



PFD
CONTEMPORARY
CLASSICS
LONDON
2023

E. M. Forster
THE LONGEST JOURNEY



NEW TO CONTEMPORARY CLASSICS

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- Vera Gissing
- V S Pritchett
- Roger Scruton



**New to
Contemporary
Classics**



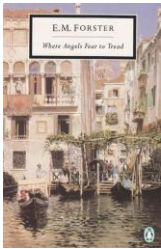
E M FORSTER

'One of the most esteemed English novelists of his time'

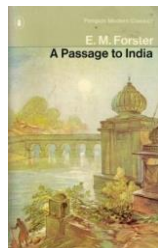
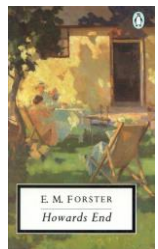
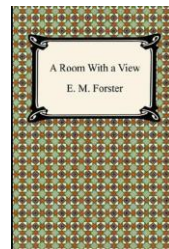
— The Times

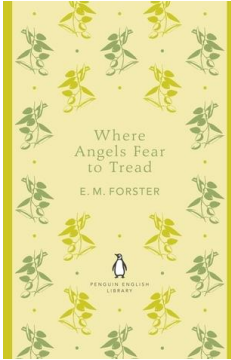


Edward Morgan Forster (1897-1970) is one of the most respected novelists in English literature, although Forster remained unfailingly modest about his achievements. Interviewed by the BBC on his eightieth birthday, he said: 'I have not written as much as I'd like to... I write for two reasons: partly to make money and partly to win the respect of people whom I respect... I had better add that I am quite sure I am not a great novelist.' Eminent critics and the general public have judged otherwise.



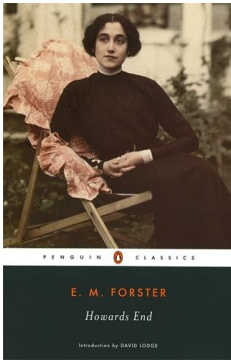
Forster wrote six novels, four of which appeared before the First World War: **Where Angels Fear to Tread** (1905), **The Longest Journey** (1907), **A Room with a View** (1908), and **Howard's End** (1910). An interval of fourteen years elapsed before he published **A Passage to India**. It won both the *Prix Femina Vie Heureuse* and the James Tait Black Memorial Prize. **Maurice**, his novel on a homosexual theme, finished in 1914, was published posthumously in 1971. Forster also published numerous short stories; biographies; essay collections; a critical work, **Aspects of the Novel**; **The Hill of Devi**, a fascinating record of two visits he made to the Indian State of Dewas Senior; and, with Eric Crozier, the libretto for Britten's opera **Billy Budd**. Forster was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in Literature in twenty separate years.





WHERE ANGELS FEAR TO TREAD

E M Forster's first novel is a witty comedy of manners that is tinged with tragedy. It tells the story of Lilia Herriton, who proves to be an embarrassment to her late husband's family as, in the small Tuscan town of Monteriano, she begins a relationship with a much younger Italian man — classless, uncouth and highly unsuitable. A subtle attack on decorous Edwardian values and a humanely sympathetic portrayal of the clash of two cultures, *Where Angels Fear to Tread* is also a profound exploration of character and virtue.



HOWARDS END

A chance acquaintance brings together the preposterous bourgeois Wilcox family and the clever, cultured and idealistic Schlegel sisters. As clear-eyed Margaret develops a friendship with Mrs. Wilcox, the impetuous Helen brings into their midst a young bank clerk named Leonard Bast, who lives at the edge of poverty and ruin. When Mrs. Wilcox dies, her family discovers that she wants to leave her country home, Howards End, to Margaret. Thus, as Forster sets in motion a chain of events that will entangle three different families, he brilliantly portrays their aspirations to personal and social harmony.

Frequently cited as E M Forster's finest work, *Howards End* brilliantly explores class warfare, conflict and the English character.

For full list of current sales click [here](#)



JANE WELLESLEY

'Wellesley writes reverently, lovingly and yet without sentimentality, indeed with directness, in the tradition of the first duke'

— **The Times**

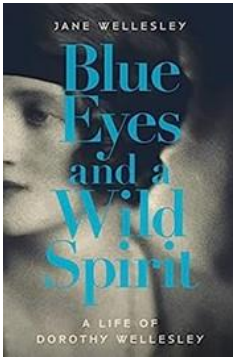
'Enough material to furnish volumes... an absolutely riveting whole'

— **Daily Mail**

Jane Wellesley is a writer and producer. Her first book, **Wellington: A Journey Through My Family** was published to critical acclaim in 2008, with a paperback edition in 2009, that was re-issued in 2015 for the bicentenary of the Battle of Waterloo. She has given talks and lectures at literary festivals and other venues, including Althorp, Chalke Valley, Borris, the British Museum, and Apsley House. Her new book, **Blue Eyes and a Wild Spirit**, is about her paternal grandmother, the poet Dorothy Wellesley, a lover of Vita Sackville-West, and intimate friend and muse of W. B. Yeats.

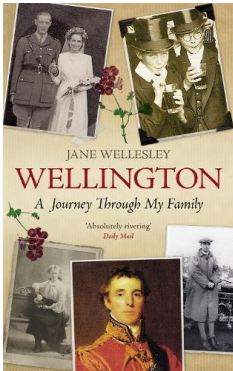


Her production career began at the Radio Times in 1975, and she subsequently worked in BBC publicity and Co-Production, and as a researcher on Granada's Spanish Civil War series. She became an independent producer in 1984 first running Antelope Films, and then jointly running and owning Warner Sisters Film and TV until 2002. Her documentary credits include films on Tristan da Cunha and Madagascar, and with Salman Rushdie, *The Riddle of Midnight*. Drama credits include adaptations of Joanna Trollope's *A Village Affair* and Mary Elizabeth Braddon's *Lady Audley's Secret* for ITV. Currently she is a Trustee of Waterloo 200 (a charity that has managed the legacy of the battle bicentenary), and a Founder of The Marie Colvin Journalists' Network (MCJN), set up in memory of the distinguished war correspondent killed in Syria.



BLUE EYES AND A WILD SPIRIT: A LIFE OF DOROTHY WELLESLEY

Dorothy Wellesley was a poet, gardener, traveller and heiress; she was also bisexual and a rebel. She became the lover of Vita Sackville-West, wrecking her marriage to the Duke of Wellington. She was the intimate friend of W. B. Yeats in his final years. On the fringes of the Bloomsbury Group, she had a unique view of these iconic writers and artists. The biography draws on unpublished material, including private Wellesley family papers and hitherto unknown source materials. This is a riveting story of a complex and fascinating woman.



WELLINGTON: A JOURNEY THROUGH MY FAMILY

The first Duke of Wellington's victory at Waterloo in 1815 is remembered as one of our nation's greatest triumphs and, two hundred years on, the 'Iron Duke' is still very much a public figure. But here, Jane Wellesley's family memoir paints an altogether more intimate and compelling portrait.

Jane journeys through the past, unearthing memories and secrets to illuminate her family tree. It is a saga peppered with fascinating characters: the 2nd Duke was a full-time eccentric and had his lawnmower pulled by an elephant; the 7th Duke, Jane's grandfather, worked for MI6; and Jane's grandmother's involvement with writer Vita Sackville-West created ripples in the Bloomsbury set as well as her marriage.

Current Sales
UK: Weidenfeld & Nicolson
(*Wellington*),
Sandstone Press
(*Blue Eyes and a Wild Spirit*)

The Wellesley story shows how Wellington's descendants have lived on in the light of their ancestor's fame, and how a family is so much more than the history of one man.



