrations from Physique Pictorial, the leading organ of the mid-50s gay scene. 500 stimulating colour photos. 576 pages. 2.7 x 20.5 x 17.8cm.
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76008 1000 NUDES: A History of Erotic Photography from 1839-1939 Uwe Scheid Collection
by Hans-Michael Koetzle and Uwe Scheid
Ranging from the earliest nude daguerrotypes and ethnographic nude photographs by Belloc, Berhtier, Braquehais, Oliver and Vallon de Villeneuve to experimental nude photography. All the pictures shown are taken from the late Uwe Scheid's collection and erotic photographs of nudes, dating mainly from photography's early days and from the 1920s and '30s. The charm of the photos by Delacroix and Durieu in 1853 is self-evident. Nude girls pose on bicycles, in embraces, lying on draped clothes, across chairs, two servants using carrots on themselves, breasts squeezed, in stockings and furs, athletic beauties and surrealist effects in the 1930s and much more. 5.5 x 7.7", 576 heavy pages. Satin bookmark, 1000 mono images.
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81181 NEW EROTIC PHOTOGRAPHY
by Dian Hanson
Featuring 62 photographers from 10 countries. Women celebrate their beautiful bodies mostly unclothed, some playful and teasing, some in heels and lingerie, eyes inviting, some couples and girl-on-girl action, on a motorbike or in a car. The featured photographers include new names Gregory Bojorquez, Jo Schwab, Tomohide Ikeya, Frédéric Fontenoy, Andrew Pashis, and Jan Hronsky, as well as established artists Guido Argentini, Bruno Bisang, Eric Kroll, and the late Bob Carlos Clarke. Several outstanding women include erotic film star Kimberly Kane, digital pioneer Natacha Merritt, heavy metal skateboarder Magdalena Wosinska, self-portraitist Jody Frost, and cover artist April-lea Hutchinson. 5.5" x 7.7", 592 pages, Taschen.
ONLY £20 BACK IN STOCK

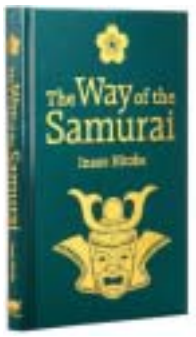
96204 ARAKI BONDAGE
by Nobuyoshi Araki
He's been called a genius and a poet, but also a misogynist, a pornographer, a monster...but Nobuyoshi Araki's work transcends simple moralistic classifications. One of the greatest Japanese photographers of our time, Araki's oeuvre is marked by an unmistakable mastery of composition, colour, and tone. Meaning "the beauty of tight binding," Kinbaku-bi, the traditional Japanese art of erotic bondage has long fascinated the photographer, becoming one of his most important subjects. Whether literally or figuratively, his models are certainly immobilized, but in the most tantalizing ways...girls lay bound but defiant, suspended from the ceiling, in traditional dress or nude, face-on, sometimes with a flower subtly positioned between their legs. Araki picks his all-time favourite images of bondage. The result is a testament to his ability to tantalizing balance sexual vulnerability and seduction like no other. 26.5 x 33cm, 288 pages from Taschen.
£100

96237 TOM OF FINLAND: THE COMPLETE KAKE COMICS
by Dian Hanson
Return with Kake to the days of carefree sex, big moustaches, and unabashed masculinity. In 1965, Tom of Finland began exploring a recurring character for his panel stories - the ultimate Tom's Man. After experimenting with a blond named Vicky and a Tarzan-inspired Jack, he finally created Kake in 1968: a dark-haired, moustached leatherman, often clad in a tight white T-shirt emblazoned with 'Fucker.' Kake quickly became the template for the gay clone look of the 1970s, winning fans around the world. Between 1968 and 1986, Tom published 26 episodes of Kake adventures, mostly 20-page booklets. The Complete Kake Comics collects every story in one volume - raw, erotic, and iconic. Beware the appendages are HUGE and the spunkiness nasty in places. 15.6 x 21.7 cm, 512 pages, Taschen.
ONLY £25

WAR AND MILITARIA

There's no honourable way to kill, no gentle way to destroy. There is nothing good in war. Except its ending.

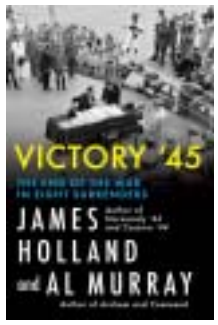
- Abraham Lincoln



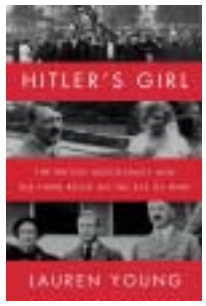
97825 WAY OF THE SAMURAI: Gilded Pocket Edition
by Inazo Nitobe
Justice, courage, loyalty, self-control; the qualities essential to the Samurai warriors of Japan are those to which we all aspire. In this classic work, originally published as 'Bushido: The Soul of Japan', Inazo Nitobe explores the moral code of the Japanese warrior class, from the importance of politeness rituals to the ultimate chilling self-sacrifice: hara-kiri or suicide. His engaging text conjures up a world of chivalric principals and brutal warfare, a fading way of life but one that has resonance in modern Japanese society and around the globe. 'Chivalry is a flower no less indigenous to the soil of Japan than its emblem, the cherry blossom.' This luxurious hardback edition has a bottle green satin cover, gilded title, glorious colour illustrations including Hokusai and decorative borders and beautiful colour plates some double page and with chapters including Sincerity, Self Control, the Training and Position of Women and The Future of Bushido. With satin pagemarker, the original book was first published in 1900. 160 heavy quality pages, reprint, 15 x 23.5cm.
£14.99 NOW £8.50

97220 OLD GAYS GUIDE TO THE GOOD LIFE
by the Old Gays of TikTok
The Old Gays have taken TikTok by storm with viral videos that are equal parts outrageous, funny, and fiercely stylish, but behind the clips are four men, aged 67 to 80, with lives spanning decades of LGBTQ+ history. Known as Mick, Jessay, Robert, and Bill, they grew up closeted, lived through Stonewall, the gay liberation era, the devastation of the AIDS crisis, personal HIV diagnoses, and finally the legalisation of same-sex marriage. Along the way came divorce, depression, bankruptcy, near-death experiences, reinvention - and plenty of joy. Now living in Cathedral City, California, they share stories that go far beyond their online fame: friendship, survival, nightlife, nudism, bodybuilding, dinner parties, faith, and finding happiness later in life. 242 pages, photos, bright pink paper.
£16.99 NOW £7

96214 DAVID BAILEY: EIGHTIES
by David Bailey
In the 1980s, fashion wanted to make a statement and found in legendary British fashion photographer David Bailey its perfect chronicler: brighter colours, higher glamour, statuesque models, extreme makeup, spandex, lycra, jumpsuits, power dressing, big hair. Eighties compiles Bailey's era-defining fashion photography from the pages of Vogue Italia, Vogue Paris, Tatler, and countless others. Featuring couture, catwalk, and ready-to-wear collections by the epoch's seminal designers, including Azzedine Alaia, Comme des Garçons, Guy Laroche, Missoni, Stephen Jones, Valentino, and Yves Saint Laurent. We see fabled 1980s icons and beauties: Catherine Bailey, Naomi Campbell, Cindy Crawford, Catherine Deneuve, Princess Diana, Jerry Hall, Marie Helvin, Grace Jones, Kelly LeBrock, Christy Turlington, Tina Turner, and many more. The cultural resonances of the 1980s present on our screens, runways, and concert stages make today ideal for recontextualising its enduring legacy of maximalism and excess. Eighties offers a unique opportunity to do so with David Bailey as a guide, and interpreter, who's never afraid to wink at his audience. 28.4 x 36cm, 3.5kg, 296 pages, Taschen.
ONLY £85

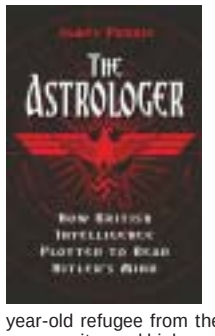


97705 VICTORY '45
by James Holland and Al Murray
Sub-titled '**The End of the War in Eight Surrenders**', the book was published to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War Two and the remarkable stories behind the surrenders that concluded the world's most catastrophic global conflict. President Franklin D. Roosevelt flew into Casablanca in French Morocco on Thursday, 14th January 1943. Ten days later he made the announcement that the Allies would be pursuing unconditional surrender without prior consultation. Beside him sat Prime Minister Winston Churchill. Roosevelt asked for the elimination of German, Japanese and Italian war power adding the caveat 'that does not mean the destruction of the population of Germany, Italy or Japan, but it does mean the destruction of the philosophies in those countries which are based on conquest and the subjugation of other people.' Two acclaimed historians turn their focus on the human dramas behind each surrender. Germany's army submitted to the Allies in six ceremonies between May 2nd and May 9th, the latter after considerable delays by the Germans and threats from General Dwight D. Eisenhower, Supreme Allied Commander. Japan then finally conceded only after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in a formal ceremony aboard the USS Missouri on September 2nd. The saga of the first German surrender in Italy revolves around senior SS General Karl Wolff's personal battle to save his own neck, and involved VIP prisoners locked up in a resort in South Tyrol, art theft, money laundering and the resistance of other German commanders to give up. The Germans surrendered to the Americans on May 5th. The book follows the fortunes of Staff Sergeant Alan Moskin from New Jersey, whose 6th Infantry Regiment found themselves liberating Gunskirchen, one of Mauthausen's sub-concentration camps, the terrible reality of which affected the rest of his life. Chapters include Monty's Men, Lüneburg Heath 3rd to 5th May, Reims 6th to 7th May, and 24 Hours in London 8th May, VE Day and America on the same day and the surrender of Berlin on 9th May 1945 and finally the Japanese signing of the surrender on 2nd September. With very useful timeline, and a photo gallery of principal personalities of all nationalities. 386 pages, very well illustrated.
$28 NOW £9



97465 HITLER'S GIRL: The British Aristocracy and the Third Reich On the Eve of WWII
by Lauren Young
A timely, riveting book that presents for the first time an alternative history of 1930s Britain, revealing how prominent fascist sympathizers nearly succeeded in overturning British democracy which nearly took hold in Great Britain as it did in Italy and Germany. Drawing on recently declassified intelligence files, defence analyst Young reveals how these aristocrats formed a murky Fifth Column to Nazi Germany. She exposes the involvement of secret organizations like the Right Club, which counted the Duke of Wellington among its influential members; the Cliveden Set, which ran a shadow foreign policy in support of Hitler; and the shocking four-year affair between socialite Unity Mitford and Adolf Hitler. After enrolling in German classes and staking out one of his favourite restaurants in Munich, Mitford eventually met with Hitler more than 160 times, and may have given birth to his son. Young also suggests that pro-Nazi sentiment went all the way to the royal family, citing FBI reports that Wallis Simpson's Nazi connections (rather than her marital status) forced Prince Edward's abdication. 240 pages.
£22 NOW £7.50

96927 REAL X-MEN by Robert Lyman
'The Heroic Story of the Underwater War 1942-1945' tells the thrilling story of British human torpedoes, "Chariots", and midget submarines, the X-craft, during World War Two, and the extraordinary men who operated them. These commando frogmen, forerunners of today's Special Boat Service (SBS), risked everything to place explosives beneath enemy ships and return safely to their parent submarines. Many volunteers were barely teenagers, unaware of the dangers or their slim chances of survival. Their bravery, sacrifice, and skill played a crucial yet secretive role in Britain's war effort. The book vividly recounts missions and personal stories. Archive photos illustrate the extreme cramped conditions aboard these vessels. 314 pages.
£20 NOW £6



97452 ASTROLOGER
by James Parris
Sub-titled '**How British Intelligence Plotted to Read Hitler's Mind**'. Were British Intelligence chiefs gullible or sensible to recruit an astrologer to assist in the war effort against Nazi Germany? And was the astrologer genuine or a charlatan? In the darkest days of the Second World War, with Europe falling under German occupation and Britain facing invasion, a 36-year-old refugee from the Nazis, flamboyant novelist, screenwriter and high-society astrologer Louis de Wohl, made a curious offer to British Intelligence. Based on the widely-held belief that Hitler's every action was guided by his horoscope, de Wohl claimed he could reveal precisely what advice the Fuhrer's astrologers were giving him. Rather than being dismissed out of hand as a crank, Churchill could see de Wohl's worth for himself. He was subsequently made an army captain and quartered in the Grosvenor House Hotel, from where he passed detailed astrological readings to the War Office and Naval Intelligence, before being transferred to work for the SOE in the United States to influence their participation. James Parris examines the evidence, including recently released files, and reaches remarkable conclusions about this bizarre aspect of the war. 288 pages.
£20 NOW £7.50

97615 CHURCHILL'S SECRET WARRIORS
by Damien Lewis
Sub-titled 'The Explosive True Story of the Special Forces Desperadoes of WWII'. The Special Operations Executives embarked on breathtaking operations. Dressed in Nazi uniforms, driving their vehicles and yelling orders in German; raiding the enemy's stores for weapons and ammo; abducting or assassinating officers to spread terror in the ranks; robbing banks to fund further havoc - these men were a law unto themselves forming what amounted to a private army. They were led by a cast of the utterly extraordinary, from Gus March-Phillipps, a wild British eccentric, to Anders Lassen, an aristocrat and blood-thirsty Danish Viking, Porter Jarrell, and American medic-turned-gunman. A real gem of modern history, beautifully told. Paperback 402 pages, archive photos.
£12.99 NOW £5

97156 SAS FORGED IN HELL
by Damien Lewis
"The real Guns of Navarone... Damien Lewis reveals how Paddy Mayne's SAS triumphed in their 1943 mission to blow up Nazi shore guns... while outnumbered fifty to one." - Daily Mail. This describes the incredible true story of the SAS's daring mission to liberate Europe. Led by the legendary SAS commander Blair 'Paddy' Mayne, these war-bitten, piratical raiders were tasked to do the impossible - to bludgeon their way through the most heavily defended enemy shoreline, so enabling the ensuing forces to follow on. Against all odds, outnumbered some fifty-to-one, and facing a ferocious series of cliffside defences, they would have to dare all as never before. Action-packed and filled with heroic endeavour, SAS Forged in Hell is breath-taking combat writing at its best. 400 page large softback with photos.
£16.99 NOW £6.99

97586 NAPOLEON'S MILITARY MACHINE: Haynes Operations Manual by Chris McNab
Napoleon's Grande Armée explores one of history's most powerful military forces and the extraordinary organisation behind its success. At its height, this vast army of 680,000 men conquered across Europe through innovative command structures, disciplined troops and Napoleon's strategic genius. From the everyday life of soldiers - their uniforms, weapons, food, pay and conditions - to recruitment, training, intelligence, logistics and battlefield tactics, this richly illustrated study reveals how the Grande Armée operated. Discover Napoleon's marshals, infantry, cavalry, artillery and navy, alongside the campaigns that shaped an empire. Packed with maps, fact boxes, archive material and hundreds of colour illustrations, this fascinating guide examines both the triumphs of Napoleon's forces and the lasting influence of his military methods. 172 pages, 21.5 x 28cm.
£22.99 NOW £6

97361 FOOTSLOGGERS: An Infantry Battalion at War 1939-45 by Peter Hart
Shortlisted for the 2023 Military History Matters Book of the Year Award, Peter Hart reconstructs one infantry battalion's war in staggering detail. Based on his interviews with members of the 16th Durham Light Infantry, he bears witness not only to their comradeship, suffering, dreadful losses and individual tragedies, but also their self-sacrifice and courage as they fought their way across North Africa, Italy and Greece. The challenges were not just physical suffering, but mental anguish which could be unbearable. From their ragtag beginnings to nerve-shredding close shaves and shelling, chapters over the Battle of Sedjenane, the advance to Tunis, landing at Salerno, Naples and river crossings, Monte Camino, the Battle of Gemmano Ridge, Last Rites at Cosina, and relief on 8th May 1945. With maps, 418 pages, archive photos.
£30 NOW £8 SAVE £22!

ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES

There was also a large picture in a very handsome frame, done in coloured crayons. It looked like a religious subject. I was very much struck with the lace collar, it looked so real, but I unfortunately made the remark that there was something about the expression of the face that was not quite pleasing. It looked pinched. Mr. Finsworth sorrowfully replied: "Yes, the face was done after death - my wife's sister."

- George Grossmith, Weedon Grossmith

95932 DANIEL SWAROVSKI: A World of Beauty Markus Langes-Swarovski

Creator of a global beauty brand, Daniel Swarovski was inspired by the Bohemian glass industry in Czechoslovakia, cutting lead crystal by hand as a teenager in his father's workshop. Inspired by the Weiner Werkstatte geometric, stylised organic designs, Swarovski took his new machine to Paris, where he and later his sons worked closely with designers and their ateliers, adding opulence to the jazz age in collaboration with design houses like Chanel and Schiaparelli. The iconic Nirvana ring of 1996 is a solid beautifully faceted crystal, the Metamorphose bag of 1994 features an encrustation of crystal flakes on black satin, and the Ophelia bag is an enfilage of jet-black and navy blue crystal pearls. The Number One wristwatch is a miracle of restrained aesthetic perfection. 26 x 33.5cm, 144pp, spectacular colour art photography.

$75 NOW £9

96639 VINTAGE SHOES: Collecting and Wearing Vintage Classics by Caroline Cox

Vintage Shoes traces a hundred years of footwear design, from André Perugia's elegant creations of the 1920s to Christian Louboutin's iconic red soles. Archive images, striking fashion photography and new shots of rare period pieces showcase some of the most collectible shoes ever made. Both a visual treat and a useful reference, the book highlights the designers, innovations and cultural shifts that shaped shoe fashion. Expect exquisite examples from Salvatore Ferragamo, Charles Jourdan, Roger Vivier, Beth Levine, Vivienne Westwood, Manolo Blahnik and more, with a foreword by Louboutin himself. 224 pages, 19 × 24cm.

£20 NOW £6

97910 STYLE OF TIME: The Evolution of Wristwatch Design by Mara Cappelletti

'A watch is a technical masterwork in which art is melded with science. Over the years, this creation becomes, and remains, a true object of desire.' A watch can also be viewed as a product whose stylistic code is linked to the aesthetics of a particular era. For example, the timepieces that emerged during the 1920s conveyed the linearity of Art Deco with their rectangular cases. Conceived in 1917 by Louis Cartier, the Tank has the shape of a First World War military Renault F-T 17. The chronometers and chronographs that spread beginning in the 1930s responded to the need for ever more precisely determined timings during car races, transatlantic flights and the Olympic games. Offerings by Eberhard, Longines, Omega, Patek Philippe and Rolex among others would satisfy these needs. The first of over 100 beautifully photographed collectable timepieces is a gold bracelet watch with diamonds and enamel made in 1868 by Patek Philippe, and the second image a group of six historical watches by IWC Schaffhausen. Pocket watches, hours and minute rotating discs, the first minute repeater wristwatch of 1892, a Lalique pocket watch in gold and enamel, the Cartier Santos of 1904 with one sapphire cabochon winding piece, Tiffany & Co. pendant watch necklaces from 1910, a Movado Ermeto watch with sliding panels opening to reveal a square dial with Arabic numerals among them. There are advertisements for the Rolex 'Oyster' for Everest leader's tribute to Rolex, the usually dark dials of the Blancpain, the first editions of the Submariner with its gold graphics and 'pencil' hands and convex crystal and caseback, the familiar blue and red bezel of the GMT-Master Rolex of 1955 and the beautiful jade dial of a Piaget in white gold from 1965. The Daytona, the Royal Oak Offshore, the Duomètre Chronograph 2007, the Bulgari Octo of 2012, the book is organised by decades. It ends with an exquisitely hand engraved and hand painted mother of pearl dial with black onyx counter and hand painted birds of the Bird Repeater by Jaquet Droz of 2012. An Antique Collectors Club Art Book first edition 2022, 268 huge pages packed with colour looking at fashion, technology, society and politics. 27 x 31cm. Highly collectable.

£50 NOW £35

95940 NUTMEG: Graters, Pomanders and Spice Boxes by John Reckless

Catch a whiff of the Spice Islands, the Caribbean and exquisite design in this detailed account of nutmeg in decorative antique graters, pomanders and spice containers and their luxury and utility from the 16th century to the present day. This is a substantial and beautifully illustrated guide to the history of nutmeg and its use. Once upon a time, nutmeg was worth its weight in gold. Nutmeg came exclusively from Indonesia's tiny Banda Islands, shaping global trade, sparking battles between the East India Company and the Dutch VOC, and leaving a surprisingly deep mark on Western society. This elegant volume traces that story through an extraordinary collection of antique graters, pomanders and spice boxes in silver, gold, enamel, ivory, bone and treen. Highlights include a 17th-century mandolin-shaped grater, puzzle boxes, posset cups, wassail bowls, mace- and acorn-shaped designs, and rare examples from Britain, Ireland, Scotland. Maps and lavish colour photography. 312pp, 24 x 30cm.

£50 NOW £9 **SAVE £41!**

95933 DESIGNER BRITISH SILVER: Slipcased Edition by John Andrew and Derek Styles

From Studios Established 1930-1985 offers a detailed exploration of the designer-silversmiths behind Britain's post-war silver revival. Covering 50 leading figures alphabetically, from Malcolm Appleby to John Willmin, the book delves into their lives, works, and the forces that made Britain a centre of excellence for silver design. Featuring hundreds of beautifully photographed pieces, highlights include a royal-wedding honeypot inspired by a straw hive, a Saracen filigree cup with 364 soldered components, Keith Tyssen's sleek teapots, vases, and bowls, David Mellor's Pride tea service, Grant McDonald's Court cup with a subtle 1960s twist, and Anthony Hawksley's abstract amethyst-and-silver creations. The book also includes a listing of 230 designer-silversmiths and engravers with potted biographies. This 560-page, slipcased first edition hardback (25.6 × 31.6 × 5.8cm) from the Antique Collectors' Club is a glamorous, comprehensive celebration of post-war British silver.

£75 NOW £18 **SAVE £57!**

96809 ULTIMATE COLLECTOR WATCHES: Two Volumes Slipcased by Charlotte and Peter Fiell

Exquisitely produced and impeccably curated, a rare entrée into the world of the most exceptional timepieces ever created. Across two sumptuous volumes, the authors present 100 landmark or "grail" wristwatches, each a masterpiece of design, craftsmanship, and the complex engineering of haute horlogerie. The journey begins with early aviators' watches by Longines and moves through the pantheon of vintage chronographs from Patek Philippe, Rolex, and Audemars Piguet. Featuring the celebrated works of George Daniels and his protégé Roger W. Smith, alongside the extraordinary creations of Philippe Dufour, François-Paul Journe, Kari Voutilainen, and Rexhep Rexhepi. Also included are rare archival treasures, from design sketches and technical drawings to superb period advertisements and photographs. Plus in-depth interviews with leading authorities from the watchmaking and collecting worlds, including Patrick Getreide (OAK Collection), Alexandre Ghotbi (Phillips), Ben Clymer (Hodinkee), Roger W. Smith (watchmaker), Auro Montanari (renowned collector), and Silas Walton (A Collected Man). Beautifully crafted by Taschen, this slipcased set comprises two hardcover volumes measuring 28.1 × 36 cm, totalling 960 pages and weighing 10.75kg.

£250 **BACK IN STOCK**

TRUE CRIME

The line between good and evil runs through every human heart, and sometimes, it is thinner than we dare to imagine.

- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

97475 QUEENS OF LONDON by Heather Webb

Based on real-life historical figures. 1925. London. When Alice Diamond, AKA "Diamond Annie," is elected the Queen of the Forty Elephants, she's determined to take the all-girl gang to new heights, independent of the male Elephant and Castle Mob from which they derived both their origin and name. She's ambitious, and a brilliant mastermind, yet she cannot help her best friend and associate Ruth, who refuses to leave an abusive lover. Interesting, colourful character storylines include young Anglo-Indian wealthy Hira Wickham and pretty showgirl Dorothy McBride. Officer Lilian Wyles isn't merely one of the first female detectives at Scotland Yard, she's one of the best detectives on the force... 368 page paperback.

$16.99 NOW £5

96660 NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH by The Secret Barrister

A picaresque journey to barristerhood served up with large helpings of humour, the memoir tracks their transformation from hang 'em and flog 'em austerity-supporter to celebrated, campaigning, bestselling author. In an entertaining diary that takes us behind the scenes of their middling ambition, the book charts the progress down the winding path towards practising at the Bar. By way of the painfully archaic traditions of the Inns of Court where every meal mandates a glass of port and a toast to the monarch, and the Hunger Games-style contest for pupillage which most don't survive, here is the brilliant reality of being a frustrated junior criminal barrister. 299 page paperback.

£10.99 NOW £3.75

The Golden Age of Bad Girls ***Gun-toting femme fatales caught in the action!***

97837 TRUE CRIME DETECTIVE MAGAZINES 1924-1969 by Eric Godtland and Dian Hanson

At the height of the Jazz Age, when Prohibition was turning ordinary citizens into criminals and ordinary criminals into celebrities, America's true crime detective magazines were born. True Detective came first in 1924, and by 1934, when the Great Depression had produced colourful outlaws like Machine Gun Kelly, Al Capone, Bonnie and Clyde "Twelve Murders solved when Texas Rangers Kill Clyde Barrow and his Moll", Baby Face Nelson, and John Dillinger, the magazines were so popular cops and robbers alike vied to see themselves on the pages. Even FBI boss J. Edgar Hoover wrote regularly for what came to be called the "Dickbooks," referring to a popular slang term for a detective. As the decades rolled on, the magazines went through a curious metamorphosis. When liquor was once more legal, the Depression over and all the flashy criminals dead or imprisoned, the "detectives" turned to sin to make sales. Sexy bad girls in tight sweaters, slit skirts, in wet barely-there underwear and stiletto heels adorned every cover and articles like "Sorry, I'm tied up right now!" and Co-eds offer free breast-feeding to men who give up smoking" on the cover of Spotlite. True Crime Detective Magazines follows the evolution and devolution of this distinctly American genre from 1924 to 1969 in scintillating, titillating chapters and confessional stories. Hundreds of covers and interior blazing colour images from dozens of magazine titles and posters tell the story, not just of the "detectives," but also of America's attitudes towards sex, sin, crime, and punishment over five decades. With texts by magazine collector Eric Godtland, George Hagenauer, and True Detective editor Marc Gerald. 15.6 x 21.7cm, 512 pages. New from Taschen.

ONLY £25

97602 TALKING WITH SERIAL KILLERS: Stalkers by Christopher Berry-Dee

Having exhaustively studied the case histories of more than 60 modern-day sexually motivated serial murderers - rape, multiple rapes, and homicide graduating to serial murder. The FBI has confirmed that the majority of sexual psychopaths gain most of their perverse thrills from the stalking of their unsuspecting victims, often in many different ways. 'Ted Bundy's signature is said to have been the bites he inflicted on his victims... some would tie ligatures with an unusual knot; a serial killer in India left beer cans next to victims, while in Greece, a killer stabbed each of four elderly prostitutes exactly four times in the neck; a serial murderer in Germany usually inflicted left-slated parallel stab wounds, which helped to link his victims.' Not well written but curiously fascinating. 301 page paperback.

£10.99 NOW £5

97054 MANY FACES OF CRIME: A True Detective Chronicle by Dennis McGookin

Belfast-born Detective Constable Dennis McGookin became involved in some of the most challenging cases of late 20th-century policing. This memoir, with some details changed to protect identities, offers early cases including a brutal revenge incident in which a boy was killed by a lorry driver who failed to stop at the scene. Months later the child's grave was desecrated, and the father took the law into his own hands by shooting the driver. Another major investigation involves road rage killer Kenneth Noye, who fled to Spain under an assumed identity. The most disturbing case concerns the disappearance and murder of Diana Goldsmith. A further case recounts the deaths of 58 Chinese migrants found in a lorry in June 2000, the largest fatal human smuggling incident in the UK. 272pp, monochrome photos.

£22.99 NOW £9

96693 WORLD HISTORY OF WAR CRIMES: From Antiquity to the Present by Michael S. Bryant

The greatly expanded and enhanced 2nd edition of A World History of War Crimes offers a clear, authoritative overview of how societies across the globe have tried to limit the brutality of war. Michael Bryant traces ideas about the rules of war from ancient civilisations - where codes aimed to preserve cosmic or religious order - through to the modern use of criminal trials to enforce humanitarian norms. New to this edition are substantial chapters on the Americas, Africa and the Middle East, including fresh material on the Incas, Aztecs, Maya and North American tribes. Bryant also updates the narrative with discussions of recent atrocities in Afghanistan, Iraq, Myanmar and Syria. A new historiographical essay broadens the reader's grasp of the field, while the final chapter explores the social, cultural and psychological forces behind war crimes. Richly illustrated 406-page paperback.

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96347 LETHAL LEGACY: A History of Ireland in 18 Murders by Fin Dwyer

Spanning 200 years, here are 18 true murder cases. From the desperate retributions of the Land War of the 19th century, chapters cover 1821 With a United Kingdom, Sectarianism in 1834, Hunger 1846, The Workhouse 1862, Emigration 1894, The Asylum 1890, Divided Loyalties 1919, Partition 1922, A Free State 1923, In Search of Public Morality 1936, Escaping Poverty 1965, The Troubles 1972 and At A Crossroads 1982 among them. Previously overlooked cases of human tragedy offer a fresh perspective on a history we thought we knew. 390 page paperback, photos.

£10.99 NOW £2.50

95537 PLAYBOYS & MAYFAIR MEN by Angus Mclaren

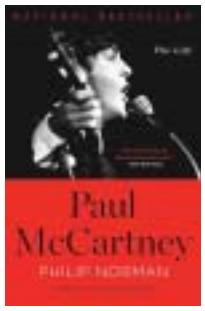
Crime, Class, Masculinity, & Fascism In 1910s. London in December 1937, four respectable young men in their twenties, all products of elite English public schools, the "Mayfair men", brutally bludgeoned diamond salesman Etienne Bellenger and made off with eight rings that today would be worth approximately half a million pounds. Such well-connected young people were not supposed to appear in the prisoner's dock at the Old Bailey. McLaren recounts the violent robbery and sensational trial that followed. His cast of characters includes such well-known figures as Noel Coward, Evelyn Waugh, the Churchills, Robert Graves, Oswald Mosley, and Edward VIII; and convincingly links disparate issues such as divorce reform, corporal punishment, effeminacy, and fascism. Map and illus, 264 pages.

$24.95 NOW £3

MUSIC AND DANCE

Life is a lot like jazz. It's best when you improvise.

- George Gershwin

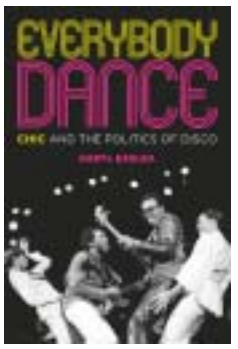


97818 PAUL MCCARTNEY: The Life by Philip Norman
The definitive Paul McCartney biography written with his approval by bestselling biographer Philip Norman who sheds new light on well known Beatles stories and then goes further down the long and winding road. Paul's story is told by rock music's foremost biographer with access to family members and close friends who have never spoken on the record before. It reveals the complex character behind the façade and sheds new light on a childhood blighted by his mother's death but redeemed by the father who introduced him to music. It looks at the often troubled partnership with John Lennon, his personal trauma after the Beatles' breakup, and his subsequent struggle to get back to the top with Wings, which nearly got him murdered in Africa and brought him nine days in a Tokyo jail. Here too for the first time is the inside story of his marriage to Linda, their musical partnership, and her tragic death from the same illness that claimed his mother's life. McCartney has tremendous musical talent plus all the insecurities and flaws of mere mortals and this honest biography even deals with the gossip on his second marriage and the divorce. Finally in 2011 Paul marries New York trucking heiress Nancy Shevell at London's Marylebone Town Hall where he had married Linda in 1969. A happy ending. With dozens of rare photos in both black and white and colour harking back to an era in Liverpool's Albert Docks, apple sandwiches with sugar, putting on the style, Little Richard's got his shirt, changing his life, big houses, playing on the roof, steroids, songs being bought, and much more. Hefty weight softback, 855 pages. Special US import.

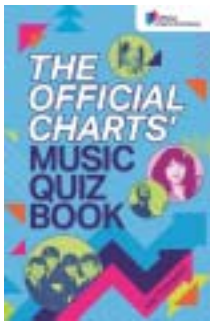
$27.99 NOW £10

97704 SUMMERTIME: George Gershwin's Life in Music by Richard Crawford
As elegant and authoritative and irresistible as the beloved American composer's works, every chapter is filled with deep knowledge and insight and written in charming prose. New York City native and gifted pianist George Gershwin blossomed as an accompanist before his talent as a songwriter opened the way to Broadway, where he fashioned his own brand of American music. He composed a long run of musical comedies many with his brother Ira as lyricist, but his aspirations reached beyond commercial success. A lifetime learner, Gershwin was able to appeal to listeners on both sides of the popular-classical divide. In 1924 when he was just 25 he bridged that gap with his first instrumental composition, Rhapsody in Blue, an instant classic premiered by Paul Whiteman's Jazz Orchestra as the anchor of a concert entitled 'An Experiment in Modern Music'. From then on his work as a composer, pianist and citizen of the Jazz Age made him in some circles a leader on America's musical scene.

The shows he scored include Porgy and Bess, his magnum opus. The brothers left New York to write songs for Hollywood but their work was cut short when George developed a brain tumour and died at the age of 38. This remarkable life story seamlessly blends with colourful anecdotes and a discussion of Gershwin's unforgettable oeuvre. 594 magnificent pages, beautifully designed and with a self-portrait in checkered sweater, 1936. Shall we dance?
£31.99 NOW £10 **SAVE £21.99!**



97768 EVERYBODY DANCE: Chic and the Politics of Disco by Daryl Easlea
The Chic front men Nile Rodgers and Bernard Edwards were two complete opposites, Nile a self-taught guitarist with a background in Greenwich Village political activism and the Black Panthers, Bernard a home-loving bassist from the Bronx who learnt music the conventional way at his Catholic high school. Both were born in 1952 and a formative influence was the Beatles, with Rodgers moving on into jazz while Edwards got into R&B and rock. When he was still hanging around New York looking for opportunities, Nile got to jam with Hendrix just before his untimely death in 1970, and after that high point Nile went on to a big break playing guitar in the touring show of Sesame Street. Both Rodgers and Edwards were just too late for the Vietnam draft, and their first meeting on the New York circuit was not a success, with Edwards telling the brash Rodgers to lose his phone number, but later they met without recognising each other and were impressed, honing their craft together with the band New York City and forming their own group Chic under the inspiration of two colleagues who joined David Bowie's touring band. Disco music started to move forward and by the end of the 1970s the success of the Bee Gees and Saturday Night Fever meant their time had come. On a UK tour Rodgers saw Roxy Music and imported Bryan Ferry's blend of jarring, surreal pop into the high years of Chic, using the talents of female vocalists Norma Jean, the college teacher with the phenomenal voice Alfa Anderson, and Luci Martin. Hits like "Everybody Dance" and "Good Times" caught the zeitgeist but with disco music falling out of favour at the end of the 80s, Chic releases began to sound dated. Undaunted, the two went into record production with a big string of successes until Edwards's untimely death. Rodgers also worked with big names like Duran Duran and Mick Jagger, and continues to perform under the Chic umbrella. 440pp, softback, discography, touring schedule, photos in colour and mono.
£18.99 NOW £7.50



97592 OFFICIAL CHARTS' MUSIC QUIZ BOOK by Lee Thompson
Test yourself on 70 years of chart music trivia like which Number 1 song by The Beatles became the biggest-selling single of the 1960s? Can you name the two Number 1 songs by Lionel Richie and Adele which shared the same title? From Made in Wales can you correctly identify the artists from these song titles? It's Not Unusual. This Ole House. Have A Nice Day. Walking In the Air. Goldfinger. Everything Must Go. And so on - 20 questions each with the number they reached in the charts and the month and year. Here are hits after hits from the Rolling Stones, the Kinks, Diana Ross and Cliff Richard, missing words, something in common, month by month, long hot summers through to hip hop legends and Christmas Number 1s. 288 page large softback, line art.
£12.99 NOW £3.75

97597 ROCK: The Culture in Pictures edited by Ian Penberthy
Over 300 images from the vast Mirrorpix photographic archives illustrating the world of rock music from the boundary defying prog rock and hallucinogenic psychedelic rock, outrageously camp glam rock and avant-garde poise of art rock, to the massive sound of heavy metal, and the stripped down three-chord anarchy of punk rock, by way of the vocal harmonies of folk rock and free-form improvisation of jazz rock fusion. These fantastic colour images capture the atmosphere of gigs and arenas, festivals and the recording studio, and news pictures, while portraits of band members and their families reveal the softer side of the business. One of our favourites is on page 194 with heavy metal singer Ozzy Osborne at home with his children in July 1988, surrounded by cuddly toys. From across the years there is Peter Gabriel, Elton John, John Entwistle's guitar collection, early Fleetwood Mac, The Rolling Stones, Janis Joplin and all the other greats. 300 pages, packed with colour, softback.
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96721 STONE AGE: Sixty Years of the Rolling Stones by Lesley-Ann Jones
From the early days of Keith Richards and Mick Jagger making serious money from songwriting, Keith's Redlands farmhouse and Mick's Aston Martin, to the notorious 1967 Redlands drug bust involving Marianne Faithfull wrapped in an orange bedspread, Jones charts the band's highs, lows, and scandals with insight and verve. The book explores the creation of landmark tracks like "Satisfaction," famously recorded by Richards in the middle of the night with no memory of the riff, and albums such as Exile on Main Street, Goats Head Soup, and Tattoo You. Jones also examines 1980s touring and recording to the impact of Live Aid, the rise of corporate rock, promotional videos, and the celebrity culture that shaped the era. She reflects on the band's resilience, even after the death of drummer Charlie Watts, highlighting their continued influence and authenticity. Packed with timelines, colour and monochrome photos. 388 pages.
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97911 THE ODYSSEY: Cranford Collection by Homer
The Odyssey is divided into 24 books and follows the heroic king of Ithaca, Odysseus, also known by the Latin variant Ulysses, and his perilous homecoming journey after the ten-year-long Trojan War. There are shipwrecks and encounters with fantastical creatures including a man-eating Polyphemus, voracious nymph Calypso, the one-eyed monster Cyclops and sorceress Circe. His journey from Troy back home to Ithaca lasts an additional ten years, during which time he encounters many perils and all of his crewmates are killed. In Odysseus's long absence, he is presumed dead, leaving his wife Penelope and son Telemachus to contend with a group of unruly suitors keen to supplant the absent warrior, competing for Penelope's hand in marriage. Recently made into a blockbuster movie, we have acquired this elegant edition, text only, 467 pages with gilded decoration of mythical creatures surrounding the ship on the cover and matching design printed in colour on the very page edges top, bottom and sides of the book.
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One of the most beloved novels of all time, who can forget the witty Elizabeth Bennet and her wavering feelings towards Mr Darcy in this classic comedy of manners? From the Bennets' perspective, it is imperative that at least one of their daughters marry well to support the others, which is a primary motivation driving the plot. This rather special new edition is a beautifully bound gilded hardback of 311 pages with teal blue cover design with gold and coloured peacock and feathers and vase, and a matching peacock feather decoration in colour all the way down the page edges, top, bottom and sides. This matches both The Odyssey (97911) and Wuthering Heights (97916) in the same new series and they make a wonderfully stylish collector's library.
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97916 WUTHERING HEIGHTS: Cranford Collection by Emily Brontë
"Wuthering Heights is the only novel by the English author Emily Brontë, initially published in 1847 under her pen name Ellis Bell. It concerns two extensive upland estates and their landowning families on the West Yorkshire moors, the Earnshaws and the Lintons; and their turbulent relationships with the Earnshaws' foster son, Heathcliff. Driven by themes of love, possession, revenge, and reconciliation, the novel is influenced by Romanticism and Gothic fiction. It is considered a classic of English literature." - Wikipedia. This rather special new edition is a beautifully bound gilded hardback of 296 pages with pretty pink cover design with red carnations, buzzy bees and a floral decoration in colour all the way down the page edges top, bottom, and sides. This matches both The Odyssey (97911) and Pride and Prejudice (97906) in the same new series and they make a wonderfully stylish collector's library.
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96958 CAPITOL RECORDS by Reuel Golden and Barney Hoskyns
This lavish Taschen volume celebrates the Capitol Records Building in Hollywood as both an architectural icon and a symbol of American popular music history. Opening with the label's golden era from 1942-1960, it introduces legends like Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Nat King Cole, Judy Garland, Johnny Mercer, and the Dinning Sisters, alongside the behind-the-scenes engineers, orchestras, and studio staff who shaped the recordings we still treasure today. Organised chronologically, it covers artists and bands including Bobby Darin, The Beatles, The Beach Boys, Sweet, Merle Haggard, Tavares, Thomas Dolby, Tina Turner, Foo Fighters, Sam Smith, Coldplay, Neil Diamond, Gregory Porter, and Emeli Sandé, among others. Hundreds of full-page colour photographs, album covers, and short biographies of key photographers create a visual feast that complements the musical narrative. 486 large-format pages, full illus.
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97154 JIMI HENDRIX by Janie Hendrix and John McDermott
Jimi Hendrix is celebrated as one of the most innovative guitarists in music history, transforming electric blues and effectively creating a new language for the instrument. Drawing on influences from Chuck Berry, Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan, and the blues of Muddy Waters, he blended styles into something entirely original. Hendrix found success after being discovered in 1966 by Chas Chandler of The Animals, who brought him to London. The Swinging Sixties were unprepared for his explosive talent, striking stage presence, and raw, revolutionary sound, which quickly made him a symbol of counterculture rebellion. His career included legendary performances at venues such as the Royal Albert Hall and Woodstock, alongside hours of improvisational jamming. Though his life was short and ended at age 27, his influence remains immense. This large-format, illustrated tribute, curated by his daughter Janie, features rare family photographs, concert images, memorabilia, posters, handwritten lyrics, and commentary from fellow musicians, offering a visual celebration of his life from 1942 to 1967. With colourful typography, vintage memorabilia and handwritten lyrics, and quotes, 318 pages, 23 x 31cm.
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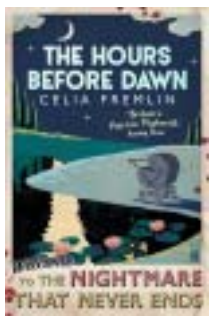
CRIME FICTION

Miss Marple is a white-haired old lady with a gentle appealing manner - Miss Wetherby is a mixture of vinegar and gush. Of the two Miss Marple is the more dangerous.

