

A Rare Ruby A Touching Saga Of The Devastation Of War

A New York Times Notable Book of the Year Winner of the LAMBDA Literary Award for Lesbian Fiction Named a Best Book of 2016 by NPR, Entertainment Weekly, BuzzFeed, Bustle, San Francisco Chronicle, The Root, BookRiot, Kirkus Reviews, NYLON, Amazon, WBUR's "On Point", the Barnes & Noble Review, and Amazon (Fiction & Literature) Finalist for the NYPL Young Lions Fiction Award and the Center for Fiction's First Novel Prize Selected for the Grand Prix Litteraire of the Association of Caribbean Writers Longlisted for the ALA Over the Rainbow Award Longlisted for the Dublin Literary Award In this radiant, highly anticipated debut, a cast of unforgettable women battle for independence while a maelstrom of change threatens their Jamaican village. Capturing the distinct rhythms of Jamaican life and dialect, Nicole Dennis-Benn pens a tender hymn to a world hidden among pristine beaches and the wide expanse of turquoise seas. At an opulent resort in Montego Bay, Margot hustles to send her younger sister, Thandi, to school. Taught as a girl to trade her sexuality for survival, Margot is ruthlessly determined to shield Thandi from the same fate. When plans for a new hotel threaten their village, Margot sees not only an opportunity for her own financial independence but also perhaps a chance to admit a shocking secret: her forbidden love for another woman. As they face the impending destruction of their community, each woman—fighting to balance the burdens she shoulders with the freedom she craves—must confront long-hidden scars. From a much-heralded new writer, *Here Comes the Sun* offers a dramatic glimpse into a vibrant, passionate world most outsiders see simply as paradise.

When the body of seventeenth-century mapmaker Johannes Cellarius floats to the surface of a bog in northern Germany with a 57-carat ruby clutched in his fist, the grisly discovery ignites a deadly twenty-first-century international treasure hunt to unearth the fabled Tavernier stones. The hoard reputedly contains some of the world's most notorious missing jewels, including the 280-carat Great Mogul diamond and the 242-carat Great Table diamond. Scrupulously honest Amish-born cartographer John Graf teams up with outlaw prospector and gemologist David Freeman in a ferocious race to find the treasure and break a secret code that will unravel the centuries-old Tavernier stones mystery. But other fortune hunters, opportunists and criminals alike, are in hot pursuit of the mismatched partners--and they'll stop at nothing to possess the legendary jewels. "Relentlessly fascinating, Stephen Parrish's *Tavernier Stones* is reminiscent of Dan Brown's *Lost Symbol* . . . It's one hell of a good time."--Mark Terry, author of *The Fallen*

Ruby has the misfortune of being born the illegitimate daughter of Lena, a self-destructive and emotionally absent woman, who gives birth to Ruby despite the hardships she is sure to endure. Though Ruby seems destined to echo her mother's past, she strives to find a different way. She survives, though not unscathed, the maelstrom that is Lena's life. With a childhood of neglect and loneliness, Ruby finds solace in the kindness of Marlie, a neighbor and single mother. Marlie shows her another side of life that Ruby always suspected existed but was out of her reach. Ruby also befriends Manny, a sad and confused boy. Together they face the unfair and cruel world of adults. Ruby's story takes us to other places, other people, and finally to the birth of her own daughter Maggie. With motherhood Ruby finds peace, and finally redemption. *Hush Baby* is a riveting tale of loss, and love, a tale of generations, a tale of mothers and daughters.

Imagine being the only person in the world. Alright, so she's not the only person, but she certainly feels like it. She's the only one of her kind in a world packed with humans which feels even lonelier than just being alone. She's lived centuries moving in and out of the human world never being a part of it. It's hard to be a part of something when you barely seem to age and when you do it's over centuries. It's better to keep your distance. Safer. Getting too close to anyone could expose who or rather what you are. And set you up for heartache when they ultimately die leaving you back where you started... alone. But what is she? If only she knew. The one thing she knows... she's most certainly not human. She's the most powerful thing on the planet. Vampires and shifters have nothing on her. She moves things with her mind with a whim, she's incredibly strong, she heals quickly, and she fights extraordinarily well. She spends her days or rather nights fighting, usually vampires, because what else is there to do when you live outside the world. Killing vampires isn't such a bad way to spend your time and it allows you to hit something. It's lonely, but she knows that can't change. She keeps to herself for sanity's sake. But when he, a human, walks into her life... she knows her world is going to crumble.