Anniversaries



STANLEY MIDDLETON

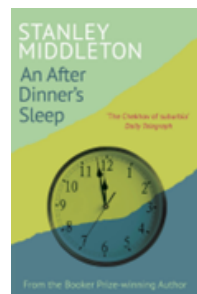
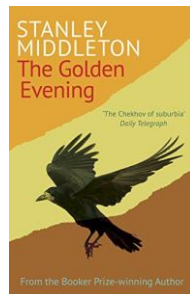
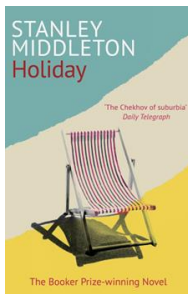
2024 MARKS THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BOOKER PRIZE WIN

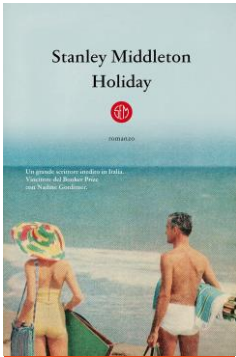
'Middleton writes carefully, but his touch is light and astonishingly assured. One rarely reads dialogue as good as Middleton's; it makes his characters instantly alive'

— V. S. Naipul

Stanley Middleton (1919-2009) was born and educated in Nottinghamshire. He started writing while at university and published his first novel, **A Short Answer**, in 1958. He went on to write more than forty novels in a career spanning fifty years. Middleton taught English at a secondary Grammar school and was an accomplished organist and watercolourist, contributing his own artwork to the covers. Middleton's landscape was the Midlands and in particular its suburban towns (he was once referred to as 'The Chekhov of Suburbia') and he explored the dreams and feelings that exist in apparently ordinary domestic lives.

In 1974 his novel **Holiday** was the joint winner of the Booker Prize. Auberon Waugh had written an article in which he asserted that no good novel should ever have flashbacks; Middleton responded to this implied challenge by starting work on **Holiday**, in which the protagonist reflects on events both in the recent past and in his childhood, as he spends a week at a seaside resort where he used to go on holiday as a boy.



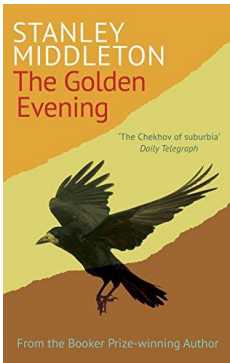


Current Sales

WEL: Random House

Italian: SEM (*The Golden Evening; Holiday*)

Polish: Wydawnicwo Wiatr od Morza (*Holiday*)



HOLIDAY

'We need Stanley Middleton to remind us what the novel is about... One has to look at nineteenth-century writing for comparable storytelling'

— **Sunday Times**

Edwin Fisher has fled to a seaside resort of his childhood to try to come to terms with the death of his baby son and the collapse of his marriage to Meg. On this strange and lonely holiday, as he seeks to understand what went wrong, deeper truths emerge, and Edwin has to decide where his future lies. A novel of great subtlety, *Holiday* is a consummate portrait of English provincial life told with all Stanley Middleton's artistry and depth of feeling.

THE GOLDEN EVENING

'At first glance, or even at second, Stanley Middleton's world is easily recognisable... The excellence of art, for Middleton, is an exact vision of real things as they are. And because he is himself so exact an observer, his world at third glance can seem strange or disturbing or newly and brilliantly lit with colour'

— **A. S. Byatt**

A brother and sister – Bernard is at college, Mary is still at school – are struggling with their own young lives and loves, near the end of one beautiful summer. At the same time, their mother Ivy is dying from cancer whilst their father, a simple and dignified man, is barely coping. A family faces fundamental changes, together and apart.



LIAM O'FLAHERTY

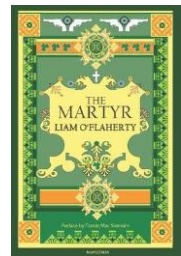
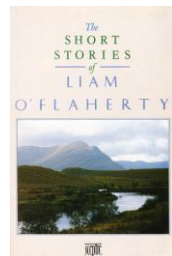
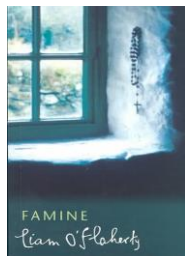
**2025 MARKS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE INFORMER**

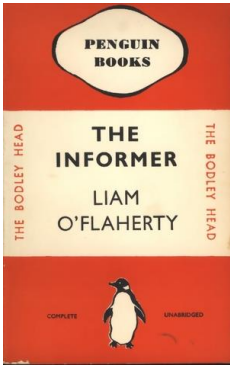
'He was ranked as a key figure in the Irish Renaissance, a literary movement that sought to explore the wealth of Irish culture'

— **New York Times**

Liam O'Flaherty (1894-1984) was an Irish novelist and short-story writer whose works combine brutal naturalism, psychological analysis, poetry, and biting satire. He was considered to be a leading figure of the Irish Renaissance, but, although a native Irish-speaker, he wrote almost exclusively in English. In 1917 O'Flaherty abandoned his training for the priesthood and enlisted as a soldier in World War I. After the war, he travelled extensively in South America, Canada, the US, and the Middle East.

After coming back to Europe and taking part in revolutionary activities in Ireland, he settled in England where, destitute and jobless, he took to writing. In 1923 O'Flaherty published his first novel, **Thy Neighbour's Wife**. In 1925 he scored immediate success with his best-selling novel **The Informer** which won him the 1925 James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. It was later made into a film by the well-known director John Ford. Most of O'Flaherty's writing took place between 1928 and 1937, when he wrote fourteen of his sixteen novels as well as many of his short stories, a play, and some non-fiction.





THE INFORMER

100TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2025. WINNER OF THE JAMES TAIT BLACK MEMORIAL PRIZE

Liam O'Flaherty's powerful novel is a story of political betrayal, a brand of sin long abominated in Irish history. Set in 1920's Dublin in the aftermath of the Irish Civil War, the novel centres on Gypo Nolan. Having disclosed the whereabouts of his friend Frankie McPhillip to the police, Gypo finds himself hunted by his revolutionary comrades who seek revenge for this betrayal.

Current Sales

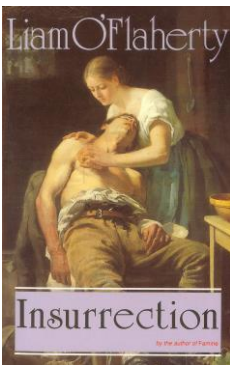
English: Bloomsbury (*Irish Portraits*)

Irish: Clo lar-Chonnacht (*Selection of Stories*)

French: Belfond (*The Informer*), Klincksieck (*Selection of Stories*)

Spanish: Libros del Asteroide (*The Informer*)

The novel was made into a film of the same name by John Ford in 1935 starring Victor McLaglen as Gypo Nolan. The film won four Academy Awards, including the Oscar for Best Actor for McLaglen; Best Writing, Adapted Screenplay for Dudley Nichols; and Best Director for John Ford.



INSURRECTION

'A vigorous, penetrating study of organized rebellion beside which the Hemingway revolutionists are very cold potatoes'

— Kirkus

First published in 1950, *Insurrection* is a novel of rebellion and of man's enchantment with it. Bartly Madden is caught up in the 1916 Easter Rising through a series of accidents. He joins a small band of insurgents, and bravery, cowardice, and terror struggle for supremacy – these individuals are defined not by what they live for, but by what they are prepared to die for.