- Agatha Christie, Murder at the Vicarage



97811 HOURS BEFORE DAWN by Celia Fremlin
First published in 1958 and Winner of the 1960 Edgar Award for Best Mystery Novel, we have re-discovered the original psychological thriller of a sleep-deprived young mother who struggles to stay sane. Louise would give anything for a good night's sleep. Forget the girls running errant in the garden and bothering the neighbours. Forget her husband who seems oblivious to it all. If the baby would just stop crying, everything would be fine. Or would it? What if Louise's growing fears about the family's new lodger, who seems to share all of her husband's interests, are real? What could she do and would anyone believe her? Maybe if she could get just get some rest, she would be able to think straight. Louise had the feeling of being hunted... 'A slow-burning chill of a read by a master of suspense.' - Janice Hallett. And highly praised by Elly Griffiths, 'such clever, witty writing.' Fremlin has a knack of breeding monsters from the minutiae of life and shows how lack of love and loneliness can cause them. 241 page paperback.
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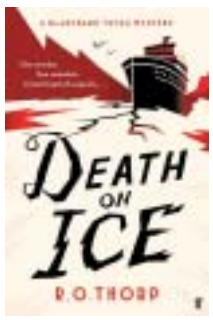

97808 DEATH ON ICE by R. O. Thorp
'Like Murder She Wrote in the Arctic with sharks!' - Kitty Murphy, this is fun ahoy. Meet the Blanchard twins - Rose is practical, sharp, and protective. Specialty manta rays. Finn is too sweet and kind for his own good. Specialty sharks. While they are looking for sharks on the sea bed, they return to their ship the Dauphin and make a terrible discovery. A scientist nobody liked on board has been murdered on the ice, their colleague harpooned with a weapon that should never have been there. Everyone else on the luxury cruise ship - the wealthy passengers, the researchers hard at work, the tight-knit crew and their strangely calm Captain - were all aboard at the time, so they are all under suspicion. The twins were the only two at sea and they are miles from anywhere, so it's up to them to investigate. A brilliant modern cosy-but-cold classic detective story which is wonderfully engaging and with well drawn characters, a complex plot and a highly original setting - a truly gloriously silly slice of escapism. Faber paperback, 421 pages.
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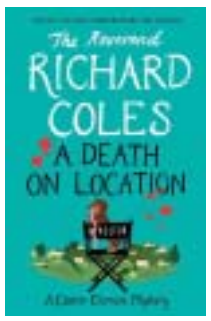

97892 DEATH ON LOCATION: A Canon Clement Mystery by The Reverend Richard Coles
In spring 1990 a murder disrupts filming at Champton House where a Hollywood movie is being shot. The whole village has been a flutter as a glamorous film has taken over Lord de Floures' house, but as the actors and extras hired from the village don their farthingales, gowns and crowns for a masque set in the 1600s, a murder interrupts filming and it is an ingenious one. Can Detective Daniel solve the case with his strained partner Neil Vanloo? Another clever and twisty read where we will want to take front pew with the good reverend as he directs another bestselling cosy crime mystery. Elegant hardback, 405pp.
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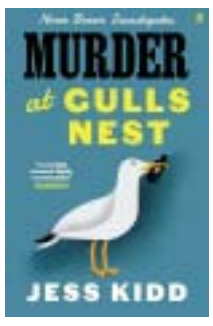

97815 MURDER AT GULL'S NEST by Jess Kidd
After 30 years in a convent, Nora Breen has thrown off her habit. Her fellow sister Frieda has gone missing and it's up to Nora to find her. The only clue is that Frieda was last seen at Gull's Nest boarding house, so she travels to the seaside town of Gore-on-Sea, takes a room and settles in to watch and listen. Over dubious and sometimes downright inedible dinners, Nora gathers evidence about her other lodgers. At long last she has found an outlet for her powers of observation and, well, nosiness. When one of the lodgers is found dead, Nora decides she must find the murderer, not least because she suspects the victim knew Frieda. Could solving this mystery help her to understand what has happened to her friend? With her understated genius, wit and guts, this is a 1950s seaside mystery which will keep readers guessing until the end with our new favourite character. Richard Armitage said, 'A gothic house, a retired nun and vivid nostalgic stalk through the murky quagmire of murder.' 331 pages in very large softback with fairly large print.
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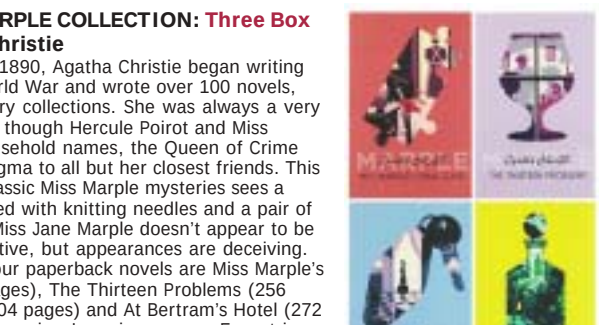

97903 MISS MARPLE COLLECTION: Three Box Set by Agatha Christie
Born in Torquay in 1890, Agatha Christie began writing during the First World War and wrote over 100 novels, plays and short story collections. She was always a very private person, and though Hercule Poirot and Miss Marple became household names, the Queen of Crime was a complete enigma to all but her closest friends. This collection of four classic Miss Marple mysteries sees a sweet old lady armed with knitting needles and a pair of gardening gloves. Miss Jane Marple doesn't appear to be your average detective, but appearances are deceiving. In a slipcase, the four paperback novels are Miss Marple's Final Cases (190 pages), The Thirteen Problems (256 pages), Nemesis (304 pages) and At Bertram's Hotel (272 pages). Impeccable service. Luxurious rooms. Eccentric guests. There are worse places for Canon Pennyfather to find himself stranded than Bertram's Hotel. But when he gets his dates in a muddle and attempts to travel to Lucerne a day too late, he unwittingly sets off a violent chain of events. Miss Marple's Final Cases - an unknown wounded man in a church. A fatal riding accident. A corpse and a tape measure. Whether in St Mary Mead or further afield, there is always much wickedness lurking below the surface, should, like Jane Marple, you have the eyes to see it. Published posthumously, this collection of tales, including two stand-alone stories, is a treasure trove.
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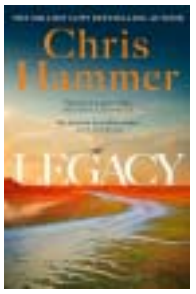

97899 LEGACY by Chris Hammer
From the million copy international bestseller, a Martin Scarsden thriller. Journalist Scarsden flees to the outback after surviving a bomb at his book launch, becoming entangled with locals while killers pursue him. Scarsden is on the run. Will the desert save him or bury him? Someone wants him dead and fleeing for his life into the outback, he learns that there is nowhere left to run. He finds his life in the hands of some surprising individuals - a disgraced ex-wife of a footballer, a fugitive wanted for a decades-old murder, and two 19th century explorers from a legendary expedition whose fate may hold the key to his own. One thing is for sure - in the scorching heart of Australia, Scarsden's most dangerous assignment isn't just a story, it's survival. A twisting mystery epic in scale and intricate in detail, a tortured tale of blood and loss redolent with claustrophobic tension. A slow burning novel with dark simmering tones from one of the best Australian cotemporary novelists. 479 pages in big hardback.
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Two mismatched detectives, DI Ryan Wilkins and DI Ray Wilkins investigate when a linguistics professor is found dead in his pyjamas on a hotel lawn miles from his home. Thames Valley has a new Superintendent - DCS Wainwright - young, charismatic and ruthless, charged with pushing through big reforms. Her in-tray is full of problems, and at the top of the pile is the problem of Wilkins and Wilkins. Trailer park boy DI Ryan Wilkins, interesting looking in baggy trackies and over-large lime green puffa. In his personnel file is a handwritten note scribbled by the outgoing Super: 'Do not, repeat not, give him responsibility.' And posh boy DI Ray Wilkins, improbably handsome in navy blazer and tan chinos. 'Thinks too highly of himself.' Their previous investigations were models of disorder and dysfunction and the new Super needs to take action. There has been a shocking murder in the heart of Oxford, the stabbing of a security guard during an attempted armed robbery. Meanwhile an elderly professor of linguistics goes missing from his home in cosy Iffley Village. The high-profile murder investigation can be safely handled by reliable detective DI Hare. The entry-level inquiry into the wandering academic can be given to the problem duo, with instructions to keep it simple, but when the body of the professor is found dripping wet spreadeagled on a hotel lawn, things get a little unexpected for the Wilkinses. Moody and full of surprises, this deserves to be a TV series. 362 page paperback.
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97773 HEAVEN, MY HOME by Attica Locke
Winner of the CWA Steel Dagger Award this is a beautifully wrought mystery which sees Texas Ranger Darren Mathews investigating a missing white boy's case amidst racial tensions while battling his own personal demons and his mother's blackmail. Mick Herron calls this a 'powerful, angry, important book.' Nine-year-old Levi King knew he should have left for home sooner. Instead he found himself alone, adrift on the vastness of Caddo Lake. A sudden noise, and all goes dark. Ranger Darren Mathews is trying to emerge from another kind of darkness. His career and reputation lie in the hands of his mother who has never had his best interests at heart. Now she holds the key to his freedom and she's not above a little blackmail to press her advantage. An unlikely possibility of rescue arrives in the form of a case down Highway 59, in a small lakeside town. With Texas already suffering a new wave of racial violence in the wake of the election of Donald Trump, a black man is a suspect in the possible murder of a missing white boy, the son of an Aryan Brotherhood captain. In deep country where the rule of law only goes so far, Darren has to battle centuries-old prejudices as he races to save not only Levi King, but himself. The book reflects unflinching the ugly side of contemporary America and is written by one of America's finest novelists. 294 page paperback.
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97895 SHARP OBJECTS by Gillian Flynn
A relentlessly creepy family saga says Stephen King about this novel from the author of Gone Girl, now a major HBO series. Journalist Camille Preaker returns to her home town to investigate two girls' murders, confronting her own dark past while identifying too closely with the victims. "Sometimes I think illness sits inside every woman, waiting for the right moment to bloom." When two girls are abducted and killed in Missouri, Camille suddenly finds herself installed once again in her family's mansion, reacquainting herself with her distant mother and the half-sister she barely knows, a precocious 13-year-old who holds a disquieting grip on the town. As Camille works to uncover the truth about these violent crimes, clues keep leading to dead ends, forcing her to unravel the psychological puzzle of her own past if she wants to get the story and survive this homecoming. A sinister psychological drama which reminds us how scary teenage girls can be. 327 page paperback.
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97898 KING OF ASHES by S. A. Cosby
A new thriller from the award-winning author, secrets are bound to ignite in this "sensationally good" (Lee Child) novel. Roman Carruthers left the smoke and fire of his family's crematory business behind in Jefferson Run, Virginia. He is enjoying a life of shallow excess as a financial adviser in Atlanta until his sister Neveah tells him their father is in a coma after a hit-and-run. Returning home, Roman learns the accident may not be what it seems. His brother Dante is deeply in debt to dangerous criminals and Roman is willing to do anything to protect his family. Meanwhile his sister investigates their mother's 20-year-old disappearance. A financial whiz with a head for numbers and a talent for making his clients rich, Roman must use all his skills to try to save his family. Neveah is determined to solve the mystery of their mother's disappearance. As fate and chance and heartache ignite their lives, the Carruthers family must pull together to survive or see their lives turn to ash. Because, as their father counselled them from birth, nothing lasts forever. Everything burns. A powerful crime novel and elegant and fierce storytelling at its best. 333 page paperback.
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97223 WILDS by Sarah Pearse
In Portugal's national park, dark forests close in from all sides and only a few campers brave the loneliness. It's easy to get lost out here, but when solo traveller Kier Templer goes missing, there are signs she was in danger before she even left her home in Devon. Detective Elin Warner is supposed to be off duty, until she discovers a troubling clue Kier left behind and becomes determined to track her down. But when the campsite closes ranks against Elin's questions, the isolation starts to turn sinister... The Sanatorium made your blood run cold. Now, go deep into the woods with The Wilds... 415 page paperback.
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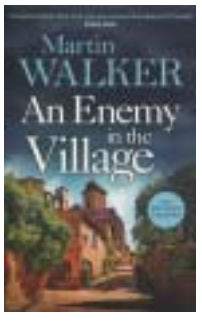

97893 ENEMY IN THE VILLAGE by Martin Walker
One of the superb and very popular Dordogne Mysteries series. France's favourite country policeman investigates a suicide and gets involved in a tricky local issue in the latest adventure. Bruno Courrèges is chief of police of the lovely Dordogne town of St Denis with a remit that covers the beautiful valley of the river Vézère. One autumn morning he comes across an abandoned car parked near a local beauty spot. Inside is a dead woman, Monique, an apparent suicide resulting from depression. But there are circumstances surrounding the death that raise Bruno's suspicions, particularly when disputes arise surrounding her Will. Meanwhile Bruno makes the mistake of interfering in a local marital dispute. Deputy mayor Xavier has been playing away and finds himself evicted from the family home. Old controversies about deer culls take on a new life and then a second campaign begins, stating that Bruno is less of a village copper and more of a secret policeman whose main job is working for French intelligence. Some of the ammunition for this attack Bruno learns comes from Xavier, who sees this as a way to topple Bruno and the mayor and succeed to the mayor's job himself. Suddenly Bruno's shiny reputation is looking a little tarnished. An exceptionally entertaining read, 307 page paperback.
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94222 RESISTANCE MAN by Martin Walker
World War Two casts a long shadow in the Périgord as Bruno, the local cop in St Denis, knows. When some rare bank notes are discovered, it appears that they may be linked to the legendary 1944 train robbery at Neuvic, Dordogne. Bruno is already dealing with a wave of local burglaries which has brought his old flame Isabelle back to the town. Bruno now finds he has the more pressing matter of a body on his hands. At the time of his death, the man was holding a strange looking bank note which turns out to have been part of a huge consignment when billions of francs were stolen from a Nazi train. Meanwhile there are robberies of local holiday homes and a British holidaymaker is attacked and killed. 341pp, paperback.
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94217 DEATH UNDERCOVER by Martin Walker
The body of a French Muslim policeman is discovered in the woods near St Denis. The victim had contacted Bruno, the local town cop for help only hours before, but Bruno's sometime boss the Brigadier doesn't see this investigation as a priority. Meanwhile a Muslim youth named Sami arrives at a French army base in Afghanistan hoping to get home to St Denis. One of Bruno's old army comrades helps to smuggle Sami back to France, but the FBI and a media firestorm aren't far behind. Amidst pressure from his bosses, Bruno must find his own way to protect his town and its people. 358pp, paperback.
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94220 DEVIL'S CAVE by Martin Walker
Mystery, food and wine in the French province of the Dordogne, it is Spring in St Denis, but a dead woman is found floating in a boat. It's another case for Bruno, the town's cherished Chief of Police. With the discovery of sinister markings and black candles near the body, it seems the occult might be involved, and the sudden reappearance of a politically controversial elderly countess, Bruno and his colleagues and friends are drawn ever closer to a climactic showdown in the Devil's Cave. 392pp, paperback.
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Sherlock Holmes has come into possession of a pack of cards that once belonged to his diabolical nemesis Professor Moriarty, but what secrets do they hide? Is his long-believed-dead antagonist back or is this all just a wild goose chase left behind by the Professor to torment the great detective? Join Sherlock and his loyal companion Dr. John Watson as they attempt to solve the puzzles concealed within and discover what Moriarty has truly hidden inside. Each conundrum on the cards corresponds to a narrative puzzle in the book to be solved alone or to read alongside the story to gain hints. With mathematical mysteries, hidden messages and all manner of clever clues to solve, we enter the evocative world of Victorian London. In a sleek, lidded box, set of 50 large colourful cards and a 128 page puzzle book. 20 x 13.6cm.
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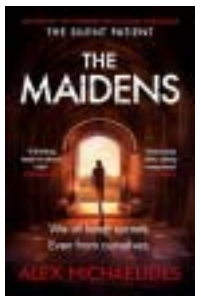

97901 MAIDENS by Alex Michaelides
A Cambridge therapist investigates murders linked to a charismatic professor with his secret society of female students, while Greek mythology and obsession intertwine. We all keep secrets. Even from ourselves. You are invited to join the Maidens at Cambridge University's most exclusive society, where members are selected by the charismatic professor of Greek tragedy, Edward Fosca. A secretive set of the brightest, most captivating students, when one of the Maidens is murdered, grieving young therapist Mariana Andros is drawn back to the idyllic campus where she was once herself a student. The group from which each victim will be chosen… Because beneath the university's ancient traditions and beauty is a web of secrets, jealousy and lies, and when the killer threatens the person she loves most, Mariana will give anything to stop them, even her own life. With a flavour of his bestselling 'The Silent Patient', this novel of murder and obsession delivers Hellenic thrills in style and is gripping from its intriguing start to its horrifying finish. 360 page paperback.
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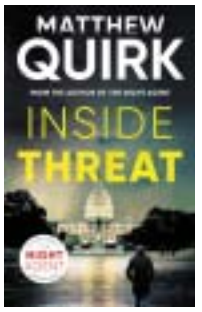

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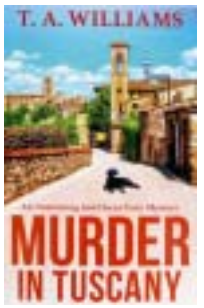

97217 MURDER IN TUSCANY by T. A. Williams
Nestled high in the Tuscan hills lies Villa Volpone, home to renowned crime writer Jonah Moore and his creative writing course. It's also the last place retired DCI Dan Armstrong expected to spend his retirement! A gruesome murder… Dan finds himself pulled out of retirement with a killer to catch. Eleven possible suspects. As Dan and Italian Inspector Virgilio Pisano begin to investigate, it quickly becomes clear that everyone at Villa Volpone has secrets to hide. A twist-filled murder mystery full of atmosphere, suspicion, and sun-drenched Tuscan intrigue. 260 page paperback.
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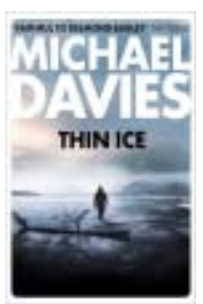

97221 THIN ICE by Michael Davies
"I wondered how Anna Stern had wound up dead beside the freezing shallows of the Danube less than 24 hours after meeting me. More selfishly, but more alarmingly, I wondered if the two things were connected." It was a simple errand. Collect a package. Save the world. But when Bill Kemp's contact washes up dead on the frozen banks of the Danube, where the Iron Curtain falls across the map of Europe, he's thrown into the heart of a dangerous conspiracy that threatens to destabilise the continent. With winter closing in and enemies on all sides, Kemp must risk a daring expedition across the Austrian Alps to Switzerland. His introduction to the dark world of espionage will prove as deadly as those bleak, beautiful mountains. 304 page paperback.
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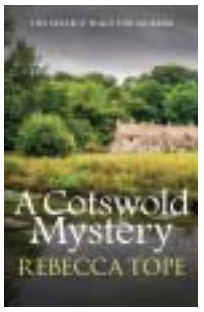

96412 COTSWOLD MYSTERY: Book 4 by Rebecca Tope
Despite the catastrophic outcomes of her previous house-sitting commissions, Thea Osborne, accompanied by her trusty spaniel Hepzie, is truly convinced nothing can go wrong on her next assignment in the charming village of Blockley. The Montgomerys have asked her to look after their house while they take a much-needed holiday. But trouble seems to follow Thea, and when a body is discovered in the house next door, she finds herself in the midst of village secrets. From mystical local legends to celebrity sightings, the erstwhile quiet area turns out to be a place of mysterious contradictions - with very sinister undertones. 319 page paperback.
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The roots of evil are exposed in the Lake District. Florist Simmy Brown has a lot on her mind her father's failing health, her business is in trouble, her long-term relationship with Christopher is proving challenging, and with Mother's Day fast approaching, this brings with it painful memories of personal loss. In taking an order for a retirement party in Staveley, Simmy is unwittingly pulled into her most challenging investigation yet. When a daughter starts accusing her own mother of murder, Simmy feels she has no choice but to offer assistance. To uncover the killer, she will have to learn to leave her own concerns behind. 318 page paperback.
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Murder lies beneath the charm of the Lake District. The Spring Bank Holiday should mark an idyllic first year for florist Persimmon 'Simmy' Brown's shop in Windermere, but there's a funeral to prepare for and the long weekend takes a rather deadly turn. There's word of a series of sinister dognappings in nearby Troutbeck and whilst walking up Wansfell Pike, Simmy and her father Russell stumble upon a dead dog. Unnerved by this and a second suspicious encounter, Simmy reluctantly finds herself caught up in a murder investigation after a body is found on a farm. And when Russell receives an anonymous death threat, Simmy has no choice but to do all she can to find the killer. 319 page paperback.
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Melissa Craig since her move to the countryside has become firmly established in village life, so when one of the older residents fails to show up at a drinks party, she goes to check on her. Her dear neighbour has been murdered, and the killer has painted a hideous smile onto her face. When will The Smiler strike again? Melissa realises she needs to solve this case quickly, but as she starts to look closely at the people around her, she realises the killer may be closer to home than she could ever have imagined. 200 page paperback.
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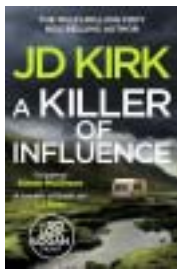

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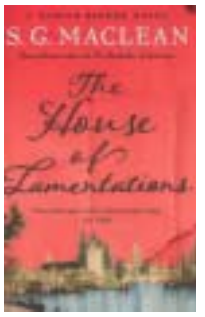
I will hurt you for this. I don't know how yet, but give me time. A day will come when you think yourself safe and happy, and suddenly your joy will turn to ashes in your mouth, and you'll know the debt is paid.

- George R.R. Martin, Game of Thrones



97897 HOUSE OF LAMENTATIONS by S. G. MacLean
The bestselling author of The Bookseller of Inverness is also one of the best writers of historical crime and this is one of her popular Damian Seeker novels. Seeker is Captain of Oliver Cromwell's Guard. He is dead, or so he would have people believe. Now he is just an English carpenter in Bruges, albeit one who takes a keen interest in exiled Royalists. The year is 1658, and Seeker must stop a final desperate plot against the Republic after Stuart and Spanish forces are defeated on the Flanders coast. He is tailing four men who plan to convey a vast fortune to Charles Stuart. They are unaware that one of them is a traitor and that Seeker has been cultivating this turncoat. Now news reaches him from England that the Royalists are sending an assassin to identify his spy and exact revenge. This would betray Seeker's own identity, and he could expect no mercy. Once Seeker would have been happy to die for the Republic, but now he has too much to live for. ' MacLean guides her characters through the twists of an intriguing plot with great aplomb.' - Sunday Times. A deliciously moody thriller, 410pp in paperback.
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97913 WARTIME BOOK CLUB by Kate Thompson
Inspired by a true story, during the German occupation of Jersey in 1943, librarian Grace La Motée forms a secret book club to resist oppression and provide solace to islanders. The book even contains 50 plus pages of extra content on the real people the book is inspired by. Ordered to destroy books which threaten the Nazi regime, Grace refuses, instead hiding them away and fighting back by forming a book club - a lifeline to help islanders escape the terror of war, one chapter at a time. But soon her quiet acts of bravery become even more perilous. She's harbouring dangerous secrets, ones that put her life in danger, and when tensions turn to violence, she is forced to face the true, terrible cost of resistance. "A gripping, emotional rollercoaster and a true hymn to the power and spirit of novels." - Peter James. A beautiful novel of love, courage, hope and friendship in the darkest of times. 502pp in paperback with fairly large print.
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97807 DARLINGS OF THE ASYLUM by Noel O'Reilly
A gripping, tantalising Gothic novel which tells a thrilling story of desire and duty, madness and sanity, truth and delusion from within a Victorian asylum. To marry is madness. To escape is impossible. In 1886, a respectable young woman must acquire a husband, but Violet Pring longs to be a professional artist and live on her own terms. When she turns down a desirable marriage proposal from an eligible Brighton gentleman, her family have had enough of her independent streak. Against her wishes, they lock her away in Hillwood Grange Lunatic Asylum. Now at the mercy of the sinister Dr Rastrick, she must keep her wits about her if she has any hope of escaping. This darkly atmospheric psychological thriller oozes menace and you will be on the edge of your seat with this intricate plot, perfect prose, suspicions, secrets and rumour. 368 page paperback.
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97294 TEN THOUSAND THINGS by John Spurling
A Walter-Scott Prize-winning, captivating historical novel set in fourteenth-century China with a title inspired from a translated manuscript by Dr Stephen Albert during the siege of the foreign legations in Peking referring to the Boxer Rebellion of 1900 in what is now Beijing. In the turbulent final years of the Yuan Dynasty, Wang Meng is a minor bureaucrat in the government of the Mongol conquerors. He is also an extraordinarily gifted artist whose paintings capture the infinite expanse of China's natural beauty. On his journeys across the realm, Wang encounters fellow master painters, a fierce female warrior known as the White Tigress who recruits him as a military strategist, and an unprepossessing young Buddhist monk who rises from beggary to extraordinary heights. With lyrically titled chapters like red scarf bandits, a garden of forking paths, the Rose tree roots and the blue Bien mountains. 354 page paperback.
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MORE ON PAGE 22

The Grolier Club is a museum, library, private club and society of bibliophiles in New York City. The Club's stated objective is "the literary study of the arts pertaining to the production of books, including the occasional publication of books designed to illustrate, promote and encourage these arts."

97749 SHERLOCK HOLMES IN 221 OBJECTS by Cathy and Glen Miranker

A dazzling collection of rare art and documents illuminate the life of Sherlock Holmes who sometimes seems to have a life of his own, one that leaps beyond the pages of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's mystery stories. Highlights include leaves from The Hound of the Baskervilles; four short story manuscripts; original artwork by the British and American illustrators who created Sherlock's iconic look for readers; a wealth of holograph letters from Arthur Conan Doyle to friends, colleagues, and well-wishers; a fascinating cache of pirated editions; the only known salesman's dummy for the US Hound; an "idea book" of Conan Doyle's private musings in which he (in)famously penned "Killed Holmes" on his calendar for December 1893; and a handwritten speech - never before displayed - with the author's explanation for killing Holmes: "I have been much blamed for doing that gentleman to death but I hold that it was not murder but justifiable homicide in self defence [sic] since if I had not killed him he would certainly have killed me." Drawing on their private, extensive collection of Holmes-related bibliographic material, the Mirankers bring to light exhibits presented in thematic clusters that highlight their significance to the case at hand. Throughout, they invite readers to share in the collector's enthusiasm for the kinds of rarities and oddities that help decipher the appeal of Sherlock Holmes in ways that transcend what can be found on the page. 'Bibliophiles will drool over the first editions and enjoy the back stories of pirated printings. This collection represents years of painstaking pursuit and leaves the reader wanting to see more.' Deep red cloth bound Grolier quality hardback, 168 pages, 22.9 x 30.5cm.

£64 NOW £50

'The Hound of the Baskervilles' First appearance The Strand Magazine August 1901-April 1902

'The Adventure of the Priory School', Collier's Weekly, Jan 30th 1904

97733 FOR ART'S SAKE: The Aesthetic Movement in Print and Beyond 1870-1890 by Eric Holzenberg

Published to accompany the eponymous Grolier Club exhibition, this catalogue explores in unprecedented breadth and depth the important role of print media in the development and spread of aesthetic ideals in applied art of all kinds, including architecture, interior design, and the book arts. The unique mix of medievalism and japonisme that captivated Oscar Wilde, inspired William Morris and Walter Crane, and dominated the decorative arts in the period 1870-1890. The exhibition and catalogue explore, in unprecedented breadth and depth, the important role of print media in the development and spread of Aesthetic ideals in applied art of all kinds, including architecture, interior design, and the book arts. The foreword and introduction by the author are followed by descriptions of 129 books, prints and other objects displaying the exceptional artistry and wit of the Aesthetic Movement, which dominated the decorative arts in the period 1870-1890. Stunning colour plates throughout including images from Clarence Cook (1828-1900) The House Beautiful and What Shall we Do With Our Walls? In dark navy cloth hardback, 136 pages. 146 colour illustrations plus woodcuts and engravings. 21.6 x 28cm.

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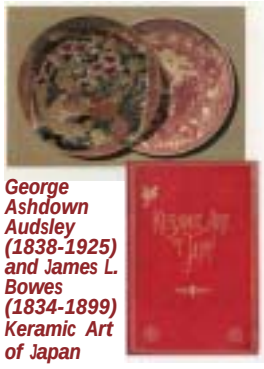

George Ashdown Audsley (1838-1925) and James L. Bowes (1834-1899) Keramic Art of Japan

Aesthetic-era Trade Cards promoted furniture, lamps and china in the new fashionable style.

97756 WESTWARD THE COURSE OF EMPIRE Exploring and Settling the American West by J. C. McElveen

Among the many iconic maps featured in this catalogue, which accompanied an exhibition at the Grolier Club, is Lewis and Clark's map of the Northwest. Published in 1814, it remained the standard against which all mapping of that part of North America was measured for decades. The book covers 19th-century expansion from the Louisiana Purchase to the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, documents the journeys of military expeditions, fur trappers, gold miners, ranchers, and pioneers fleeing religious persecution and examines interactions with Native Americans and the intense physical hardships of moving West. In the 19th century, the exploration and settlement of the West exploded. During the 58 years between the Louisiana Purchase and the Civil War, the United States expanded from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Ocean, and, in the far West, from the 32nd Parallel to the 49th. By the late 1850s, almost all of these areas had been mapped and explored. Original maps, travel guides, government reports, and historical records, and featuring large colour plates and landmark historical maps, this magnificent book was an accompanying publication for a specialized exhibition held at the Grolier Club in New York City. The phrase "Westward the Course of Empire" is famously drawn from Bishop George Berkeley's 1726 poem and is most recognized as the title of Emanuel Leutze's massive 1861 mural in the U.S. Capitol Building celebrating Manifest Destiny. 156 pages, colour illus. 30.5 x 23.9cm.

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97747 SEAMUS HEANEY: A Life Well Written by Rand Brandes et al

Highlighting the work of the poet and Noble Laureate Seamus Heaney, this catalogue testifies to the ongoing power of his poetry. There are detailed descriptions of more than 50 items that were displayed at the Grolier Club exhibition in a fitting appreciation of the poet's life in print. A rare and collectable 2014 first edition publication from the exhibition September to November of that year, it begins with a colour full page photograph of the poet Seamus Heaney in the late 1980s taken in Toner's Bog, Northern Ireland on a walk when it had just began to rain with the author. This extraordinary collection began with books, captivating broadsides, Christmas cards and other ephemera the author discovered Gorgon, where in 1959 an untested Heaney published a poem under a pseudonym Incertus, early broadsheets where he and other poets printed their early work, and a poetry discussion group in Northern Ireland led initially by Philip Hobsbaum and then by Heaney. Heaney also worked with many artists and produced beautiful works for special occasions such as birthdays, awards, anniversaries and he composed special poems. His iconic poem Digging compares his work to that of his father digging in his garden: 'Between my finger and my thumb the squat pen rests; snug as a gun. Under my window, a clean rasping sound when the blade sinks into gravelly ground; my father, digging...By God, the old man could handle a spade...But I've no spade to follow men like them. Between my finger and my thumb the squat pen rests. I'll dig with it.' Beautifully bound, glossy white paper and very well illustrated in colour, 112pp, 18.5 x 28cm.

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Back in the USSR *250 film posters capture the cultural energy of the pre-Stalin era*

97828 FILM POSTERS OF THE RUSSIAN AVANT-GARDE by Susan Pack

At the intersection of the visual, graphic and cinematic arts, film posters are a unique and thrilling record of a particular cultural Zeitgeist. This book brings together 250 posters from the pre-Stalin Soviet Union of the 1920s and 1930s to explore the energy and invention of this period, before Soviet Realism became the official art doctrine. Drawn from the private collection of connoisseur Susan Pack, the selection includes the work of 27 different artists. The Stenberg brothers, among the most prolific of these artists, began their careers as Constructivist sculptors and worked as set designers. Mikhail Dlugach was trained as an architect and Alexander Rodchenko practiced photography, architecture and industrial design as well as graphic design. Many elements were borrowed directly from the films themselves, most importantly the use of montage technique, giving a sense of movement and of vertigo, and the use of repetition. Many depicted frightened female faces as well as often overt sexuality, atypical of advertisements of the period. Very Soviet style in the limited use of one colour range, superb typography, this is poster art at its finest, striking with much use of eye contact, angular shapes, diagonals and almost special effects. Printed on glossy black paper to bring out the very best and with extended captions. From bold figuration to architectural elements, each artist displays a distinct style and aesthetic, as much as they collectively eschew the glamour of Hollywood for more stark, striking, even challenging images, often marked by unusual angles, dynamic compositions, and startling close-ups. 15.6 x 21.7cm, 512 pages. New from Taschen.