The book tells the rare beautiful love story of Ruby and Josh. Ruby Gentile went beyond foster care by keeping herself and counting down every day until she was independent and successful. Issues of commitment often remind her that she can never find what she wished for as a little girl even if she secretly dreamed of love and romance, a forever happy and charming prince ... that her forever home. Josh Turner lived through the horrible murder of his parents while he was hiding in a closet as a child. Now, he's an investigator sworn to protect, but the people he loves ... he can't bear the thought of life without them. He put his life on the line and made sure they never felt as scared and lonely as he spent that night. When Ruby became his broker, he realized she was someone he never wanted to lose, as long as she let him in.

'What will become of me if I were to decline?' Aurea frowns. 'We here would not raise a hand against you. However... there are those who will regard you as a threat. Without being a porfo, you will not have any protection from them, and we will not be able to raise a hand against them. You've been outed, Victor. Many eyes would be looking your way, and a lot of them would not be friendly.' 'That is about what I expected you would say.' Victor Trent is stuck in a dead-end job at a secondhand store, living with parents who don't respect him and dealing with a kid brother who mooches off him. Hopeless, Victor is on autopilot through life, quite displeased with how it's going. A chance sighting by a vampire at a nightclub changes his life forever. Soon after, Victor is offered a position in Washington DC, working for a congressman. Given his political views, this is hardly his dream job. He is a fish out of water, an honorable man in a city that does not know the meaning of the word. After settling in DC, Victor finally encounters something similar to that night at

the club another vampire. Realizing he can hear her thoughts and vice versa, Victor realizes there may be much more to his past and future than he thought possible. Once the Ruby Order, a clan of vampires, learns about Victor, he will be put to the test, to see if he can be trusted and become one of them. Join in this odyssey of self-discovery and seek the truth about vampires while searching for A Ruby for Victor.

Deconstructing Tara is the story of a girl who apparently has everything but who is unable to negotiate the perils of her times. She becomes a woman during the mid-1970s, but she was raised in a much less frenzied environment, one in which time seemed to stand still. Sex left the bedroom and the bordello in the '70s and took to the streets, disco dance floors, front pages, movies, and runways. Women were encouraged to display themselves as sexually active and receptive as part of their "liberation." For many this was in fact, liberating. For others like Tara, it was confusing and upsetting. For one who had grown up thinking love and sex were equivalent, the disintegration of sexual morality presented unimagined hazards. Like Emma Bovary and Anna Karenina, in her heart Tara believes that romantic love is a woman's ultimate achievement, but she is torn because of her desire to be a business success, and her associates do not grasp the struggle occurring behind her finely crafted exterior.

EBONY is the flagship magazine of Johnson Publishing. Founded in 1945 by John H. Johnson, it still maintains the highest global circulation of any African American-focused magazine.

Tells how to investigate the history of furniture, silver, jewelry, clocks, toys, and books, and how to select an appraiser

Imprisoned. Elf's life was confined to the four walls of her prison. Nothing changed the dark horrors of her life. Her one attempt at freedom had nearly killed her. So, she existed—imprisoned within the only walls she had ever known. Kayden Dresco knew since he was a teen what he wanted to do with his life. What he had not expected was to find Elf. Scarred, frightened, but defiant, this beautiful woman quickly became his world. Now, his biggest fear was if he could keep her safe. Elf and Kayden had to find a way to escape before the Gifted Special Project claimed another victim. Can Elf find a way past the nightmares that hold her as much a prisoner as the four walls did, or will her fears destroy not only her, but Kayden as well?

Does God hate women or want them subjugated? Are women lesser beings or less intelligent than men? Is the calling to traditional womanhood a curse or an honor? Just what does the Bible mean in these two important chapters? By Betty Sue Tracy

Forty-two-year-old Mark Smythe cannot help but wonder if the whole world has gone mad if it is just him. Although he has always appreciated nature and its beauty, Mark's new mission now goes against everything he has ever believed in and is taking him down a path he never imagined for himself. Ruby Jewel is an independent, feisty single mother and billboard designer who is not looking for a man. Her roles running a small advertising business and raising her eleven-year-old daughter keep her busy enough. When she suddenly becomes the object of Mark's obsession, Ruby must decide whether to listen to common sense or succumb to his masculinity and relentless charm. But after Ruby discovers that Mark is dedicating his life to destroy what she has been devoting her life to create, she is left to choose between joining his mission or leaving him behind forever. In this compelling tale, a beautiful billboard designer meets a charming suitor with an unusual mission that causes both of their lives to take an unpredictable turn into the unknown.