FRANK TUOHY

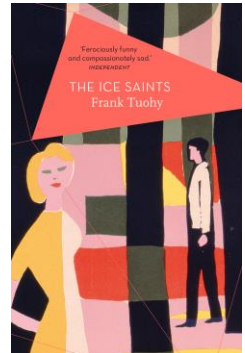
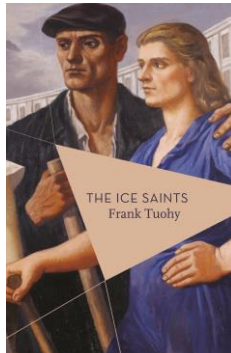
100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BIRTH IN 2025

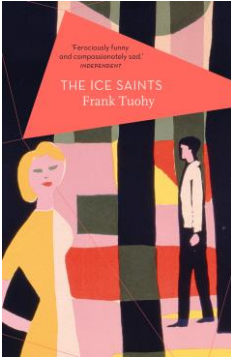
'Frank Tuohy is a master of the short story'
— **The Financial Times**



John Francis "Frank" Tuohy (1925-1999), was an English writer and academic. Born in London, he attended Stowe School and went on to read Moral Sciences and English at King's College, Cambridge. On completion of his studies, he worked in numerous academic posts under the auspices of the British Council. This included postings in Finland, Brazil and Poland. In the 1950s, in the British Council School of São Paulo, Brazil, he ran a memorable course on The War Poets (WWI), introducing Stephen Spender and his contemporaries.

His posting in Poland provided the inspiration for his 1965 novel **The Ice Saints**. The book received considerable critical acclaim and was awarded the James Tait Black Memorial Prize. Tuohy died in Shepton Mallet, Somerset in 1999 at a time when he was working on the uncompleted manuscript of a new novel.





Current Sales

UK: Apollo/Head of Zeus (*The Ice Saints*)

THE ICE SAINTS

WINNER OF THE JAMES TAIT BLACK MEMORIAL PRIZE

'A masterly novel, at once ferociously funny and compassionately sad in its depiction of the subterfuges and small betrayals by which people struggle to survive in a Communist state'

— **Independent**

In the Spring of 1960, a young English woman arrives in the Polish People's Republic to visit her older sister, who married a Polish soldier after the war and disappeared into a life behind the Iron Curtain.

Tuohy's award-winning novel of the harsh cruelties and day-to-day deprivations of life in Communist Poland is told with truth, wit and understanding.

BILBIOGRAPHY

- The Animal Game (1957)
- The Warm Nights of January (1960)
- The Admiral and the Nuns, with Other Stories (1962)
- The Ice Saints (1964)
- Fingers in the Door (1970)
- Live Bait and Other Stories (1979)
- The Collected Stories (1984)



Film and TV



GEORGE BELLAIRS

'One of the subtlest and wittiest practitioners of the simon-pure British detective story'

— **The New York Times**

'Sure-fire, that's Bellairs'

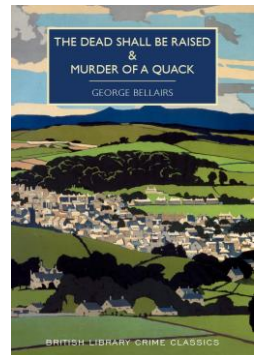
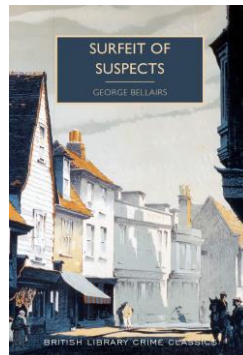
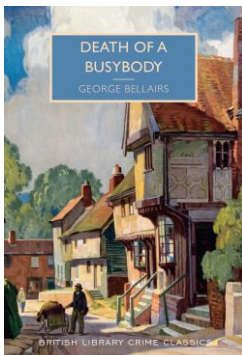
— **New York Herald-Tribune**

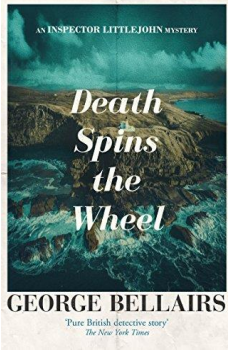
'Since Dorothy L. Sayers abandoned Lord Peter Wimsey, we should class Mr. Bellairs as our most 'literary' practitioner in the field of detection'

— **Rochdale Observer**

George Bellairs, pseudonym of Harold Blundell, (1902-1982) was a bank manager, a talented crime author, part time journalist and Francophile. His detective stories, written in the 1940s, 50s, 60s and 70s, combine wicked crimes and classic police procedurals, set in small British communities and France. Best known for his **Detective Littlejohn** stories, reminiscent of the Inspector Maigret books, he is celebrated as one of Britain's crime classic greats. He wrote in a comic tradition that extended from Ben Jonson, with each character having a particular trait exaggerated to the point of obsession or caricature.

His recently republished works have won a new generation of fans for this rediscovered author.





INSPECTOR LITTLEJOHN SERIES

Bellairs's first mystery, *Littlejohn on Leave* (1941) introduced his series detective, Detective Inspector Thomas Littlejohn, later Superintendent. His books are strong in characters and small communities – set in the 1940s to the '70s.

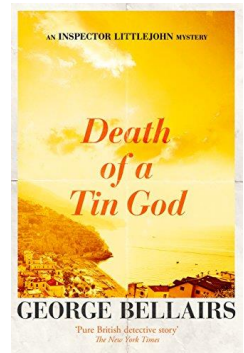
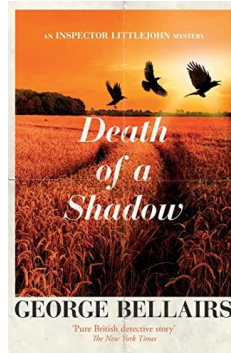
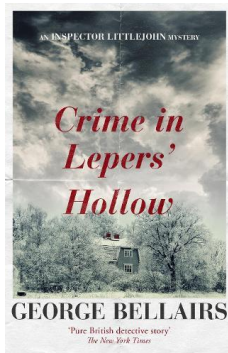
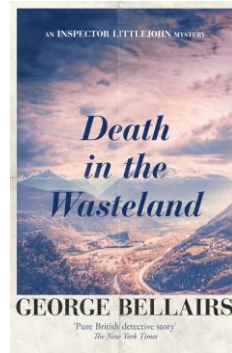
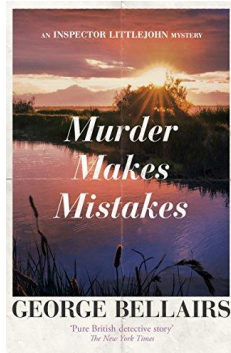
The books have developed plots and are full of scandal and intrigue. Littlejohn, reminiscent of Inspector Maigret, is injected with humour, intelligence and compassion.

Current Sales

WEL: Under offer (Selected Titles)

UK & US: Bloomsbury Reader (4 titles); Mysterious Press (6 titles); British Library (4 Titles); Poisoned Pen Press (4 Titles)

Italian: Marco Polillo Editore S.r.l. (*Death Before Breakfast, Death in High Provence, Death of a Busybody, Murder of a Quack*)





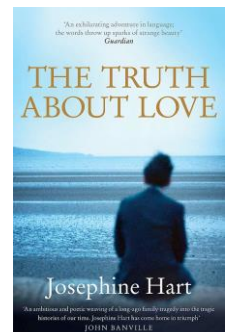
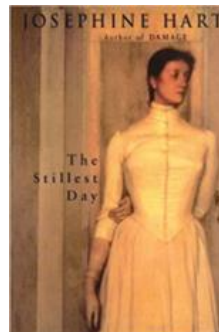
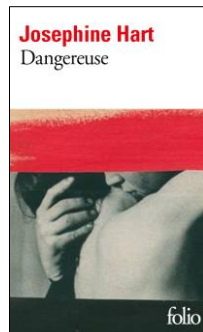
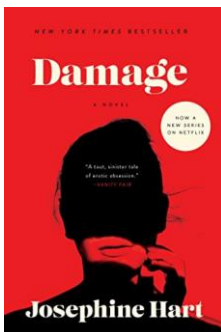
JOSEPHINE HART

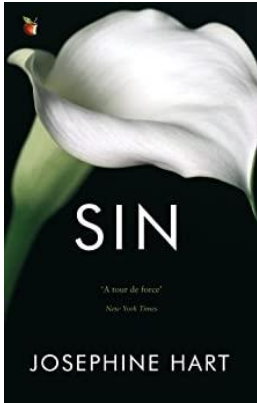
NETFLIX OPTIONED *DAMAGE* AND *SIN* AS PART OF NEW ANTHOLOGY SERIES, *OBSESSION*. FIRST SERIES STREAMING ON NETFLIX SPRING 2023.