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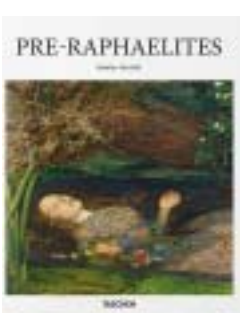
Secret Society *The Victorian rebels*



97833 PRE-RAPHAELITES by Heather Birchall

Founded in 1848 as a secret society, the Pre-Raphaelites rejected classical ideals and the dominant artistic genre painting of their era for what they saw as a more spiritual, sincere, and naturalistic approach. Founded by William Holman Hunt, John Everett Millais, and Dante Gabriel Rossetti, they evolved into a seven-member "brotherhood" that included poets and critics as well as painters. Moving away from the classical compositions exemplified by Raphael (hence the group's name), the Pre-Raphaelites rather turned to medieval culture and the jewel-like colours of Quattrocento art for inspiration. Their principal themes were initially religious, but also included subjects from literature and poetry, as exemplified by Sir John Everett Millais's famous Ophelia, drawn from Shakespeare's Hamlet. Inspired by the theories of John Ruskin, they were also committed to the close study of nature. This book presents key works from the Pre-Raphaelite group to introduce their reactionary principles, their dazzling colours, their interest in love, death, and nature, and their extensive influence on latter-day Symbolism and beyond. With gorgeous expensive looking colour reproductions of famous artworks by Burne-Jones like The Tree of Forgiveness 1882 with the naked couple, the serene colour image of the Convent Nun, the Little Foot Page (girl with long hair hiding) and Millais' poignant The Blind Girl on a beautiful summer day with a double rainbow she will never see and only feel. Approximately 100 colour illustrations with explanatory captions, a detailed, illustrated introduction plus a timeline of the most important political, cultural, and social events, each presented on a two-page spread with a full-page image and accompanying interpretation, as well as a portrait and brief biography of the artist. 21 x 26cm, 96 pages. New from Taschen.

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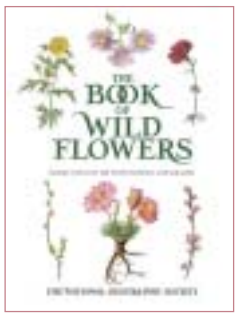

97729 BOOK OF WILD FLOWERS by The National Geographic Society
Reprint of the National Geographic Society, Washington, D.C., 1924 edition subtitled Colour Plates of 250 Wild Flowers and Grasses, this wonderful volume, assembled from magazines dated 1915-24, spotlights some of the finest imagery of its kind, including artwork by Mary E. Eaton, staff illustrator of the New York Botanical Garden. The 128 colour plates detail state flowers like Peach blossom from the Almond family, Goldeneye-grass from the Amaryllis family, apple and berry varieties, fleshy and downy Hawthorns, familiar grasses, colours, and more. The first-rate, detailed and colourful botanical illustrations remain fresh and attractive to the modern eye. 20. x 26.7cm. 128 pages.
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Our Annie grabbing the best bargains!

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97741 LITTLE CORNER: Bold and Easy Colouring Book by Page Publications
Escape into a world of cozy nooks, quiet corners, and peaceful little spaces. Each illustration celebrates the charm of everyday comfort - reading chairs, window seats, coffee corners, warm lamps, plants, bookshelves, and soft blankets - all drawn with clean, bold outlines that make colouring simple and deeply relaxing. With images of a quaint bakery shopfront, table and chairs in front of a coffee shop, a cosy living room scene with large windows with an outlook of hills and trees. Ideal for beginners, children, and adults alike, 54 illus. 92 page softback, 8.5" square.
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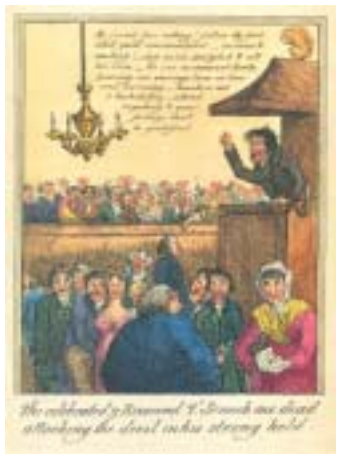
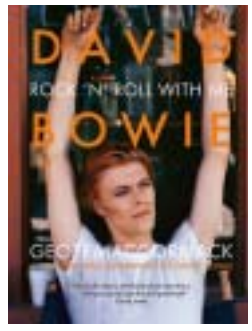
97735 HOGARTH'S LEGACY edited by Cynthia Ellen et al
The legacy of graphic artist William Hogarth (1697-1764) remains so emphatic that even his last name has evolved into a common vernacular term referring to his characteristically scathing form of satire. Featuring rarely seen images and written contributions from leading scholars, this book showcases a collection of the artist's works gathered from the Lewis Walpole Library at Yale University and other repositories. "Cynthia Ellen Roman's edition of collected essays on the legacy of the English engraver, printmaker, and painter William Hogarth (1697-1764) is a timely tribute to one of the most iconic figures of the eighteenth-century visual satire, 250 years after the artist's death... Art historian Douglas Fordham opens the book with an essay on "Hogarth's Act as the Professional Caricaturist" in which he unveils the artist's role in the passing of the Engravers' Act of 1735, also known as Hogarth's Act, which is one of the most enduring legacies of the artist. Proposing that the value of a print lies not in the paper but in the "design," which necessarily goes beyond the simple copy of one's work, the Engraver's Act created opportunities for the emergence of the professional caricaturist in England, outstandingly represented by James Gillray and George Cruikshank. Cynthia Ellen Roman explores the "persistent history" of copying the artist's work as fostering innovations in graphic satire... Such artists include Jean-Baptiste Greuze, or "the French Hogarth," whose work is insightfully analysed in this chapter, as well as Louis-Léopold Boilly, Rodolphe Topffer, Emile Wattier, Victor Adam, Edmé-Jean Pigal, and Edouard Charon, who "corrected" or emulated Hogarth the caricaturist." - Ileana Baird, Zayed University. The eight essays by eminent Hogarth experts help to further contextualize the artist's unique narrative strategies, embedding the work within German philosophical debates and the moral confusion of the Victorian period and emphasising the social and political dimensions that are part and parcel of its profound impact. Endlessly parodied and emulated, Hogarth's distinctive satire persists in its influence throughout the centuries and this publication provides the necessary lens through which to view it. 11 x 9", 272 pages, 108 illustrations.
£50 NOW £12.50 **SAVE £37.50!**

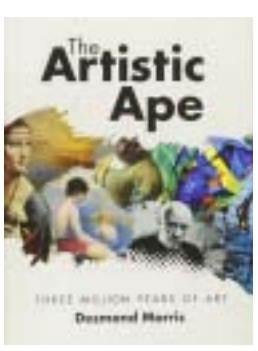


Portrait of a Woman as Saint Agnes ca. 1575-80

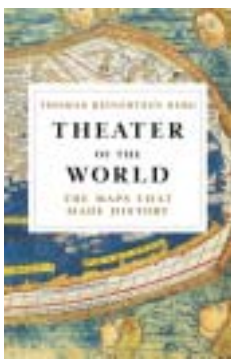
97744 PAOLO VERONESE: A Master and His Workshop In Renaissance Venice by Virginia Brillant and Frederic Ilchman
Paolo Veronese is acknowledged as one of the giants of Venetian Renaissance painting. His artistic production was richly varied, extending from imposing altarpieces to smaller religious paintings for private clients, from grand portraits to sensual episodes drawn from the classical tradition. His 'Rest on the Flight into Egypt' set in a vibrant tropical jungle, the Holy Family is accompanied by angels, one of whom hangs down from a palm tree to gather dates, while others attend to the refugees and their donkey. Extravagantly folded and layered garments, iridescent wings, lend the altarpiece a magnificent surface pattern. This excellent book reveals countless sombre imitations of Christ's Passion. Veronese (1528-88) was praised by the 17th century connoisseur Marco Boschini as a master of invention. The calculated meanings of his works have generally been neglected in praise for their visual appeal. This excellent exhibition catalogue from Scala Publishers (2012) features famous works from American collections including the National Gallery of Art and the J. Paul Getty Museum, and Bibliophile has deliberately imported this book to fill a gap in our Art book collection. Veronese was also an outstanding draughtsman, and his graphic oeuvre ranged from preliminary sketches to highly finished chiaroscuro sheets. A foreigner in Venice, he created paintings for Venetian clients and settings, as well for the mainland and export abroad. This publication authored by an international team of experts. 26.5 x 29cm. 288 pages.
£47.50 NOW £25 **SAVE £22.50!**



97732 DAVID BOWIE: Rock 'N' Roll with Me by Geoff MacCormack
A truly remarkable photographic memoir, charting his lifelong friendship with David Bowie, images bring MacCormack's stories to life, showing the places he and Bowie inhabited, the people they met and the adventures they shared. Beginning at Burnt Ash Primary school in the mid-1950s, the years go by in a whirlwind of discovering and making music. The book contains nearly 150 photos taken by MacCormack throughout the years, some never seen before: from touring the Ziggy Stardust and Aladdin Sane shows and sailing to New York on a world tour, to Bowie's first major film The Man Who Fell to Earth and the recording of Station to Station and his Thin White Duke persona. It is an incredible and personal story which can never be repeated, told with wit and candour, which sheds a rare insight into a friendship where two men shared their love for music from the moment they met to their final goodbyes. Full of b/w and glam colour photographs including Bowie on stage, a very young Davie Jones with backing band The Lower Third posing outside the Starlight Rooms, relaxing in an amazing black silk Japanese number complete with a stunning colourful tiger emblazoned across the front - pure Bowie! 10. x 8", 236 pages, beautiful colour photos. Timely as the Sixteen Gallery in Cheltenham had an exhibition in June 2026 on this collection.
£30 NOW £16



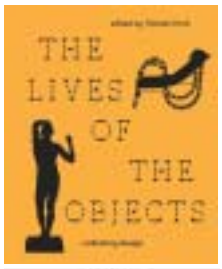
97726 ARTISTIC APE: Three Million Years of Art by Desmond Morris
The late, great Desmond John Morris, bestselling author and internationally renowned anthropologist, here offers a unique appreciation of art from the most ancient artifact to contemporary event art. Morris was an English zoologist, ethologist, author, and surrealist painter whose 1967 bestseller The Naked Ape and popular TV programmes like Zoo Time brought human and animal behaviour to mass audiences. He merged science and art over a 70-year career, producing 90 plus books, pioneering studies on primates, and exhibiting surrealist works in major galleries, remaining active as a writer and painter into his nineties. He was a surrealist artist whose work has been exhibited alongside pieces by Spanish painter Joan Miró. Featuring more than 350 illustrations of international art, plus 12 video clips, here he combines his deep understanding of human behaviour and his love of art to create a unique personal narrative of the evolution of artistic endeavour over three million years. 20 x 26cm, well illus in colour, 320 pages.
£30 NOW £8 **SAVE £22!**



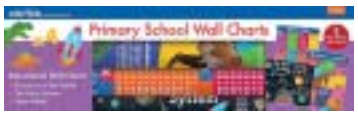
97751 THEATER OF THE WORLD: The Maps That Made History by Thomas Reinersten Berg
A beautifully illustrated full-colour history of mapmaking across centuries, using the visual representation of the world through time to tell a new story about world history and the men who made it. Flemish cartographer Abraham Ortelius published the world's modern atlas in 1570. Ortelius's atlas opens with a world map, with clouds drawn aside like stage curtains to reveal the Earth. With the book open before us, we look down on Noru... experience a thrill as we journey through an atlas, pausing to look at Takoradi, Timbuktu and Trincomalee; running our finger along the route taken by the Orient Express, the Silk Road and the boundaries of ancient Rome. 'This wonderful book is a reminder of how much careful thought was given to the shape of the world even in ancient times - the landscape, how places are related to one another. I pored over these maps for hours, imagining those minds hard at work, visualising how it all connected as a whole. Just brilliant.' Neil Oliver. From visionary geographers to heroic explorers, from the mysterious symbols of the Stone Age to the familiar navigation of Google Earth, Thomas Reinertsen Berg examines the fascinating concepts of science and worldview, of art and technology, power and ambitions, practical needs and distant dreams of the unknown. 384 pages, 18 x 24cm.
$35 NOW £17

97739 IRELAND: History of a Nation New Edition by David Ross
The history of Ireland tends to become the history of England in Ireland, but this book gives Ireland to the Irish people. It is an original and very readable history of their story from pre-historic times to the preset day with all the implications of Brexit. Updated edition, with brilliant fact windows on historical events such as the Ferguson Tractor, an Armagh Tea Party, RMS Titanic, Knock Airport, Geoffrey Keating and the Four Masters, Ptolemy's Map, The Black Death, Irish Dress, The Royal Schools, Ormond and Dublin, Huguenots and Palatines, the Wild Geese Canals, Edmund Burke, Thomas Moore, O'Connell and Peel, Father Mathew, Anglo-Irish and Reading Rooms among them. With a fabulous chronology of Ireland, past events have often created disarray in British politics. Covering politics right into 21st century Ireland, chapters cover Legends, Origins, Saints and Scholars, Invasions, the Anglo-Normans, the Land of Peace and the Land of War, Ireland's Elizabethan Wars, The Stewart Kingdom, The Ascendency Rules, The Age of Revolution, Union, Hunger and Winning the Lad. The Irish question had featured strongly in the international policies of Spanish and French governments for hundreds of years, and Irish soldiers played significant parts in battles of many countries, from the 30 Years' War to the American Civil War, yet Irish history remains elusive. For the greater part of the millennium while Europe seethed, churned and changed, Ireland did not function as an independent national state. Very well organised with clear headers, dozens of beautiful woodcut line art drawings and useful index. 426 pages in well bound softback.
ONLY £7.99

Death of Brian Bóruma at the hands of retreating Norsemen after the Battle of Clontarf



97742 LIVES OF THE OBJECTS: Collecting Design by Tristram Hunt
The Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum tells the lives of 10 extraordinary stories from the world's leading museum of art and design. William Morris expressed his particular admiration for the beautiful Ardabil Carpet and was one of the most vocal advocates for its acquisition by the museum. The first of the ten items is a copy of Trajan's Column, acquired in 1864 and made in the same year, of a plaster cast in three dimensions. It reproduces the famous Roman original, a triumphal monument built to commemorate Emperor Trajan's victory in the Dacian Wars AD 101-2 and 105-6. The technique of moulding and casting was developed thousands of years ago. Other sculpture, metalwork, and ceramics are highlighted from the collection, including a Virgin and Child in terracotta and a Greek flower vase, and a most beautiful tiara of sapphires and diamonds. The Raphael Cartoons were a revolution in design and have been on loan since 1865, and they were made in 1515-16. They were large compositions enjoyed in the Raphael Court, a cycle of fresco decorations depicting the life of Christ on the one side and the life of Moses on the other, beneath a row of papal portraits, and all are in splendid colour. Collection highlights from paintings, drawings, and prints include an Aubrey Beardsley, J. M. W. Turner, and a Constable in close-up detail. Tipu's Tiger, made 1794, is a famous wooden tiger made in the late 18th century for Tipu Sultan, the Muslim ruler of the south Indian Kingdom of Mysore. The almost life-sized wooden beast crouches over a feebly resisting European soldier, sinking its fangs into his neck. Shakespeare's First Folio, published 1623, is one of the V&A's all-time favourites and central to this story of its survival is a book of plays, one of the most influential works ever published. Collection highlights from theatre and performance include Joey the War Horse Puppet from the 2009 play, and Pete Townshend's Broken Les Paul Guitar. Auguste Rodin donated 16 sculptures, one marble and one terracotta, to the V&A in 1914, and it remains their greatest gift made by a living artist. The Great Bed of Ware, made 1590-1600, was the largest and most expensive piece of furniture acquired by the museum, for £4,060, or approximately £250,000 today. It has a dark headboard showing oak carving, with traces of original paint and a marquetry panel, and is an Elizabethan tester bed of unusually large size, over three metres wide and long. A Fold-Up Chair, made in the 1930s by Eileen Gray, is made of strips and blocks of wood, canvas and metal rods, and is closely entwined with its creator, the self-taught Irish designer and architect. An Evening Ensemble, by Elsa Schiaparelli, is made of silk velvet with rhinestones, sequins and silver gilt thread, fastened with metal buttons, and acquired in 1974. 272 large and beautifully decorated pages, with dozens of full-page colour images, ***a museum on your lap***.
£30 NOW £9 **SAVE £21!**



97757 WHIZZ KIDS PRIMARY SCHOOL WALL CHARTS: 3 Pack by Whizz Kids
Box set of three colourful educational posters: Primary School - Dinosaurs of the World, The Solar System and Times Tables (great for us all to revise!). Give a child a head start with these bright and engaging educational posters. Meet Princess Charlotte as she wakes up in her beautiful pink bedroom and King George in the Great Hall where there is a multi-coloured Unicorn. Each poster measures 76 x 52 cm. Full of important learning concepts for each age group, these bright, eye-catching and engaging wall charts, the sweet illustrations will help kids even as young as 3 begin to learn in a fun and interesting way. Boxed, ages 7 and up.
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97750 STONEHENGE: The Story of A Sacred Landscape by Francis Pryor
An illustrated, evocative narrative of the nature and history of Stonehenge that places the enigmatic stone megaliths in a wider cultural context, the text incorporates modern archaeological insights, notably the transformative work at nearby sites (like Durrington Walls) and updates on the monument's formative stages. Perched on the chalk uplands of Salisbury Plain, the megaliths of Stonehenge offer one of the most recognizable outlines of any ancient structure. Its purpose - place of worship, sacrificial arena, giant calendar - is unknown, but its story is one of the most extraordinary of any of the world's prehistoric monuments. Constructed in several phases over a period of some 1500 years, beginning c.3000 BC, Stonehenge's key elements are its 'bluestones', transported from West Wales by unexplained means, and sarsen stones quarried from the nearby Marlborough Downs. Francis Pryor is one of Britain's most distinguished archaeologists. In Stonehenge, he delivers a rigorous account of the nature and history of the monument, while also placing the enigmatic stones in a wider cultural context, exploring how antiquarians, scholars, writers, artists, 'the heritage industry', and even neopagans, have interpreted the site over the centuries. 'Pryor is especially able in conveying the dynamism of prehistory.' - The Times Literary Supplement. Beautiful colour photos, 15.2 x 22.9cm, 208 page paperback.
£12.99 NOW £7.50

A photograph of visitors taking a rest at Stonehenge in 1867

97753 VENICE: The Lion, The City, and the Water by Cees Nooteboom
For over 50 years, celebrated author Cees Nooteboom has been captivated by the city of Venice, that "absurd combination of power, money, genius and great art." Beginning with his first visit in 1964, Nooteboom deftly weaves together his many travels to the floating city, vividly bringing to life the destination he discovered and admired from the alleys, locked gates, and countless canals. Surrounded by the dead, he pays homage to the painters and writers who lived and worked there, to the palaces, bridges, painting, and sculpture that give the city a kind of immortality. Nooteboom produces a radiant tribute to Venice, in the vein of Steinbeck, Forster, or Theroux. Because he is a master storyteller with an inexhaustible curiosity, and always with a suitcase of books (to which new discoveries are added), he brings vividly and poetically to life not only the tumultuous history of the Republic but along the way its doges, its villains, its heroes, its magnificent painters, its architects, its scholars, its skies, its canals and piazzas and alleyways, and on his expeditions its "bronze voices of time". '...whether it be the colour and consistency of the ropes on the vaporetti, the glistening hues and squirming movements of the fish at the market, or the wondrous effects that Tintoretto could achieve...' 'Witty and meditative by turns, the overall effect is like being shown around by a wonderfully self-effacing, but impressively erudite guide.' - The Sunday Times BOOKS OF THE YEAR. 304 page paperback.
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97752 TRAVEL WORDSEARCH: SPANISH by Tara Ward
This wonderful collection of wordsearch puzzles is a fun way to expand your Spanish vocabulary. Each puzzle is themed with subjects such as food, getting around, the weather, and other useful topics that will be essential in your language learning. Each puzzle asks you to seek the words in Spanish and provides the translation alongside it to help you learn the words. The pages are decorated with suitably Spanish imagery to inspire you on your language journey! Language Learning: Boost your Spanish skills and expand your vocabulary as you seek the Spanish words hidden with the grids. Translations Included: The English translations of the words you are seeking are provided beside them in the word lists ensuring your vocabulary and understanding improve. 128 page softback. 15 x 23cm.
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97727 MANDALORIAN GROGU PAINT YOUR OWN PLASTER FIGURES by Cra-Z-Art
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Includes mazes, matching puzzles, and drawing activities with find-the-word to insert and appealing colourful design and layout. With over 60 reusable Star Wars themed stickers and four Fold and Go Activity Play Scenes include a background with the suns of Tatooine against a pink sky and desert sands and Luke Skywalker's home, a lush forest moon of Endor, home of the cute furry Ewoks, and two ship scenes along with the very iconic Death Star vertically slatted white panel lights. Just stick and re-stick your puffy stickers! The 60 colour stickers include mini very cute looking young versions of all the Star Wars characters - Luke Skywalker, Princess Leia Organa, Yoda, Obi-Wan Kenobi, Han Solo, Stormtroopers, Millennium Falcon, Luke carrying Yoda, C-3PO, R2-D2, Boba Fett, Chewbacca, Ewoks - and fun stickers with comical text and the unmistakable font of the Star Wars logo. Ages 4 years and up and all Star Wars fans. 18 x 25.5cm. Paperback.
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4 FOLD & GO ACTIVITY PLAY SCENES!

97738 INSIDE THE STAR WARS EMPIRE: A Memoir by Bill Kimberlin
Inside the Star Wars Empire is the very funny and insightful tell-all about the two decades author Bill Kimberlin spent as a department director at LucasFilm Industrial Light and Magic (ILM), the special effects studio founded by the legendary filmmaker George Lucas. Bill Kimberlin may refer to himself as "one of those names on the endless list of credits at the close of blockbuster movies." In reality though, he's a true insider on some of the most celebrated and popular movies and franchises of the past century, Jurassic Park, Star Trek, Jumanji, Schindler's List, Gangs of New York, Saving Private Ryan, even Forrest Gump. And perhaps most notably, Star Wars. " This book reads like a one-sided conversation of a Hollywood has-been sitting in a coffee shop relating long-winded albeit fascinating (sometimes) stories of when he worked with the special effects team for the first "Star Wars" film back in 1976, or ran the editorial department at Lucasfilm in the early 80s, or when he made a low-budget documentary about drag-racing called "American Nitro" that got decent reviews and today has over a thousand hits on Youtube, or when he discovered that his grandfather was a rumrunner during the Prohibition era." - Scott Rhee. 272 page paperback.
£14.95 NOW £7.50

97754 VICTORIAN STAFFORDSHIRE POTTERY RELIGIOUS FIGURES by Stephen Duckworth
Moving and dramatic figurines, we see Elijah and the Ravens, Rebekah (derived from a French Minton figure of Arabia) and another of her giving her servant a drink of water from a flask. Themes include children and death, the overseas market, pilgrims, synagogues and chapels, and preachers like John Wesley. The first title to describe Victorian religious figures in the context of their times, this is a comprehensive illustrated catalogue of well over 200 figures with an assessment of their dating and rarity, production and cost, with individual descriptions of the figures in their biblical or historic settings. A multitude of colourful and naïve biblical and other religious pottery figures found their way into 19th century Victorian homes in Britain. They were bought by tradesmen, shopkeepers, clerks, teachers and the more skilled working class people. This book tells the story of these Staffordshire pottery figures, which sold in their thousands to stand on the mantelpieces of Christian families, both Protestant and Catholic. Three chapters provide a social history context: the religious background, an assessment of who purchased the figures, the Victorian home and how it was furnished. The final four chapters review the pottery figures themselves, which are based on the Old Testament, the New Testament, relevant religious themes and portraits of preachers. An assessment of their dating and rarity completes the book. Lavishly illus with colour photos throughout, 24 x 30cm, 160 pages.
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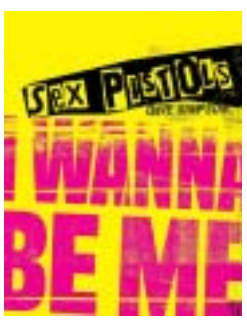

97748 SEX PISTOLS: I Wanna Be Me by Dave Simpson
There was the Sex Pistols and there was the rest. The Sex Pistols ARE punk; the rest are 'punk rock.' Taking its title from the B-side of 'Anarchy In The UK' and published to coincide with Danny Boyle's highly contentious 6-part series, Pistol, this book by Dave Simpson, music critic for The Guardian, provides an incredibly well-informed and definitive history of the Sex Pistols, surely the most subversive and iconic punk band of all time. Amidst the chaos that was the Sex Pistols, it's often forgotten just what a powerful band they were, and what great records they made. The Sex Pistols were no ordinary group. Their story might be short, and not without its casualties, but their legacy is undoubted; one listen to their ferocious, raw rock and roll will soon tell you that. No British band since the Beatles has done as much to shape the nation. Musically, the Pistols' impact was enormous and continues to resonate; they didn't just kick down doors; they trashed the music industry's house. For a band who (really) only released one album and four incandescent singles - 'Anarchy in the U.K.,' 'God Save the Queen,' 'Pretty Vacant' and 'Holidays in the Sun' - they gave birth to a sea of imitators and inspired a DIY aesthetic still alive today. Not bad for a band that 'couldn't play.' Despite claims from New York, the Sex Pistols were the true originators of punk; no one else had their attitude, balls, or honesty, as inspired by anger and poverty, as art and poetry. Drawn from a wealth of other interviews with people connected to the Sex Pistols both past and present, Dave Simpson 'accurately captures the rapidly shifting cultural and political sands and confrontational essence of that period as well as the countless creative possibilities that it ultimately presented.' 192 pages in the style of a fanzine. 22 x 27cm.
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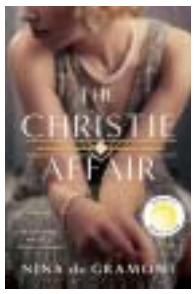

97457 CHRISTIE AFFAIR by Nina de Gramont
A captivating mystery inspired by one of the most intriguing episodes in Agatha Christie?s life - her famous eleven-day disappearance in 1926. Blending Golden Age crime, romance and a gripping imagined history, Nina de Gramont explores the secrets behind Christie?s world of country houses, literary fame and high society. At the centre is Nan O?Dea, a woman from a very different background whose journey from wartime Ireland leads her into Agatha and Archie Christie?s marriage - with devastating consequences. How deeply can a person crave revenge? It began decades before, in Ireland, when Nan was a young girl. She and the man she loved were a star-crossed couple who were destined to be together, until the Great War, a pandemic, and shameful secrets tore them apart. Then acts of unspeakable cruelty kept them separated. What drives someone to murder? 320 pages.
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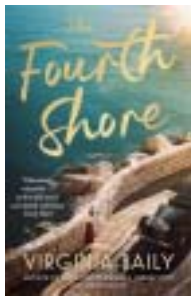

97212 FOURTH SHORE by Virginia Baily
The Fourth Shore: the sliver of fertile land along the Tripoli coast, the 'lost' territory Mussolini promised to reclaim for Italy. Which is how, in 1929, 17-year-old Liliana Cattaneo arrives there from Rome on a ship filled with eager colonists to join her brother and his new wife. Liliana is sure she was on the brink of a great adventure, but what awaits her is not the Mediterranean idyll of cocktail parties, smart dances, dashing officers and romantic intrigues she had imagined. Instead she finds a world of persecution, violence, repression, corruption and deceptions both great and small. A child of fascist Italy, blown about by the winds of fascism and Catholicism, Liliana becomes enmeshed in a dark liaison which has terrible consequences both for her and those she loves most. Read of Liliana's journey from Rome to Tripoli to a north London suburb where, as plain Lily Jones, she begins to uncover a secret she has buried so deeply that even she is far from certain what it is. 372 page paperback.
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97270 ELEGANT LIE by Sam Eastland
The year is 1949. In the bombed-out ruins of Cologne, Hanno Dasch runs a powerful black market empire, supplying rare and luxury goods in a city still struggling after the war. Closely guarded by his enigmatic daughter and a former war criminal, Dasch operates in a world of secrecy and danger, attracting the attention of both Allied Intelligence and the growing threat of Soviet espionage. Fearing his network could become entangled with Russian agents, the CIA sends disgraced American officer Nathan Carter undercover to infiltrate Dasch's operation. As Carter moves deeper into the criminal underworld, he discovers a far more dangerous scheme: a sophisticated counterfeiting operation producing forged currency capable of destabilising the Soviet economy. Caught between American and Russian intelligence, Carter must navigate shifting loyalties and hidden agendas as both sides race to uncover the truth before the situation escalates into international crisis. 337 page paperback.
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94552 ENEMY OF GOD: Warlord Chronicles Book 2 by Bernard Cornwell
Arthur has brought a fragile peace to Britain, but it cannot last. Uniting the restive British kingdoms behind him, he believes he can now hold back the Saxons threatening the country. Meanwhile, Merlin sets out on a quest to uncover the sacred Treasures of Britain, hoping they will prove decisive in the coming battle. But in a country where the cult of the Christians is spreading, Merlin's quest is divisive and the ambitions of the rival warlord Lancelot threaten the delicate peace. Could even those closest to Arthur be moved to betray him? The second book of the Warlord Chronicles, retelling the Arthurian legend. 473pp, paperback.
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Arthur seeks peace with the aid of his sword Excalibur. After rebellions and betrayals by those he believed loved him, Arthur looks at his most weak. His Saxon enemies decide to strike before he regains his strength, plunging Britain into war. It will require all Arthur's leadership and military cunning to win this last battle. But in this final struggle of the warlord, the intrigues of Mordred, now the adult heir to the throne of Britain, and the dark magic of the priestess Nimue could conspire to bring about Arthur's downfall. Even his trusty blade Excalibur may not be sharp enough to save him. A powerful and dramatic retelling of the Arthurian legends. 480pp, paperback.
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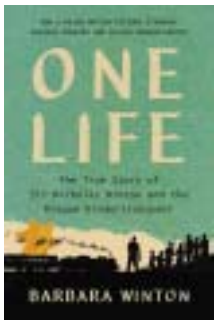
WAR MEMOIRS

I may be compelled to face danger, but never fear it, and while our soldiers can stand and fight, I can stand and feed and nurse them.

- Clara Barton



97701 ONE LIFE by Barbara Winton
Sub-titled '**The True Story of Sir Nicholas Winton and the Prague Kindertransport**', there are around 6,000 people in the world today who owe their lives to Nicholas Winton. They are the descendants of a group of refugee children rescued by him from the Nazi threat in 1939. For nine months in that year he became embroiled in a race against time to rescue endangered children from the onslaught of Nazi invaders in Czechoslovakia. Dubbed the British Schindler, his scrapbook came into the public domain in 1988. In all he rescued 669 Jewish children at the brink of World War II. Most never saw their parents again. It was in 1938 that 29 year old 'Nicky' cancelled a ski trip and instead spent nine months masterminding a seemingly impossible plan to rescue hundreds of Jewish children and find them homes in the United Kingdom. What motivated an ordinary man to do something so extraordinary? He devoted decades to working on behalf of families whose children have Down Syndrome and he died at the age of 106 having received many honours including a knighthood from the same government that had spurned his urgent pleas to rescue the children when they most needed it. His rescue effort is now popularly known as the Prague Kindertransport and his daughter Barbara (1953-2022) was dedicated to promoting her father's legacy and here relates his story as an example of positive action. 282 pages, illustrations, phrases and passages written in italics are taken verbatim from Nicholas Winton's diaries, notes and letters.
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97840 A SOLDIER'S SONG: True Stories from the Falklands by Ken Lukowiak
A much needed reminder of what war is really about by Lukowiak who was born in 1959 and served with 2 Para in the Falklands War. The book was an instant classic and this paperback edition includes an updated and revised Foreword to the 1993 and subsequent 1999 edition. Despite his conviction for drug possession, Lukowiak was discharged from the Army with an Exemplary Conduct Record. He served in the Falklands in 1982 and just over ten years later wrote this account of his experience, the real story behind the news reports. He was away from home for little more than eight weeks, yet the experience of war was to change his life for ever. His book brings us face to face with the legacy of his Parachute Regiment training and with the knowledge that he had seen many men die, some of whom he himself had killed. From the voyage 'down South' on the MV Norland, from Goose Green to Fitzroy and the anti-climactic journey home, Lukowiak illustrates the madness and black comedy of the soldier's world. Beware there is spare and brutal language in his often profoundly shocking, cocky, comic and unforgettable memoirs of a madness. It truly is a gritty and painful story. 180pp in facsimile reprint.
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97256 TILL WE MEET AGAIN: A Bamforth Gift Book of WW1 Postcard Images by Bamforth Postcards
During World War One members of the Forces would send their loved ones postcards from the front and loved ones would send postcards in return with heartfelt messages. With emotional photographs, verses and sentiments, these nostalgic colour postcards were sent with love to daddy, in fond remembrance as an elderly couple grieve their lost boy, a line written by a soldier to his father, greetings to loved ones at home, children writing to their daddy, and wives missing their beloved husbands or postcards between old chums. Here's a selection of some of the finest. Colour, 40 pages.

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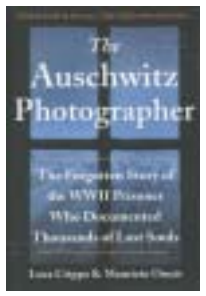

97698 AUSCHWITZ PHOTOGRAPHER by Luca Crippa and Maurizio Onnis
Sub-titled 'The Forgotten Story of the WWII Prisoner Who Documented Thousands of Lost Souls', "I looked death in the eyes. I did it 50,000 times..." The Nazis asked him to swear allegiance to Hitler, betraying his country, his friends and everything he believed in. He refused. Professional photographer Wilhelm Brasse was in Poland in 1939 and deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau where he found himself in a deadly race to survive, assigned to work as the camp's intake photographer and take 'identity pictures' of prisoners as they arrived by the train load. Brasse soon discovers his photography skills are in demand from Nazi guards as well who ask him to take personal portraits of them to send to their families and girlfriends. Behind the camera he is safe from the terrible fate that his fellow prisoners meet, but over the course of five years, the horrifying scenes his lens captures, including inhumane medical 'experiments' led by Josef Mengele changed Brasse forever. As prisoner 3444, he risked his life to preserve evidence of Nazi atrocities and joined the camp's Resistance movement, and his photographs helped expose the atrocities of the Holocaust. Between 1940 and 45 he took around 50,000 photographs because he had no choice, and eventually his conscience wouldn't allow him to hide behind the camera. He faked documents for prisoners, tried to smuggle images to the outside world to reveal what was happening, and then, when Soviet troops finally advance on the camp to liberate it, Brasse refused SS orders to destroy his photographs, "because the world must know" he said. 16 pages of photos, 334 pages.
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Wilhelm Brasse in 2009 with some of the many thousands of photographs he risked his life to save before Auschwitz was liberated.

96334 CAPTIVES: Prisoners of War and Internees 1939-1945 by The National Archives
Millions of people were held captive during WWII, interned or deported overseas. On the Declaration of War on 3rd September 1939, some 73,000 UK resident Germans and Austrians became classed as 'enemy aliens'. Over 170,000 Allied soldiers, sailors and air personnel found themselves POWs under Nazi or Italian authority. There were over 190,000 British and Commonwealth prisoners in the Far East and approximately 35,756 of these prisoners died in captivity (27% compared to the 4% who died in Europe). The book covers Colditz, Stalag Luft III, Stanley Internment Camp, Changi Camp, Ilag VIII and the Isle of Man Civilian Internment Camp. Captives include Peter Gardner, Peter Butterworth, and Gladys Skillett among the 10 examples. 144 pages, colour and archive documents.
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96919 OUR BODIES THEIR BATTLEFIELD by Christina Lamb
Sub-titled What War Does to Women, Christina Lamb's award-winning book provides the first major account of rape and sexual violence in modern conflict. From Southeast Asia's "comfort women" under the Japanese in World War II, to the Argentine junta's sexual torture in 1976, and the Rohingya women raped by Burmese soldiers in 2017, Lamb spans continents and decades. She recounts Bangladesh in the 1970s, the Rwandan genocide, Yazidi women enslaved by ISIS, and Nigerian schoolgirls forced into Boko Haram captivity. Alongside this horror, acts of extraordinary bravery emerge: Bosnian women tracking war criminals, an Aleppo beekeeper rescuing Yazidis, and a Congolese doctor treating more rape victims than anyone else on earth. This brave, powerful, and unflinching 413-page book, illustrated with photos and detailed maps of conflict zones, reveals that while rape has long been part of war, it is a preventable crime and finally allows its victims to speak.
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97058 SUDDENLY AN ENGLISHMAN by Louis Hagen
A German Jew who became a British war hero, Louis Hagen was born into a wealthy Berlin family and in 1934 was one of the early inmates of a Nazi concentration camp, sent to Schloss Lichtenburg at the age of 16 following a chance anti-Nazi remark. The family knew at this point that the writing was on the wall, and Louis was sent to the UK. He made some influential friends, including the Labour Minister Nye Bevan and his wife Jennie Lee, and on the outbreak of war enlisted as a glider pilot. The biggest operation he was involved in was the Arnhem Lift of 1944, part of Operation Market Garden but in the event the landings were too far from the action and of the 10,000 troops involved, more than half were killed or taken prisoner. On his return, Lewis Haig, as Hagen was called on active service, was awarded the Military Medal by George VI. Hagen was sent to a glider unit in India, where he became a roving journalist describing life in Calcutta, Vietnam and Bangkok. This volume includes two books by Hagen, the autobiographical The Life of Louis Hagen, and his earlier book Arnhem Lift. 303pp, paperback, photos.
£20 NOW £8

97534 MABEL'S WAR: Love and Hope Beyond the Blitz by Mabel Hewitt
Few people are still alive to recall the time when our defenceless towns and cities were bombed. One is 93 year old Mabel Hewitt. Her earliest memories are of a crowded house in Coventry's city suburb with her six siblings, parents, grandmother and an uncle. The notorious attack of 14th November 1940 when Coventry was set ablaze in Britain's longest night of German bombing raids is etched into her memory. She was hiding in the family's Anderson shelter. The city's medieval cathedral, firebombed into rubble and ashes, was at the heart of an extraordinary campaign of reconciliation and forgiveness just a few days later. Mable was to learn assertiveness in the workplace when she left school at 14 to work in the local munitions factory. With her gentle humour she takes us from the tumultuous 1930s when the threat of the poorhouse hung over working families like hers to days of love and hope. 176 page illustrated paperback.
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96285 LOOKING FOR TROUBLE by Virginia Cowles
'The Classic Memoir of a Trailblazing War Correspondent', this electrifying 1941 memoir by pioneering reporter Virginia Cowles. Cowles reports from Paris as it falls to the Nazis, London on the first day of the Blitz, Berlin the day Germany invades Poland, Madrid in the Spanish Civil War, Prague during the Munich crisis, Lapland as Russian forces attack, and Moscow betrayed by the Germans. Always in the right place at the most dangerous time, she swaps heels for a helmet under shellfire, meets Hitler ("an inconspicuous little man"), chats with Churchill by his goldfish pond, dances in the bomb-scarred Ritz, eats reindeer with Finnish guerrilla skiers, escapes Paris hours before occupation, and even interviews Mussolini alone in Rome. A vivid, breathless tour through the collapse of Europe by a woman who risked everything to report the truth. 531 pages.
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96940 WOMAN OF NO IMPORTANCE: WW2's Most Dangerous Spy by Sonia Purnell
In 1942, the Gestapo sent out an urgent transmission: 'She is the most dangerous of all Allied spies. We must find and destroy her.' The target in their sights was Virginia Hall, a Baltimore socialite. In September 1941, the young American strode up the steps of a hotel in Lyon, Vichy France. Her papers say she is a journalist. Her wooden leg is disguised by a determined gait and a distracting beauty. She is there to spark the Resistance. Hall had talked her way into Special Operations Executive. By 1942 she was the Gestapo's most urgent target, having infiltrated Vichy command, trained civilians in guerrilla warfare, and sprung secret agents from Nazi prison camps. She established vast spy networks throughout France, called weapons and explosives down from the skies, and became a linchpin for the Resistance. Even as her face covered posters and a bounty was placed on her head, Virginia refused order after order to evacuate. She finally escaped through a death-defying hike over the Pyrenees into Spain, her cover blown. But she plunged back in, adamant that she had more lives to save, and led a victorious guerilla campaign, liberating swathes of France from the Nazis after D-Day. Based on extensive new research. 399 pages in paperback, photos.
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97450 1939: A People's History of the Coming of WW11 by Frederick Taylor
A chronicle of the dramatic months from the Munich Agreement to Hitler's invasion of Poland drawing on German and British contemporary diaries, memoirs, and newspapers as well as recorded interviews. Their voices lend an intimate flavour to this often-surprising account of the period and reveal a marked disconnect between government and people, for few people in either country wanted war. In today's Europe, an onset of uncertainty, a looming fear of radical populism and a revelatory schism are dangerously reminiscent of the perils of the autumn of 1938. "The Germans, despite all their feverish enthusiasm for Hitler's militaristic ambitions, were spiritually ill-prepared for war. The British, in contrast, had no martial enthusiasm but fatalistically accepted war's inevitability." - Gerard de Groot, The Times. Illus, two maps, 448 pages.
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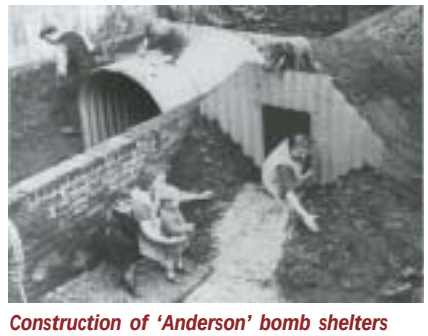
Construction of 'Anderson' bomb shelters in British families' back gardens.