Sex ed shouldn't start and end with putting a condom on a banana. This is the pleasure-focused sex ed that you deserved to get at school - in all its challenging, messy, awkward, hilarious, enjoyable glory - from the sex educator you deserved to have. Welcome to sex ed, where everyone is invited to the party.

From New York Times bestselling author Susan Wilson comes What a Dog Knows, another heartwarming novel about humans and the dogs that change our lives. Ruby Heartwood has always lived a life on the move. As a traveling psychic, she makes her living working at carnivals and festivals and circuses around New England. It's a life Ruby has made peace with—settling in one place has never been for her. She needs no one, and no one needs her. Until one night, when she is camped by the side of the road in her trusty Volkswagon "Westie" van, a fierce thunder and lightning storm erupts. In the middle of the downpour, she hears a distinct voice telling her to "let me in." In jumps a little black and white dog, and to Ruby's astonishment, she can hear the dog's thoughts. Has she been struck by lightning? Did the storm do this? Is she losing her mind? It turns out, Ruby can hear many dogs' thoughts. She decides to set up semi-permanent residency in the town of Harmony Farms, until she can sort out what is going on, and who the little dog, Hitch, belongs to. But some people in Harmony Farms don't want her there. And it seems that events keep preventing Ruby from leaving. What secrets is this town keeping? Why was she meant to find this dog? And what has Ruby really been running from, all these years?

A story of an unassuming young man who has two women in his life, the girl that he loves and his Lady Friend, a non-physical spirit from a non-physical realm. When she makes an appearance in his life, Jasper's dream of a quiet life fades into oblivion when he embarks on a meteoric journey to fame and glory and becomes the youngest person in history to ever become a modern day Holy Man. Australian author Vincent Gilvarry serves up an enchanting blend of natural and supernatural delights, interwoven with sensual dreams, hidden treasures and a hauntingly beautiful belly dancer. As one satisfied reader has said: Something Kind of Wonderful is Simply Amazing.

A secret mission to Lisbon. A murder at the casino. And a killer gambling on escape. New Year's Eve, 1935. The clink of champagne flutes mingles with the rattle of the roulette ball. Fina's on a winning streak. But just as she's about to celebrate, someone gasps, chokes, and slides to the floor. The Portuguese police treat it as a crime passionel, but Ruby and Fina have other ideas. Could the murder be linked to the high-level jewel-smuggling operation they've been asked to investigate? Working undercover, they scope out the other guests: a handsome airman, an icy princess, a genial mathematician, a suave croupier, and a Brazilian diva with flashy frocks and a personality to match. They all have something to hide – but the truth turns out to be far stranger than Fina could ever have dreamed. Join Ruby, Fina, Pixley, and Gayatri as they battle with profiteers, saboteurs, assassins, and a ghostly apparition on their twistiest and most captivating adventure yet!

When the steadfast Ruby Jane Whittaker drops out of sight, dogged ex-cop Skin Kadash sets out to discover what drove the woman he loves to leave her life behind so suddenly and without explanation. The discovery of a dead man in her apartment, followed by an attack by a mysterious stalker, leads Skin first to California, then across the country on a desperate journey deep

into Ruby Jane's haunted past--and toward an explosive confrontation which will determine if either has a future.

India has a new Prime Minister. But is Siddhartha Tagore the product of his genius or of his dangerous mind? India is on edge, as a subversive internal revolt against the Constitution, and the threat of Jehadi terror of an unthinkable level, are looming on the horizon. Ringing Shiva's damaru in and out of Parliament, a sudden turn of karma catapults outsider Siddhartha Tagore ? a conflicted genius, music maestro and prodigal son, with forceful views on China and Pakistan ? into national prominence as the head of the Opposition Alliance and finally as the newly elected Prime Minister of a disturbed nation. But buried secrets are being resurrected and threaten to expose the past. Twisted within the double helix of menacing politics and hidden lust, Prisoner, Jailor, Prime Minister is a scorching account of Siddhartha Tagore's fascinating journey from Harvard to 7 Race Course Road.

A Rare Jewel / Blackberry Bowl Universe

In an updated and concise version of his award-winning classic reference, Michael Broadbent's Vintage Wine, the wine connoisseur features the original work's most important tasting notes and new information about top-selected vintages, with hundreds of details on the finest wines he has encountered in the past few years.