'A passionate, elegant, ruthless story'
— Iris Murdoch on *Damage*

Josephine Hart (1942-2011) was born and raised in Ireland. She was the first female Director of Haymarket Publishing, presented *Books by my Bedside* for Thames TV, and founded *Gallery Poets*, now *The Josephine Hart Poetry Hour* at the British Library, The National Theatre, The Donmar Warehouse, The New York Public Library and Harvard and London Universities.

She is the author of the novels **Damage** (filmed by Louis Malle), **Sin** (adapted by Théâtre Blu), **Oblivion**, **The Stillest Day** and **The Reconstructionist** (filmed by Roberto Ando). Her two poetry collections, **Catching Life by the Throat** (2006) and **Words that Burn** (2009) were sent free of charge to all secondary schools in England. Her last novel, **The Truth About Love**, was published in 2009, and her first two novels – **Damage** and **Sin** – were re-published as Virago Modern Classics in 2011.





Current Sales

Damage:

UK: Virago

US: Pegasus

Croatian: Profil

Danish: Lindhardt

og Ringhof

(*Damage, Sin*)

French: Gallimard

German: Aufbau

(*Damage, Sin*)

Hungarian:

Könyvmolykepzó

Italian: Feltrinelli

Korean: orangeD

Russian: Sinbad

Turkish: Can

Yayınları

SIN

'Stripped down to a single, inexorable storyline that centres on the destructive power of passion... [A] tour de force'

— **New York Times**

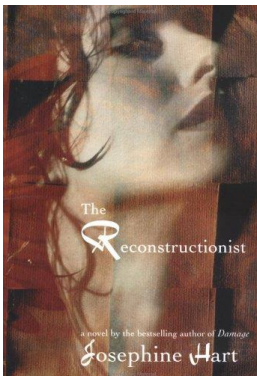
Ruth calls herself a malevolent creature, ruled since childhood by hatred and envy for her adopted sister, Elizabeth. She grew up in Elizabeth's shadow, always falling short of her goodness and generosity, constantly resenting her very presence in the family. As they grow old, Ruth sets out to destroy her without guilt or hesitation.

Ruth will strike Elizabeth where she's most vulnerable-she will steal her husband and send her collapsing into ruin. Written in Hart's concise, striking prose, *Sin* is a powerful and compulsively readable exploration of hate-and the destruction and tragedy it begets.

THE RECONSTRUCTIONIST

'I was moved, even shaken by the passion of Hart's novel. She has a boldness...unique among her contemporaries'

— **The Observer**



Jack Harrington is a successful and respected psychiatrist, dedicated to the examination and reconstruction of other people's lives. But he has so absorbed himself in the problems of others that he has not quite come to grips with his own - to the detriment of his marriage and his own unexamined past. When Jack is summoned to Ireland for the sale of his family home, however, the burdens of his family's heritage return in full force. Though he has successfully suppressed the anguish of his past, the present threatens to unravel around him...



FRANK O'CONNOR

UNDER NEGOTIATION WITH A UK PRODUCTION COMPANY FOR NEW TV SERIES INTENDED FOR A GLOBAL STREAMING PLATFORM

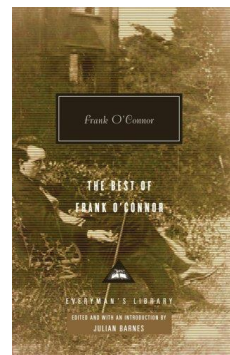
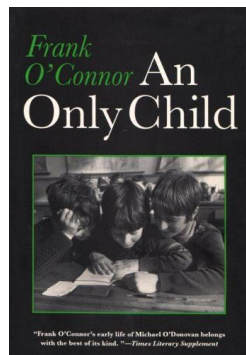
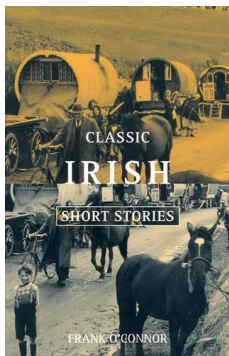
'His place in the company of W. B. Yeats, J. M. Synge and James Joyce seems secure'

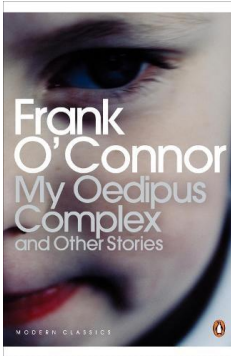
— Wall Street Journal

Frank O'Connor (1903-1966), known as one of the most accomplished short-story writers in English, was an equally accomplished translator.

Brought up in poverty, O'Connor became a librarian and a director of Dublin's Abbey Theatre. He won popularity in the United States for short stories in which apparently trivial incidents illuminate Irish life. They appeared in volumes including **Guests of the Nation** (1931) and **Crab Apple Jelly** (1944) and in *The New Yorker* magazine. He also wrote critical studies on Irish life and literature and translations of Gaelic works of the 9th – 20th centuries, including the great 17th-century satire **The Midnight Court** (1945).

Between the mid-1920s and the mid-1960s, O'Connor published 121 translations that give voice to the full range of the centuries-old tradition of poetry in Irish.





MY OEDIPUS COMPLEX AND OTHER STORIES

'Generous in spirit, acute in perception... the stories of Frank O'Connor refresh and delight'

— **New York Review of Books**

The story of the title deals with a little boy named Larry and his feelings towards his father. When his father returns home from World War II, Larry is resentful and jealous of losing his mother's undivided attention, and finds himself in a constant struggle to win back her affections.



THE LONELY VOICE

The Lonely Voice offers a master class on short story writing with a true master of the form. It is, in fact, based on the lectures that legendary Irish short story writer Frank O'Connor gave while teaching a master class in fiction writing at Stanford University in 1961. Among the students in that class: Ken Kesey, Larry McMurtry, Robert Stone, Russell Banks, and Susan Howe.

With his sharp wit and straightforward prose, O'Connor not only discusses the techniques and challenges of a form in which "a whole lifetime must be crowded into a few minutes," but also delves into a passionate consideration of his favorite authors and their greatest works, including Chekhov, Hemingway, Kipling, Joyce, and others.

More than just a "how-to:" for writers, "this wonderful book," as Russell Banks observes in his introduction, "...gives new ways to understand and love more intelligently what we read."

Current Sales

UK: Penguin (*My Oedipus Complex and Other Stories*)

Albanian: Pegi (*My Oedipus Complex and Other Stories*)

French: La Table Ronde (*Collection of Stories*)

Spanish: La Navaja Suiza (*My Oedipus Complex and Other Stories*)



Spies and Detectives



CHARLES EXBRAYAT

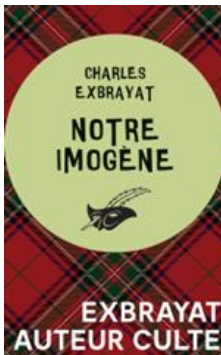
IN ASSOCIATION WITH LE MASQUE

'THE FRENCH AGATHA CHRISTIE'

OVER ONE MILLION COPIES SOLD IN FRANCE

Charles Exbrayat (1906–1989) was a renowned French author and screenwriter who wrote over one hundred works of fiction, many of which were adapted for both the big and small screen.