TRANSPORT

We were rather afraid of the noise of the trains at first, but the landlord said we should not notice them after a bit, and took £2 off the rent.

- George Grossmith, The Diary of a Nobody

97766 EARLY VICTORIAN RAILWAY EXCURSIONS: The Million Go Forth by Susan Major

Railway excursions are often thought to have been invented by Thomas Cook, but in this brilliantly researched book the author shows that as soon as railways started to spread quickly in the 1830s, large numbers of organisations started organising trips, including the railway companies themselves, Sunday Schools, Mechanics' Institutes, and Temperance Societies. The working classes went on trips, the middle classes took excursions, and the higher reaches of society signed up for tours. First and second class carriages had roofs, but the third class was in open wagons, where travellers might get rained on and particular indignation was felt by people who had purchased covered tickets but found themselves without seats and herded into Third. The monster excursion train was always a big local spectacle, and in 1840 a train travelling from Nottingham to Leicester to visit the Leicester Mechanics Exhibition had four engines, 67 carriages and nearly 3000 passengers, "like a moving street" according to a contemporary report. There were similar huge trains bringing 3000 people for a week's holiday in Scarborough, but with shorter excursions there were complaints that some people stayed on the train as it went back and forth rather than alight at the destination. Handbills giving information about the trips inaugurated the art of the copywriter with an excursion from Lincoln to Matlock being described as "The Greatest Railway Treat of the Season!". Although many trips were intended to be educational, and Sunday schools hired a classroom at the destination for instruction, the tripping industry was vigorously opposed by Sunday observance societies. Problems of rail travel included people bringing full meals onto the train, women receiving unwanted attention from men, and passengers who climbed on to the roofs suffering injury or fatalities. 17.8 x 24.7cm, 195pp, maps, colour and mono illustrations.

£25 NOW £11

97762 BRITISH BUSES & COACHES IN THE 1960s by Jim Blake

The author was born in December 1947 just before the nationalisation of Britain's railways and London Transport and lived in the heart of London's legendary trolleybus system and the city's last trams which served Kingsway Subway on his doorstep. He begun transport photography in 1961, taking over 100,000 still pictures and went on to cover transport subjects with his cine camera in colour during the late 1960s and 1970s. Much of his work encapsulates a time of great change, with many vehicle and chassis types diminishing owing to standardisation, and the operators were in themselves also changing. His 'Panoramic View' of the bus and coach scene during a decade of great social and economic change before and just after the formation of the National Bus Company in 1968 comprises 300 or so photographs of buses he took all over Great Britain. A brand new AEC Reliance at Victoria Coach Station 1963, older coaches at Midland Red, the Ribble Fleet, the Al-Leyland Titan PD1 53 seater alongside substantial bus shelters at Folkeston Bus Station on a sunny day. All clear mono images, a large volume of 22 x 28.5cm, 192 pages.

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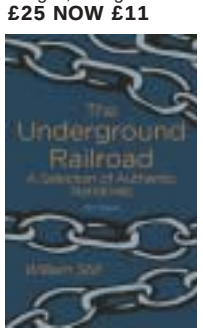


97789 UNDERGROUND RAILROAD: A Selection of Authentic Narratives by William Still

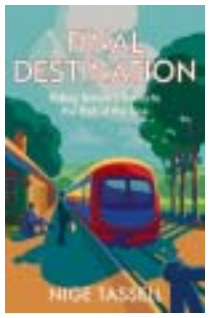
'Like millions of my race, my mother and father were born slaves, but were not contented to live and die so.' First published in 1872, William Still's collection of accounts and letters is a powerful testament to the trials and tribulations of fugitive slaves who used the Underground Railroad, a secret network that enabled them to escape from bondage. A 'conductor' for the railroad, Still was the son of a fugitive slave himself and a campaigner for social reform. This now-classic text is a compilation of letters, interviews and other primary sources from abolitionist and fugitive slaves, an archive of primary documents that trace the narrative of the greatest, most successful campaign of civil disobedience in American history. This abridged edition brings to light the terrors experienced by thousands of African-Americans who sought a better life in the northern states of America and in Canada. Incredibly moving, it offers an insight into a vital aspect of 19th century American history. Chapters include William Peel, Clarissa Davis, Sheridan Ford, Henry Predo, Mary Epps, Alias Emma Brown, A Slave Girl's Narrative, Arrival of Jackson, Isaac and Edmondson Turner from Petersburg, Arrival from Baltimore, Liberty or Death, Jim Bow-Legs, Heavy Reward, Escaping in a Chest and more. The texts raise the possibility of reunion for loved ones separated whether by the auction block or the enforced flight to freedom, echoing Still's own painful family experience. Still founded the Philadelphia's first black YMCA and was known for his unstinting charitable donations and in the New York Times obituary upon his death in 1902 he was noted as the 'Father of the Underground Railroad.' 400 page paperback.

£6.99 NOW £3.75

96808 FERRARI (EXTRA LARGE) by Giuseppe (Pino) Allievi

For seven decades and counting, the Italian powerhouse founded by Enzo Ferrari in 1947 has not only set the standard for high-performance engineering, but also made an indelible red mark on popular culture, enthralling fans and collectors across the globe. More than just a car manufacturer, Ferrari is synonymous with beauty, excellence, and unmatched desirability. The Cavallino Rampante stands proud as the driving force in high-performance granturismo, the conqueror of impossible challenges. A project conceived in close collaboration with Ferrari, this stylish huge edition features exclusive content from the Ferrari Archives and private collections around the world. It brings together many unseen photographs, sketches, and original documents related to famed Ferrari drivers like Ascari, Fangio, Hawthorn, Phil Hill, Surtees, Lauda, Scheckter, and Schumacher, revealing the stories behind Ferrari's victories, its key protagonists, and its legacy. There's also a comprehensive, never-before-seen appendix cataloguing every victory since 1947. From thrilling triumphs on the racetrack to the meticulous craftsmanship behind every model, this volume captures the essence of what makes Ferrari the most coveted name in automotive history, a brand that continues to push the limits of possibility. Whether you're a collector, an enthusiast, or simply a lover of unparalleled design and performance, this is the ultimate tribute to Ferrari's enduring legacy. Gorgeous colour images with drivers smoking in the cars, posters, galleries of car models, design and engineering successes, technology, along precarious Italian mountain roads, Le Mans, Targa and other legendary races, colour technical drawings and dozens of charming old mono archive photos of classic cars and scenes gone by. 28 x 37.4cm, 5.94kg, 688 pages. New from Taschen.

£125 **Il Fascino Ferrari** *A monument to Italy's driving force*



97621 FINAL DESTINATION: Riding Britain's Trains to the End of the Line by Nige Tassell

Leeds to Morecombe, Manchester Piccadilly to Buxton on Higher Ground, Birmingham New Street to Pwllheli, Cardiff Central to Ebbw Vale Town in the Valleys, Bristol Temple Meads to Severn Beach; Norwich to Sheringham; London Fenchurch Street to Shoeburyness; Aldgate to Chesham; Hythe to Dungeness; Ryde Pier Head to Shanklin and lastly the train in the night, London Paddington to Penzance. Take a window seat and discover Britain by rail, from forgotten corners to unexpected destinations. To mark 200 years of passenger rail travel, Nige Tassell sets out on a series of extraordinary journeys to the lesser-known ends of the network, uncovering the stories, characters and landscapes along the way. From Inverness to Wick, Glasgow to Mallaig, Manchester to Buxton and London to Penzance, these 16 railway adventures reveal a Britain of tiny stations, fading seaside towns, remote villages and surprising histories. Along the way you?ll encounter Harry Potter, goths, Alan Bennett, Vera Brittain, Viz, John Betjeman and many other fascinating connections. Part travelogue, part social history and full of humour and curiosity. 294 pages, with map.

£20 NOW £7 **REDUCED**

97057 ROAD LOCOMOTIVES AND TRACTORS From the Golden Age of Steam Power by Eric Sawford

A revised paperback edition of a 1999 classic, this illustrated guide features over 200 monochrome photographs of surviving traction engines, road locomotives, and steam tractors and their use in haulage, agriculture, fairgrounds, and military service. The book highlights ornate showman's engines from makers such as Burrell of Thetford, Fowler of Leeds, and Foster of Lincoln, alongside notable examples like Aveling & Porter's 'Samson' (1901), which moved from Admiralty service at Chatham Dockyard to fairground use as 'Charles Presland. Amusement Caterer,' and later to agricultural work in Suffolk. It also documents the extensive use of steam engines in World War I and their postwar transition into private hands, before internal combustion engines replaced them. The final sections chart the preservation movement, steam fairs and museums. 192 pages.

£18.99 NOW £7.50

97620 ELECTRIC VEHICLE REVOLUTION by Kevin Wilson

We are taken all the way back to the Victorian era and early 20th century when electric power vied for dominance alongside steam and internal combustion, and start-ups were as competitive and innovative as those in Silicon Valley today. Presented over 178 magnificent glossy pages, this is a fascinating and engaging look at the EVs past, present and future. The title page has a very glamorous well-dressed lady charging her open top motorcar with its gleaming headlamps. Chapters cover pioneers probing battery power as Ford's Model T begins to change the world, partnerships with the oil industry, the idea of the electric car regularly resurfacing among hobbyists, Space Age technological advances and the oil crisis, how GM's EV1 happened and why it faltered, and how it became the basis that culminated with the first Tesla Roadster. Covering also the proliferation of hybrids, especially the plug-ins, a clear-eyed view of Tesla Motors, rival start-ups, and regulatory agencies and more. Colour and archive images, 176pp, 22 x 26cm.

£27 NOW £9.50 **SAVE £17.50!**

96774 RMS LUSITANIA: A History In Picture Postcards by Eric Sauder

Lusitania was once the largest, fastest, and most luxurious ship in the world. When a German submarine sank her on 7 May 1915, about 1,200 lives were lost, and the tragedy sent shockwaves across the globe but her engineering achievements were largely forgotten. This volume traces Lusitania's story from construction to the aftermath of her sinking, illustrated with remarkable contemporary postcards. Historian Eric, invited by Dr. Robert Ballard to join explorations of Lusitania and the White Star liner Britannic, provides unique insight from his dives and analysis of thousands of images and hours of footage. He has also explored the wrecks of Titanic, Republic, and Andrea Doria. Each postcard is accompanied by a detailed caption from Eric's vast collection. 128 page paperback

£17.99 NOW £6

97611 BOATER: A Life on England's Waterways by Jo Bell

For over 20 years Jo Bell, archaeologist and poet, has travelled the waterways of England and sometimes Wales, meeting extraordinary people in an extraordinary environment which has taught her about human nature and her own, about rope and Brasso and bravery, ducks and locks and above all the necessity for a constant supply of biscuits. Her clever and funny memoir she describes an alternative nation where different maps and deep history is home to people who live and work in a world quite separate from landlubbers. The history of the canals is a history of work and of a changing planet involving armies of navvies who dug out the channels, thousands of mill workers and miners and generations of boating families whose knowledge was subtle and deep, but unrecorded because writing was not their habit. The canals of Britain are one of the greatest achievements of human endeavour. In her partial account of their history, Jo touches on the lives of James Brindley and Thomas Telford, canal builders, and that of writer L. T. C. Rolt. Her peaceful life is interrupted when a turbulent relationship takes her on a year-long odyssey through the tranquil waters and on to the treacherous Bristol Channel. 296 pages. Woodcut illus.

£16.99 NOW £8

FOOD AND DRINK

I told Sarah not to bring up the blanc-mange again for breakfast. It seems to have been placed on our table at every meal since Wednesday... In spite of my instructions, that blanc-mange was brought up again for supper. To make matters worse, there had been an attempt to disguise it, by placing it in a glass dish with jam round it...I told Carrie, when we were alone, if that blanc-mange were placed on the table again I should walk out of the house.

- George Grossmith, The Diary of a Nobody

97572 BBQ DECK: 30 Recipes to Spice Up Your BBQ Game by Ray Lampe

Ribs, chops, steaks and wings are the star attractions of any meal and here are wonderful classic preparations directly from the US of A including Porterhouse with a Homemade Steak Sauce, Memphis Dry-Rubbed Back Ribs, Old-School Southern Barbecued Spare Ribs, Grilled Country Style Ribs with Sautéed Apples, Beef Short Ribs with Zinfandel Sauce, Bourbon-Soaked Pork Chops, Double-Thick Lamb Chops with Balsamic-Honey Glaze, New York Steak au Poivre with Shallot-Cognac Sauce, Skillet-Fried Top Sirloin, Flat-Iron Steak with Sautéed Mushrooms, Skirt Steak Fajitas and more. The neat and very well made box set contain a deck of 30 cards, each opening out with the numbers to serve, quick preparation times, which seasoning to rub in, when to prepare then refrigerate, and how to cook exactly, when to flip and flip again until your barbecue banquet is nicely caramelised and golden brown before transferring onto a platter as a crowd pleaser. With explanatory booklet with chicken wing dry rubs, salts and other seasoning recipes. Colour photos.

£17.99 NOW £8 *BBQs ARE A GREAT IDEA FOR AUTUMN ENTERTAINING*

97793 ENTERTAINING STORY by India Hicks

A wedding cake decorated with fresh frangipani and a sea glass-green cream icing, birthday cakes and Christmas crackers, Pimms on the lawn, finding a theme for a children's party, laying out a long table for an English summer lunch under the shade of an oak tree, creative table decorations with wildflowers, Homemade Mackerel Paté, Apple and Blackberry Crumble, Cucumber, Feta and Pistachio Salad, everything presented here is done with great style and panache. Bridesmaid at Prince Charles' wedding to Lady Diana and his god daughter, author, model and entrepreneur, and daughter of the designer David Hicks, India Hicks has produced a charming book on entertaining, rich with creative tablescapes and funny family stories. Marvellously, she beings with the most important meal of the day - cocktail hour - and ends with breakfast. Full of personality from Winner Winner Chicken Dinner, Teatime and Picnics, The Great British Breakfast, whether throwing a garden party or decorating a cake, she adds her chic yet accessible style. Her beloved cook is fondly known as Top Banana, and here are tips on cheating with sushi, devising themes, knowing when everything is ready, traditional treats like Victoria Sponge Cake and tropical treats like the Marques' Banana Daiquiri. Stories include her mother sitting next to a cannibal king, and there are tips for sparkling conversations, seating plans, and the best ingredients of all are love and laughter. 224 pages featuring full page colour photographs which are just dreamy and too gorgeous to be true! 23.6 x 28.5cm, a glamorous Rizzoli publication.

£42 NOW £14 **SAVE £28!** *MORE OVER PAGE*

Salted Caramel & Shortbread

97770 FRIDGE CAKES: Over 30 No-Bake Desserts
by Jean-Luc Sady
Fridge cakes are guaranteed to impress and they can be rustled up in less than half an hour, with no cooking. The basic ingredients are whipped cream and mascarpone or cream cheese, together with biscuits for the base and whatever ingredients you choose to add to the mixture and use for the topping. Whipped cream needs the addition of a more solid dairy substance to make sure the cake holds its shape, and after 4 hours in the fridge the cake will be firm and easy to slice, with no need for gelatine. Thin dry biscuits are best for layering, for instance digestive, shortbread, or spiced biscuits. The cake is assembled upside down in a bowl or mould lined with cling-film, which is easy to peel off. Among the fridge cake recipes here, all illustrated with mouthwatering photography, the Raspberry and Spiced Biscuit Cake is a luscious classic, while the Banana, Citrus and Coconut cake is served in its dish, with the layers reversed. An unusual variation is the Apricot and Honey Cake, which requires the use of gelatine to stiffen a puree. Limoncello, Nougat and Nuts make a decadent-looking concoction, and other fruits and toppings include Caramel, Coffee and Macadamia Nuts, White Forest with Cherry and Ricotta, White Chocolate and Lime, and a Chocolate Orange Cake. 70pp, full page colour photo with every recipe.
£7.99 NOW £4

97785 TWENTY TO MAKE: SUGAR CATS
by Frances McNaughton
Some are so realistic you have to look twice. Here are 20 cute kitties like Cordelia curled up on her back playing with a toy made from modelling paste, sugar pearls, fondant, food colour powder, vodka for painting and created just with a Dresden tool, small paintbrush and fine palette knife. Her characterful kitty friends include a Siamese, a Burman, a Ragdoll and lots of moggies including a ginger tom, a tabby and a tortoiseshell and some very cute kittens to make. The author makes this all very easy with all the component parts pictured and very clear step-by-step instructions and an informative section on tools and materials like edible ink felt tip pens and fondant (sugar paste). Easy, fun and long lasting and sure to delight and made using widely available and inexpensive materials. Sweet! 48 page softback, gorgeous colour.
£4.99 NOW £3.25

97795 CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE: A Cookbook
by Carolyn Robb
The former personal chef to HRH The Prince and Princess of Wales has been inspired by Britain's most stunning fairytale palaces and castles to bring us a wealth of Christmas cheer. Recipes for everything from Pink Sugar Mice, Ginger Cakes and Spice-Laced Orange Slices to Smoked Salmon Parcels and Bramble-Infused Vodka will appeal to cooks of all ages and abilities. At Sandringham House we enjoy Stacked Turkey and Smoked Ham Sandwich with Cranberry Sauce; at Windsor Castle children's treats like Marshmallow Snowmen; at Edinburgh Castle festive drinks like Scotch Coffee, Wild Strawberry and Redcurrant Champagne Cocktail; at Hampton Court Palace edible gifts like Flavoured Salts and Giant Chocolate, Cherry and Pistachio Biscotti; at Osborne House Afternoon Tea with a Winterberry and Walnut Victoria Sandwich; at St James's Palace Nibbles and Savouries; at Blenheim Palace Mince Pies and Crown Pavlova and at Caernarfon Castle Preserves and Savoury Condiments like Tomato and Sweet Red Pepper Relish or Spicy Pear Chutney and dozens more regal ideas as we take children on a culinary adventure or enjoy a new hobby like edible handmade gifts. From a celebratory brunch and a classic afternoon tea to nibbles and drinks and luscious tarts, there is something to enjoy at every moment of the day, whether in the festive season or not. A beautifully presented 160 page book of ideas and including templates such as Mini Gingerbread Village House template and packed with gorgeous colour photographs.
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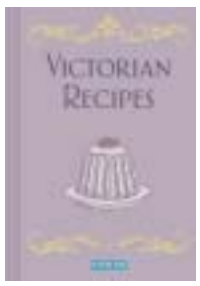
Gingerbread Man Wreaths

97760 ART OF DINING: A History of Cooking and Eating
by Sara Paston-Williams
This lavish National Trust book is in five chapters, one for each century, when fine dining in the English country house was central to royal and aristocratic living. As guardian of many of the country's great houses, the Trust is uniquely placed to illustrate the foods, their sources and methods of cooking and presentation, together with the architectural details and the social customs that provide the context for an understanding of the national culinary heritage. All social classes are represented, for instance in the East Midlands the gourmet dining at Kedleston Hall or Belton House, often for royal visitors, is matched by the superb kitchens preserved at Hardwick Hall or Mr Straw's house in Worksop. Each chapter covers the foods, the kitchens, and the eating areas, and concludes with a selection of period recipes adapted for modern ingredients.

In the medieval and early Tudor period food production was mainly local, with bread the staple food for all classes, white for luxurious eating and coarser bread mixed with bran and rye for the working classes, some of them serfs until the Black Death gave indentured labourers an opportunity for land ownership. Bread was also used to thicken stews and make popular sweetmeats such as toast soaked in milk, flavoured with spices and fried. Venison, wild boar, geese and swans were eaten in abundance by the upper classes while rabbit was the meat of the poor, and during this period the separate kitchen, such as the one at Glastonbury, began to be incorporated into the layout of the house. The Elizabethan and turbulent Stuart periods saw refinements in cooking methods, with spits and pulleys deployed for more effective roasting and a greater variety of spices and other ingredients being imported from North America, the Caribbean, Africa and the East, while commercial production of fruit and vegetables also took off in the 17th century. Wine became expensive as a result of the wars with France, and the introduction of coffee, tea and chocolate revolutionised the beverage industry. Advances in technology and travel transformed life for the 19th century aristocracy, but many families did not return to the old way of life following the devastation of World War I. A fascinating, beautifully illustrated book, with colour reproductions on most pages. 348pp, recipes.
£35 NOW £10 SAVE £25!



97790 VICTORIAN RECIPES
by Pitkin Press
With glorious archive pictures from the Victorian Cookbook and the Shorter Mrs Beeton together with colour photos, this weeny 48 page charming little book provides a feast of original recipes from Victorian times which are still perfectly reliable today. How about Spring Soup or Mayonnaise of Chicken in Shells to start? Followed by Toad in the Hole made with steak and kidney served with Asparagus Pudding? And for dessert there could be Canary Pudding with a Sweet Sauce, or perhaps the exotic Pears À L'allemande? Or Pease Pudding, Cauliflowers with Parmesan Cheese, Jugged Hare, Traditional Roast Leg of Lamb, Baked Turbot, Chicken Croquettes or soups like Clear Mulligatawny, Oxtail or Green Pea. 40 delicious recipes. 11 x 15cm.
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97185 MIRACLE OF VINEGAR
by Aggie McKenzie and Emma Marsden
150 simple and easy recipes and uses for home, health and beauty, here are 150 ways to use this amazing, low cost ingredient. Make delicious dips and marinades. Soften your towels. Do away with dandruff. Descale your kettle. Discover sumptuous slow roasts. Tone greasy skin. Freshen your beauty brushes. Alleviate athlete's foot and fungal toenails. There are recipes for quick and light meals like One Pan Peanut Butter Noodles or Pork Vindaloo. Brimming with tips, tricks and recipes for everything from ferments to fresheners, salad dressings to skincare, laundry and fabric softening and sweet-smelling baby clothes. 170 page paperback with nice clear layout.
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96966 FOODIE PLACES INSPIRED TRAVELLER'S GUIDE by Sarah Baxter
Explore 25 of the globe's most captivating food destinations. From the sea-scented streets of San Sebastian to the smoky grills of Buenos Aires, and through Marrakech, Sichuan, South Korea, Osaka, Hanoi, Melbourne, Lisbon, Lyon, Venice, New Orleans, and beyond, every page is a feast for the senses. Discover how geography, climate, rivers, and soil shape each region's cuisine, and savour the stories behind the flavours. A smorgasbord of vivid joyful, full-page colour illustrations bring markets, dishes, and street scenes to life without leaving your chair. 144 pages.
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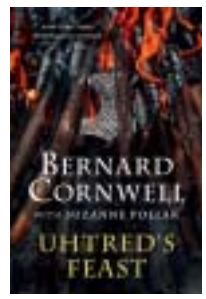
97025 GRIZZLY FORAGER'S GUIDE TO FAMILY FORAGING
by John Shahabeddin
Foraging gives you delicious, free, unprocessed wild food. Part of the book is a wild food identification guide including a calendar, photos and descriptions of colour, size, habitat, season and aroma. The book concludes with a selection of recipes for using your edible haul. Wild garlic can be made into pesto, garlic butter, or pickled garlic buds, while the leaves will add flavour to every casserole or savoury dish, for instance lemon and wild garlic chicken kebabs. Recipes for sweet dishes include wild blackberry and apple crumble, or elderflower fritters. 256pp, tables, diagrams, colour photos.
£16.99 NOW £5



96711 UHTRED'S FEAST
by Bernard Cornwell and Suzanne Pollak
Uhtred's Feast blends three vivid short stories with over 80 meticulously researched recipes, immersing readers in the sights, smells and flavours of the Anglo-Saxon world. They introduce one of historical fiction's most enduring heroes: Uhtred of Bebbanburg - Saxon-born, Norse-raised, a defiant, loyal warrior. Working with acclaimed chef Suzanne Pollak, Cornwell brings history to the table, recreating the food and feasting of the age. More than a recipe book, this is part invitation to step into Uhtred's hall and sit by the fire, set a shank into a large bowl and top with the turnip and carrot mix spooning over the sauce of your braised lamb shank - made with mushrooms, onion, garlic, anchovies, raw apple cider vinegar, fresh thyme leaves and mint leaves, carrots, turnips and seasoning - or a brisket hash, a dandelion salad with bacon, or cream braised leeks with nutmeg. 270 pages. Small remainder mark.
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96967 GOOD OLD FASHIONED ROASTS
by Laura Mason
Whether you are cooking beef, veal, lamb, pork, chicken, turkey, duck, goose or game birds, rabbit, hare, or venison, here are classic recipes for roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, rack of lamb with a herb crust and a roast chicken with Tarragon and also wonderful ideas for creating dishes from the leftovers like shepherd's pie, potted ham, Coronation chicken, game and lentil soup, croquettes of game and many delights. Focusing on the heart of the Sunday table, the book guides readers through the art of roasting meat, preparing perfect accompaniments. With tips for timing, seasoning, using seasonal vegetables and presentation, classic gravies, sauces and full page mouth-watering photos and hundreds of easy-to-follow recipes. 160 large pages.
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97052 HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR MAMMOTH? 12,000 Years of Culinary History in 50 Bite-Size Essays by Uta Seeburg
This romp through the history of the world in 50 recipes offers an accessible, entertaining journey through human history via food. Beginning in 10,000 BCE with grilled mammoth in North America, by 1730 BCE, Babylonian lamb stew appears in one of the earliest written recipes, combining onion, leek, garlic, and barley. Roman gladiators feature through a calcium-rich post-training drink. Later chapters trace global culinary developments including Mughal curries, Eastern European borscht, and rich European home cooking traditions, ending with Afternoon Tea and Fish and Chips. 245 pages of history, culture, and humour.
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97617 DIABETES AIR FRYER COOKBOOK
by Katie Caldesi
Over 100 recipes. How can an air fryer help control type 2 diabetes? These low-carb meals broadly follow the pre-1950s Mediterranean diet with plenty of fresh seasonal vegetables, extra-virgin olive oil, meat, fish, eggs and dairy. Air fryers make cooking simple and as you get confident, you will experience less waste, and delicious budget recipes, shorter cooking times and learn the different settings and fan speeds, tips and tricks, cleaning and safety. From breakfasts to simple midweek dinners, nibbles and light meals, try delicious Lamb Kebabs with Coriander Chutney, Simple Steak, Greek Inspired Chicken Salad with Halloumi Croutons, Chicken Parmigiana, Roast Salmon with Ginger, Lemongrass and Spring Onions, Seabass Fillets on Roasted Peppers with Lemon and Parsley Oil, Sardines in Peppers, Devilled Eggs and Quick Mushroom and Tahini Soup. 207 large pages, colour photos.
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96802 HUNTER GATHER COOK HANDBOOK
by Nick Weston
This Foraging, Butchery & Fire Cookery School Cookbook is an immersive, hands-on guide to transforming the wild into a gourmet outdoor kitchen. Weston teaches readers how to harvest, prepare, and cook game, plants, and mushrooms in the open air. Key features include: Open-Fire Techniques: Master cooking over fire with guidance on building a clay oven, Swedish log candle, smoke teepee, and make an underground oven. Detailed instructions for deer, rabbit, game birds. Recipes range from smoked venison tartare, carpaccio, fire-charred fillet, to venison burgers, tacos, huevos rancheros, and rabbit preparations like rolled fillets, confit, nettle pesto cakes, plus partridge, pheasant, pigeon, and duck dishes. Extensive directory of wild herbs, greens, and mushrooms, sauces, and even salsas like burnt ash salsa. Step-by-step methods, equipment lists. Colour photos, 176 pages.
£14.99 NOW £7

Whole Roast Pheasant with Hasselback Potatoes

96574 AIR-FRYER COOKBOOK
by Jenny Tschiesche
A Sunday Times bestseller and companion to Channel 5's The Air Fryer Diet, this beginner-friendly cookbook offers 101 quick, healthy and delicious recipes. With fast heat-up times and crisp, even results, the air fryer serves as an easy alternative to deep-frying and works just as well for everyday basics as for full meals. Try dishes like Courgette Fries, Chicken Fajitas, Cajun Prawn Skewers, Quinoa-Stuffed Peppers, Falafels, Baked Nectarines and more. Recipes are organised by basics, snacks, meats, fish, vegetarian and vegan options, sides and sweets. Featuring full-page colour photography throughout. 144 pages, 19 × 23.5 cm.
£16.99 NOW £7

96715 BOOK OF DIFFICULT FRUIT
by Kate Lebo
Arguments for the Tart, Tender, and Unruly is an inventive culinary guide exploring 26 unusual and often overlooked fruits, arranged alphabetically from Aronia to Xylitol. Highlights include Aronia (chokeberry), whose deep purple berries are used in smoothies blended with greens and banana; dandelion roots, roasted into a coffee-style drink; carefully prepared rhubarb used in pickling; and ume plums, preserved into traditional Japanese forms such as umeboshi. Each entry blends cooking guidance with personal reflections, experimentation, and line drawings, making the book part cookbook, part memoir, and part cultural exploration of food traditions. 391 pages, illus.
$28 NOW £5

97149 200 FAST CHICKEN DISHES: Hamlyn All Colour Cookbook by Octopus Books
Dinner on the table in 30, 20 or 10 minutes from Mulligatawny in a Mug to Feta-Stuffed Chicken with Peppers, in this fuss-free very popular series. Quick family mains include Easy Pan Fried Chicken with Crisp Vegetables, Speedy Casseroles and one-pan skillet meals like baked chicken with lime, chicken and tarragon burgers, chicken pad Thai and cream cider chicken. With serving numbers, cooking times, simple recipes and a big colour photograph for each, try out Chicken Breasts with Herb Butter, Sticky Soy-Glazed Drumsticks, Cajun Chicken Quinoa with Apricots, Chicken and Brie Puff Pie, Linguine with Marsala Chicken and over a hundred more. Small paperback, 240 glossy pages, 200 colour photos.
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97174 ULTIMATE ASIAN COOKBOOK
by Emma Callery
Learn to create flavourful dishes from across Asian cuisine with over 100 tried-and-tested recipes of dishes from China, Thailand, and Japan, including Sweet-and-Sour Prawns, Salt and Pepper Spare Ribs, Mongolian Hotpot, Stir-Fried Meatballs, and Vegetarian Chopped Suey, alongside soups such as Hot and Sour Soup, Wonton Soup, and Crab Meat Soup. Staples like fried rice, noodle soup, and simple boiled rice are also included. Clear instructions, precise measurements, and useful cook's tips make the recipes easy to follow, while an introduction to ingredients and flavours helps build confidence in Asian cooking. 176 -page illustrated softcover 8.5" x 11", with appetising full-colour photos.
£14.99 NOW £5.50

97178 CIDER COUNTRY by James Crowden
Join James Crowden on a journey through the history and culture of cider. From the wild apple forests of Kazakhstan to the myth-rich civilisations of the Mediterranean, he explores how the humble apple travelled west and became a drink embraced by farmers, monks, pirates, and politicians alike. The book follows cider's rise in Britain, where its popularity grew after the Reformation, inspiring experimentation and innovation, including an early form of sparkling cider that predates champagne techniques. Along the way, Crowden meets cider makers, historians, and farmers who reveal how traditions have been preserved and adapted over centuries. 440 page illustrated volume is a richly detailed exploration of our most iconic rural drink cider's history, craft, and consumption.
£18.99 NOW £5.50

MISCELLANY

Quality Stationery & Gift Ideas

97805 BIG PANDA AND TINY DRAGON BLANK NOTE CARD SET: 20 Cards by James Norbury
Featuring the much-loved heartfelt hand drawn artwork, gentle wisdom that has captivated readers around the world, and with co-ordinated envelopes in pale blue with small artwork in the bottom corner and Big Panda on the seal. 'A journey of a thousand miles begins with a cup of tea.' 'Do you believe in reincarnation?' asked Tiny Dragon. Big Panda yawned. 'I believe that every minute of every day we can let go and start again.' Drawing on Buddhist philosophy and insights we see the two friends wander through the seasons sharing conversations full of hope and tenderness, bravery and new beginnings, everything faced together. Six of the **20 different cards** are in soft watercolour and each radiates warmth and gentle humour. Boxed.
£20 NOW £9

88708 LULU GUINNESS CONFETTI LIP PRINT CONCERTINA FILE by Lulu Guinness
Designed to hold A4 pages there are six compartments lined in sturdy red card in this concertina folder, black background with bright red, yellow, blue, green, grey and purple, pretty and kissable lips dotted as a pattern. Would look stylish in any office and has a long red cord ribbon tie. Designer quality at a non-designer price.
£18 NOW £6 BACK IN STOCK

93184 COMFORT GRIP STAINLESS STEEL SCISSORS: Set of 2 by Rysons
Soft plastic texture and red rim black trimmed scissors with a nice comfortable grip for older hands, ideal for home, office and school use, or indeed to keep in the kitchen drawer and set aside for food preparation. The larger pair of scissors is approximately 9" and the smaller approximately 4". Mounted on card, ready sharpened stainless steel with a bright red 'nut' at the centre. The overall black and red is a modern sleek finish.
ONLY £5 BACK IN STOCK

97135 BLACK CAT NOTEBOOK by Ashridge
A black cat peeps from the right hand corner of the colourful cover of this quality spiral bound notebook. Approximately 80 lined pages and 7 x 9", it's a good size and lies flat on the sturdy brass coloured spiral ring binder. Great value for money and incredibly useful and with pale pink, ochre and cream colours with a touch of teal, it would also make an attractive gift.
ONLY £8

Bibliophile's Own

97879 VORTEX STYLUS LOGO PEN: Metallic Magenta
Just landed - our newest addition to add to your Bibliophile pen collection! With a stunning metallic pinky magenta barrel showing off the bright white etched text WELL READ WITH BIBLIOPHILE www.bibliophilebooks.com 0207 474 2474 and with a very comfortable contoured barrel shape for easy grip when writing. A click-action pen with black rubber stylus for use on screens etc integrated on top of plunger and with a clip in shiny chrome trim. 1.0mm point size and black ink. Smart and classy - and easy to spot at the bottom of your bag or in the desk drawer!
ONLY £3

95234 WILD HARMONY HALF ROUND LARGE WASH BAG by The Gifted Stationery Company
Generously sized 20.5 x 27.5 x 9.5cm, this large cosmetics bag is roomy and luxurious providing ample room for all your essentials and a zipper pocket for your smaller items like your favourite lipstick or perfume or tweezers. Crafted from luxurious textured vegan faux leather and featuring a durable golden zip right across the curve of the top, we have chosen a wipe-clean off white bag decorated with beautiful climbing flowers in pink and white and blue with dragonflies in blue and green. It is lined in a pink satin material and brand new, manufactured by friends of ours, so you'll not have seen this elsewhere. Sophisticated and great value for money.
ONLY £16

95718 72 PIECE ARTIST'S COLOURING PENCILS by Stationery Essentials
Vibrant colourful rainbow pencils, all pre-sharpened ranging from white and four shades of yellow through the oranges, reds, pinks, greens, turquoise, blues, teal, browns to blacks laid out simply in two layers in a large cardboard box. Designed for professional artists and art students of all ages, and perfect for drawing, sketching, shading and colouring, unleash your creativity and perfect your hatching, gradient and detailed lines. An incredible bargain price.
ONLY £12

96614 SHINE A LIGHT: 80 Long Safety Matches by Ashridge
In a lovely tall glass bottle with a cork stopper of approximately 5cm diameter these fireside safety matches have a really long striking distance and are easily stored and within easy reach in its glass container alongside the fireplace or your favourite candles, or take it outdoors for a stylish look alongside your fire pit or barbecue. Easily light your wooden matches by striking on the base of the glass bottle but remember to replace the cork lid first! Pop one of these into the gift bag next time you give away a scented candle and watch your recipient's face light up! The matchsticks are jet black and have a marine blue tip and measure 10cm and glass bottle 12cm tall. Boxed and bubble wrapped for safe delivery.
ONLY £11

97180 GRANDFATHER'S MEMORIES: A Keepsake Journal by Weldon Owen International
Designed to capture and preserve a grandfather's unique family life story from childhood reminiscences to special moments shared with his grandchild, each page of this guided journal includes helpful prompts, and the inside back cover a special card inside a blue envelope which is sealed, to write an expression of grandfather's true love. A5 sized, 144 lined pages with suggestions for thoughts when the child is flying a nest and parents' dreams for the future after school, family fun and favourite weekends, how you would describe your parent as a young child and what they looked like, tying the knot and more. With space for a family tree and dedication page, luxury feel 15.5 x 21cm.
£13.99 NOW £4.75

William Morris Designs

97882 WILLIAM MORRIS STRAWBERRY THIEF GIFT WRAP SET by The Gifted Stationery Company
Elevate your gift presentation with this elegant William Morris gift wrap set, featuring beautifully coordinated paper and tags for a timeless finishing touch. Two Premium Wrapping Sheets plus two Matching Gift Tags in nice wallet for safekeeping, classic Arts & Crafts botanical bird design in rich blue background with bright red strawberries, foliage, birds and flowers the wrapping paper sheets measure 50 x 70cm each. Perfect for adding a classic finishing touch to birthdays, celebrations, and special occasions. Presented in a convenient book format it keeps your wrapping paper neatly stored and ready whenever you need it. The print quality is so good it looks like actual fabric!
ONLY £4.75

WRAP WITH HERITAGE STYLE
Elevate your gift presentation with this elegant William Morris gift wrap set, featuring beautifully coordinated paper and tags for a timeless finishing touch. (NB. No ribbon incl.)