A riveting and engrossing love story, NO SWEETER TOUCH follows the vivacious widow and the introverted only child of Professor Barton Reeves. In their quest for completion and through their evolving relationship, the grieving stepmother and stepchild discover astonishing new paths of romance and redefine their family ties in shocking new ways. Rising from bittersweet childhoods of parental loss and absence, they miraculously manage to carve out lives of triumph and accomplishment. They are redeemed by devotion to each other and a close-knit "family" of characters who support them in their difficult moments and celebrate them in their triumphant moments. The central characters evolve in ways that command the reader's attention and leave the reader agape and wanting more. Deep empathy with the central characters will leave readers reminiscing and wanting to be a part of the lives of the characters with whom they will identify along so many parallels. Twists and innuendo add spice and intrigue to the story in ways that grab the attention and curiosity of the reader, who will wonder about the outcome of this uplifting story and will be loath to lay the book down when the story comes to its end.

From object technology pioneer and ETH Zurich professor Bertrand Meyer, winner of the Jolt award and the ACM Software System Award, a revolutionary textbook that makes learning programming fun and rewarding. Meyer builds his presentation on a rich object-oriented software system supporting graphics and multimedia, which students can use to produce impressive applications from day one, then understand inside out as they learn new programming techniques. Unique to Touch of Class is a combination of a practical, hands-on approach to programming with the introduction of sound theoretical support focused on helping students learn the construction of high quality software. The use of full color brings exciting programming concepts to life. Among the useful features of the book is the use of Design by Contract, critical to software quality and providing a gentle introduction to formal methods. Will give students a major advantage by teaching professional-level techniques in a literate, relaxed and humorous way.

Offers critique and analysis of vintage wines from around the world, spanning three centuries, also provides definitions of wine terms and practices.

For the first time in centuries, the four races have united to battle a common enemy: Aeliana, Queen of the Gods. The time has come to finally put an end to her cruelty or die trying. If they lose, the goddess will leave no one alive. As king and queen of their people, Asher and Kenna Drydan have a lot going on. Life is far from a honeymoon for these newlyweds. In the middle of preparing for war, both must prove themselves. Asher's throne is challenged by the last person he ever expected, and he must show everyone he's neither weak nor afraid to get his hands dirty. At the same time, Kenna is thrust into a role she's not ready to accept, but it's not one she can refuse. Kenna and Asher hold each other a little closer as those closest to them are taken, but love can only provide so much shelter. Will they triumph over their enemies, or will death touch them, too? If they're not careful, their worst fears might come true.

Loving the beautiful but damaged Ruby all of his life, Ephram is torn between his sister and a chance for a life with Ruby when the latter returns to their small hometown and confronts the forces that traumatized her early years.

A Rare Jewel is about Jewel Sherman, a young female NJ private detective with a plan to pose as Fred Gearhard's (a CA cop) fiancée to help him catch the family member who has murdered her grandfather in California. Her grandfather was a philanthropist who bought up blocks of dilapidated city slums. And under the supervision of Sgt. Fred Gearhard, during his off-duty times, the property was turned into nice homes for veterans. Jewel is positive the killer has to be a family member, and her ruse is so the family would speak freely around the sergeant in charge of the homicide investigation. Blackberry Bowl is about a young lady who refused to sell her island to a lowlife who wanted it for criminal activities. She is drugged and thrown from a plane into a crater lake. She survives the fall with amnesia and a broken leg. Rescuing herself several months later in the hospital; she regains her memory, and the rest is a good story.

In Lori Lansens' astonishing second novel, readers come to know and love two of the most remarkable characters in Canadian fiction. Rose and Ruby are twenty-nine-year-old conjoined twins. Born during a tornado to a shocked teenaged mother in the hospital at Leaford, Ontario, they are raised by the nurse who helped usher them into the world. Aunt Lovey and her husband, Uncle Stash, are middle-aged and with no children of their own. They relocate from the town to the drafty old farmhouse in the country that has been in Lovey's family for generations. Joined to Ruby at the head, Rose's face is pulled to one side, but she has full use of her limbs. Ruby has a beautiful face, but her body is tiny and she is unable to walk. She rests her legs on her sister's hip, rather like a small child or a doll. In spite of their situation, the girls lead surprisingly separate lives. Rose is bookish and a baseball fan. Ruby is fond of trash TV and has a passion for local history. Rose has always wanted to be a writer, and as the novel opens, she begins to pen her autobiography. Here is how she begins: I have never looked into my sister's eyes. I have never bathed alone. I have never stood in the grass at night and raised my arms to a