Specialising in humorous crime novels, he was widely considered to be France's answer to Agatha Christie, and his work sold over a million copies in French alone. In 1958, he was awarded the prestigious Crime Novel of the Year award and his screenwriting credits included the film adaptation of Georges Simenon's *The Man from London*. His iconic series depicting the antics of his charming and unpredictable Scottish heroine, **Imogène McCarthery**, has been adapted multiple times for both television and cinema, most recently in 2010 starring Catherine Frot and Lambert Wilson.





THE IMOGEN MCCARTHERY SERIES

Imogen McCarthery is feisty, loyal, accident-prone and, above all, fiercely proud of her Scottish ancestry. Although she is pushing fifty, the sight of the flame-haired amateur sleuth is enough to strike fear into the heart of her enemies, including her nemesis, Archibald McClostaugh, the local police sergeant. Not only does he meddle in Imogen's affairs, but the unfortunate man is also guilty of hailing from the Scottish Borders rather than her treasured Highlands!



Imogen is a secretary at the Naval Intelligence Division in London, but her madcap adventures will soon see her work as a secret agent and amateur detective in Callander, the Scottish village she calls home. Despite Imogen's best efforts to mind her own business, wherever she goes chaos and dead bodies seem to ensue... But Imogen, whose passions include rugby, bagpipes and whisky, is more than a match for anything life – and death – dares to throw at her. A vintage crime series for fans of Agatha Christie and Alexander McCall Smith's Isabel Dalhousie novels.



KEEP CALM, IMOGEN!

The first novel of the series of seven books, *Keep Calm, Imogen!* introduces the fiery Scottish heroine, who works as a secretary in Intelligence at the Admiralty, where she drives many of her colleagues to distraction. However, her talents have not gone unnoticed by the head of the Secret Service, who sends Imogen on a vital top-secret mission to her native Callander, where she will need all her wits and resourcefulness to avoid the dangers that lie ahead...

Current Sales

French: Le Masque

Italian: Garzanti



COLIN FORBES

UK RELAUNCH 2023 WITH SILVERTAIL

'Colin Forbes has no equal'

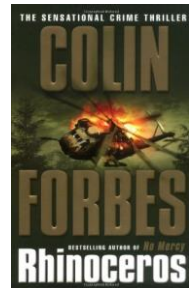
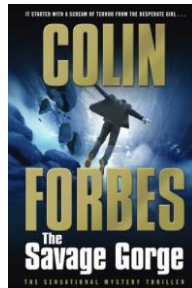
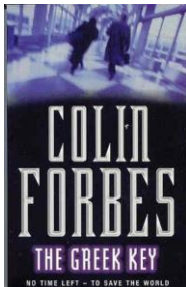
— Daily Mirror

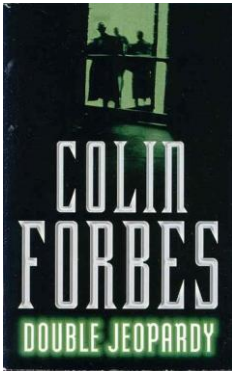


Colin Forbes (1923-2006) was the principal pseudonym of British thriller writer Raymond Harold Sawkins. Sawkins wrote over forty books, mostly as Colin Forbes. He was most famous for his long-running series of thrillers in which the principal character is Tweed, Deputy Director of the Secret Intelligence Service.

Forbes started out working as a sub-editor for a publishing company before serving with the British Army in North Africa and the Middle East during the Second World War. When he went back to civilian life, he worked for a publishing and print company, eventually becoming a novelist on a full-time basis.

Forbes made his debut as a published author in 1966 using his real name, Sawkins, for the novel **Snow on High Ground**. His debut under his preferred pen name came in 1969 with **Tramp in Armour**.





Current Sales

WEL: Silvertail (6 Titles)

Norwegian: Cappelen Damm (13 Titles)

DOUBLE JEOPARDY

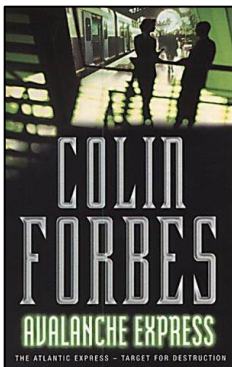
John Tweed, the spymaster who features in over twenty novels, makes his first appearance in *Double Jeopardy*.

A British secret agent is found murdered on Lake Konstanz in Bavaria, with a neo-Nazi sign carved on his back. But was it the Nazis, or was it the Russians attempting to discredit them? Caught between them, British agent Martel must discover the truth, before he too becomes a victim.

A nightmare bloodbath in Zurich. A sudden attempt on Martel's life. And close to midnight on 2nd June, the Summit Express moves east, taking the four top Western leaders to meet their Soviet counterparts in Vienna.

One of them is targeted. Which means they're Martel's problem.

And for the first time – Tweed appears.



AVALANCHE EXPRESS

When the Atlantic Express heads north from Milan Central it has on board the most important Russian ever to defect from the Soviet Union. An armed team of British and Americans are also on board to protect him, little knowing that an avalanche has been deliberately triggered to destroy the entire train.

Avalanche Express was made into a feature film starring Lee Marvin and Robert Shaw, released in 1979.



HENRIETTA HAMILTON

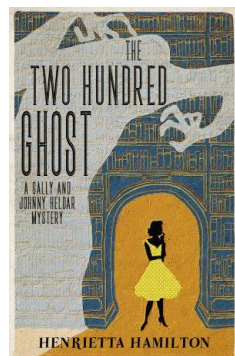
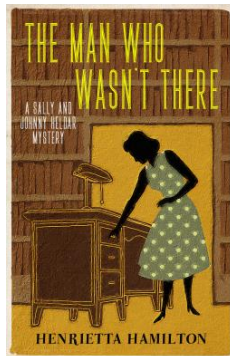
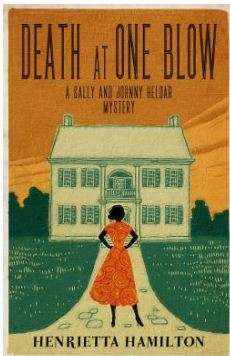
100TH ANNIVERSARY IN 2025

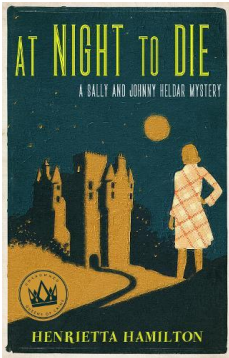
PART OF AGORA BOOKS 'UNCROWNED QUEENS OF CRIME' SERIES

Henrietta Hamilton (1920-1995) is the pseudonym of Hester Denne Shepherd. Born in Dundee in 1920, Hamilton studied at St Hugh's College, Oxford where she earned an honours degree in Modern Languages.

During the Second World War, Hamilton served in the Wrens – the Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS). Afterwards, she worked in a London bookshop, gaining first-hand experience of antiquarian bookselling – the background of her crime-solving duo, Johnny and Sally Helder.

During her life, Hamilton enjoyed writing and hill-walking. She died in 1995 in Hastings, East Sussex.





AT NIGHT TO DIE

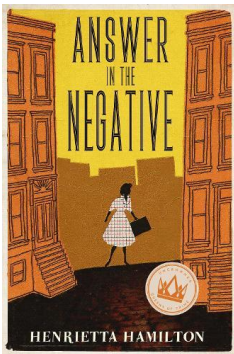
At Night to Die is the fourth title in Henrietta Hamilton's bibliophile mystery series featuring amateur sleuths Sally and Johnny.

'An excellent addition to the series... touches of Bakersville'

— Jeffrey Marks, Author of *Atomic Renaissance: Women Mystery Writers of the 1940s/1950s*

When the Laird Charles Buchanan dies suspiciously in his remote mansion-house in rural Scotland, the Heldars step in to help investigate. But as they explore the House of Affray, Sally and Johnny uncover more mysteries and family secrets than they anticipated.