97881 WILLIAM MORRIS LUNCH BAG: Strawberry Thief by The Gifted Stationery Company
With insulated liner which is wipe clean and keeps all food and drink contents cool and fresh, this very classy Arts and Crafts design reusable Lunch Tote bag has a sturdy grey zip closure and equally sturdy red carry handle. It measures a handy and compact 220 x 160 x 125mm, a 4.5 litre capacity and is useful for taking drinks into the garden, around the kitchen, for work, school, picnics etc. 100% polyester, just wipe clean any accidental spills. It matches the Strawberry Thief rich navy blue, red strawberries, birds and foliage of the gift wrap set code 97882.
ONLY £11

97545 PENCIL SET - WILLIAM MORRIS CRAY by The Gifted Stationery Company
Hexagonal shaped 7" tall sturdy cardboard case with its two-tone pale green and reds and blues of the unmistakeable William Morris popular Cray repeating pattern with red flowers and foliage. Lift the lid and inside are 12 ready-sharpened full-length HB pencils in the same design, standing to attention ready for use in a foam holder at the base of the case.
ONLY £10

97546 SINGLE PEN - WILLIAM MORRIS - WILLOW & ROSE by The Gifted Stationery Company
Refillable with black ink and a beautiful item to hold even for older hands, this pen writes very nicely and is of good quality and design. You will be familiar with the greens and pale yellows of the famous Willow and Rose swirling pattern. 162mm × 42mm × 20mm. Gold clip and tip. Gift boxed.
ONLY £10

96835 OPULENCE TOTE BAG by The Gifted Stationery Company
Dark navy background with green foliage, tiny pink flowers and elegant white cranes design adorn this beautiful tall shaped tote bag which is perfect for carrying essentials like books, newspapers and shopping. Combines space and refinement featuring long navy sturdy fabric handles for over-the-shoulder comfort and useful inner navy pocket with zip for train tickets, keys etc, this chic spacious tote is ideal for shopping and all your carrying needs - especially books! 35 x 42 x 14cm.
ONLY £12 BACK IN STOCK

97354 METALLIC GEL PENS: Assorted Colours 6 Pack by Signature
The set includes 6 metallic coloured gel pens in a beautiful range of burnt red, dark pink, gold, green, silver and purple, these vibrant metallic inks are suitable for writing greeting cards, name badges, place cards, crafting, drawing, and office work. Designed for smooth ink flow without skipping, and often used for adult colouring books and writing. Not suitable for young children.
ONLY £3

97130 12 COLOURED FLAME PARTY CANDLES by Rainbow Moments
Colour your occasions with this set of 12 party candles with brilliantly coloured flames and plastic holders. Non-toxic and water soluble, they measure 5 x 50mm and have a burning time of eight minutes per candle. Unscented, these awesome multi-coloured candles produce orange, purple, yellow, green and blue flames for up to 8 minutes, making them the perfect for a kid's birthday party, adult's birthday, anniversary or any other celebratory occasion, or the perfect cake topper decoration! Bargain priced.
ONLY £3.99 BACK IN STOCK

97133 MAGNETIC SHOPPING PAD COCKATOO by Ashridge
A luxury lined 4" x 6" notepad of 52 pages with small decorative design in the bottom right hand corner, there are two large magnets on the back to attach this item with confidence to something metal like the fridge door and keep your lists and notes safe. The cover decoration is of two beautiful cockatoo birds flecked with a luxury gold-leaf finish on the plumage, also picked out on the leaves and teal flowers and branches the birds are sitting on. The overall colour is dark green. Excellent value for money.
ONLY £4.50

PURRRRRFECT GIFT IDEAS!

See also our NEW PUZZLE on page 3

97367 IVORY CATS 20 NOTECARDS & ENVELOPES by Lesley Anne Ivory
Without doubt the most talented cat artist of this generation, Lesley Anne Ivory is best known for her Ivory Cats. This lovely large card wallet collection contains five each of four designs in blank white notecards for any occasion and with quality white envelopes. A beautiful brindle small cat is curled on a wicker chair ('Mikado on a chair'); a ginger and a tabby cat bob up from a field of glorious sunflowers ('Blossom and Spiro in Sunflowers'); three very fluffy ginger kittens play with a bowl full of bubbles. Ideal for correspondence or gifting to cat lovers. In card wallet for safe keeping.
ONLY £6.50

97371 IVORY CAT MINI MAGNETIC NOTEPAD by Lesley Anne Ivory
Super, handy and beautiful, there are four gorgeous cats to enjoy by the talented British painter of realistic cats, Lesley Anne Ivory. The four designs are a beautiful tabby looking over his shoulder in a field of yellow flowers, a marmalade cat on a wooden decorative carved seat with a blue floral background, a beautiful Persian cat with Chinese flying bird and vase in the still life portrait and a pair of adorable tabby and white kittens with the mosaic in the front and the William Morris-like design of willow and rose in the background. With a small round magnetic fastener to keep the notepad closed. 3" x 4". Designs are supplied at random or ***buy four copies to receive the complete set.***
ONLY £3

97366 IVORY TABBY CAT SHOPPING LIST by Lesley Anne Ivory
With sturdy magnetic strips top and bottom, and a handy compact size of 230 x 95mm, this slimline shopping list is perfect for slapping on the fridge. Keep your shopping, reminders and daily lists beautifully organised with this charming magnetic cat shopping list featuring the artwork of celebrated feline artist Lesley Anne Ivory. A gorgeous tabby with expressive eyes sits among bright spring flowers in the delightful Octopussy in Spring Flowers design, capturing the character and charm of a much-loved pet. Easy to use for shopping lists, notes, appointments and everyday reminders.
ONLY £5

97368 IVORY CATS JOURNAL: A5 Spiral Notebook by Lesley Anne Ivory
A beautiful white fluffy cat looks directly at you in one of Lesley Anne Ivory's iconic images of 'Rose's cat and the Art Deco roses'. The soft fur contrasts with the very bold beautiful floral design she has for her background with pink, green, yellow and purple large swirling roses against a black background. 15.5 x 21.5, this is an A5 sized approximately 60 page lined notebook for many purposes or for gifting. There is a fluorescent pink elastic fastener to keep any receipts or clippings safe and keep the journal secure.
ONLY £8.50

97369 IVORY CATS NOTEBLOCK by Lesley Anne Ivory
Featuring the image 'Blossom and Spiro in Sunflowers' by Lesley Anne Ivory - the expressive faces, perky ears, soft fur and long whiskers of one beautiful tabby and one marmalade cat, with their shiny green eyes, peeping out from an abundance of glorious sunflowers in a field. Nice close up design, padded cover on this very handy square block of bright white note paper, easy to tear off and leave by the telephone or on the desk. 13cm square by over 3cm deep, great value and quality.
ONLY £6

MORE OVER PAGE

97365 NATURE SHOPPING LIST by Red Robin Publishing
With sturdy magnetic strips top and bottom, and a handy compact size of 230 x 95mm, this slimline shopping list is a quality item of stationery, perfect for slapping on the fridge or any other metallic surface for lists of medication, things to do or of course your shopping. The magnets will not damage any surface. The pretty floral design is of roses and peonies and other beautiful flowers on a pale cream background and green variegated leaves. Would make a lovely gift item and the lined paper has a pretty decorative matching design in the strip along the bottom. ***A perfect gift pairing with 97370 Nature Memo Cube.***
ONLY £5

97370 NATURE MEMO CUBE WITH DRAWER by Red Robin Publishing
Lift the slightly padded lid to find a block of approximately 100 3" square bright white sheets of paper, oh-so-handy to write quick notes to the milkman and shopping lists of reminders etc. A small round brass knob when pulled reveals a little draw at the base of the cube, handy for a spare key, paperclips, tiny stapler or your wedding ring when you're going off gardening. The sturdy cube itself measures approximately 4" in every direction and the lid, back and drawer are decorated with a very pretty floral design, intertwining leaves, variegated leaves, red, pinks, orange and yellow flowers and buds and in a matching design to the Nature Shopping List 97365.
ONLY £7

97458 CYCLEPEDIA GIFT WRAP by Michael Embacher
Add a touch of cycling style to your gifts with this colourful wrapping paper set inspired by Michael Embacher?s extraordinary collection of bicycles. Architect and designer Embacher spent years building a unique collection of more than 250 fascinating bikes, celebrated worldwide through his Cyclepedia project. These 10 sheets of high-quality gift wrap feature bold, vibrant designs inspired by wheels, spokes and the graphic beauty of bicycle engineering, along with 12 matching gift tags. This stylish Thames & Hudson set turns every present into a celebration of the bicycle. Sheets unfold to 68 x 48cm.
£12.95 NOW £5.50

HUMOUR

I never was so immensely tickled by anything I had ever said before. I actually woke up twice during the night, and laughed till the bed shook.

- George Grossmith, The Diary of a Nobody

97900 LITTLE BOOK OF SHIT by Summersdale Publishers
Apologies first of all to the girls here on the phone who will have to say this title out loud when you order it! The shit will hit the fan in this brilliant book which presents some of the best uses of our favourite expletive. Philosophical Shit: Existentialism - shit happening is absurd. Fatalism - shit is going to happen. Feminism - we want the same shit as men. Hedonism - there's nothing like a good shit. Nihilism - this shit has no meaning. Optimism - this shit is pretty good. You get the drift? Scientific, religious, political, social, work, cultural and animal shit complete this one-per-page thought provoking, laugh-out-loud gift book. Cat - dogs are shit. Bear - do I shit in the woods? Dung Beetle - this shit tastes great. Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! Ha! 160 small pages, dung emoji illus.
£6.99 NOW £5

97884 OLD AGE PAST-IT NOTES by Boxer Gifts
Bright yellow sticky notes to leave under your nose! Each is identical and reads: DON'T FORGET TO: GET UP, GET WASHED, VISIT THE LAVATORY, PUT YOUR TEETH IN, GET DRESSED, EAT, PHONE THE KIDS (THEY PREFER 3.00 AM). DON'T GO OUT WITHOUT: KEYS, GLASSES, COAT, MONEY, PANTS, MAP, NAME TAG, NURSE'S NUMBER. With check boxes alongside, grow old disgracefully with this unique accessory to help you get through the day. Or send to a friend with a good sense of humour! 7.5cm square, approximately 50 yellow notes.
ONLY £6

97885 GROW A SLOTH TOY by Boxer Gifts
Following the success of Grow a Poo code 97128 and from the same manufacturer comes a teeny little, cuddly, smiley-faced sloth who will start to grown in a cup full of room temperature water within two hours and will be full size in 72 hours, six times his size! What's the rush? Sloths travel at speeds of 2 metres per minute and can take up to a month to digest a meal. This one just needs a little bit of water! Safe and non-toxic when removed from water it will shrink back to its original size and you can grow your sloth again and again! Palm sized when fully grown.
ONLY £6

97128 GROW A POO by Boxer
Looking a little bit like a walnut whip but with big googly eyes, everyone's favourite message icon is the Little Poop emoji. A gift for kids of all ages looking for funny toys, why not grow your own? Simply drop it into some water and watch the poop grow UP TO 6 TIMES ITS SIZE! It doubles in roughly 48 hours and states six times the size in 72. It can be shrunk back to its original size ready to be grown over and over again! Make your family squirm and cringe without the embarrassment of the stench (not really!). Complete with funny card packaging, plop one or two onto your shopping list for yourself. Oh, and did you know that in Asia poo is a symbol of good luck?
ONLY £4.99

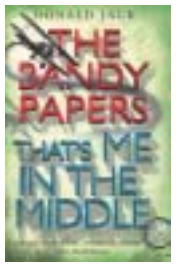
97129 CAUTION: DEEPLY SATISFYING POO IN PROGRESS SIGN by Boxer gifts
You know those bright yellow caution signs that usually have the words cleaning in progress on them? Well, here is a miniature revised version with GIVE IT 10 MINUTES and a gas mask symbol on the back and large block capital letters and Caution in red on the front. Fed up of your husband stinking out the bathroom? This hilarious sign will pre-warn you about the incoming stinky stench! Whether it's for birthday, Christmas, Secret Santa or white elephant, this office humour desk-sized warning sign makes the perfect gift for anyone with a sense of humour. 25 x 11.8cm.
ONLY £5.50

96146 HOW TO AVOID BOREDOM ON THE LOO edited by Claire Ormsby-Potter
There are mazes and jokes and facts and quizzes and history and a spot-the-difference of beautiful Arabic colourful mosaic toilet tiles, references to movies and aristocrats and lots of did-you-knows? and daft humour. Dark brown turd-shaped toilet book, colour illus.
£11.99 NOW £2.50

96662 PLANES, TRAINS AND TOILET DOORS 50 Places That Changed British Politics by Matt Chorley
A lively, salty romp through the unexpected places where British politics has really happened over the last two centuries - in car parks, village halls, seaside resorts and even swimming pools. From Pitt the Younger's duel on Putney Heath to Harold Wilson's Scilly Isles holidays, John Major's decisive dental appointment, the Cliveden pool scandal and Dominic Cummings' infamous Barnard Castle trip, Matt Chorley shows how politics often unfolds far from the bubble. With sharp, funny insights and Morten Morland's brilliant full-page caricatures. 290pp.
£25 NOW £4 SAVE £21!

96640 WHERE'S CHURCHILL? A WWII Search & Find Book by Ryan Gearing
Dive into a playful, history-themed search-and-find as you track down Churchill hidden in vivid scenes from World War Two. Each colourful, detail-packed spread recreates key moments - from the Battle of the Atlantic and Dunkirk to the Blitz, Stalingrad, El Alamein and the Battle of the Bulge - complete with authentic uniforms and bustling action. Alongside Churchill, you'll also spot notable figures such as Georgi Zhukov, Tanya Chernova, Bernard Montgomery, Mussolini and Airey Neave. With fun fact boxes and lively artwork, this is a light-hearted treat for history fans aged 10 to adult. Large 40 pages, colour.
£9.99 NOW £2.50

97257 BANDY PAPERS: THREE CHEERS FOR ME by Donald Jack
With his disturbingly horse-like face and a pious distaste for strong drink and bad language, young Bartholomew Bandy doesn't seem cut out for life in the armed services yet he positively thrives in the Royal Flying Corps, revealing a surprising aptitude for splitarsing Sopwith Camels and shooting down the Hun. He even manages to get the girl. Through it all he never loses his greatest ability to open his mouth and put his foot in it. Donald Jack's blackly humorous Bandy memoirs are classics of their kind. 332 page paperback.
£8.99 NOW £3.75



97295 THAT'S ME IN THE MIDDLE: The Bandy Papers Book 2 by Donald Jack
World War I flying ace Bart Bandy finds himself kicked upstairs to everyone's appalled surprise and made a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Royal Flying Corps. But not for long. Persuaded to give a school speech on the many shortcomings of Field Marshal Haig, Bart finds Fortune's Wheel definitely on the turn and soon he is once more heading for the hell of the trenches this time on a bicycle. With the daredevil commander of the 13th Bicycle Brigade, Bob Craig, there follow a series of edge-of-the-seat adventures, and brilliant exchanges of utter nonsense. 322 page paperback.
£8.99 NOW £3

97264 BOOK OF NONSENSE: With all the Original Pictures and Verses by Edward Lear
Edward Lear was a Victorian artist, illustrator, poet, and pioneer of literary nonsense, best known for popularising the limerick form and creating a world of playful, invented language. This edition of The Book of Nonsense brings together his famously absurd verses, filled with characters such as Quangle-Wangles, Pobbles, and Jumblies. His work is marked by rhythmic invention, verbal playfulness, and a joy in the sounds of both real and imaginary words, from "diaphanous doorscrapers" to the iconic "runcible spoon" of The Owl and the Pussycat. Alongside the poems are autobiographical letters, including previously unpublished material, offering glimpses of Lear's travels, correspondence, and later life in San Remo. 118 page miniature paperback, original illus.
£7.99 NOW £4

97276 I-SPY PETS: When Human Friendship Is Not Enough by Sam Jordison
This humorous "I-Spy for grown-ups" book turns everyday encounters with pets into a tongue-in-cheek spotting game, from "Evil Cat," "Stoner Dog," and "Innuendo Cat" to dogs with pom-poms, waterproof accessories, or phones, the book catalogues an absurd range of animals and their equally eccentric situations, including a giant dog on a trailer complete. With daft text and sillier pictures and a score card, a dog in a bag to a dog grave, a useless pet to Zen master pub dog, presented like a playful score-based challenge, it mixes nostalgia with satire. 56 pages, 1970s-style illus.
£4.99 NOW £1.90 REDUCED

97258 BARBIE BOOK OF JOY by Malcolm Mackenzie
Be More Barbie! This illustrated pocket book gathers playful quotes and light-hearted "Barbie philosophy," celebrating her many careers - doctor, pilot, astronaut, president - and her upbeat approach to life, friendship, and self-belief. Organised into themed chapters such as "Play All Day," "Be the Boss," and "Own Your Influence," it mixes humour, fashion inspiration, and feel-good advice, supported by colourful illustrations and endpaper artwork showcasing Barbie's many looks. 128 pages.
£9.99 NOW £3.50

97272 HERE WE GO AGAIN...: Unpublished Letters to The Daily Telegraph 14 edited by Kate Moore
A follow-up in the popular You Couldn't Make It Up... and Did Anyone Else See That Coming...? series, this volume collects the witty and often irreverent letters sent to The Daily Telegraph during 2022. Figures and topics under scrutiny include Nicola Sturgeon, the England cricket team, Sir Tony Blair, Will Smith, and Rafael Nadal's underpants, alongside major events such as the Wagatha Christie trial, Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee, the war in Ukraine, Partygate, Boris Johnson, and Liz Truss's premiership. Blending satire, nostalgia, and common-sense humour, the contributors comment on everything from television and MPs to everyday frustrations, often with a mischievous or defiant tone. 208 pages.
£9.99 NOW £4.50

97277 JEWISH JOKE by Devorah Baum
How do you tell the difference between a shlemiel and a shlimazel, Jew or gentile, want you or another or between a Jewish person and a comedian? Between a Jew and a pirate, between morality and neurosis, a king or a beggar, life and death, the Trinity and the Almighty, man and God or the difference between Jewish and goyish? Ranging from self-deprecation to anti-Semitism, politics to sex, and with jokes from Jerry Seinfeld, Franz Kafka, Lena Dunham as well as Freud and Marx (Groucho mostly), this is both a compendium and a commentary. 198 page paperback.
£6.99 NOW £3.75

97292 SLOTH'S GUIDE TO ETIQUETTE by Sarah Jackson
Sub-titled A Laid-Back Approach to Socially Acceptable Behaviour, this humorous guide uses Brian the sloth to gently (and very slowly) navigate the complexities of first dates, break-ups, job interviews, starting work, and managing social media. Whether it's greeting colleagues, attending social events, or politely declining invitations to protect valuable nap time, blending gentle humour with playful illustrations, the book features Brian alongside animal friends including monkeys, owls, birds, and even a ghost. 64 pages illus.
£7.99 NOW £3.75

97296 WAKE ME UP WHEN IT'S ALL OVER: Unpublished Letters to The Daily Telegraph 13 edited by Kate Moore
In a surreal year where even seasoned commentators struggled to keep pace with events, readers' letters to The Daily Telegraph once again provide a witty and sharply observant review of the news. Topics include Brexit, Covid, EU regulations, US politics from Trump to Biden, lockdowns and vaccines, and viral cultural moments such as Jackie Weaver's parish council meeting and "Texas cat lawyer" Rod Ponton. Contributors also offer playful ideas, from replacing handshakes with the Vulcan salute to interpreting politics through Ikea shopping. No one escapes their hilariously whimsical and sometimes risqué musings. 180-page paperback.
£9.99 NOW £4.50

65529 COMPLETE MAPP & LUCIA: Volume Two by E. F. Benson
These three wonderful comic novels, Mapp and Lucia, Lucia's Progress and Trouble for Lucia, drolly record the battle between Lucia and Elisabeth Mapp for social and cultural supremacy in the village of Tilling (based on Rye). Their constant skirmishes ensure that every game of bridge, tea or dinner-party, church service, council meeting or art-exhibition are thrilling encounters that ensure Tilling is always on 'a very agreeable rack of suspense'. Concentrates on the novels' disturbing, bitchy, 'camp' humour whenever 'that horrid thing which Freud calls sex is raised'. 665 page paperback.
ONLY £3

96351 AND FINALLY...The Weird and Wonderful World of News by Ryan Herman
Packed with strange tales that news-readers save until the end of a broadcast from the drunken mice causing havoc but ultimately endearing themselves to the workers at a sherry distillery in Spain, the owner of a riding school for disabled children who raised tens of thousands of pounds after Lucian Freud popped into one of her amateur horse-sketching classes and left his drawing behind, and Stephanie, the child refugee who founded a female-run software company in 1960s Britain, who was routinely faced with sexism when selling her products. Also covers law and order, sport and heroes. 207pp.
£14.99 NOW £3.50

96888 DAD'S BOOK: For The Dad Who's Best At Everything by Michael Heatley
A witty, practical, and endlessly amusing guide for dads, packed with jokes, facts, and tongue-in-cheek survival tips to help you excel at fatherhood. Covering everything from preparing for the baby's arrival, choosing a name (including wacky celebrity choices), and star signs, to real-world skills like changing nappies, coping with teenagers, and managing pocket money. The book also offers tips for family life and fun: first day at school, board games, building a snowman, camping, pets, making a kite, teaching your child to drive or dive, musical instruments, gadgets, dream cars, and supporting kids on the touchline. Line drawings.
£9.99 NOW £3.50

96975 JOY OF SHEDS by Frank Hopkinson
A quirky, affectionate celebration of the humble shed and its outsized role in creativity, invention, and culture. From Trevor Baylis's clockwork radio to Dylan Thomas's poetry retreats, sheds have been secret labs for Marie Curie, workshops for Daimler and Benz, and writing havens for Pullman, Woolf, and Roald Dahl. This playful guide explores sheds in every dimension: "Pimp Your Shed" shows how to go over the top, "Shed Facts" reveals that one in five men have had an accident in a shed, "Shed Vision" examines the curious contents people stash away, and "The Genus Shed" humorously classifies them as if in the Linnaean order. Stories from around the world and appearances in literature, film, and music add charm and variety. Photos, line drawings, and large print, 160 pages.
£12.99 NOW £5

96915 NATIONAL MENAGERIE OF ART by Thais Vanderheyden
A riotously imaginative picture book where famous artworks get a hilarious animal twist! A teddy surfs Hokusai's Great Wave, a pig transforms Mona Lisa's smile from mysterious to mischievous, and Munch's Scream becomes far less angsty on a panda's face. Whistler's mother is now an elephant in Arrangement in Grey and Black No.1, while Van Gogh, da Stinki, Kahlo, and Rothko are all reimagined with playful critters. Designed for ages 5-9 but sure to delight anyone young at heart and readers can match the animal artworks to their originals, from Michelangelo to Velázquez. 19.9 x 20.7cm, colour.
£8.99 NOW £3.75

96931 RUPERT ANNUAL 2025 by Farshore
89 in the series, with dedication page and stories, puzzles and games. Includes Rupert and Forest Fire from the Rupert Book 1944 illustrated by Alfred Bestall, Rupert and the Falling Leaf from the Rupert Annual 1992 illustrated by John Harrold, and Rupert and the Pharaoh's Treasure by the same illustrator from the 1995 annual. Plus Rupert's Cut Short, Rupert's Country Walk puzzle, Rupert's Flying Fish, a spot-the-difference, crossword puzzle, memory game and more. Superb facsimile reproductions on large glossy pages from the original Express Newspapers, this is the year that Rupert embarks on a hot air balloon adventure, battles a Pine Ogre, helps a cuckoo clock and has lots of fun with his friends. We can also enjoy a brand-new story and new and familiar activities. Ages 5+ to collectors. 120 pages, 22 x 29cm.
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97363 OOR WULLIE & THE BROONS: Thon's Entertainment! by DC Thomson
It didn't take long for The Broons and Oor Wullie to prove they were Scotland's top entertainers when they debuted in DC Thomson's Fun Section in The Sunday Post in 1936, cementing their place in comic history. This big new selection is of some of the best comic strips featuring Oor Wullie's wily westie, wee Harry, and Auchenshoogle's very own laughing policeman PC Murdoch. One strip per huge page beginning with 'When Wullie Has to Act the Dragon' you bet your boots the tale keeps waggin'. Daph thinks this dancer knows his onions - until he tramples on her bunions! Grandpa, Aunt Aggie and her parrot, Paw, nostalgia and laughs galore. 23 x 30.5cm, 144 pages of cartoons, coloured endpapers.
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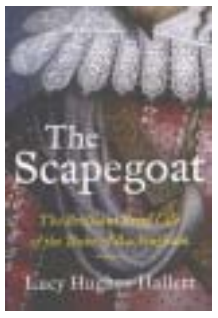
HISTORICAL BIOGRAPHY

Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year.

- Ralph Waldo Emerson



97702 SCAPEGOAT: The Brilliant Brief Life of the Duke of Buckingham by Lucy Hughes-Hallett
The multi award-winning biography of the meteoric rise and fall of George Villiers, the first Duke of Buckingham. It is a tale of rogues, riotous sex, regicide and realpolitik. As King James I's favourite, George Villiers became the Earl of Buckingham in January 1617, later becoming a marquis and then Duke - always of Buckingham. He was called a devil, a spotted monster, who scrambled social hierarchy. To Royalists, he was the vulgar upstart who dragged the monarchy into disrepute and weakened it fatally. To Puritans and Republicans, he was the epitome of all the vices endemic at the degenerate court of the early Stuart kings. He was arrogant, greedy, and his lust was insatiable. Yet he has also been described as modest, courteous, obliging and kind. As King James' favourite he was also a confidant, gatekeeper, and when Charles I succeeded his father, he made Buckingham his best friend and mentor. A dazzling figure on horseback and skilful player of the political game, Buckingham rapidly transformed the influence his beauty gave him into immense wealth and power. From kidnappings and murder plots to men weeping in Parliament over civil liberties, Lucy Hughes-Hallett transports us into a courtly world of masques and dancing, exquisite clothes, the art of Rubens and Van Dyck, gender-fluidity, same-sex desire and appalling rudimentary medicine, when witch hunts coexisted with Francis Bacon's empiricism, and public opinion was becoming a political force. This biography navigates love, war-fever, and pacifism in a society on the brink of cataclysmic change and summons an era that still resonates today. 680 pages, 16 pages of colour plates on shiny black paper and many other illustrations besides.
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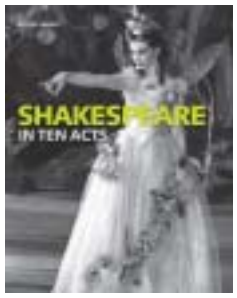
The Duke of Buckingham, Peter Paul Rubens 1625



97784 SHAKESPEARE IN TEN ACTS edited by Gordon McMullan and Zoe Wilcox
Ten iconic performances of Shakespeare's greatest plays reveal our national playwright in all his multifaceted splendour, with many surprises along the way. Married at 18 in Stratford-upon-Avon, we find Shakespeare 10 years later with a position in London's theatre world, no-one knows how, already making waves. Christopher Marlowe, who was assassinated the following year, dominated the theatre scene, and Shakespeare took over his pre-eminence in history and tragedy, adding his own comic genius to the mix. By 1600 he was a giant of London's literary scene, and the first of the featured performances in this book is Hamlet at the Globe, performed by the Lord Chamberlain's Men shortly after dismantling their old theatre in Shoreditch and moving it across the river to the south bank. Hamlet's famous address to the skull of "poor Yorick" was thought to be a tribute to the company's clown Richard Tarlton. Shakespeare's last play, The Tempest, was performed at the Blackfriars Theatre in 1610, inaugurating an enclosed candlelit theatre space with a roof and elaborate stage machinery, and launching the enigmatic character of Prospero who has had centuries of classic interpretations from great actors including Beerbohm Tree, Gielgud, and McKellen. Othello is a play where the first black Othello (Ira Aldridge, 1825) and the first female Desdemona (probably Anna Marshall, 1660s) were big leaps forward in breaking down convention. Discussion of women in the theatre includes Sarah Siddons's celebrated Lady Macbeth and the strong-willed George Anne Bellamy, who specialised in tender roles such as Cordelia in King Lear, and although the 18th century rewriting of Lear to give a happy ending is regarded as sacrilege now, the authors show that some of Shakespeare's sources for the story followed that route. Moving into the modern era, Peter Brook's 1970 Midsummer Night's Dream revolutionised Shakespearean performance by casting aside centuries of pretty fairies, while Mark Rylance's 2002 all-male production of Twelfth Night was a different kind of innovation. 224pp, archive and colour photos.
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Woodcut of Robert Armin, who joined the Lord Chamberlain's Men in 1599

97535 MARTYRS OF HENRY VIII: Repression, Defiance, Sacrifice by John Matusiak
Tudor England was a place of religious upheaval and uncertainty, as the Catholic Church was replaced by the Church of England with Henry VIII at its head. When the King passed through Canterbury in 1532, a young woman named Elizabeth Barton, known as the Holy Maid of Kent and widely revered as a visionary, warned him that he was 'so abominable in the sight of God that he was not worthy to tread on hallowed ground'. Two years later she was executed as an enemy of the state. On 14th June Carthusian monk Sebastian Newdigate was dragged to Tyburn and hanged, drawn and quartered for his continued loyalty to the Catholic faith. On 22nd June, John Fisher was beheaded on Tower Hill for upholding the Roman Catholic Church's doctrine of papal supremacy. On 6th July, former Chancellor of England Sir Thomas More was executed for refusing to acknowledge Henry VIII as the Supreme Head of the Church. All three were recognised as martyrs and beatified by the Catholic Church in 1866, with Sir Thomas More and John Fisher recognised as saints. Here John Matusiak brings together their lives in a joint biography opening the window on one of the most dangerous periods of England's religious history. 352 pages, colour illus.
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97576 CREATORS OF MODERN CHINA edited by Jessica Harrison-Hall and Julia Lovell
'100 Lives from Empire to Republic 1796-1912' is the sub-title of this British Museum publication. The political, social and cultural diversity of the late empire is reflected through the remarkable lives of rulers, statesman, soldiers, artists, writers, entertainers, craftspeople, reformers and revolutionaries. Featured figures include the Dowager Empress Cixi, the power behind the throne of the Qing dynasty for 50 years; Yu Rongling, the aristocratic daughter of a Qing diplomat who trained in Paris with Isadora Duncan and is now seen as one of the founders of modern dance in China; Shi Yang, the most powerful woman pirate in the world, celebrated in popular culture as a female icon; the Manchu-Chinese Duanfang, a lynchpin of the late Qing government; Luo Zhenyu, a pioneer of Chinese archaeology and many others including puppet and reforming emperors, opera stars, healers and mystics, an Islamic scholar, the British soldier 'Chinese' Gordon, a wartime artist, successful photographer, novelist and newspaperman, poet and travel writer among them. The biographies of 100 people, show innovative responses to the mid-century shift of international trade and change which historians have long identified as the May Fourth-New Culture era (c.1915-25) and the crucible of Chinese formation into a modern republican nation. 368 pages, 150 illustrations incl. colour.
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96699 MARIA THERESA: The Habsburg Empress in Her Time by Barbara Stollberg-Rilinger
One of the great European female rulers, Maria Theresa's 40-year tenure of the throne was punctuated by such challenges as the War of the Austrian Succession, with which Frederick II of Prussia quickly disputed her rule, and later the Seven Years' War, in which she unsuccessfully attempted to regain the lands lost in the earlier conflict. On the death of her father Maria Theresa inherited the Hapsburg lands but not the elected office of Holy Roman Emperor, and her husband, Francis Stephen of Lorraine, was not accepted as ruler by the Electors of Bavaria and Saxony by virtue of his marriage. Over the next years she negotiated with a wide range of neighbouring political powers including Catholics, Protestants, Hungarians and Muslim Turkey. When her principal commissioner Alexander Ferdinand von Thurn und Taxis turned against her early in her reign, she retained his services in what was less an act of magnanimity than a demonstration of Hapsburg power and control. Privately she maintained similar strategies in the face of her husband's infidelities. An unpopular aspect of her administration was the use of deportation for prostitutes and others designated "undesirable?. Meanwhile Protestantism was in hiding, and in spite of her dependence on Jewish doctors and lawyers, she initiated the last great mass expulsion of Jews in pre-modern Europe. A definitive and ground-breaking biography of one of Europe's most powerful women. 1045pp, genealogy, colour photos.
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96703 DUCHESS COUNTESS: The Woman Who Scandalized Eighteenth-Century London by Catherine Ostler
Explores the adventurous life of the stylish and scandalous Elizabeth Chudleigh, Duchess of Kingston, a woman whose infamous trial was bigger news in British society than the American War of Independence. As maid of honour to the Princess of Wales, Elizabeth Chudleigh enjoyed a luxurious life in the inner circle of the Hanoverian court. With her extraordinary style and engaging wit, she would later even inspire William Thackeray when he was writing his classic Vanity Fair, providing the inspiration for the alluring social climber Becky Sharp. A clandestine, candlelit wedding to the young heir to an earldom, a second marriage to a duke, a lust for diamonds, and an electrifying appearance at a masquerade ball in a gossamer dress - charged with bigamy, an accusation she vehemently fought against, Elizabeth refused to submit to public humiliation and retire quietly. Images include Elizabeth dressed as Iphigenia at a masquerade, held in 1749 to celebrate the peace of Aix-la-Chapelle. 432 pages.
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96706 HENRIETTA MARIA: The Warrior Queen Who Divided a Nation by Leanda de Lisle
Queen Henrietta Maria has long been dismissed as the traitor who persuaded her husband Charles I to adopt the Catholic faith, leading to the English Civil War in which Charles was beheaded. This new biography paints a very different picture. Henrietta was the daughter of the redoubtable Marie de Medici, second wife of Henri IV, King of France. Marie insisted on choosing her own midwife for the births of her children, which took place with relics of St Margaret of Antioch placed on her body. When Henrietta Maria was married to Charles I of England at the age of 15, the alliance was in line with the attempts by her father to bring Protestants and Catholics together. Henrietta quickly became a patron of the arts, championing plays that gave a voice to female characters, and her residence Somerset House was extended with a Roman Catholic chapel designed by Inigo Jones. Meanwhile the Puritan parliamentarian John Pym was framing charges which led to Charles's dismissal of Henrietta's French servants. When her mother Marie de Medici arrived in 1638, Henrietta became more deeply embroiled in politics, encouraging Charles to take a strong line with Pym. She was abroad when civil war broke out but through complex political manoeuvring joined with royalist allies in the north. Henrietta was living in the Louvre with her children when she heard of her husband's death, and at the time of the Restoration was briefly reinstated but returned to France. 464pp, colour reproductions.
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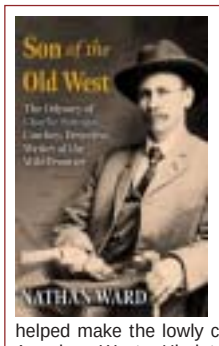

97703 SON OF THE OLD WEST by Nathan Ward
Sub-titled 'The Odyssey of Charlie Siringo: Cowboy, Detective, Writer of the Wild Frontier', this is an award-winning biography which tells the tale of a strange and distinctly American life, a Texas cowboy who paints a broader picture of bygone times. It is 'A twisting storm of horseback odyssey, snake-bitten fortune telling, class warfare, and deep-cover pursuit of legendary outlaws.' Charlie Siringo was born in Matagorda, Texas, in 1855, and went on his first cattle drive at age of 12. He spent two decades living his boyhood dream as a cowboy. As the dangerous, lucrative "beeves" business boomed, Siringo drove longhorn steers north to the burgeoning Midwest Plains states' cattle and railroad towns, inevitably crossing paths with such legendary figures as Billy the Kid, Bat Masterson, and Shanghai Pierce. In his early 30s he joined the Pinkerton Detective Agency's Denver office, using a variety of aliases to investigate violent labour disputes and infiltrate outlaw gangs such as Butch Cassidy's train-robbing Wild Bunch. His bestselling, landmark 1885 autobiography, 'A Texas Cowboy', helped make the lowly cowboy a heroic symbol of the American West. His later memoir, 'A Cowboy Detective', influenced early hard-boiled crime novelists. Sadly sued into debt by the Pinkertons, determined to prevent their sources and methods from being revealed, Siringo eventually sold his beloved New Mexico ranch and moved to Los Angeles where he advised Hollywood filmmakers, and especially actor William S. Hart, on their early 1920s Westerns, watching the frontier history he had known first-hand turned into romantic legend on the screen. Known as the Ulysses of the Wild West, his biographer skilfully brings to life the gipsy-footed cowboy, manhunter and writer. 347pp, illustrated.
$28 NOW £8.50

Cowboys have their hard-earned dinner in Indian Territory 1883.

Annie's Favourite - Our Editor Annie studied medieval Spanish as part of her degree...

97699 EL CID: The Life and Afterlife of a Medieval Mercenary by Nora Berend
This book explores the creation of El Cid's legend, peeling away layers of myth to reveal the real-life historical figure. Rodrigo Díaz lived a violently colourful life in 11th century Spain. An ambitious military leader, exile and brutal mercenary, by turns he served Christian kings, fought against Christian princes, battled Muslims, and eventually struck out on his own, carving out an independent principality. The man Rodrigo is long dead, but El Cid lives on - a superhero and quasi-saint, the 'spirit of Spain' according to Franco, and a champion of medieval Spanish multiculturalism. Berend uncovers how El Cid has been transformed across the centuries. She examines how a military adventurer became a hero to those on opposite ends of the political spectrum. She looks at the saviour sent by divine providence, a paragon of Christian virtue, his rise to literary fame, the historian, how he conquered the big screen and into the 21st century how two Cids live on in a mixture of fascination and repugnance. The excellent maps at the beginning look at Al-Andalus and the Christian kingdoms from the 8th to the 13th centuries and there are 20 illustrations in colour of medieval interiors, paintings and movie posters and statues. The Cambridge historian begins her book 'A group of warriors on horseback rode swiftly north of Logroño, a town at the heart of the sparsely inhabited Rioja region in the northern part of the Iberian Peninsula. They could cover a great distance without encountering any opposition. The warriors burned and looted, shedding blood as they swept through the streets and houses, destroying the town. They then devastated the rest of the region of La Rioja. These lands belonged to the Christian king Alphonso VI of Castile who at the time (1092) was occupied waging war against the Muslims of Valencia.' 236 pages, 20 illus.
£25 NOW £12

A statue in Burgos of the Cid on his trusted horse, Babieca.

96742 RICHARD III's BOOKS by Anne Sutton and Livia Visser-Fuchs
Sub-titled Ideals and Reality in the Life and Library of a Medieval Prince, this study of Richard III of England examines the books, learning, and intellectual world of one of England's most controversial monarchs, noted for regularly signing his books. It begins with a chronology of his life and library, his education, tutors, and early reading before 1470, alongside typical noble collections of the period. It also surveys the libraries of the House of York, Cecily Neville, Edward IV, Elizabeth Woodville, and Margaret of York, Duchess of Burgundy. The book explores Richard's interests in scripture, devotional texts, Books of Hours, chivalric manuals, guides to kingship, and works on history and romance, as well as his wider engagement with medieval ideas of ideal rulership. It also looks at the manuscript and early print trade in London, including Caxton's editions and texts by Chaucer, Geoffrey of Monmouth, and Ramon Lull. This 456 page softback includes 82 black-and-white illustrations and 12 colour plates, offering a focused study of the literary and intellectual world of a medieval king.
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96073 FIRST CELEBRITIES: Five Regency Portraits by Peter James Bowman
Highly readable pen-portraits of five 'celebs' who sprang from heady cocktail of a capitalist economy, democratic ideas, an increase in literacy and a rumbustious 'free press' during Regency London. Harriot Mellon was the illegitimate daughter of a wardrobe-keeper in a company of strolling players. She married the elderly banker Thomas Coutts and seven years later was the richest widow in the land and a target of ferocious abuse. Dorothea Lieven, the Russian ambassador's wife, used her intellect, dignity and a talent for flattery to entrance numerous statesmen and become a force in British politics. Richard Grenville, Duke of Buckingham, was a corrupt parliamentarian who squandered a vast income and caused the decline of the mighty Grenville dynasty. Lady Charlotte Bury was a great beauty who married for love not once but twice. Sir Thomas Lawrence deserved his eminence as an artist but had to use all his charm and courtliness to conceal the potentially explosive secrets of his private life. 320pp, colour and archive plates.
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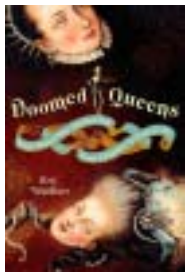
A customer online review after purchase:
Feedback Points: 5 Easy read but informative
Pen pictures written in a light-hearted manner of well-known and less well-known queens, as well as some I had never heard of, so definitely learnt as well from this book. The short details about particular queens may spark a person's interest so that they go in search of heavier tomes to learn more.



97459 DOOMED QUEENS: Royal Women Who Met Bad Ends From Cleopatra to Princess Di
by Kris Waldherr
Marie Antoinette, Anne Boleyn, and Mary, Queen of Scots. What did they have in common? From Cleopatra(suicide by asp), to Princess Caroline (suspiciously poisoned on her coronation day), Kris Waldherr's elegant little book is a chronicle of the trials and tribulations of queens across the ages, a quirky, funny, utterly macabre tribute to the dark side of female empowerment. Over the course of 50 irresistibly illustrated and too-brief lives, we meet well-known figures like Catherine of Aragon and Henry's other five wives including Anne Boleyn (with her little neck), Artemesia I and Empress Wang, Boudicca, Brunhilde, Irene of Byzantium, Sybil of Jerusalem, Blanche of Bourbon, Maria Luisa of Orleans, Alexandra Romanov, Caroline Matilda, Eva Peron and forgotten queens like Amalasuntha, the notoriously literate Ostrogoth princess who overreached politically and was strangled in her bath. Superb graphics and a quiz, 176 page paperback with deckle-edged pages.
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96714 ASTOR: The Rise and Fall of an American Fortune
by Anderson Cooper and Katherine Howe
The Astor fortune was created in the 18th century when the first John Jacob Astor emigrated from Walldorf in Germany and set up in the American fur trade, where beavers were highly prized because they had been hunted to extinction in Europe. Before long he was trading lucratively with China, in spite of murderous blockades from rival merchants. Investing in real estate, he acquired land and power in Manhattan and Greenwich Village, with the hospitality business in prime locations being developed by his son William. It was William Waldorf Astor, born in 1848, who transferred the family and its fortune to England, first to Hever Castle, childhood home of Anne Boleyn, and then to the notorious Cliveden, which he gave to his son Waldorf on his marriage to Nancy Astor, the first woman MP. In later life William finally achieved the peerage he coveted. 322pp, monochrome and colour photos.
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96933 SHAKESPEARE AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES by Charles Nicholl
The author of numerous Elizabethan studies turns his attention to William Shakespeare (1564-1616) and contemporaries like Christopher Marlowe, Ben Jonson, Francis Beaumonth and John Fletcher, the Sidney Circle, Edmund Spenser, George Chapman, Michael Drayton, John Donne, Edward de Vere, Sir John Harington, as well as actors, pamphleteers, travel writers, scientists and nobility plus Maids of Honour. Illustrated throughout with portraits, engravings, printed documents, this wonderful introduction demonstrates how Elizabethan society valued literary talent as well as how these writers saw themselves. 136 glossy pages produced in association with the National Portrait Gallery. Paperback. Colour.
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96068 BERTRAND'S BROTHER
by Ruth Derham
Sub-titled 'The Marriages, Morals and Misdemeanours of Frank, 2nd Earl Russell', Frank Russell was the grandson of Prime Minister Lord John Russell and the elder brother of philosopher and political activist Bertrand Russell. He was in his own right a radical political reformer and outspoken self-determined moralist. But he was also a serial adulterer, tried for bigamy in the House of Lords, who as a young man had been sent down from Oxford for supposed homosexual practices. His accuser was his first wife Mabel Edith, the naïve daughter of socialite and 'adventuress' Lady Selina Scott. This was at a time when male same-sex relationships were reviled and sodomy punishable by up to 10 years' penal servitude. Frank's innate rebelliousness and deeply embedded sense of injustice are explored. 351pp, 40 photos incl colour.
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96724 VERGIL: The Poet's Life
by Sarah Ruden
Born in 70 BCE in northern Italy, the Roman poet Virgil is an elusive figure, known largely through fragmentary evidence. Drawing on her experience translating his works, Sarah Ruden reconstructs his life from limited historical sources. Using Suetonius's Life of Vergil and later traditions, this thoughtful book explores how Virgil was sometimes viewed as a prophetic figure, especially in relation to the Fourth Eclogue, more plausibly tied to hopes surrounding Octavian's early rule. It traces his journey from Mantua to Naples and Rome, where he came under the patronage of Maecenas, adviser to Augustus. It also considers the impact of civil war on Augustan literature and Virgil's decision to set the Aeneid in a mythic past, along with reflections on his private life. 182 pages, chronology of Virgil's life and work.
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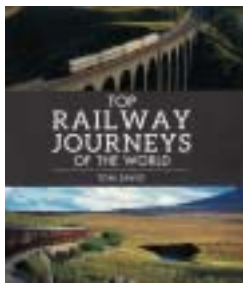
TRAVEL AND PLACES

Am perfectly aware that passport is in my small purple dressing-case, where I put it a week ago, and have looked at it two or three times every day ever since—last time just before leaving my room forty-five minutes ago. Am nevertheless mysteriously impelled to open hand-bag, take out key, unlock small purple dressing-case, and verify presence of passport all over again.

- E.M. Delafield, Diary of a Provincial Lady



97787 TOP RAILWAY JOURNEYS OF THE WORLD
edited by Tom Savio
In this lusciously illustrated book, 26 iconic railway journeys are described in detail, with details of local colour, maps, assessment of the train's comforts, an outline of its history, and a focus on all the high points (in every sense). Starting in the Americas, the spectacular Canadian journey through the Rockies from Toronto to Vancouver unveils a breathtaking panorama of Mount Robson from the Art Deco viewing car, and on arrival in Vancouver a must-see destination is Stanley Park with its rainforest and totems of the First Nations. Mexico's historic Copper Canyon Railway crosses the high Sierra Madre from El Fuerte to Chihuahua, while Peru's proud railway history includes the legendary Puno to Cusco line, starting on the shores of Lake Titicaca and enjoying the dramatic scenery of the Peruvian Andes. Moving over to Europe, the UK boasts the splendid Highlands Circuit aboard the Royal Scotsman, while the famed Settle to Carlisle line crosses the windswept Ribblehead viaduct and plunges through the hard-won engineering achievement of Blea Moor tunnel. Norway's Flam Railway, France's Vivarais Line, Germany's Cologne via Mainz circuit take us further east to the Glacier Express, constructed with tourists in mind as it winds dizzily through Switzerland's most stunning scenery. The Venice - Simplon Orient Express offers the height of luxury and gourmet dining, and the Trans-Mongolian and Trans-Siberian expresses cover an astonishing range of history and landscape along the 5000 miles from Beijing to Moscow. India's railways are legendary, Africa's Blue Train from Pretoria to Cape Town claims to be the world's most luxurious, while Australia's historic Ghan Train into the outback is now a more of a tourist route between Adelaide and Alice Springs. 160pp, softback, impressively illustrated in colour.
£12.99 NOW £6.50

97477 SECRET LIFE OF HIDDEN PLACES
by Stefan Bachmann and April Genevie Tucholke
Sub-titled '**Concealed Rooms, Clandestine Passageways, and the Curious Minds That Made Them**', takes readers on a spellbinding journey into 18 of the world?s most mysterious and captivating hidden spaces, from concealed rooms and forgotten tunnels to secret staircases, tombs and lost chambers. Through lyrical writing and stunning photography, discover extraordinary places shaped by obsession, imagination and secrecy - including a magical amber room lost during the Second World War, an English sunken manor, a Templar well in Portugal and an underground bone chamber in Sweden. Each chapter reveals not only a remarkable location but also the fascinating people whose dreams, passions and eccentricities brought these wonders to life. Explore a Swiss chamber of skulls, a Japanese temple filled with hidden traps, a Paris apartment untouched since WWII and a secret Prohibition-era speakeasy in Washington, DC. 304 pages, colour photos.
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97251 BLACK EARTH: A Journey Through Ukraine
by Jens Mühling
A vivid, first-hand travel narrative exploring Ukraine through encounters with a wide range of voices, including nationalists, former communists, Crimean Tatars, Cossacks, smugglers, archaeologists, and soldiers. Structured as a ?polyphonic? portrait, it presents contrasting and often conflicting perspectives on nationhood, history, and identity in a country whose borders and political reality have shifted repeatedly- from the upheavals of the Russian Civil War (as reflected in Bulgakov's writings) through Soviet rule to independence in 1991. Blending reportage, history, and travel writing. 295 page paperback with maps.
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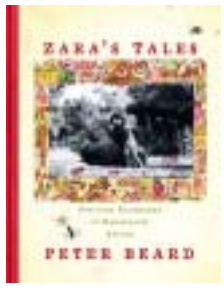

97706 ZARA'S TALES by Peter Beard
Sub-titled 'Perilous Escapades in Equatorial Africa', "as a student, I went to Kenya, to the vast continent of Africa, bought 40 acres of Mbagathi Forest on the edge of Karen Blixen's coffee plantation, and promptly lost myself in a child's paradise. I put up a tented base camp there and called it Hog Ranch, after the clans of bristled warthogs that lived all around, and still do." This became home for the next 40 years." Peter Beard, the famous photographer, eventually got married and had a daughter named Zara, a little dark-haired 'evolutionary beauty, and old soul, with an age-old brilliance shining through.' Here are 11 irresistible tales as told to his daughter as he writes of the East African hills he came to know so well, about Nairobi in the 1950s, still a quaint, eccentric pioneer town full of characters of all stripes and tribes, where rhinoceros roamed the streets and local residents went to the movies in pyjamas. His camp was populated with waterbuck, suni, dik-diks, leopard, giraffe and occasionally lion and buffalo. Thaka was Hog Ranch's number one, fearsome, 300 pound warthog who came into camp and dropped to the ground happy for a vigorous tummy rub, "munching on corn and barbeque chicken, bristle haired, wild-looking, an intruder and thundering into the camp and Peter witnessed bullish strength of the wild pigs fighting." Other stories include Roping Rhinos, the Man-Eaters of Starvo, Lake Rudolph, This is Reptile Country, The Fate of the Pebbleworm, and Under the Mists of the Kenya Snow. His close encounter with the legendary man-eating lions of Starvo is particularly exciting; they charged the author "coming in slow motion, like a bullet train erupting out of a tunnel, soundless, like an ancient force." He studied crocodiles with a game warden-biologist, was grabbed from behind by a ten-foot crocodile, and did battle with a prehistoric monster fish, a 200lb Great Nile perch! Superbly well illustrated throughout with the photographer's own images in black and white and colour plus drawings and clippings, and all designed on parchment style paper. 180 large pages.
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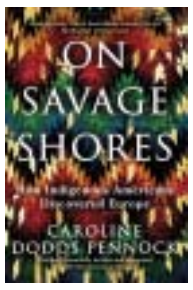

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- Carl Sagan

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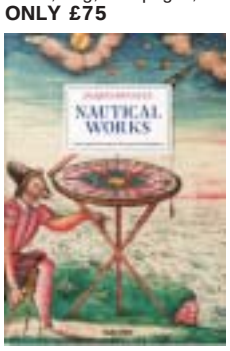

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ENTERTAINMENT

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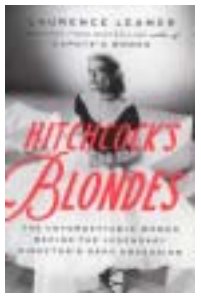
- Stanley Kubrick



97700 HITCHCOCK'S BLONDES
by Laurence Leamer
Sub-titled The Unforgettable Women Behind the Legendary Director's Dark Obsession. Through the experiences of June Howard-Tripp, Madeleine Carroll, Ingrid Bergman, Grace Kelly, Janet Leigh, Kim Novak, Eva Marie Saint and Tippi Hedren, the women who starred in 14 of Hitchcock's most notable films and who sometimes bore the brunt of his fondness and fixation, we can finally start to see the enigmatic man himself. This dazzling biography finally puts the actresses he cast in his legendary movies at the centre of the story. Alfred Hitchcock was fixated not just on the dark, twisty tales that became his hallmark, but also by the blonde actresses who starred in many of his iconic movies. The director of North by Northwest, Rear Window, The Birds, his silent classic The Lodger, Dial M For Murder, To Catch a Thief, Vertigo and Marnie, Hitchcock had precise ideas about the image he wanted his actresses to project and insisted on clothing them the way he wanted. Novak had thrown a fit when the director insisted she don the grey suit in Vertigo that defined her character. So how did the polychromatic blondes respond? Were they putty in the hands of a sadomasochistic director? This impressive book shows that they were fine actresses with complicated relationships with Hitchcock on the set and off, disparate back stories and marriages and love affairs. "For the shower scene to work, Hitchcock needed Marion to be nude. Leigh was not about to take off all her clothes. He had to find someone else..." "Renfro disrobed again and stood like an object for sale. Leigh acted in a manner Renfro thought was disdainful and dismissive. The actress considered Marion Crane her role..." Although meant to be a closed set, Renfro faced reporters and Hollywood columnists invited to watch. The stories range from Janet Leigh's first marriage when she was 14 years old, to forcing The 39 Steps star Madeleine Carroll to rehearse while handcuffed and soaking wet. Every salacious detail is here. 323 pages, eight pages of photos. Remainder mark.
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Simply the Best *Tina Turner by Peter Lindbergh*

97836 TINA TURNER BY PETER LINDBERGH
by Erwin Bach
With her music and boundless passion for life, Tina Turner enchanted millions of fans around the world and inspired the stars of tomorrow. Peter Lindbergh was a lifelong friend of the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll and shot intimate portraits of her over many years. Lindbergh's photographs reveal the powerful, joyful, and at times introverted woman behind the public persona, capturing her radiant energy with an incredible sensitivity and impeccable dramatic composition, blending her fierce spirit with quieter, more reflective moments. Across numerous settings, from the stage to the beach, from the streets to swinging up high from the iconic Eiffel Tower, with the city of Paris sprawling beneath her, Peter portrayed Tina throughout the years, always capturing the real Tina, more often than not with that amazing beaming smile. She towers over him, wearing her stage costumes with tassels and heels. The book, which includes a personal foreword by Tina Turner's husband Erwin Bach, is a heartfelt tribute to the friendship and deep connection between two artists who shaped the cultural landscape of the 20th century. "We were partners in crime," remembers Tina. "He was willing to try anything, and so was I! Together, we made magic!" Hardcover with fold-outs, 24 x 32.7cm, 224 pages, a monumental tribute to a star who has adapted and endured over 6 decades in the entertainment industry! New from Taschen.
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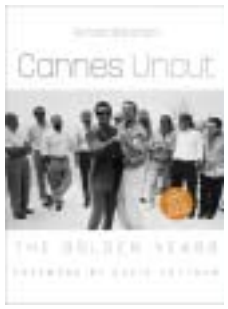

97803 CANNES UNCUT: The Golden Years
by Richard Blanshard
'I arrived in Cannes in 1976 as a 22-year-old rookie. My first assignment was to photograph Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly, two of my screen heroes, who were there to promote 'That's Entertainment, Part II'. I had created a dark room in a very dodgy-looking caravan in the hills in Valbonne, from where I processed the film.' 'I had no idea at that point that I would go on to become an official photographer for the US and UK Film Industry at the Cannes Film Festival for nearly 20 years, running my own lab there, processing and printing 24 hours a day.' Richard Blanshard's Festival photography filled the trade magazines like the Hollywood Reporter and some nights they would make over 1,000 prints for different publications. Stars and celebrities were brough to Cannes to promote their films or raise money for a film. He was assigned to photograph Mohammad Ali launching Freedom Road who never once declined to have his picture taken with anyone. 'He was a wonderful character, but his entourage was a scary bunch.' Ann-Margaret, Elvis Presley, Prince Charles and Princess Diana, we are taken from David Carradine and Oliver Reed partying in 1978, and the great names like Otto Preminger, Billy Wilder, Johnny Depp and Jamie Lee Curtis in 1990, Grace Jones dancing, Richard Gere, the cast of Wilt at the Hotel du Cap, poolside photo calls, often ending with photographers splashing in the pool, glitzy hotels, seaside and beach life, in costume, posing in pairs for the camera. Here are tributes to stars of yesteryear from feature films and TV in a real chronical of the Festival and an atmosphere the like of which may never be seen again. With a foreword by David Puttnam, approximately 300 quality mono photos, 224 huge pages, 25.5 x 35cm.
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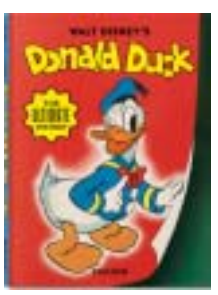
David Carradine & Oliver Reed partying

96360 CHER: The Memoir Part One
by Cher
Born to 20 year old Jackie Jean, a singer from rural Arkansas, there is only one Cher, and for seven decades she has been showing us why. From humble beginnings singing backup in Phil Spector's studio through to pop stardom as Sonny and Cher, and then on to the television show that made them household names. Taking risks, making headlines, falling in love, she struggled and stumbled, brought two children into the world, and charted her own path. It is a gutsy a tale of high-octane showbiz survival, from struggling with her own dyslexia, to addiction running in her family, the book takes us up to the 1980s. Apologies for sticker. 413pp, including colour.
£25 NOW £3.75

96983 PUTTING THE RABBIT IN THE HAT
by Brian Cox
This candid memoir from acclaimed actor Brian Cox is sharp, funny, and unflinchingly honest, moving between loss, passion, self-doubt, triumph, rage, and reflection with the rhythm of a great storyteller. From Roman General Titus Andronicus with the RSC to media magnate Logan Roy in HBO's Succession, Cox charts a career of remarkable range and authority. Growing up in Dundee, he lost his father at eight, was raised by his three elder sisters during his mother's mental health struggles, and joined Dundee Repertory Theatre at just 15, beginning a lifetime of hard graft in pursuit of acting excellence. He reflects on the long road to success in theatre, film, and television, delivering a rags-to-riches story full of bite, energy, and self-awareness. Photos including colour, 374 page paperback.
£14.99 NOW £4.50

96867 STANLEY KUBRICK'S THE SHINING: 2 Volumes Slipcased
by J. W. Rinzler and Lee Unkrich
The Shining: Two-Volume Collector?s Edition. This stunning two-volume set, designed by M/M Paris, offers hundreds of never-before-seen production photos from the Stanley Kubrick Archive and the personal collections of cast and crew, plus rare documents, correspondence, conceptual art, deleted scenes, and more. It meticulously traces the making and significance of Kubrick?s 1980 psychological horror masterpiece, The Shining, co-written with Diane Johnson and based on Stephen King?s 1977 novel. Follow Jack Nicholson?s descent into madness as he takes the winter caretaker job at the isolated Overlook Hotel with his wife and clairvoyant son. Experience the dread, suspense, and meticulous craft that made this film a cult classic - few movies have evoked fear so effectively with so little gore. This edition offers an unprecedented look behind the scenes: Kubrick?s endless script rewrites, revolutionary use of the Steadicam, the mechanics of the infamous blood elevator, the mysterious fire at Elstree Studios, and countless takes demanded by his perfectionism. Featuring exclusive interviews with cast and crew, detailed analysis of Kubrick?s genius, and hundreds of colour images and stills, it is both a visual feast and an authoritative study of the film. Conceived and edited by Academy Award-winning director Lee Unkrich, with text by best-selling author J. W. Rinzler and a foreword by Steven Spielberg, the set comes in two hardbacks - one blood-red mock-leather volume, the other a scrapbook-style brown mock-leather volume - housed in a colourful slipcase. 20 × 22cm, 1,396 pages in total. New from Taschen.
£90 **BACK IN STOCK**



97758 WALT DISNEY'S DONALD DUCK: The Ultimate History
by David Gerstein and J. B. Kaufman
Revisit Donald Duck's quacking life's work from nine decades in this vibrantly illustrated publication on the Disney universe. Following Walt Disney's Mickey Mouse, we witness the career of Mickey's only rival for the throne as Disney's most popular creation. From his debut in the Silly Symphony short film The Wise Little Hen on June 9, 1934, the authors trace Donald's cartoons, groundbreaking adventures in comics and TV, and theme park appearances. With unprecedented access to Disney's vast historical archives and collections as well as public and private collections, they illuminate Donald's life story with rare concept art, story sketches, background paintings, animation, and comic drawings as well as historical photographs. We encounter the work of all major Donald artists in both film and comics, including a vast tribute to the "Duck Man" himself, master storyteller Carl Barks, alongside unseen early storyboard drawings. Since the 1950s, Duckburg has expanded into a truly global village, with American artists being joined by a new generation of international colleagues. As Carl Barks once said of Donald: "He is everything, he is everybody; he makes the same mistakes that we all make." He may often be unlucky, but this is precisely what has endeared him to readers around the world. 15.5 x 21.7cm, 512 pages. B/w and glowing colour. New from Taschen.
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96991 SPIELBERG THE FIRST 10 YEARS
by Laurent Bouzereau
With a forward by John Williams and an introduction by George Lucas, this definitive retrospective of Steven Spielberg's career traces how a young director transformed American cinema in little more than a decade. Covering the pivotal years 1971-1982, the book explores the nerve-shredding minimalism of Duel with the raging angry lorry chasing the car and the human drama of The Sugarland Express, to the cultural phenomenon and eerie musical score of Jaws. It continues with the wonder and ambition of Close Encounters of the Third Kind, the daring experimentation of 1941, and the infectious adventure of Raiders of the Lost Ark, culminating in the emotional resonance of E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial. Rich with exclusive colour photographs and new insights from Spielberg's longtime documentarian Laurent Bouzereau, and with behind-the-scenes perspective and thoughtful commentary, it shows how Spielberg not only pioneered the modern blockbuster but how his vision, technique and imagination forever changed the language of cinema. 256 huge pages.
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96227 MARVEL COMICS LIBRARY HULK 1962--1966
by Douglas Wolk
The second Marvel character to spring from the legendary creative collaboration of Stan Lee and Jack Kirby in the early 1960s was a far cry from the Fantastic Four's recognisable family dynamics and globe-trotting super heroics. The Hulk was a Monster! The alter ego of puny human scientist Bruce Banner unleashed when an experimental bomb douses the hapless scientist in Gamma radiation, and thereupon unleashed every time the mild-mannered Banner lost his temper, the Hulk exploded from comics stands into an unsuspecting world... and he hasn't stopped since. Unquestionably one of the strangest, strongest, and most evocative archetypes to come from Marvel Comics, the Hulk defies all explanation. At times at war with other superheroes, villains, the United States military, humanity, and even his alter-ego Bruce Banner himself, he stands as an avatar of unbridled fury, primal instincts, the destructive potential of the atomic bomb and humanity's hubris all at once. A modern Prometheus, imbued by atomic fire, who will never stop raging, never stop smashing. Now, Taschen brings you the Hulk as you've never seen him before, in an XXL-size volume worthy of his name. Collecting The Incredible Hulk Issues 1-6, along with his appearances in Tales to Astonish. All issues have been photographed using Taschen's sterling reproduction methods, resembling the way these comics first looked when initially published, while also being digitally remastered using modern retouching techniques to correct problems with the era's inexpensive, imperfect printing. An introduction by pop-culture and comic scholar Douglas Wolk, meticulously researched and adorned with rarely seen original art, photos, and paraphernalia showcasing the Hulk's lasting impact on global culture, rounds out this massive package to honour of the biggest, meanest, and greenest superheroes of all time. A massive 28 x 39.5cm, nearly 5kg, 670 pages. New from Taschen.
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NEW MARVEL ON PAGE 11

96234 STAN LEE STORY
by Roy Thomas
Stan Lee: The Man Who Created Marvel is the ultimate tribute to the Godfather of Comics. From his Depression-era New York childhood to transforming Marvel into the world's leading comics publisher, and later becoming Chief Creative Officer at POW! Entertainment, Stan Lee's influence spans generations. Starting at Timely Comics in 1940 at age 17, Lee became top editor two years later. In 1961, he sparked the 'Marvel Age of Comics,' collaborating with legends like Jack Kirby, Steve Ditko, John Romita, and Jim Steranko to create iconic heroes - the Fantastic Four, Spider-Man, Hulk, Thor, Iron Man, the X-Men, and the Avengers. Moving to Hollywood in 1980, he helped shape the Marvel movies, appearing in countless cameos and cementing his pop culture status. Written with Lee and brought vividly to life by his successor Roy Thomas, the book is packed with hundreds of comics, rare family photos, a foreword by Lee, an essay, and an epilogue by Thomas, plus an appendix reprinting Stan's classic comics across the decades. Hardcover, 576 pages, colour, 25 × 34cm, 4kg. A monumental, fully immersive celebration of Stan 'The Man' Lee. New from Taschen.
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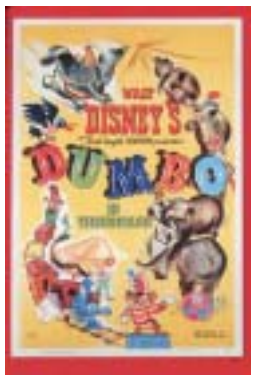
MORE ON NEXT PAGE

97607 WALT DISNEY FILM ARCHIVES: The Animated Movies 1921-1967: 3 Volumes by Daniel Kothenschulte

Each of the animated features that were made during Walt's lifetime including Pinnochio, Fantasia, Dumbo, Bambi, Cinderella, Peter Pan, Lady and the Tramp and The 101 Dalmatians appear. Arranged chronologically, the first paperback covers the years 1921 to 1941 and is sub-titled 'From Laugh-o-Grams to the Reluctant Dragon' and including Silly Symphonies, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Pinocchio and Fantasia. The second paperback covers the years 1941 to 1950 with Dumbo, Bambi, Song of the South, The Adventures of Ichabod and Mr Toad, Fun and Fancy Free, Melody Time and Cinderella. The final and third volume covers the years1951 to 1967 beginning with Alice in Wonderland with an essay by Brian Sibley, Peter Pan, Lady and the Tramp, Mary Poppins, Winnie the Pooh, The Jungle Book, Sleeping Beauty, 101 Dalmatians and The Sword in the Stone. Masterful cell set ups provide highly detailed illus. Volumes one and two have 168 pages and the final volume 188 pages packed with colour and archive images. Three volumes in slipcase, Taschen.



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97063 YOU DIRTY OLD MAN: Wilfrid Brambell by David Clayton

Wilfrid Brambell's career began at Dublin's celebrated Gate Theatre, followed by wartime work entertaining troops with ENSA. He eventually gained a breakthrough at the Mercury Theatre before progressing to larger stage and screen roles. In 1948 he married his girlfriend Molly, but the marriage ended ten years later after he discovered he was not the father of the boy he believed to be his son. In 1963 he was cast in Steptoe and Son; Brambell starred with Harry H. Corbett as the rag-and-bone man and his son, creating one of British comedy's most iconic double acts. He also appeared in A Hard Day's Night as Paul McCartney's grandfather. Brambell's elegant, private off-screen image contrasted with Corbett's intense acting style. Steptoe and Son ended in 1972, followed by a 1973 Christmas special. 192 pages, photos.

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97060 1971: 100 Films from Cinema's Greatest Year by Robert Sellers

Everyone will have a different opinion about the greatest year for movies, but this book makes an impressive case for 1971. Directors at the top of their game (Spielberg, Kubrick, Visconti, Fassbinder, Truffaut, Losey, Roeg, Russell, Bergman, to name a few) were matched by the dazzling stars they deployed, including Wayne, Brando, McQueen, Beatty, Newman, Connery, Caine, Burton, Vanessa Redgrave, Kirk Douglas. Hollywood itself was moving away from the studio system and the country was on a political knife-edge after the assassinations of the sixties. 1971 launched two iconic cops, Harry Callaghan with the release of Clint Eastwood's Dirty Harry, and also Gene Hackman's Jimmy Doyle in The French Connection. Comedy classics include Jacques Tati's Trafic, in which M Hulot's latest gadget-infested car suffers a series of mishaps, and Monty Python's And Now for Something Completely Different. Get Carter, Carnal Knowledge and A Clockwork Orange tested the diminishing powers of theatre censorship. In the field of historical film, Spiegel's Nicholas and Alexandra was notable for the harrowing assassination scene, but it failed at the box office. Mary Queen of Scots, with Vanessa Redgrave and Glenda Jackson, had a sumptuous score by John Barry and fared rather better. Straw Dogs, Hands of the Ripper, The Go-Between, Klute, Escape from the Planet of the Apes, Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory, The Devils, and The Andromeda Strain are just a few more of the iconic titles on the list. 320pp, filmography.

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HOBBIES

The only prescription for me is to have a thousand interests.

- Virginia Woolf, A Writer's Diary

97814 LARGE PRINT SUDOKU by Arcturus Publishing

Extra large print for better readability, one per page and grouped from easy to hard, one star for beginners who are new to Sudoku, two star gentle warm-up puzzles, three star engrossing to give your mind a work-out and four star challenging to hone your solving skills with these teasers. With solutions to 176 puzzles for anyone who struggles with regular print. 22 x 26.5 cm.

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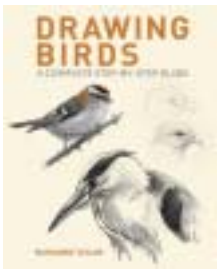

97809 DRAWING BIRDS: A Complete Step-by-Step Guide by Marianne Taylor

Whether you wish to draw or not, all bird lovers will appreciate the detail of observation of crests, plumes, fluffy feathers, sail feathers for the common nighthawk, red-billed streamertail, exquisite hummingbirds with iridescent colours, the violet-green swallow which spends so much time on the wing, King Eiders which we see here in a line of three flying ducks, the rough-legged hawk with his upright posture even when resting, the Northern Pintail swimming on water, the Bluetit our garden favourite perching bird, or the Great Grey Owl perhaps the most human-like of birds in their appearance with their expressive eyes and flat faces. Covering in detail materials and techniques, general hints and tips, bird anatomy, simple poses, birds in flight and bird behaviour including the peacock and the Rainbow Lorikeet, a highly-worked photo-realistic painting of a bird may take many patient hours of work, but it is also possible to capture the form and character of a bird much more quickly and simply once you are familiar with how its body is put together and how it moves. Suitable for beginners and more experienced artists, beautifully illustrated in colour. 128 large pages, 22.5 x 28cm, softback.

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97810 ENCHANTING FAIRIES COLOURING BOOK by Tansy Willow

60 images inspired by the delicate winged creatures beloved of illustrators such as Arthur Rackham, Edmund Dulac and Margaret Tarrant, as well as the beautiful artworks by Pre-Raphaelite painters like Rossetti and Burne-Jones, you can choose to colour in your fairies any way you wish. Pastels or bolder tones, coloured pencils or pens, create your own fairytale image. Fairies are found in folklore of many nations and storytelling: some are associated with particular fruits or berries or types of flowers and appear in many of Shakespeare's famous plays. This romantic collection of images includes intricate mandalas, beautiful fairies, butterflies, dragons and more. Large softback, 22 x 27.5cm, 128 pages.

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96200 100 MOVIES OF THE 1960s edited by Jürgen Müller

This was the decade of West Side Story, Lawrence of Arabia, To Kill a Mockingbird, Cape Fear, Cleopatra, The Nutty Professor, Goldfinger, Marnie, The Pink Panther, Blow-Up, Bonnie and Clyde, Casino Royale, The Jungle Book, The Graduate, The Fearless Vampire Killers, Bullitt, Night of the Living Dead, Rosemary's Baby, Butch Cassidy and the Sundance kid, Catch 22, Love Story, The Aristocats. This glamorous new publication gathers the best films of the era, exploring the making and the mastery of such cinematic star turns as The Leopard, The Birds, Belle de Jour, A Fistful of Dollars, and Doctor Zhivago and Kubrick set new standards for sci-fi with 2001: A Space Odyssey. From Jane Fonda's Barbarella to Holly Golightly of Breakfast at Tiffany's to Bonnie Parker of Bonnie and Clyde, it was the 1960s that saw women on-screen graduate from decorative accessories to complex, kick-ass personas. 17 x 24cm, 780 pages. Colour photos, Taschen.

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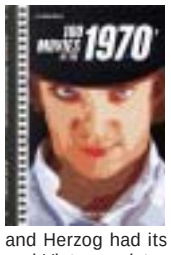

96201 100 MOVIES OF THE 1970s edited by Jürgen Müller

Films that made it from 1971 onwards include Straw Dogs, Dirty Harry, the French Connection, Get Carter, Cabaret, Westworld, The Exorcist, Papillon, American Graffiti, Young Frankenstein, One Flew over the Cuckoo's Nest, Taxi Driver, Three Days of the Condor, The Rocky Horror Picture Show, Carrie, The Pink Panther Strikes Again, Rocky, Assault on Precinct 13, Eraserhead, Annie Hall, Dawn of the Dead, Midnight Express, Alien, The Tin Drum, Mad Max, Monty Python's Life of Brian, The Elephant Man, Raging Bull, The Shining and Star Wars the Empire Strikes Back in 1980. American cinema gave birth to a new phenomenon, the blockbuster. Meanwhile, the New German Cinema of Fassbinder, Wenders, and Herzog had its heyday. Amid all this came a wave of nostalgic films like The Sting, The Last Picture Show, and Vietnam pictures such as Apocalypse Now, The Deer Hunter, and the rise of the antihero (Robert De Niro, Al Pacino, Dustin Hoffman. Colour photos, 17 x 24cm, 824 pages, Taschen.