Can the crime-solving duo determine if this was a burglary gone wrong, or might they discover something far more sinister is going on at Affray?



ANSWER IN THE NEGATIVE

At The National Press Archives on Fleet Street, archive assistant Frank Morningside has become the recipient of nasty poison pen letters and cruel practical jokes. With Frank disliked by many, his superior Toby Lorn is concerned by the number of potential suspects. And when the nature of the letters becomes even more vulgar, things take a sinister turn.

Toby calls on his friends Sally and Johnny Helder, two amateur sleuths, to investigate. Posing as researchers, the Heldars go undercover to scout out the myriad of suspects at the archive. But just as they begin to make some progress, Morningside is found dead in his office, bludgeoned by a box of glass negatives.

When another suspicious death occurs within the company, the Heldars fear they may be in over their heads.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Helder Series:

The Two Hundred Ghost (1956)
Death at one Blow (1957)
At Night to Die (1959)
Answer in the Negative (1959)
The Man Who Wasn't There (1956)



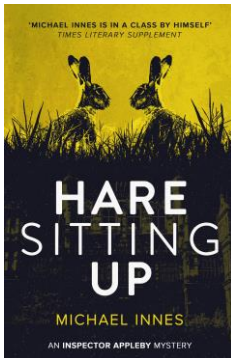
MICHAEL INNES

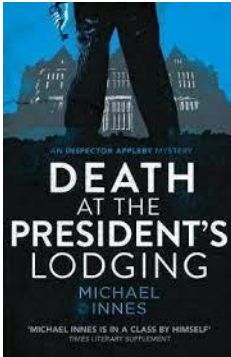
'A master - he constructs a plot that twists and turns like an electric eel: it gives you shock upon shock and you cannot let go'

— **Times Literary Supplement**

John Innes Mackintosh Stewart (1906-1994) was a Scottish novelist and academic. He is equally well known for the works of literary criticism and contemporary novels published under his real name and for the crime fiction published under the pseudonym of **Michael Innes**.

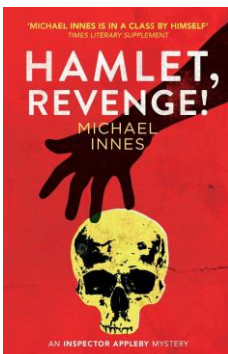
Between 1936 and 1986 Michael Innes published nearly fifty crime novels and short story collections. The best-known of Innes' detective creations is Sir John Appleby, who is introduced in **Death at the President's Lodging**, in which he is a Detective Inspector at Scotland Yard. Appleby features in many of the later novels and short stories, in the course of which he rises to become Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police. Other novels feature portrait painter and Royal Academician, Charles Honeybath, an amateur sleuth.





Current Sales

WEL: Under offer
Danish: Lindhardt og Ringhof (*Journeying Boy*)
German: Dumont (*There Came Both Mist and Snow*)
Portuguese in Brazil: GB Editorial (*Hamlet, Revenger, Death at the President's Lodging*)
Spanish: Siruela (*Death at the President's Lodging, Stop Press*), Who Editorial (*Lament for a Maker*)



JOHN APPLEBY SERIES

Appleby had perhaps the longest career of any of the great detectives. He was born in 1907 or 1908 (in *Silence Observed* he states that his age is fifty-three). He first appeared as a youthful Detective Inspector from Scotland Yard in *Death at the President's Lodging* in 1936. He retired from Scotland Yard at a very early age just after World War II, on marrying Judith Raven, a sculptor first encountered in *Appleby's End*.

He then reappeared as Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, a position rewarded by a knighthood. Although he later retired to Long Dream Manor, his wife's family home in the countryside, he continued to solve crimes well into the 1980s, his last appearance being in *Appleby and the Ospreys* in 1986, fifty years after his fictional debut.

Appleby also makes an appearance in the Edmund Crispin novel *Holy Disorders*.

HAMLET, REVENGE!

As the guests prepare for their amateur production of Hamlet, thinly veiled threats are secretly delivered among attendees. As tensions mount, the Duke of Horton, The Lord Chancellor of England, is killed during his portrayal of Polonius. With the spectre of war looming, it seems that espionage may be afoot. The Prime Minister dispatches Inspector John Appleby to investigate. But within hours of Appleby's arrival, he has another body on his hands.



HELEN MCCLOY

'McCloy's talent transcends the generations'

— **Barry Turner, Daily Mail**

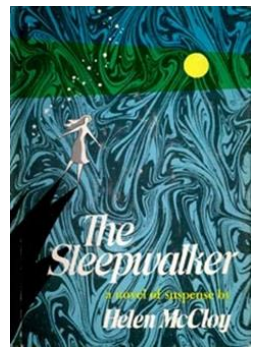
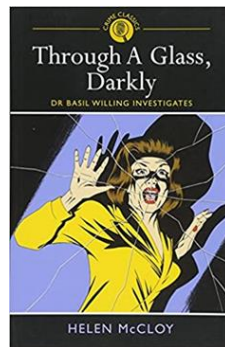
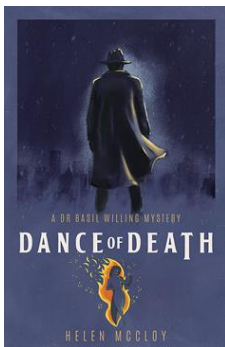
'This book would be a shame to miss out on, especially for Golden Age mystery readers. To me it is the epitome of perfection'

— **Reader Review**

Helen McCloy (1904-1994) was born in New York city in 1904 to writer Helen Worrell McCloy and managing editor William McCloy. After discovering a love for Sherlock Holmes as young girl, McCloy began writing her own mystery novels in the 1930s.

In 1933, she introduced her psychiatrist-detective Dr. Basil Willing in her first novel, **Dance of Death**. Dr. Basil Willing features in twelve of McCloy's novels as well as several short stories; however, both are best known from McCloy's 1955 supernatural mystery **Through a Glass, Darkly** - hailed as her masterpiece and likened to John Dickson Carr.

McCloy went on in the 1950s and 1960s to co-author a review column a Connecticut newspaper. In 1950, she became the first female president of Mystery Writers of America and in 1953, she was honoured with an Edgar Award from the MWA for her critiques.





MEET THE DETECTIVE

Dr. Basil Willing is a Vienna-trained psychiatrist attached to the district attorney's office in New York City (he also has some experience with the FBI), and he believes that no human can ever perform any act without a motive.

Current Sales

Danish: Saga (*A Question of Time*)

Japanese: Hayakawa (*Burn This*); Tokyo Sogensha (*Better off Dead, Through A Glass, Darkly, Two-thirds of a Ghost, The Slayer and the Slain, The Singing Diamonds and Other Stories*);

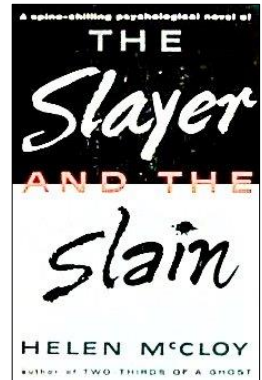
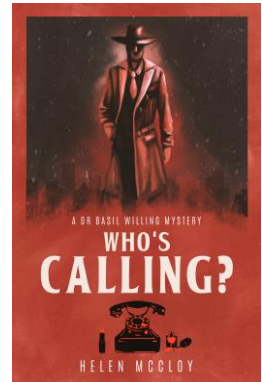
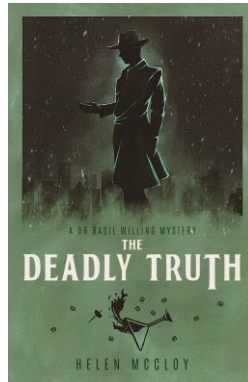
Bungeishunjū (*Chinoiserie*)

Korean: Munhakhongne (*Through A Glass, Darkly*)

Spanish: Hoja de Lata (*Through A Glass, Darkly, Dance of Death*)

THE SERIES

- Dance of Death (1938)
- The Man in the Moonlight (1940)
- The Deadly Truth (1941)
- Cue for Murder (1942)
- Who's Calling? (1942)
- The Goblin Market (1943)
- The One That Got Away (1945)
- Through a Glass, Darkly (1950)
- Alias Basil Willing (1951)
- The Long Body (1955)
- Two-thirds of a Ghost (1957)
- Mister Splitfoot (1968)
- Burn This (1980)
- The Pleasant Assassin and Other Cases of Dr Basil Willing (2003)





Classic and Contemporary



MELVYN BRAGG

'Bragg is an expert translator in areas that academics find difficult to popularise...he produces a pithy, accessible narrative'

— **Guardian**

'This sequence of novels is one of the best and most ambitious things written in the last 20 years... utterly absorbing. Melvyn Bragg is worth a host of more fashionable writers. He never shows off, but tells us how it is'

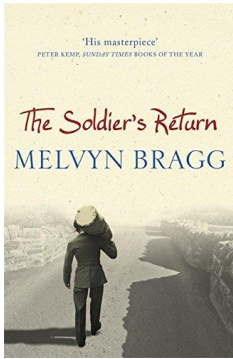
— **Allan Massie, Scotsman**



Melvyn Bragg was born in Wigton, Cumbria in 1939. He went to the local Grammar School and then to Wadham College, Oxford. He joined the BBC in 1961, and published his first novel **For Want of a Nail** in 1965. By that time he had become a Director on Huw Wheldon's Arts programme, *Monitor*.

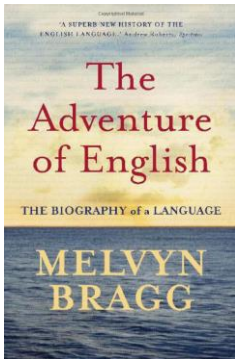
Whilst working in broadcasting, Bragg continued to write novels, which include The Cumbrian Trilogy: **The Hired Man** (1969); **A Place In England** (1970); and **Kingdom Come** (1980). The novels follow the lives of three generations of the Talentire family from the late 19th-century to the 1970s. In 1999 Bragg wrote **The Soldier's Return** Quartet, which also includes **A Son of War**, **Crossing the Lines**, and **Remember Me**. Again, these novels centre around the fortunes of one family, the Richardsons, whilst also dealing with the fallout from the Second World War and their duties and positions within the conflict. The books received much critical acclaim when they were published and mark a more mature period in Bragg's writing in that they combine his passion for historical detail with a more personal, even semi-autobiographical involvement in the story. His most recent fiction was **The Second Inheritance**, published in 2022. Most of his novels are set in his native Cumbria, a setting in which Bragg can fuse his two lifelong passions of literature and history. Bragg has also written several works of non-fiction.

In 1977 Bragg started *The South Bank Show* for LWT which he continues to edit and present for Sky Arts. He has presented the BBC Radio 4 programme on science, history and religion, *In Our Time*, since 1998, which is now a staple of Radio 4 and world-renowned.



Current Sales

- UK:** Sceptre
- US:** Skyhorse (*Love Without End*)
- China:** Beijing New Oriental (*The Adventure of English*)



THE SOLDIER'S RETURN

'Unsentimental, truthful and wonderful'

— **Beryl Bainbridge**

'An outstandingly good novel...utterly credible, utterly compelling, and very enjoyable'

— **Allan Massie, Scotsman**

'Deeply felt, beautifully realised'

— **John Sutherland, Sunday Times**

When Sam Richardson returns in 1946 from the 'Forgotten War' in Burma to Wigton in Cumbria, he finds the town little changed. But the war has changed him, broadening his horizons as well as leaving him with traumatic memories. In addition, his six-year-old son now barely remembers him, and his wife has gained a sense of independence from her wartime jobs. As all three strive to adjust, the bonds of loyalty and love are stretched to breaking point in this taut, and profoundly moving novel.

The Soldier's Return is followed by three sequels: A Son of War, Crossing the Lines and Remember Me...

THE ADVENTURE OF ENGLISH

'Always readable, often thought-provoking and consistently entertaining'

— **Independent**

There is much splendid intellectual firepower in this book'

— **Andrew Roberts, Spectator**

English is the collective work of millions of people throughout the ages. It is democratic, ever-changing and ingenious in its assimilation of other cultures. English runs through the heart of world finance, medicine and the Internet, and it is understood by around two thousand million people across the world. Yet it was very nearly wiped out in its early years.



VERA GISSING

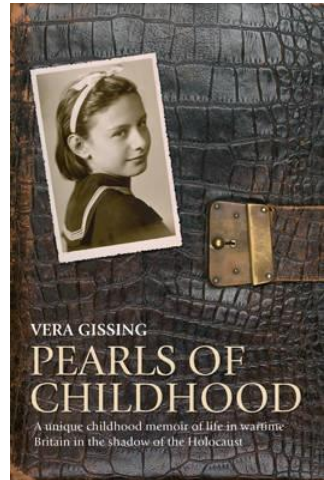
"There would have been no possibility of me surviving had I stayed behind, if my parents did not have the moral courage to let us go..."

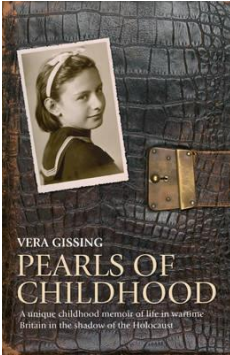
... I was Jewish by race, Czech by birth, and English by choice - a mixture of all three."

In June 1939, shortly before her eleventh birthday, **Vera Gissing (1928-2022)** left Prague on a Kindertransport, on one of the trains anonymously organised by Nicholas Winton, who came to be known as 'the British Schindler'. Arriving in London, she was taken in by a British foster family whose generosity and kindness she never forgot.

Throughout the war years, Vera kept a diary, recording her day-to-day experiences, her longing for her parents and her hopes and prayers for the freedom of her country. By the time she returned to Prague to set up home with her aunt in 1945, she knew that both her parents had died - her mother in Belsen, her father on a death march.

In 1949 Vera fled Czechoslovakia for a second time after the Communists seized power the year before. She returned to England where she remained for the rest of her life, raising a family and working as a translator. The memories and emotions rekindled by a reunion of the Czech school in Wales where she was educated, encouraged Vera to go back to the diaries and letters from her parents that she had not touched for forty years.





Current Sales

Czech: Dobrovsky

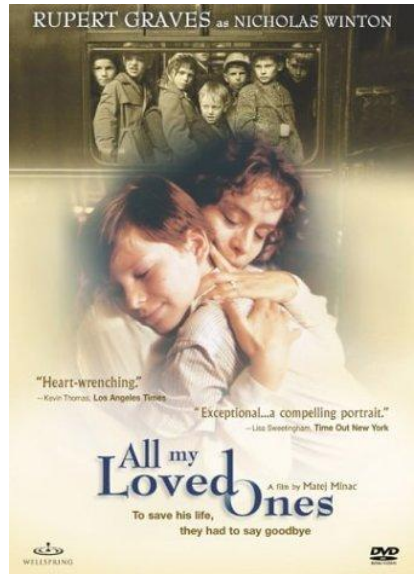
Russia: Livebooks

PEARLS OF CHILDHOOD

This remarkable memoir of growing up in a foreign country is based on the diaries Vera Gissing kept throughout the war years, which she had kept a secret even from her own children.

To go back to them for the first time in forty years was a painful experience for Gissing, as she had not opened them since the day she discovered that both her parents had perished in the Holocaust. Ultimately, however, her story is one of hope, and she recalls her foster mother embracing her when she arrived in London and saying English words which at the time she did not understand: 'You shall be loved.'