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97823 ULTIMATE BOOK OF DRAWING AND ILLUSTRATION by Peter Gray

A complete step-by-step guide, this comprehensive manual covers essential drawing skills for beginner and improver alike, emphasising the development of a personal drawing style and demystifying different processes and skills. Peter Gray shows how to adjust your drawings to create cartoons and caricatures, how to play with proportions, introduce texture, the three-point perspective, framing and selection, and using marker pens, tonal brush drawing, sketching with wash, the sophisticated transparent media using glazes or washes, aerial perspective, working in charcoal, and basic shading and hatching. Making faces, anthropomorphism with animals fully clothed and performing human tasks, decorative illustration to make friezes, borders, collated composition placing people or animals from photographs together and further possibilities arise when you consider the height from which you can view your subjects like looking down from the head of a giraffe. Over 1,000 illustrations, practical step-by-step and easy to follow exercises and demonstrations, big softback of 240 pages, 22.5 x 28cm.

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96258 ALBERT EINSTEIN'S LETTER BLOCK PUZZLE by Martin Watson

Albert Einstein's name is instantly recognisable and his distinctive look and wild grey hair are widely used in cartoon depictions of scientists. Looking like a cross between Jenga and a Rubik's cube, the box set includes sturdy wooden three-dimensional shapes or Letters. Use them like a 3D jigsaw to create the various sizes of rectangles and shapes, cuboids and the most challenging, the pyramid. Solve the Relativity Riddle using all the Letters to make a square, Genius rating 5 or the Quantum Query the hardest of them all, using all the letters to make a 4x4x5 cuboid. Great quality, special import from USA. Ages eight to adult. Sturdy wooden blocks of quality. Box measures 27cm square.

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Train your brain in just 30 minutes a day with 300 puzzles designed to sharpen memory, reasoning, creativity, and cognitive skills. Featuring 40 different types of exercises-including lateral thinking, logic problems, memory games, number pyramids, 3D Sudoku, mazes, kakuro, futoshiki, slitherlink, and more-each puzzle shows which mental skills it targets, such as attention, executive function, and logical deduction. Clear instructions accompany every challenge, with one or two puzzles per page for focused daily practice. 288pp, large softback, 18 × 23cm.

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96925 ALICE'S DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE THROWING GAME by Professor Puzzle

Send two red and two black ace-of-spades heavyweight beanbags tumbling down the rabbit hole in this charming target game with a storybook twist. Suitable for indoors or out, the sturdy board measures just over three feet long-simply aim for the top hole and see who scores highest (and grins widest, like the Cheshire Cat). Featuring colourful Tenniel-style illustrations inspired by the world of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll, it captures all the magic and mischief of literary nonsense, from flamingo croquet to curious riddles. For ages 6+ and 2+ players, this big box set promises classic family fun. Order two sets if you'd like to play by traditional Cornhole rules-at this price, you might just!

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96972 IMPOSTER PUZZLE BOOK by Roland Hall & Malcolm Croft

Put your detective skills to the test in this 180-page illustrated paperback from The Escapist Library. Across 12 immersive mystery scenarios, you'll navigate lies, motives, and alibis to spot the traitor before it's too late. Investigate moles leaking secrets, uncover masterminds behind corporate coups, and solve schemes targeting unsuspecting families. Chapters include Neighbourhood Watch, Locker Room Letdown, Traitors in the Tower, The Defective Husband, A Friendly Game of Werewolf, The Syndicate, and The Rat Pack. Packed with suspense, deduction, and puzzling fun, this edition offers hours of sleuthing inspired by the hit TV phenomenon hosted by Claudia Winkleman.

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97539 LARGE PRINT PUZZLES: Crossword, Wordsearch & Sudoku by Eric Saunders

Enjoy hours of relaxing puzzle fun with this LARGE - PRINT collection of crosswords, sudoku and wordsearches, perfect for both beginners and seasoned puzzle fans. The extra-clear 26-point type makes every challenge easy to read, while the variety of themes keeps your brain active and entertained. Test your trivia knowledge, uncover hidden words, and crack the secrets of sudoku grids as you sharpen your mind at your own pace. Designed to be both enjoyable and stress-relieving, this satisfying puzzle book is ideal for quiet moments, with answers included for checking your progress. 96-page paperback, 22.5 x 28cm.

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97573 BEEHIVE MANCALA: A Nature Board Game by Tatiana Boyko

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One crime to solve, over 70 killer conundrums to piece together the clues. There is another killer loose in Wobberley Edge. The timing couldn't be worse as the village prepares for the arrival of famed crime novelist Verity Winchester. But while the residents are in the thrall of detective fiction, our five amateur sleuths must search for a very real killer, and this time there is more than one victim. Get ready to join the team to catch the culprit - or culprits and find out who, why and how. 224 page paperback with diagrams and space to fill in your answers.

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Genius is not just the same as high IQ yet there is an undoubted connection between high intelligence and genius. Covering spatial, numerical, and verbal reasoning, vocabulary, creative brainstorming, practical puzzles and tests, artistic knowledge, and quizzes - literary, music, philosophy and science. Then follows personality tests - assertiveness, arrogance, charisma, conceptual thinking, control, deferred gratification, determination, enthusiasm, group dependence, inspiration, obsessiveness, self-image and vision. Finally there is the Genius Gym Answers. 224 page paperback, line art.
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CRAFTS

So she made her wedding gown herself, sewing into it the tender hopes and innocent romances of a girlish heart.

- Louisa May Alcott, Little Women

97583 FOLD IT & CUT IT: Includes 48 Templates
by Naomi Shiek
A very attractive cutaway fold out jacket sets the tone for this extra-large collection of super symmetrical papercut patterns for use in artwork, keepsakes, greeting cards and more. The book includes 48 templates to cut or trace, all in beautiful bold colours, and with projects clearly explained in step-by-step instructions. Covering folds and techniques and tools required, and quality of card and paper, some of the 48 projects include a wedding invitation, swan necklace, fox mask, enchanted castle card, family tree, flower arrangement, fairy ring card, fawn place card, place mat, baby photo frame, Easter garland, stag tree ornament, a really lovely box lantern with ribbon tie, a mobile, cake topper and Halloween paper chain. The mobile is a beautiful butterfly and a leafy ribbon makes a beautiful decoration for gift-wrapping. Learn the craft with a simple craft knife and a piece of paper in the hands of this expert designer whose book is for both beginners and more advanced paper cutters. 24 projects, 48 templates to create your own exquisite works of art. 144 very large pages in softback, colour illus.
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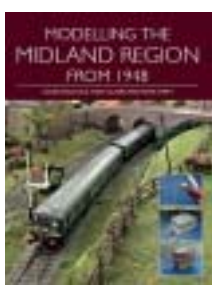

97780 MODELLING THE MIDLAND REGION FROM 1948
by Boocock, Clarke and Swift
The largest administrative region after railway nationalisation in 1948 was the London Midland, and the amalgamated company forms a rich source of material for the railway modeller, who can choose between the cityscapes of St Pancras or Nottingham, the wild mountainous areas of the Peak District and the Pennines, or the lush farmland of the Leicester plateau. Each one offers not only a distinctive backdrop but also a different style of railway architecture. Melton Mowbray station was one of many Midland stations that featured the elegant platform canopy supported on cast-iron pillars, while in the north of the region Appleby station, also pictured, was a typical 1875 Settle and Carlisle three-gable single storey building with decorative pierced bargeboards. The general appearance of most British railway lines in 1960 was that of the company who had owned the line for most of the century. The book covers the transition to the corporate image of British Railways and its successor British Rail, and a long chapter on London Midland and Scottish locomotives is introduced by background paragraphs on the chief engineers including Fowler, Lemon and Stanier, followed by an overview including shed codes and classifications. An example of a locomotive popular with modellers is the Midland compound 4-4-0 no 1000, which worked the Settle and Carlisle line, but when the Bachman model was launched in 2013 the Famous Trains charity, which the authors represent, was critical of some details compared with the cheaper Hornby model of the same locomotive, so they customised the Hornby with extra details for their layout. Among older locomotives the ubiquitous Stanier Class 5 (4-6-0) gets an appreciative mention, while featured British Railways steam locomotives include the trailblazing Britannia class. Diesels include the Deltic prototype, and electric engines are also covered, together with passenger and goods rolling stock. The final section of the book covers structural modelling advice including rock formations, signals and signal boxes and the tricky business of creating water in a region full of canals. 19x x 24.7cm, 174pp, softback, suppliers, colour and archive photos on every page.
£19.99 NOW £9

97488 CROCHET ILLUSION BLANKETS: 15 Patterns for Optical Illusion Crochet Blankets, Afghans and Throws by Helen Smith
A collection of 15 eye-catching 3D effect crochet patterns for different sized blankets, afghans and throws, that all have an optical illusion effect. There are large charts and all of the blankets are made with Scheepjes Truly Scrumptious aran-weight yarn, which is made from recycled plastic bottles. The blanket projects include a variety of sizes, with the largest measuring 51 x 36 inches. There are instructions for how to increase the size of the blankets by adding a border as well as decorative details including tassels and pom poms, and how to alter the drape of the blankets by changing the hook size you use. The 'Getting Started' section is illustrated with photos of swatches showing variations of the same design with alternative colour combinations. The front section includes information about what the best yarns and hooks to use are as well as the other tools and materials featured. Glowing colour throughout and pattern names include Purple Haze, Secret Stripes, Floating Diamonds - the contours of the stripes that flow across this blanket are reminiscent of ripples on the surface of water. The offset lines create multiple diamond shapes in a geometric grid, and Cool Contours where the cool-coloured lines resemble contour lines on a map because they all follow the same path. 274 x 201mm. 128 page paperback.

ONLY £15

97497 MACRAME FOR BEGINNERS AND BEYOND 24 Easy Macramé Projects for Home and Garden
by Amy Mullins and Marnia Ryan-Raison
24 fresh, contemporary macramé projects designed for absolute beginners the book blends classic knots with modern design to transform this 70s favourite into a must-try craft for today's makers. With 24 decorative and functional projects from iconic plant holders and elegant wall hangings to a swinging indoor chair, table runner, deck chair, door hanging, and an outdoor celebration arch, a comprehensive photographic knot library makes it easy to get started - and ensures that even the more complex pieces remain achievable. With a detailed knot tutorial library with step-by-step photographs, 12 beginner-friendly projects, each paired with an advanced alternative, ideas for outside spaces, weddings, gifts, entertaining, and tips on materials, techniques, and mounting options. Colour photos, 128pp. Paperback, 274 x 212mm.

ONLY £12.50

97490 ENGLISH PAPER PIECING WORKSHOP: 18 EPP Projects For Beginners and Beyond by Jenny Jackson
English paper piecing (EPP) is a traditional patchwork technique which uses hexagon-shaped paper templates Jenny Jackson has created this collection of techniques and patterns for modern EPP projects for the home including some really striking, large quilts. There are 18 projects for the home in a variety of sizes so you can build up to a full-sized quilt but you can also dip in and out of some smaller projects such as coasters, wall hangings and cushions while you hone your skills. These geometric designs feature 20 different paper pieced templates including diamonds, octagons and even curved shapes for really exciting results. These sheets can be photocopied to give you multiple templates, fast. Projects include Colourful Crosses - an EPP and appliqued cushion, Salt and Pepper - adding a modern vibe to your table with this funky runner, and Colour Pop - a cheerful set of placemats and coasters. And each project gives Fabric Requirements, Templates and Tips. 279 x 217mm. 128 page paperback, clear layout, full colour. New, full price.
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Colourful and spectacular pop-ups

97801 NATIVITY: A Christmas Pop-Up Display by Matthew Reinhart and Kaly Quarles
A masterful design from the great paper engineer Matthew Reinhart, this three-dimensional pop-up nativity scene is the perfect way to decorate your home during the Christmas season. Easy to display and store, there is no set up involved. Simply fold back the book and it is ready to display on a tabletop or mantlepiece. Fold out the lyrics to Silent Night and admire the touching details in the illustrations of the Three Wise Men and their camel looking peaceful and at rest, two angels atop the whole scene with a large golden star, Mary and Joseph and the baby Jesus in his little crib, a shepherdess outside and some houses, a sleeping cow and a starry background. Colour, 24 x 20cm.
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97820 OCEAN: 10 POP UPS
by David Hawcock
For ages 2-6 years and adult collectors of pop-up books (we are guilty!) we meet in full the huge soft round eight tentacled octopus and learn a little about their own lairs in rocky recesses, that shrimps and lobsters are their favourite prey and that some are true giants, as long as whales. And up he pops from the first page. The second page is a shoal of beautifully colourful striped and spotted warm tropical marine fish with marvellous polychrome patterns. Next come the ocean giants, enormous whales in all shapes and sizes and about 60 types. Next comes the seahorse popping up with over 30 different types of this genus and different shapes and colours; sea turtles which have lived on Earth for around 250 million years and are cold-blooded animals and live to well over 100 years old. Crabs include the Japanese spider crab, the largest in the world and all have powerful claws and typically walk sideways. Jellyfish come softly rising from towards the back of the book as they flaunt their vibrant colours; sharks emerge with their enormous, jagged teeth, as many as 300 arranged in multiple rows we learn in the text, and the clown fish and dolphins leap across the final pages. 20 colourful board pages, 21cm square.
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97821 PIRATES: 10 POP UPS
by David Hawcock
A companion to Ocean Pop Ups by the same paper engineer and author, we meet the Pirate Gang, thieves of the sea, plundering their treasure and kidnapping crew and passengers, Corsairs who sailed around North Africa, Buccaneers who sailed the Caribbean when Spain ruled the Americas and the Red Flag Fleet, gangs of pirates in the South China Sea. The next page is a pop-up of a super galleon and information about Chinese junks and schooners. The pirate crew sees the Captain with his big curly beard and three-cornered hat emerge from the next pages together with the ship's cook and parrot, then there is treasure on an island, sea stories with enormous sea monsters and mermaids and storms, famous pirates like Black Beard, Captain Hook and Long John Silver and Anne Bonny joined by Mary Read and other legendary female pirates, and lastly weapons like the cannon and the Jolly Roger skull and crossbones flag, a warning to other ships. The final pop-up is of the Captain's very comfortable cabin where he kept his pistol close and his treasure chest locked and used his spyglass to spot ships or land in the distance. And here he is with his cat! Ages 2-6 years, 20 colourful pages, board book measuring 21cm square.
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96623 HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES CLASSIC POP-UP TALE by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle & Graphic Pops
Superb comic-style artwork by Anthony Williams - known for Batman and Marvel - brings Sherlock Holmes's most atmospheric mystery to life in dramatic 3D scenes. From the familiar sitting room at 221B Baker Street to the windswept Devon moor, each pop-up spreads out in richly coloured, shadowy layers: the great black Hound with glowing green eyes, a horse-drawn cab by night, looming manor houses, and fog-filled landscapes that rise up to nearly 15 inches. This sharply condensed graphic adaptation retains the gothic tension of Hugo Baskerville's legend and the eerie investigation pursued by Holmes and Watson. With 14 lavish pop-up pages, brooding illustrations, and a deliciously theatrical finale, it's an inventive and immersive take on the classic tale. 24 × 27 cm.

With 14 lavish pop-up pages

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96964 POP-UP BOX ART EDVARD MUNCH by Courtney Watson McCarthy and Bjørn Ersland
Designed by paper engineer and graphic designer Courtney Watson McCarthy, this book offers a playful, tactile way to experience the art of Edvard Munch. Praised by Karl Ove Knausgaard for its fluid prose, it blends close readings of Munch's work with moments from his life and his lasting cultural impact. Across a 60-year career, Munch worked in painting, printmaking, drawing, sculpture, photography, and film, becoming a key figure of Symbolism and a pioneer of Expressionism. The highlight is its interactive design: seven major works appear as 3D pop-ups, including The Girls on the Bridge, Woman with Poppies, Children in the Forest, and the iconic The Scream, which quite literally rises from the page. Other works, such as The Yellow Log and The Building of the Winter Studio, are accompanied by insightful commentary, while Munch's sketches-including Death in the Alley and Workers with Ladders in the Street-appear in interactive lift-the-flap illustrations. 25.8 × 28cm with seven pop-up spreads.
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Amazing paper engineering

96698 CRAFT BRITAIN: Why Making Matters
by Helen Chislett and David Linley
A Celebration of Contemporary Craftsmanship - art, design, and craft converge. Chapters such as Heritage and History, Roots and Region, and Useful and Beautiful explore a wide spectrum of skills, from handmade furniture, silverware, and glass to endangered crafts like kilt making, top hats, umbrellas, and wheelwrighting. Highlights include: Sculptor Michelle de Bruin's relief emblem at Marchmont House, combining tree, wings, egg, and painter's materials. Cutting-edge furniture designs, such as flowing S-shaped chairs and the limited edition Infinity Table. Savile Row tailoring for women at The Deck. Glass and ceramic wonders at Vessel Gallery, including Vug in Emerald and Purple and Spring Greens. Silver masterpieces from Craftmasters Gallery. Iconic designs from Heatherwick Studio, such as the aluminium-and-leather Friction Table. This book celebrates dedication, artistry, and imagination. 256 pages, colour photos.
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96951 BEGINNERS' GUIDE TO DECORATING POTTERY
by Emily Reinhardt
This welcoming and confidence-building guide invites you into the studio with ceramic artist Emily Reinhardt, and is packed with colour photographs throughout, with tumblers, bowls, mugs, vases, wall hangings, a cobalt offering dish, and a leathery double vase among the ideas to get you started. There are for busy hands lots of colourful beads, a set of coasters, spoons, a set of dinner plates with inlaid clay designs in a chequered pattern, hand-built vases with heavily layered glaze, planters with added design features like colourful glass strips applied to the outside, beautiful serving platters with a drip/splatter effect and many more ideas from the contributing artists. Beginner-friendly projects guide you step by step through applying surface-design techniques to simple, satisfying pieces such as coasters, a cheeseboard, wall hangings, plates, tumblers, vases, and planters. And includes troubleshooting! Colour photos, 160 pages, 22.8cm square.
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MORE ON NEXT PAGE

97487 CROCHET HOME: 20 Vintage Modern Crochet Projects for the Home by Emma Lamb
Bring handmade charm and colour into your home with this beautiful collection of 20 crochet projects by designer and blogger Emma Lamb.Choose from gorgeous flower garlands, vintage inspired blankets and throws, and delightful doilies and cushions. Includes techniques and crochet charts as well crochet patterns. Projects include an Oversized Wallflower Hanging which are a fabulous way to add a touch of tactile crochet to your living space and they can also be used individually as trivets around your kitchen. A stunning spring-like Blossom Wreath is a vintage-inspired floral wreath to indulge your love of crochet flowers. The wreath is wrapped in a luxury alpaca yarn and the flowers are crocheted using linen, which helps to ensure they keep their 3D shape. Pot Holders, Log Cabin Cushions, Polka Dot Streamer and much more. 235 x 209mm. Colour photos, 144 page paperback.

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97360 ART OF PAINT POURING KIT by Amanda VanEver
Fluid flows of paint without any brush marks or texture! A super and well-priced starter kit which includes a 6" x 6" canvas board, 10 craft sticks, one bottle of 2floz or 30ml glue, three bottles of acrylic paint in cool jewel tones of blue, maroon and purple also 2floz (30ml). It features the many techniques for making poured art including swiping, dipping, and pulling in. The 48 page project book in full colour is packed with easy step-by-step projects. The swirling effects are like marble, veined stones, psychedelic tree rings, a grey and blue swirly puddle, purple haze, turquoise, green and orange and black cells, or bubbles and patterns used by rubbing alcohol into your paint mixture. Contains all the tips on mixing paint and displaying your finished artwork. The 10 little craft sticks included look like lollypop sticks in real wood.
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97580 EVERLASTINGS by Bex Partridge
Sub-titled 'How to Grow, Harvest and Create with Dried Flowers' this special book showcases the many methods of drying blooms, seed heads and foliage, plus favourite ways of the author to style with dried flowers, as well as wearable items such as floral crowns and hair clips, a boutonnière or a bracelet. There are wall hangings in autumnal colours, table decorations, a botanical mobile, a wreath on a brass hoop, a hanging bouquet, garlands, place settings and all about working with the seasons, the processes, and bringing nature into the home. 20 projects all accompanied by beautiful colour photography as well as chapters on foraging and thoughts on the meditative benefits of working with dried flowers. 160 large pages, 20 x 25cm. Colour illus.
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96924 PRACTICAL ENCYCLOPEDIA OF SOFT FURNISHINGS by Dorothy Wood
A special all-in-one handbook for creating cushions, loose covers, curtains, blinds, table linen, and bed linen. Step-by-step instructions for 100 stylish projects, from simple rectangular tablecloths and Roman and roller blinds, pet beds, shaped beanbags, a beautiful fleece cosy throw, a pillow case or upgrading and covering a chair or a sofa. Techniques for cutting fabric, adding zippers, covering buttons, and making buttonholes, plus guidance on creating elegant cushions, including bolsters with gathered ends and tassels, mitered borders, and flap cushions. 900 colour photos, 256 page softback (17 x 22cm).
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96962 CUSTOMIZE YOUR CROSS STITCH by Lizzie Dabczynski-Bean
Cross stitch is wonderfully simple when you think of it as drawing with thread on fabric. Inspired by the playful detail of LEGO figures and Funko Pop collectibles, Stitch People brings colour and character to every project. Clear guidance on materials, tools, and techniques helps you stitch with confidence. Patterns include baby announcements, cosy home scenes, yoga classes, road trips, coffee breaks, tributes to grandparents, and seasonal designs from spring gardens to autumn leaves. With step-by-step instructions, colour photos, diagrams, and tips for displaying your finished hoop, this book is packed with inspiration for creating personalised keepsakes. 112 page large softback.
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97362 LEARN TO DRAW IN 4 WEEKS by Barrington Barber
Huge spiral bound folder with accompanying sketchpad, the folder is divided up into four week sections with colourful tabs. Written by the bestselling practical art author Barrington Barber, this carefully designed guide concentrates on lines, shapes and shading, texture and tone, people and perspective, and by week four widening your view to venture outdoors to draw both rural and urban landscapes. Excellent on plants, animals and proportions of the human figure and even just drawing around the house for perspective and objects within a room. 27 x 28.5cm, 96 pages, spiral bound.
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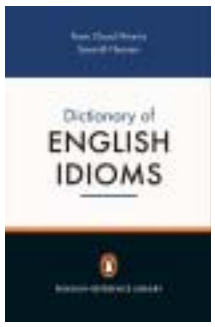
WORDS AND DICTIONARIES

Query here suggests itself: Is not silence frequently more efficacious than the utmost eloquence? Answer probably yes. Must try to remember this more often than I do.

- E.M. Delafield, Diary of a Provincial Lady



97905 PENGUIN DICTIONARY OF ENGLISH IDIOMS: Second Edition by Daphne Gulland and David Hinds-Howell
From the reputable and reliable Penguin Reference Library, we explore over 4000 English idioms arranged by theme for easy comparison and practical usage in speech and writing. To 'put the cart before the horse', have 'the cheek of the devil' or be 'a pillar of society' are just some of the thousands of idioms that have become an integral part of the English language. We are fascinated by the origin of such expressions as 'cloud-cuckoo-land' and 'Achilles' heel', as we are taken around categories like colours, weather, life and death, trees and plants, animals, the body, mind, illnesses and ailments, relations, towns, the house, furniture, food, clothes, ships, the world and places, languages and nationalities, weapons and war, numbers, schools, work, money and valuables, games and sports, music and the theatre and more. The first entry is 'To see someone in his true colours' followed by a short explanation and example. With clear headers in bold for all 5,000 phrases and examples in everyday speech from all walks of life. This is the corrected and reprinted second edition with the index mishap of the first edition corrected. 378 pages, paperback.
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97806 CHINESE CHARACTERS by Dr Justin Winslett
Hanzi or Chinese characters form one of the oldest writing systems in the world used in a variety of East Asian languages including Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese. At the heart of China's cultural heritage, their elegant design has spawned a tradition of calligraphy that is as much an art form as a means of communication. This luxurious silk bound hardback is an expert introduction to Chinese characters, presented with delightful full colour illustrations. The front cover is gold embossed. The 200 characters each has an explanation of their meaning, history and composition, there is a glamorous scarlet red pagemarker, thick quality dark cream paper has been used and a good number of ancient Chinese artworks reproduced, some double page of Chinese life, trees and nature, cranes and birds, mountains and ponds. A beautiful design and layout gift edition.
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96880 ALL ON THE BOARD by All On The Board
"If I had a time machine, there's one thing I would do: travel back to the last time we were together, hold you in my arms, and say how much I love you." Since March 2017, Jeremy and Ian, two young Transport for London employees known as the masked duo All on the Board, have been brightening the daily commute with inspirational, humorous, and heartwarming messages. From sentimental confessions to playful poems about pizza, their handwritten notices at stations like North Greenwich have delighted Londoners, celebrated heroes and legends, and marked both momentous occasions and ordinary Mondays. This collection brings together around 200 examples. Boldly coloured pages. 288 pages of smiles for any day.
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97792 CHARLES III: A King and His Queen by Chris Jackson
A beautifully crafted Rizzoli of New York large publication from the unsurpassed collection of Getty Images Royal Photographer Chris Jackson. 'The light-hearted moment of royal tours, both global and domestic, reveal that King Charles and Queen Camilla have an extraordinary ability to connect with people from every walk of life and illicit a warm response in those they meet. The key to their success is a quick-witted and warm sense of humour and an ability to avoid taking themselves too seriously. Their visits are an important part of their work, engaging with local communities, charities and groups and creating and maintaining ongoing relationships. The royal couple sustain an impressive work rate, barely stopping for breath at certain times of the year... above all I hope these pages will reveal that photographing the royal family has always been enormous fun.' These pages not only reveal ceremonial duties but also passion for projects and patronages, touching family moments and the next generation. Who can forget little Prince Louis enjoying some musical entertainment at the Platinum Jubilee pageant and bouncing on his grandfather's knee? Such moments of joy are captured here among the uniforms and medals and ceremony, beaming faces on Commonwealth tours, garden parties and also sadness at the Duke of Edinburgh's funeral, visiting temples in India, holding koala bear baby orphans, the King at the wheel of his classic blue 1970 Aston Martin, sharing a joke at the Braemar Gathering, close up images of royal jewels, a book reading in Foyles, surveying the countryside outside the royal couple's Welsh home close to the Brecon Beacons, at Clarence House, making Judi Dench laugh, on the royal train, where history, politics and human interest collide on a royal tour of Cuba 2019, Scottish style of dress. Some of these close-up shots are absolutely extraordinary showing quiet behind-the-scenes moments of all senior members of the British royal family. King Charles is the longest-serving heir apparent and the oldest person to accede the British throne at the age of 73. Jackson writes a warm and engaging text commemorating the beginning of a new reign and documenting more than 20 years of tours. 22.3 x 28.5cm, 240 splendid pages, packed with colour photos.
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96797 WISE WORDS FROM KING CHARLES III by Karen Dolby
Light-hearted and revealing, this book celebrates the wit, passions, and personality of King Charles III. Heir apparent for more than 70 years, Charles became King on 8 September 2022 and was crowned at Westminster Abbey on 6 May 2023. Beyond the ceremony, Charles is a passionate environmentalist, skilled horticulturalist, arts lover, and outspoken commentator on architecture - famously calling a National Gallery extension "a monstrous carbuncle" and London's skyline "an absurdist picnic table." Known for his humour, mimicry, and love of painting, he also enjoys swimming, surfing, horseback riding, polo, flying planes, and embracing a hands-on approach to life. 160 pages, illus.
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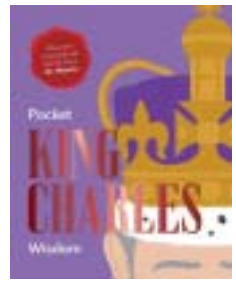

97286 POCKET KING CHARLES WISDOM: Wise and Inspirational Words from His Majesty by Hardie Grant Books
Full of inspirational quotes and wise words on society, family, his role in the monarchy, faith, education, the environment, love and life, this little book pays homage to Britain's newest monarch. 'To be just a presence would be fatal.' On Himself: "My problem is that I become carried away by enthusiasm to try and improve things." - in a private letter, 3 June 1989. On the Environment and Nature "I just come and talk to the plants, really - very important to talk to them, they respond I find." 96 small, quality illustrated pages.
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96729 PLANT WORDS: A Book of 250 Curious Words for Plant Lovers by Joe Richomme and Emma Wayland
The vocabulary of horticulture can be a challenge. 250 carefully selected terms arranged alphabetically within each section, each defined clearly and supported by cross-references. Entries range from scientific concepts such as algae - organisms that photosynthesise and are often aquatic - to ecological concerns like major invasive species including cheatgrass, knapweed, common reed, reed canary grass, and bracken. The book also covers broader ideas and practices such as permaculture, a holistic approach to resilient land management, and forest bathing, a Japanese wellbeing practice from the 1980s focused on reconnecting with nature. Notable figures are included, such as garden designer Beth Chatto and taxonomist Carl Linnaeus who classified over 12,000 species. 208 pages with numerous line drawings.
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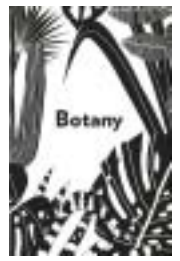
Carnivorous



What was tulipmania? Where would you find a boreal forest?

96632 TELEGRAPH BIG BOOK OF CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS: Volume 12 by Telegraph Media Group
Test your lateral thinking with this bumper edition of 200 Telegraph cryptic crosswords. Clues include: Factory dance class (8), Glass plants are forced under (6), Central part of two presents where one might be isolated (6,2,7), A Greek character, first lady to perform successfully (7). Whether you're after a relaxing pastime or a way to sharpen your analytical skills, this collection offers great value, with space at the back for notes and workings. 464 page paperback.
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96633 TELEGRAPH BIG BOOK OF CRYPTIC CROSSWORDS: Volume 13 by Telegraph Media Group
Clues include: Escape from church in warm coat (6), Support party, returning after journey (6), Contrivance for manipulating the enemy in SS? (4,4), Lord Wimsey, say, losing heart (4). This bumper edition of 200 cryptic crossword puzzles offers excellent value for money - if you look at what you pay for the newspaper each day, this collection more than pays for itself. From the first quality newspaper in the UK to publish a daily crossword in 1925, it's the perfect way to keep those grey cells active. Paperback, 464 pages.
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96794 HELP A THIEF!: And Other Misadventures in Punctuation by Caroline Taggart
A reissue of the popular 2017 hardback 'The Accidental Apostrophe'. Taggart has made a name for herself expounding on the subjects of grammar, usage and words generally. Here she explains why using six exclamation marks where one will do is perfectly OK in a text, but you will lose marks at school; why hang glider pilots in training really need a hyphen; and how throwing in the odd semicolon will impress your friends and whether the use of emojis makes the world a better place. Engagingly written, 188 page paperback.
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97142 ITALIAN 4 CD INTENSIVE LANGUAGE COURSE by Antony Peck and Simona Rizzardi
Lively, authentic dialogues, appealing and varied exercises, solutions to exercises, as well as plays and interviews for developing listing comprehension skills in Italian. Begin to speak confidently in any situation. With specially designed activities, interactive audio and clear, jargon-free grammar explanations you'll quickly develop your language skills and make genuine progress right from the start. You can also find the complete audio material on the website by scanning the QR code and use your smartphone or tablet and playback every track or download each individually to listen to later, on the go. Four CD box set.
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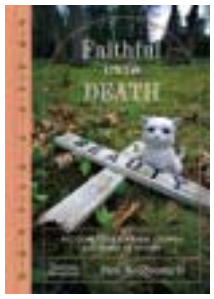
97269 DEVIL'S DICTIONARY: The Complete Edition by Ambrose Bierce
'BRIDE, n. A woman with a fine prospect of happiness behind her.' A celebrated journalist in his lifetime, Ambrose Bierce was the author of sardonic, mischievous definitions of words that appeared in various San Francisco newspapers. Over several years these were compiled for a mock dictionary, originally published in 1906 as The Cynic's Word Book and reissued in an expanded version as The Devil's Dictionary in 1911. One of the most popular satirical works of world literature, here enriched with over 800 definitions left out from the original publications, brilliantly lays bare the hypocrisies of American society and displays a razor-sharp wit to rival that of Bierce's contemporary Mark Twain. 343 page paperback.
£8.99 NOW £4.50

PETS

There are plenty of dogs in the town of Oxford. Montmorency had eleven fights on the first day, and fourteen on the second, and evidently thought he had got to heaven.

- Jerome K. Jerome, Three Men in a Boat



97894 FAITHFUL UNTO DEATH: Pet Cemeteries, Animal Graves by Paul Koudounari
There are no set rituals when you lose a pet to help provide closure, no readily shared passages from spiritual texts, no communitive compassion to surround the pet owner and help alleviate their deep sense of grief. It has been regarded as somehow socially incorrect to mourn an animal as one would a person and feel the pain so intensely. This rather special book confronts this taboo by telling the stories of people who have memorialised their beloved animals. From the humble dog Cherry who died in 1881 whose owners arranged for a grave in a nearby garden believing their animal deserved a dignified burial, this was considered comical. But others followed suit and the first urban pet cemetery was born. More soon followed across Europe, the USA and the rest of the world, expressions of eternal devotion, and a symbol of appreciation for the faithful friends and companions to their owners. The headstones themselves will make you weep as we learn of incredible feats which made dogs an icon, a doghouse grave, Arap's statue in an early Maryland burial ground with the inscription: 'He gave up his life that a human might live. Greater love hath no man.' Or Dewey 1898-1910. 'He was only a cat, but he was human enough to be a great comfort in hours of loneliness and pain.' The first known use of 'Only a cat' was in a book title in England in 1876 dedicated to the RSPCA, the biography of a housecat named Tom. And there are the pet celebrities like actress Doris Hill, a starlet at Paramount Pictures visiting the grave of Lucky in 1929 with her current pet dog carrying a basket of flowers. There are stained glass windows to police dogs, Dorothy Lamour co-staring with Jiggs the chimp and who was one of the celebrities who attended his funeral, Hopalong Cassidy's horse Topper, war dog memorials, Shep and hundreds more celebrated in this big beautiful compendium. Published by Thames & Hudson with hundreds of colour photos and quality binding and presentation, 256 pages, 18 x 24.9cm.
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Purr-fect! ***A career-spanning retrospective of the greatest cat photographer***

93536 CATS PHOTOGRAPHS 1942-2018 by Walter Chandoha, Susan Michals and Reuel Golden
An impossibly gorgeous coffee table book we have fallen in love with! Eleven entranced kittens, a seeming impossible feat, white, grey, black, brindle and ginger are captured on the opening double page spread. On a winter's night in 1949 in New York City, young marketing student and budding photographer Walter Chandoha spotted a stray kitten in the snow, bundled it into his coat, and brought it home. Little did he know he had just met the muse that would determine the course of his life. Chandoha turned his lens on his new feline friend - which he named Loco - and was so inspired by the results that he started photographing kittens from a local shelter. These images marked the start of an extraordinary career that would span seven decades. From advertisements for Puss 'n Boots cat food to greetings cards, jigsaw puzzles to pet-food packaging, his images combined his signature glamorous lighting to rim the head and ears, which made each cat's fur stand out in sharp relief. This technique would define the visual vocabulary of animal portraiture for generations and inspire such masters as Andy Warhol, who took cues from Chandoha's charming portraits in his illustrated cat book. Four adorable Siamese kittens peep from a basket (1957), cats leap from this genre-defining artist's archives, featuring hundreds of close-ups and colour studio and environmental portraits, black and white street photography like the stray cat at Rome's Coliseum 1981, images from vintage cat shows, tender pictures that combine his children with cats, barn cats, family pets, and more against stunning scenery. This remarkable photographer passed away at the age of 98 in 2019. Reuel Golden is the former editor of the British Journal of Photography and the Photography editor at TASCHEN. 14 x 19.5 cm, 192 pages, new reprint, colour and mono photos.
ONLY £15

97162 BEYOND SUPERVET by Noel Fitzpatrick
Subtitled 'How Animals Make us the Best We Can Be'. When he loses both his beloved mother and his border terrier Keira within months of each other, and with the future of his practice Fitzpatrick Referrals in jeopardy, Noel needs to draw on all his inner strength and his unwavering love of animals to keep going. He explores the emotional realities behind pioneering procedures: the hope carried by pet owners, the responsibility of pushing medical boundaries, and the moments of doubt, failure and resilience that rarely make it to the screen. Alongside these stories, Fitzpatrick shares formative memories from his upbringing, the mentors and animals who influenced him, and the philosophy that underpins his relentless drive to improve animal welfare. Colour photos, 328 page paperback.
£8.99 NOW £4.50

96799 CHAKRA HEALING FOR CATS by Lynn McKenzie
Your cat's chakras can play a powerful role in their emotional and physical balance. Here you'll discover simple techniques such as crystal work, colour therapy, pendulum dowsing, flower essences, and more. The book explores the third eye and heart chakras, subtle auras, meridians, etheric bodies, and the grounding root chakra. You'll see how each energy centre connects to comfort, stability, confidence, nourishment, belonging, and the sense of being secure in their place within the family. For heart-centred healing, stones such as aventurine, emerald, green tourmaline, and rose quartz offer gentle support. 144 pages. Beautiful cat illustrations in colour plus diagrams and colour images of gemstones.
£10.99 NOW £2.50

97029 MEET ELLA: The Dog Who Saved My Life by James Middleton
A muddy-paws, wagging-tail of a life-saving kind. Meet Ella traces the extraordinary bond between James and his beloved first pup, the tiny, sightless Black Labrador Ella. From their enchanting introduction to their many adventures - from Scottish mountain sides to royal weddings and walkabouts - their journey is marked by love, loyalty and unexpected twists of fate. Ella, a well-mannered and kind-natured companion, even played a cupid role in introducing James to his future wife, Alizee. But beyond the glamorous veneer of society engagements and entrepreneurial success lies a deeply personal account of James' battle with depression. Through unconditional love, Ella emerges as an intuitive friend, reading his moods and offering solace during his darkest hours, becoming the catalyst for his healing and helping him to see the good in his life and future. 278 page paperback.
£12.99 NOW £5

97619 DOGGY POSITIVITY by Peggy the Hairless Pug
Meet Peggy, with her lolling long pink tongue, big expressive eyes, floppy ears and almost no hair, the ugly pug who became a superstar with her one-of-a-kind charm and incredible tongue. From winning the UK's Ugliest Dog contest starring as Dogpool in 'Deadpool & Wolverine', Peggy proved that beauty is truly only in the eye of the beholder. From runt of the litter to bona fide canine sensation, she learns to stay curious, bury things in the garden, smell everything, be a big dog, share your couch, wag this way, bark up the wrong tree and even learn new tricks while not forgetting how to chase your own tail and making friends everywhere. Truly uplifting with big quotes, paw prints and line art of bones and eight pages of glorious colour photos like bathtime, in her stylish ballgowns and travelling. 176 pages.
£12.99 NOW £3.75

MODERN HISTORY AND CURRENT AFFAIRS

What kind of man would put a known criminal in charge of a major branch of government? Apart from, say, the average voter.

- Terry Pratchett, Going Postal

97827 CHINESE PROPAGANDA POSTERS by Anchee Min, Duo Duo and Stefan R. Landsberger
With his smooth, warm, ruddy face which radiated light in all directions, Chairman Mao Zedong was a fixture in Chinese propaganda posters produced between the birth of the People's Republic in 1949 and the early 1980s. Chairman Mao, portrayed as a stoic superhero (aka the Great Teacher, the Great Leader, the Great Helmsman, the Supreme Commander), appeared in all kinds of situations - inspecting factories, smoking a cigarette with peasant workers, standing by the Yangzi River in a bathrobe, presiding over the bow of a ship, or floating over a sea of red flags - flanked by strong, healthy, ageless men and "masculinized" women and children wearing baggy, sexless, drab clothing. The goal of each poster was to show the Chinese people what sort of behaviour was considered morally correct and how great the future of Communist China would be if everyone followed the same path toward utopia by uniting together. Rosy cheeked children, schoolgirls, heroic sisters, smiling red-lipped babies, acrobats, culture, art, cranes and nature, and more, this book brings together a selection of colourful propaganda artworks and cultural artifacts of Chinese propaganda posters, many of which are now extremely rare. 15.6 x 21.7cm, 512 pages. New from Taschen.
ONLY £25

85387 PATRONISING BASTARDS: How the Elites Betrayed Britain by Quentin Letts
The Parliamentary sketch writer and theatre critic for the Daily Mail loves gossip. His target is the plotters and schemers, the "technocrats who dehumanise our country's institutions". Wigged judges stared down their legalistic noses at the pongy populace. Those people who know best, those snooterati with their faux-liberal ways are the Patronising Bastards. You find these show-ponies also in high fashion, football, clean-eating foodies. Political columnist Quentin Letts is juicy on Richard Branson, Emma Thompson, Stephen Fry, Dan and Jon Snow, Sadiq Khan, Michael Eavis, Bono, Fiona Millar, Shami Chakrabarti, Nicholas Serota, Jean-Claude Juncker in the Top 100 Patronising Bastards. Fun images, 305pp.
£16.99 NOW £6 BESTSELLER BACK IN STOCK

97048 FAKING IT: Artificial Intelligence in a Human World by Toby Walsh
This highly informative book traces key moments in AI history, including world chess champion Garry Kasparov's match against IBM's Deep Blue, and Alan Turing's question "Can machines think?" alongside his development of the Turing test. The book argues that while AI panic is widespread, automation has so far replaced only a small fraction of human work, with most jobs only partially affected. It also examines modern systems such as ChatGPT, which surprised even its creators with its abilities in language, creativity, and imitation - producing everything from fake artistic styles to passable pop songs. However, the author warns that AI's growing strength in generating convincing fakes and deception may hinder its development for genuinely useful, practical tasks. Ultimately, the book proposes a 'reset' in how AI is designed and used. 234 pages, illus.
£22.99 NOW £6

96731 1964: The Year the Swinging Sixties Began by Christopher Sandford
On 2 January 1964, the Daily Mirror declared "The Spirit of 1964," picturing a donkey-jacketed workman perched high above Manchester with a glass of bubbly-straddling old Britain and the new. Prince Charles and Princess Anne joined a teenage twist session, Carnaby Street dazzled with Mary Quant's rising hemlines, and Beatlemania swept the globe. Yet the Vietnam War escalated, Nelson Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment, and the Cold War arms race intensified. At home, motorways carved through communities, consumer goods filled newspaper adverts, and only one in four married women worked. Mods and Rockers clashed at Margate while youth culture reshaped music, fashion, and media. From house prices to holiday camps, Sandford paints a lively, nostalgic portrait of a transformative year. 288 pages, illus.
£20 NOW £7

97153 IN SEARCH OF US: Adventures in Anthropology by Lucy Moore
Anthropology emerged as an exhilarating new discipline, part science, part travelogue, and occasionally part endurance test. Focusing on 12 key European and American anthropologists working in the field, from the pioneer Franz Boas on Baffin Island in the 1880s to the trickster Claude Lévi-Strauss in Brazil 50 years later, other researchers include Daisy Bates and Alfred Radcliffe-Brown in Western Australia 1910-1912, Ruth Benedict in the American Southwest 1920s, Margaret Mead in Samoa 1925, and the bluestocking Audrey Richards in Zambia 1930-31. Their close observations of the 'other' would unexpectedly transform thinking about race, gender equality, sexual freedom, parenting and tolerance, often to the surprise of the observers themselves. 311 pages, photos.
£17.99 NOW £6

96280 HIROSHIMA by John Hersey
Originally published in the New Yorker in 1946, 'Hiroshima' is a powerful and haunting account of the atomic bombing of the Japanese city on 6th August 1945. The bomb killed 100,000 men, women and children and was the beginning of a terrifying new episode in human history. Written only one year after the disaster, Hersey neither condemns nor justifies the dropping of the atomic bomb, but forces you to contemplate the morality of the decision to do so. Hershey added a further chapter when, 40 years later, he returned to Hiroshima to discover how the same six men and women had struggled to cope with catastrophe and with often crippling disease. Paperback, 196pp.
£9.99 NOW £3.25

96720 LOVE IN A TIME OF HATE by Florian Illies
As the Roaring Twenties fade, artists and intellectuals across Europe live, love, and create in the shadow of gathering darkness. Jean-Paul Sartre waits in vain for Simone de Beauvoir in a Paris café; Marlene Dietrich slips from a stifling marriage into Berlin's nightlife; Vladimir Nabokov lays a freshly caught butterfly at his wife's bedside. Around them swirl Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald, Dalí and Gala, Picasso and his muses, Henry Miller and Anaïs Nin, the Mann family, Bertolt Brecht, Albert Einstein, and many more. Set largely in Berlin during the fragile final years of the Weimar Republic, this vivid cultural history captures a world of cafés, theatres, studios, and salons humming with artistic energy in a society edging towards Nazism. 362 pages.
£20 NOW £5 SAVE £15!

95750 LORDS OF THE DESERT by J. Barr
Sub-titled 'The Battle Between the United States and Great Britain for Supremacy in the Modern Middle East'. After the fall of the Ottoman Empire during the First World War, Great Britain sought to establish itself as the dominant imperial power in the Middle East, and by the early 1940s its influence stretched from Cyprus to Sudan, and from Egypt to Iran. Yet its regional empire did not endure. We usually assume that Gamal Abdel Nasser and other Arab leaders led popular uprisings against colonial rule that forced the overstretched British from the region. Barr draws on newly declassified archives to argue instead that the US was the driving force behind the British exit, at odds over just about every question, from who owned Saudi Arabia's oil to who should control the Suez Canal. Illus, 454 pages.
£35 NOW £6.50 SAVE £28.50!

An authoritative account of how and why the Islamic Republic has survived to become a critical player in the Middle East and the World

97466 IRAN RISING: The Survival and Future of the Islamic Republic by Amin Saikal
A timely and authoritative study of how Iran has survived revolution, conflict and international pressure to become one of the most influential powers in the modern Middle East. Leading Iran specialist Amin Saikal traces the country's journey from the 1978-79 Islamic Revolution, explores the impact of the war with Iraq, tensions with Arab neighbours, relations with Israel and the United States, the nuclear programme, and Iran's complex role in conflicts from Afghanistan to Syria. His book recounts the main Iranian political headlines since the Islamic Revolution, moulded into his jihadi-ijtihadi approaches in Iranian leadership, key events and leadership styles. He highlights the regime's agility as it navigated a complex relationship with Afghanistan during the Soviet invasion, survived the Gulf wars, and handled fallout from the Iraqi and Syrian crises. He explains how Iran's unique political system - combining religious authority with elected institutions - has allowed the regime to adapt and endure despite sanctions, internal struggles and global opposition and examines the growing demands of the Iranian people for economic and social change and how these pressures may shape the nation's future. A clear and insightful guide to a country whose decisions continue to influence world affairs. 344 pages.
£25 NOW £8.50 SAVE £16.50!

MODERN FICTION AND ROMANCE

Vicissitudes of travel very strange, and am struck - as often - by enormous dissimilarity between journeys undertaken in real life, and as reported in fiction.

- E.M. Delafield, Diary of a Provincial Lady

97907 QUEEN'S GAMBIT by Walter Tevis
A modern classic which was made into a Netflix series about a troubled chess prodigy and her battle to survive - a coming-of-age story of feminism, chess and addiction. Even if you are not a chess enthusiast, the matches described are intense and meticulously detailed making you appreciate the strategic genius involved. Set in the 1960s, Beth Harmon is sent to an orphanage at the age of eight. There she discovers two ways to escape her surroundings - playing chess and taking the little green pills given to her and the other children to keep them subdued. Before long it becomes apparent that hers is a prodigious talent, and as she progresses to the top of the US chess rankings, she is able to forge a new life for herself. But she can never quite overcome her urge to self-destruct. For Beth there is more at stake than merely winning and losing. She is a complex character. 'You are a marvel my dear. I may have just played the best chess player of my life.' The Netflix series was riveting with the stunningly beautiful Anya Taylor-Joy and her huge eyes transfixing us in this heartbreaking and beautifully written story. 243pp in paperback.
£10.99 NOW £5.50

96671 AFTERLIFE OF MAL CALDERA by Nadi Reed Perez
Mal Caldera - former rockstar, wild child and family outcast - is dead, but her afterlife is just getting started. While other ghosts revel at the abandoned mansion they call the Haunt, Mal is desperate to reach her sister Cris and make amends. With the help of Ren, a reluctant local medium, she tries to send one final message. But as Mal and Ren grow unexpectedly close, she begins to question what she's risking by clinging to the living. 440pp, paperback.
£8.99 NOW £2

97481 WOMAN ON THE LEDGE by Ruth Mancini
Whose secrets are you keeping? And why? A tragic accident? Or murder? A woman falls to her death from a London bank's 25th-floor roof terrace. You're arrested for her murder. You tell the police that you had only met the victim the previous night at your office party. She was threatening to jump down from the roof, but you had talked her down. You've got nothing to do with this tragedy. You're clearly being framed. So why do the police keep picking holes in your story? Even your lawyer doesn't seem to believe you. It soon becomes obvious that you're keeping secrets. But who are you trying to protect? And why? Ruth Mancini is an author and criminal defence lawyer. 336 page paperback.
£18.99 NOW £6

96554 15 SUMMERS LATER by Raeanne Thayne
Ava Howell seems to have it all. She left her hometown, married the love of her life, and published a best-selling memoir. But she never imagined her husband would feel betrayed by a secret from her past. Now, Ava must seek out the one person who truly understands. Meanwhile, her sister Madison Howell is finally finding happiness. She's in love with the town vet, Dr. Luke Gentry, yet fear holds her back. Years ago, his father died protecting Madison and her sister. How could Luke ever love her back? With the sisters' past laid bare, their reunion is bittersweet. Paperback, 347 pages.
£9.99 NOW £2.50

96727 MESSY LIVES OF BOOK PEOPLE by Phaedra Patrick
Liv Green works as a cleaner for bestselling novelist Essie Starling and happens to be her most devoted fan, idolising Essie's glamorous heroine, Georgia Rory. When Liv stumbles across the unfinished manuscript of the latest book in the hit series, she can't resist reading it. But something's missing. The sparkle has faded. Liv offers her opinion, true to her late father, an English professor. Soon after, Essie goes into hospital, contracts a fatal infection, and makes a startling final request: keep her death secret and finish the novel in her place. With only Essie's solicitor, Anthony, in the know, Liv embarks on an elaborate deception, delving into Essie's past, including her two former husbands, publisher Ted Mason and crime writer Hank Milligan. And was there a third, hidden love? 348pp, paperback.
£16.99 NOW £4.50

96718 LONG ISLAND by Colm Tóibín
In 1986, Eilis Fiorello, born Eilis Lacey, lives on Long Island with her husband Tony and their two teenage children, part of a close-knit Italian-American family in Lindenhurst. After twenty years of marriage, her life feels settled, if slightly confined by the nearness of her in-laws. Then a stranger with an Irish accent arrives at her door with devastating news: his wife is pregnant with Tony's child, and he plans to leave the baby with Eilis. In that instant, everything changes. What follows is shaped as much by Eilis's silences as by her decisions, in a story charged with restraint and emotional depth. Colm Tóibín returns to the heroine of Brooklyn, crafting a searing, beautifully written tale of marriage, betrayal, and the powerful pull of home as Eilis is drawn back to Enniscorthy and the life she once left behind. 294 pages.
$28 NOW £7.50

97214 LEAN FALL STAND by Jon McGregor
Doc Wright could be two steps or two miles from his team. In an ice storm, distance loses meaning. No one can see. No one answers their radio. All he can do is keep going, but something has gone wrong inside his head. Back home, he is the only one who can explain what happened to them in Antarctica. But after what changed on the ice, everything has lost its meaning. Now his wife, Anna, must become his carer. All he can do is try to tell his story, even if words fail him. The late Hilary Mantel said of this author that he writes like a poet and the precision of his writing makes every heartbeat register. 278 page paperback.
£8.99 NOW £3.50

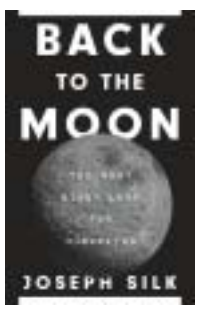
96984 RESERVOIR TAPES by Jon McGregor
First heard on BBC Radio 4, this haunting novel unfolds in the deep midwinter of the early 2000s, when a teenage girl, Becky Shaw, disappears in the hills of central England, sending shockwaves through the community. A mother replays memories of recklessness and anger; a young wife chafes against her marriage; a simple errand turns ominous; a teenage game drifts towards danger. As fresh sorrow stirs buried wounds, small, unexpected mercies offer moments of light. Quietly powerful and intricately observed, this is a novel about the invisible ties that bind us. 167-page paperback.
£8.99 NOW £3.25

96637 TWO LOST MOUNTAINS by Matthew Reilly
A high-octane adventure from the creator of Netflix's Interceptor. In this sixth Jack West thriller, the former SAS soldier races across the globe to complete the ancient Trial of the Mountains while still grieving his daughter and trailing ruthless rivals. A newly escaped, terrifying general enters the contest with a plan that could doom the world. Packed with myth, history and nonstop action, this stand-alone novel delivers pure escapism - Indiana Jones meets Jason Bourne. 418pp, paperback.
£8.99 NOW £1.50

SCIENCE AND MATHS

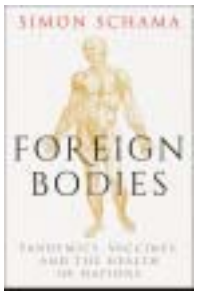
I am busy just now again on Electro-Magnetism and think I have got hold of a good thing but can't say; it may be a weed instead of a fish that after all my labour I may at last pull up.

- Michael Faraday



97453 BACK TO THE MOON: The Next Giant Leap for Humankind by Joseph Silk
Laying out a vision for the next 50 years, this is astrophysicist Joseph Silk's persuasive and impassioned case for putting scientific discovery at the forefront of lunar exploration. The Moon offers opportunities beyond our wildest imaginings and NASA aims to build a habitable orbiting space station to coordinate lunar development and exploration, while European and Chinese space agencies are planning lunar villages and the mining of precious resources dwindling here on Earth. With lunar telescopes of unprecedented size situated in permanently dark polar craters and on the far side of the Moon, we could finally be poised to answer some of the most profound questions confronting humankind. Are we alone? How did the cosmos begin? The book reveals how prioritising science will enable us to address the deepest cosmic mysteries. Large format, 304 pages.
£29.99 NOW £8.50

96337 GEORGE & ROBERT STEPHENSON: A Passion for Success by David Ross
This engaging, chronological biography follows George and Robert Stephenson through their most important achievements, from the Stockton-Darlington goods line to the Liverpool-Manchester railway powered by the groundbreaking Rocket. Robert's later engineering triumphs included the elegant Conway and Britannia tubular bridges and Newcastle's impressive high-level bridge. The book also explores Robert's friendship with Brunel, his Mediterranean voyages, and his involvement with railway magnate George Hudson. Both Robert and Brunel suffered from Bright's disease, dying within months of each other. Rich in new insights, this is a vivid, authoritative dual biography of two of Britain's greatest engineers. Large softback, 318pp, illus.
£19.99 NOW £5



96716 FOREIGN BODIES: Pandemics, Vaccines & the Health of Nations by Simon Schama
World-renowned historian Simon Schama begins with the global Covid outbreak of 2020 and expands into a sweeping history of pandemics and inoculation, centred on the remarkable Ukrainian scientist Waldemar Haffkine. Haffkine saved millions in British India with vaccines against cholera and bubonic plague, even testing them on himself, yet when a contaminated batch led to deaths and he was unjustly discredited. Schama explores the ecological imbalances highlighted by Covid, from disrupted human-animal relationships to the wider consequences of industrial farming and antibiotic use. He traces earlier breakthroughs in inoculation, from Lady Mary Wortley Montagu introducing smallpox inoculation to Britain in the 18th century to pioneering bacteriological research from Odesa to the Pasteur Institute and India. 465 pages, photos.
$32.99 NOW £5

96916 NUTS & BOLTS: How Tiny Inventions Make Our World Work by Roma Agrawal
Engineer on the Shard, Roma Agrawal, breaks down our most complex inventions into seven fundamental objects: the nail, spring, wheel, lens, magnet, string, and pump. Smartphones, skyscrapers, spacecraft-modern technology may seem impossibly complex, but at its heart it is beautifully simple. Agrawal traces how Roman nails led to skyscrapers, the potter's wheel enabled space exploration, and humble lenses helped her conceive a child against the odds. Ingenious, accessible, and often poetic, this book reveals the hidden building blocks of our world and how engineering shapes our lives. Includes line art and technical drawings, paperback, 302 pages.
£12.99 NOW £4

96956 THE BODY: 10 Things You Should Know by Dr. Darragh Ennis
Explore the remarkable nature of the human body. Wherever you are, remember that your body is a miracle of evolution and biology. Tens of millions of years of trial and error have created a being capable of understanding the word "miraculous." Our bodies go far beyond the conscious mind, yet they grow, heal, move, consume energy, and age with astonishing precision. This book answers fascinating questions about why blood is red, how the body defends itself, why we sleep, how hormones govern our actions, and much more. 120 pages.
£12.99 NOW £4

96945 YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW by James Felton
The Grisly, Jaw-Dropping and Most Macabre Moments from History, Nature and Beyond brings Twitter legend James Felton's morbidly fascinating facts to print, told with his trademark bulldozer-banter. Discover the maddest, strangest, and grossest stories you didn't know you wanted. From science and medicine to history and the downright bizarre, you'll learn why the chainsaw was invented (childbirth!), how a 1970 beached whale ended up raining blubber on buildings, and what a human decanter really entails. Other tales include "For ten years, the Swedes thought Russia was invading-but it was just herring farts." 75 outrageous stories and cartoons. 282 pages.

£12.99 NOW £4

96950 ANATOMIST'S LIBRARY by Colin Salter
Covering over 150 significant works spanning more than 5,000 years, detailing surgical treatments of combat injuries in ancient Egypt, and moves through to the latest edition of Musculoskeletal MRI. Organised chronologically, the chapters take readers through ancient anatomy (3000 BCE-1300 CE), medieval discoveries, the Renaissance, the Age of the Microscope, and the Age of Enlightenment and Invention. Along the way, Salter introduces towering figures such as Leonardo da Vinci, Falloppio, Conrad Gessner, and Michelangelo, revealing their contributions to our understanding of the human body. Readers encounter embalming practices, the use of cadavers for dissection, extraordinarily graphic illustrations of childbirth, disease, brain cross-sections, tumour surgeries, and breast cancer operations. Hundreds of full-colour images. 272 large pages.

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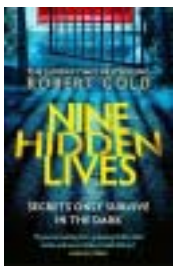
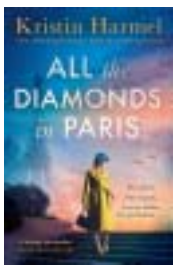
Dual Timeline Novels



97904 NINE HIDDEN LIVES by Robert Gold
Broadchurch meets Harlan Coben in the most compulsive thriller which became a Sunday Times bestseller. 30 years ago, Alaka Jha's murder sent shockwaves through Haddley. The reporter had been exposing a dark side to the tight-knit community, and her daughter Uma suspects that the shocking interviews with victims of domestic abuse could be the key to her mother's unsolved murder. On the 30th anniversary of Alaka's death, journalist Ben Harper is determined to find answers, but his investigation leads to threats being made on Uma's life. Ben needs to unravel this crime before it's too late because it seems not everyone in Haddley wants this terrible crime solved, some of them have been keeping secrets for over 30 years and they don't want them dragged into the light. Utterly absorbing thriller with twists and turns written by ASDA's nationwide book buyer. 411pp in large softback with fairly large print.
£15.99 NOW £7

97908 SINGAPORE SECRET by Clare Willis
Dorothy flees Singapore in 1942 and makes a wartime promise, while decades later, Annabel discovers hidden secrets revealing her grandmother's secret past and mysterious wedding photo. Singapore 1942 and the war is drawing ever closer. Dorothy faces a heart-rending choice to flee the country she has come to call home. With warplanes advancing across the ocean, she is boarding a boat full of evacuees when something is urgently pressed into her arms. As enemy fire cuts off all escape routes, Dorothy makes a promise that will echo through the years. England, 2019. When her beloved grandmother Dotty passes away aged 100, Annabel discovers letters and photographs hidden in her desk that document a secret life as a young woman in Singapore. But Dotty has never travelled further than her small village in Cornwall. What could have made her conceal this past life? Who is the bridegroom standing proudly next to Dotty in a faded wedding photo, who is clearly not Annabel's grandfather? Will Annabel be prepared for what she will find? The novel, beautifully written, blends intrigue, culture and emotion. 362 page paperback.
£10.99 NOW £5.50

97891 DAYS YOU WERE MINE by Clare Leslie Hall
A very well received and more powerful novel than the author's bestseller Broken Country exploring the themes of adoption and loss, get the Kleenex ready! This dual timeline family drama follows Alice whose passionate 1970s romance with a musician ends in heartbreak, and of her son Luke who seeks her out decades later to understand his past. Alice Garland cannot take her eyes off Jacob Earl. With his black curls and snakeskin boots, the lead singer of the Disciples commands the stage. It's the beginning of a passionate romance and for a while it feels as though they are at the centre of something electrifying, but it doesn't take long before the dream starts to fall apart. 2000. Even the arrival of his gorgeous baby son cannot stop Luke feeling like an outsider. When he finds his birth mother, Alice, it seems that he has found the missing piece in his life, and she appears to be delighted to be a grandmother. But Alice is still battling with demons of her own. She's still not forgotten the heartbreaking event that forced her to give up Luke and she will do anything to stop history repeating itself. 358 page paperback with fairly large print.
£10.99 NOW £5.50

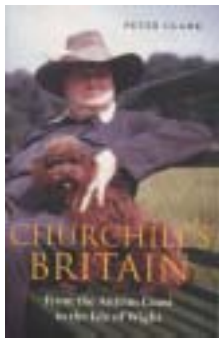


97888 ALL THE DIAMONDS IN PARIS by Kristin Harmel
Moving deftly between occupied Paris during World War Two and between Boston and Paris many decades later this is a sweeping and emotional dual timeline novel of wartime heroism, stolen diamonds and enduring love by this masterful American storyteller. In the midst of the Nazi Occupation, Annabel Marceau begins stealing from Germans and funnelling money to the French Resistance. But when she takes a pair of valuable bracelets from a high-ranking Nazi officer she finds herself, and her two young daughters, in the line of fire with devastating consequences. Boston, 2018. Colette Marceau, now in her eighties, has spent a lifetime determined to find out what happened to her mother and sister that fateful night. When one of the missing bracelets surfaces at the Boston Diamond Museum, can she finally find the answers and justice she has been looking for? 376 page paperback.
£10.99 NOW £5.50

BIOGRAPHY / AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Am struck by paradoxical thought that youth is by no means the happiest time of life, but that most of the rest of life is tinged by regret for its passing, and wonder what old age will feel like, in this respect. (Shall no doubt discover very shortly.)

- E.M. Delafield, The Provincial Lady in Wartime



97252 CHURCHILL'S BRITAIN: From the Antrim Coast to the Isle of Wight by Peter Clark
Blenheim Palace, Chartwell, and the Cabinet War Rooms - we visit the shop where Churchill bought his cigars in London, stop over at impressive country homes in Norfolk and Surrey, and join the crowds at impassioned political altercations in Belfast and Dundee, through the home counties, southwest England and the north of England to Lancashire, Manchester and Yorkshire and to Scotland and Ireland where all could smell his cigars! The book is in the form of gazetteer divided into geographical regions and notes homes in which he lived, places he studied, the offices he occupied and locations where he delivered significant speeches. The author has tried to examine the relationship Churchill had with each of the four constituencies he represented in the House of Commons between 1900 and 1964 and there are also many less well known locations that tell stories that shed light on his personality or politics. 376 page paperback.
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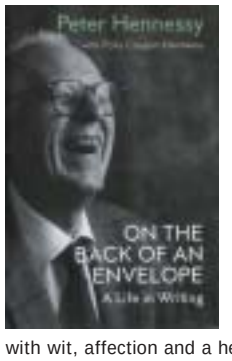

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95873 CHURCHILL'S AMERICAN NETWORK by Cita Stelzer
Churchill's American Network: How the Special Relationship Was Forged. A revealing portrait of Winston Churchill's behind-the-scenes efforts to build a powerful circle of American allies who helped tilt U.S. policy toward Britain during the Second World War. Drawing on rich archival material, the book follows Churchill across the United States - shadowed by Scotland Yard detectives, protected by local police during threats on his life, travelling in luxurious private railcars arranged by wealthy friends, and even recovering from a near-fatal car accident with the help of a doctor unfazed by Prohibition. Featured throughout are financier Bernard Baruch; railroad magnate and FDR liaison Averell Harriman; media titans William Randolph Hearst and Henry Luce; and colourful figures from Mark Twain and Charlie Chaplin to David Niven. Photos, 336 pages.
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Far from being gloomy or morbid here are life-affirming entertaining and colourful obituaries from The Times Editor. This curious collection includes the codebreaking chain-smoking Baroness Trumpington, the Scottish anarchist who tried to assassinate Franco, prog-rock guitarist Greg Lake, the extrovert entertainer Margarita Pracatan, Cleethorpes fish filleter Rod Temperton who made millions after writing the hit 'Thriller' for Michael Jackson, the technicolour aristocrat the Marquess of Bath known as the 'Loins of Longleat', eccentric Oxford don John Lucas, Diana Athill with her frank memoirs, velvet-voiced Fenella Fielding, Jan Morris, bohemian SAS soldier Rupert Chetwynd, Sir Ken Dodd and Dame Viviene Westwood among them. Very browseworthy 412 pages in paperback, archive photos.
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Best known as a pioneer of punk, the companion of photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, and the voice behind the hit "Because the Night," Patti Smith has also been quietly chronicling life through photography since 1996. From her beloved Land Camera 250 to a modern mobile phone, Smith's lens captures the world with intimacy and poetry-train stations, hotel interiors, cafés, portraits of her children, her sleek Abyssinian cat Cairo, and the everyday objects that surround her. This collection offers 366 miniature windows into her life, one for each day of the (leap) year. Along the way, we see reflections on her band, her childhood, sewing baskets, and Lincoln's death mask. 366 photos. 386 pages.
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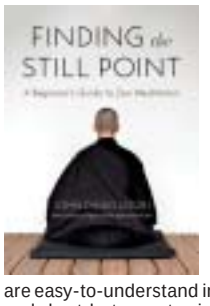
Unseen University had never admitted women, muttering something about problems with the plumbing, but the real reason was an unspoken dread that if women were allowed to mess around with magic they would probably be embarrassingly good at it...

- Terry Pratchett, The Light Fantastic



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Find the still point within. Return to Clarity, Sovereignty, and Centering. One of the simplest, easiest-to-understand guides to Zen meditation, with audio exercises to serve as meditation companions, here are easy-to-understand instructions, practical lessons, and short-but-sweet snippets of useful information from a beloved Zen master. Guided audio instructions - available for download online - supplement the teachings throughout the book, giving beginners the tools they need to take that first step into Zen practice and meditation. A Shambhala publication. Photos show proper posture. 112 page paperback.
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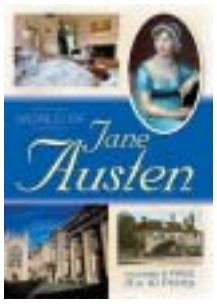

97791 WORLD OF JANE AUSTEN: Book and Six Prints by Hannah-Clare Akitt
The literary legacy of Jane Austen is only second in name to Shakespeare. She enjoyed a brief life of just 41 years, never married and the four novels that appeared during her lifetime were published anonymously as was then the custom. Sense and Sensibility (1811), Pride and Prejudice (1813), Mansfield Park (1814), and Emma (1815), plus the posthumous Northanger Abbey and Persuasion (both 1817) have seen her become one of the most widely read and respected English writers of all time. Her works were written with charm and wit and offered valuable insight into the lives of early 19th century women with social commentary and how grace and manners mattered most. In her later letters, Jane criticises her time at boarding school, claiming that she received the best education at home where she devoured her father's book collection reading novels even featuring scandals and seduction that were less than appropriate for her age. They inspired Jane to begin writing her first works which were very mature and imaginative for her young age. This large softback tribute is packed with stills from favourite TV and film adaptations including Keira Knightly, Colin Firth as Mr Darcy and Jane Austen in the 20th century with a week long festival on the Royal Crescent in Bath, societies, first editions, plaques and the monument in Winchester Cathedral, watercolour portraits by her sister, the Austen family coat of arms, and a short biography. But best of all included in the wallet are six different frameable colour prints measuring 20 x 25cm, the colour illustrations by Hugh Thompson from Pride and Prejudice and many famous scenes from the beloved novels. All in a foldable wallet for safe keeping. 64 page large softback packed with colour illus.
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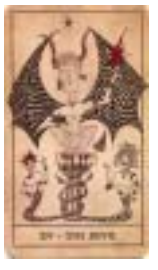

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91270 WITCHCRAFT: THE LIBRARY OF ESOTERICA by Jessica Hundley and Pam Grossman
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96713 ANCIENT MAGIC: A Practitioner's Guide to the Supernatural in Greece and Rome
by Philip Matyszak
In the ancient world, the supernatural wasn't separate from daily life-everything was magical. In Homer's Odyssey, Odysseus summons the blind prophet Tiresias, following strict rules: the ritual must take place where the worlds of living and dead are thinly separated, blood is offered to give the dead temporary life, and even then he must restrain unwanted spirits. Beyond heroic fiction, magic permeated daily practices: Romans wore talismans like bullae for protection, libations of wine were offered to the gods, and many so-called witches were skilled pharmacists using natural remedies. Some, like Locusta, even wielded deadly knowledge, supplying poison for political ends. This book explores these enchanting and practical aspects of antiquity. 208 pages, monochrome illustrations.
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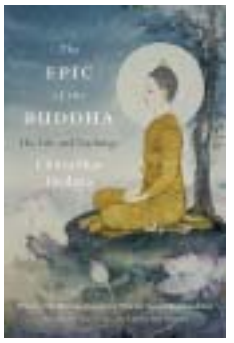
RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY

Before you embark on a journey of revenge, dig two graves.
- Confucius



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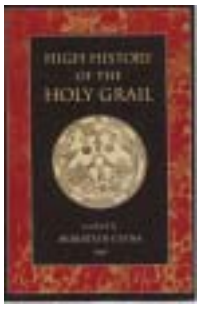

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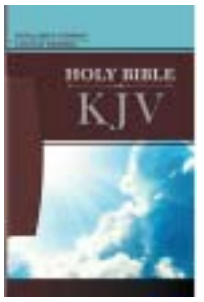

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HEALTH

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- P. G. Wodehouse

97538 HEALING HANDBOOK: A Gentle Approach to Nurturing Yourself
by Tara Ward
A blueprint for bliss and fusion with the spiritual divine mind. These methods will help you heal physical conditions, create a healing sanctuary, release anger and resentment, increase relaxation, develop chakra awareness and use healing tools, including crystals, colour and pendulums. Experiment and control breathing and find out what your lungs are capable of, diaphragm awareness and much more. Tara Ward taps into this this ancient wisdom, presenting a range of practical and accessible techniques to heal yourself and others. Elegantly presented with a textured cover with gold foil accents, many fine decorative line diagrams and illus. 256 page paperback. New, full price.
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How beautifully leaves grow old. How full of light and colour are their last days.

- John Burroughs

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- George Grossmith, The Diary of a Nobody

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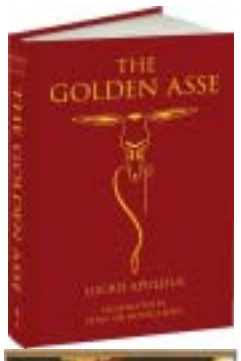

97798 GOLDEN ASSE
by Lucius Apuleius
Illustrated by Jean de Bosschère in stunning silhouette linocuts, we are thrilled to have an original 2016 Calla reprinted edition of the original published by The Bodley Head group in 1923, here in splendid large format clothbound hardback with gold tooling on the cover. Written in the 2nd century AD, this picaresque classic is the ancient world's only surviving complete novel. Concerning an inquisitive young man transformed into an ass by a magic potion, the narrative digresses into other tales of love, intrigue, and witchcraft. This story-within-a-story technique later inspired many authors including Boccaccio and Cervantes. William Adlington's highly readable 16th century translation from Latin to English is enhanced by 16 full page plates, eight in colour by the noted illustrator Jean de Bosschère. Born in AD124 in what is now Algeria, Lucius Apuleius travelled widely visiting Athens, Italy, Asia Minor and Egypt and 'The Golden Asse' reflects his strong interest in both philosophy and magic. Not designed for children, this collectable edition includes some nudity in the Aubrey Beardsley-like illustrations: "And therewithal he tooke a whip and scourged his owne body…", and in a stunning colour plate of what looks like an orgy scene on page 167 the caption reads "She was succored." **Very collectable.**

$40 NOW £12

97802 WIND IN THE WILLOWS AND OTHER STORIES by Kenneth Grahame
With illustrations by the wonderful Arthur Rackham in original sepia and colour on the endpapers, this mock leather bright yellow flexibound edition has embossed favourite phrases from these classic texts on the cover. "Believe me, my young friend, there is nothing - absolutely nothing - half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats." "He trailed a paw in the water and dreamed long waking dreams." "There seemed to be no end to this wood, and no beginning." Told with a focus on children's perspectives, this timeless collection has been beloved by readers of all ages since its publication in 1908. In addition to the delightful tale about the adventures of Mole, Ratty, Badger, and Toad, this edition includes more than two dozen short stories from 'The Golden Age' (1895) and 'Dream Days' (1898), the latter containing 'The Reluctant Dragon' short story. **Gift edition, very collectable**, 358 pages, colour illus.
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by Muhammad Al-Muwaylihi
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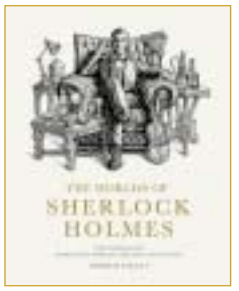

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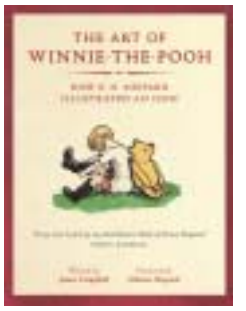

97889 ART OF WINNIE-THE-POOH: How E.H. Shepard Illustrated an Icon
by James Campbell
Now We are Six again as we remember so fondly the House at Pooh Corner and the unique collaboration between author A. A. Milne and E. H. Shepard the illustrator. The images and text they wove together was in a way utterly original for the time and for Shepard it was a process that he relished, creating artwork for new editions right up until his death in 1976, at the age of 96. This beautifully presented full colour volume presents 150 full colour images including never-before-published sketches, finished artwork, personal family photographs and memorabilia. The drawings for Winnie-The-Pooh are well known across the world but perhaps less well known is how these actually came about. This special book throws new night on the creative processes of these much-loved depictions of the imaginary toys and animals belonging to Christopher Robin. There is an early sketch of an anxious looking Pooh struggling into his duffle coat and full coverage of the early biographical details of Ernest Howard Shepard born in 1879 in St John's Wood to an architect and his wife with artistic and literary connections and becoming a star pupil at the RA School. Alan Alexander Milne was born in 1882 in London where his father ran a boys' preparatory school in Kilburn where H. G. Wells was employed to teach maths and science. He gained a scholarship to Westminster school and studied mathematics in Cambridge in 1900 becoming Editor of the Cambridge literary magazine Granta in 1902 with connections to Punch and other national periodicals. Thus Shepard and Milne were contemporaries in age, born in the same part of London, from similar backgrounds, each the youngest of three siblings with a particular talent that was identified and nurtured. The books they created have appeared in millions of editions and nearly 50 languages and this beautiful keepsake book is perfect for anyone who loves A. A. Milne's beloved Bear of Very Little Brain and art in general. 158 very large pages in softback, 21 x 28cm.
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