Gissing collaborated with Muriel Emanuel on the book *Nicholas Winton and the Rescued Generation* (2001). Her story was recounted in a children's book by Peter Sís, *Nicky & Vera* (2021), fictionalised in the movie *All My Loved Ones* (1999) and told in the documentaries *Into the Arms of Strangers: Stories of the Kindertransport* (2000), which won an Academy Award, and *The Power of Good: Nicholas Winton* (2002), which won an International Emmy.





V S PRITCHETT

'Reading him, laughter and pathos dovetail in a manner that captures the tang of reality. This sense of the real is augmented, paradoxically, by a readiness to embrace the unusual, and even the surreal... some of the best English language short stories of the last hundred years'

— **The Guardian**

Victor Sawdon Pritchett (1900 - 1997) was born over a toyshop and, to his everlasting distaste, was named after Queen Victoria. A true autodidact, he left school before he was sixteen and published his first piece at twenty-three. The author of book reviews, essays, travel pieces, literary criticism, novels, memoirs, and, most notably, short stories, Pritchett chronicled in one form or another the literature and society of England for almost a century. He published regularly until well into his eighties. Pritchett is widely considered to be one of the best short story writers of all time, with the rare ability to capture the extraordinary strangeness of everyday life.

'The stories are masterpieces, and all are told with pace and brilliance'

— **Olivia Manning**

'To the imaginative eye and the realist ear, Pritchett adds the mind of a poet'

— **Charles Osborne**

'Incomparably the finest short story writer of our time'

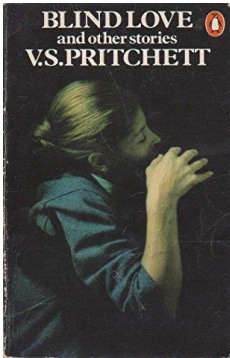
— **John Raymond**

'He is alarmingly good... Pritchett's essays are marvels'

— **James Wood**

'In story after story, Mr. Pritchett made the commonplace fascinating, capturing subtleties of mood, language, behaviour and motivation with precision and sensitivity'

— **The New York Times**



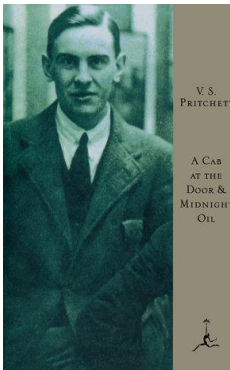
BLIND LOVE AND OTHER STORIES

This was the third collection of stories to be published by Pritchett, who is the most discreet of narrators and the most astute observer of human beings and their behaviour.

The title story recounts the relationship between a blind man and his disfigured secretary and perfectly embodies Pritchett's art: at its heart are fundamental human emotions – love and shame – which are revealed in new ways through the prism of his characters.

Current Sales

UK: Vintage (*The Essential Pritchett*); Turnpike (*Collected Stories*); Daunt Books (*London Perceived*)
Italian: Adelphi (*Blind Love, Lady from Guatemala, Collection of Four Short Stories*)
Spanish: La Bestia Equilatera (*Blind Love and Other Stories, Volume II Collected Stories*); Gatopardo (*The Spanish Temper*)



A CAB AT THE DOOR

A Cab at the Door, originally published in 1968, recalls his childhood in turn-of-the-century and World War I London with the urbane subtlety and wry humor that have marked his other works.

For the wild and eccentric Pritchett family, life is a series of cabs waiting at the door to transport them to a succession of ten-bob-a-week lodgings, in their flight from creditors and the financial disasters of their father. *A Cab at the Door* also captures the texture and color of the working-class side of Edwardian England.



ROGER SCRUTON

'Roger Scruton is that rarest of things: a first-rate philosopher who actually has a philosophy ... one of the few intellectually authoritative voices in modern British conservatism'

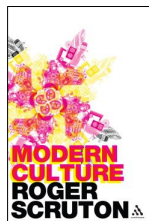
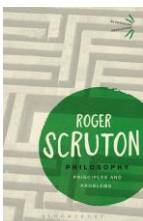
— **Standpoint**

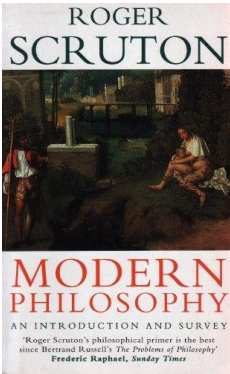
'Scruton is a masterly writer; his book [*Modern Philosophy*] is a paradigm of lucidity'

— **Financial Times**

Eminent writer and philosopher, **Professor Sir Roger Scruton (1944-2020)**, taught for over three decades at institutions on both sides of the Atlantic including Birkbeck College, Boston University and the University of Buckingham. He was the author of over forty books. In his work as a philosopher, he had specialised in aesthetics, with particular attention to music and architecture. He also wrote several works of fiction, as well as memoirs and essays on topics of general interest. He engaged in contemporary political and cultural debates from the standpoint of a conservative thinker and was well known as a powerful polemicist.

He was a fellow of the Royal Society of Literature and the British Academy. He was officially honoured by the Czech Republic, by the City of Plzen, and by Virginia's General Assembly. In 2004 Roger Scruton received the Ingersoll Weaver Prize for Scholarly Letters. In 2015 he published three titles, all of which were chosen as 'Books of the Year'. In 2016 he was recipient of the Polish Lech Kaczynski Foundation's Medal for Courage and Integrity, and was awarded the Italian Masi Prize for the Culture of Wine in recognition of his book **I Drink Therefore I Am**. In the same year he was knighted in the Queen's Birthday Honours List.





MODERN PHILOSOPHY

'Modern Philosophy succeeds in inspiring readers to explore the topic further, because one senses in Scruton the mark of the true thinker, a deep sincerity and conviction'

— **Alain de Botton, Daily Telegraph**

Roger Scruton was one of the most widely respected philosophers of our time, whose often provocative views never fail to stimulate debate. In *Modern Philosophy* he turns his attention to the whole of the field, from the philosophy of logic to aesthetics, and in so doing provides us with an essential and comprehensive guide to modern thinking. Considered by many to be the best philosophical primer since Bertrand Russell's *The Problems of Philosophy*, this book is a must for both the student and the general reader.

Current Sales

UK:

Pimlico/Bloomsbury
(*Modern Philosophy*,
Modern Culture)

China: The People's
Music Publishing
House (*Wagner's
Parsifal*)

Estonian: Eksa
(*Modern Philosophy*)

Korean: Bada
(*Modern Philosophy*)

Portuguese:
Almedina (*Modern
Culture*)

Romanian:
Humanitas (*Modern
Culture*)

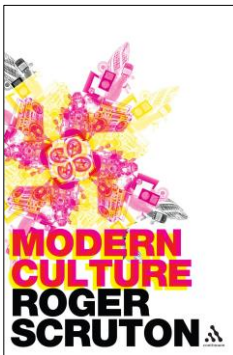
Spanish: Palabra
(*Modern Culture*)

Turkish: Ayrinti
(*Modern Culture*)

AN INTELLIGENT PERSON'S GUIDE TO MODERN CULTURE

What do we mean by 'culture'? This word, purloined by journalists to denote every kind of collective habit, lies at the centre of contemporary debates about the past and future of society.

In this thought-provoking book, Roger Scruton argues for the religious origin of culture in all its forms, and mounts a defense of the 'high culture' of our civilization against its radical and 'deconstructionist' critics. He offers a theory of pop culture, a panegyric to Baudelaire, a few reasons why Wagner is just as great as his critics fear him to be, and blows a raspberry to Cool Britannia. This book is a must for all people who are fed up to their tightly clenched front teeth with Derrida, Foucault, Oasis and Richard Rogers.





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