

Bringing Home The Birkin My Life In Hot Pursuit Of The Worlds Most Coveted Handbag

Offers suggestions for re-creating a uniquely English style of interior design

The successful but lonely daughter of a powerful New York theater icon falls for her childhood imaginary friend in this touching love story. As a little girl, Jane has no one. Her mother, a powerful Broadway producer, makes time for her only once a week, for their Sunday trip to admire jewelry at Tiffany's. Jane has only one friend: a handsome, comforting, funny man named Michael. He's perfect. But only she can see him. Years later, Jane is in her thirties and just as alone as ever. Then she meets Michael again—as handsome, smart and perfect as she remembers him to be. But not even Michael knows the reason they've really been reunited. Sunday at Tiffany's is a love story with an irresistible twist, a novel about the child inside all of us and the boundary-crossing power of love.

Great Expectations is the thirteenth novel by Charles Dickens and his penultimate completed novel. It depicts the education of an orphan nicknamed Pip. It is Dickens's second novel, after David Copperfield, to be fully narrated in the first person.

Trading up isn't just for the wealthy anymore. These days no one is shocked when an administrative assistant buys silk pajamas at Victoria's Secret. Or a young professional buys only Kendall-Jackson premium wines. Or a construction worker splurges on a \$3,000 set of Callaway golf clubs. In dozens of categories, these new luxury brands now sell at huge premiums over conventional goods, and in much larger volumes than traditional old luxury goods. Trading Up has become the definitive book about this growing trend.

In this sumptuous full-color compendium, award-winning designer Monica Botkier celebrates seventy of the most coveted bags of the past seventy-five years, from Chanel, Dior, Gucci, Hermès, Yves Saint Laurent, Louis Vuitton, and other international couture houses, as well as top bag designers such as Anya Hindmarch and Nancy Gonzalez. Exquisitely crafted luxury handbags are an obsession. The look, the feel of soft leather, that new bag smell that induces a swoon—a gorgeous handbag does more than complete a look, it telegraphs taste and chic, and it inspires envy, whether it's an Hermès Birkin, a quilted Chanel Boy bag with its signature gold chain, or a Céline Mini Luggage Tote. Award-winning handbag designer Monica Botkier pays homage to these gorgeous objects of desire and the top couture houses and artists that have designed and produced them from the end of World War II to today. Handbags: A Love Story showcases the creations of designers such as Azzedine Alaïa, Balenciaga, Bottega Veneta, Céline, Chanel, Chloé, Christian Dior, Mark Cross, Fendi, Salvatore Ferragamo, Givenchy, Goyard, Gucci, Hermès, Anya Hindmarch, Judith Leiber, Olympia Le-Tan, Loewe, Mansur Gavriel, Stella McCartney, Alexander McQueen, Miu Miu, Moschino, Mulberry, Prada, Yves Saint Laurent, Valentino, Roger Vivier, Louis Vuitton, and more. This magnificent, eye-catching anthology tells the story of seventy bags in 200 stunning photographs and vintage and contemporary advertisements and illustrations, as well as quotes, anecdotes, and interviews with designers, stylists, and editors. Each entry offers a concise yet in-depth look at a specific bag and its history—from a celebrity muse, such as Jane Birkin, to collaborations such as the graffiti-splattered bags Marc Jacobs and Stephen Sprouse created for Louis Vuitton. An informative, entertaining exploration of how "It Bags" have influenced fashion, culture, and feminine identity, Handbags: A Love Story touches on a wide-range of subjects, such as how a bag is constructed and handbags on the silver screen. With an elegant full-color silkscreened cloth case and a thick acetate four-color jacket; two long, wide satin markers, and two-color endpapers, this gorgeous tribute is an essential accessory for handbag fanatics, fashion lovers, and pop culture enthusiasts.

"Self-help meets memoir. Party girl meets wise sage. Beauty meets reality. Zara Barrie is the cool older sister you wish you had. The one that lets you borrow her designer dresses and ripped up fishnets, buys you champagne (she loves you too much to let you drink beer), and colors your lips with bright pink lipstick. She'll take you to the coolest parties, and will stick by your side and she guides you through the glitter, pain, danger, laughter, and what it means to be a f*cked up girl in this f*cked up world (both of which are beautiful despite the darkness). Girl, Stop Passing Out in Your Makeup is for the girls that are too much of a beautiful contradiction to be contained. Zara is a gifted writer—one second she'll have you laughing over rich girls agonizing over which Birkin bag to buy, the next second she'll shatter your heart in one sentence about losing one's innocence. Zara is the nuanced girl she writes for—light, irreverent, snarky, bitchy, funny; and aching, perceptive, deep, flawed, wise, poised, honest—all at once. Perhaps the only thing that can match Zara's unparalleled wit and big sister advice is her candid humor and undeniable talent for the written word. Zara is one of the most prolific and entertaining honest voices on the internet—and her talent is only multiplied in book form. Girl, Stop Passing Out in Your Makeup is for the bad girls, honey."—Dayna Troisi, Executive Editor, GO Magazine "Reading Zara's writing will make you feel like you're at your cool-as-hell big sister's sleepover party. You will be transfixed by her unflinching honesty and words of wisdom, and she'll successfully convince you to not only ditch the shame you feel about the raw and messy parts of yourself, but to dare to see them as beautiful."—Alexia LaFata, Editor, New York Magazine "If Cat Marnell and F. Scott Fitzgerald had a literary baby it would be Zara Barrie. She's got Marnell's casual, dark, downright hilarious tone of an irreverent party girl. But then she also has Fitzgerald's talent for making words literally feel like they sparkle on the page. I've always been a fan of Zara's writing but Girl, Stop Passing Out in Your Makeup takes it to the next level. With shimmering words that make her dark stories sparkle, she seamlessly manages to inspire even the most coked-out girl at the party to get her shit together."—Candice Jalili, Senior Sex & Dating Writer, Elite Daily

This is the true story of Franz Wisner, a man who thought he had it all- a high profile career and the fiancée of his dreams- when suddenly, his life turned upside down. Just days before they were to be married, his fiancée called off the wedding. Luckily, his large support network of family and friends wouldn't let him succumb to his misery. They decided Franz should have a wedding and a honeymoon anyway- there just wouldn't be a bride at the ceremony, and Franz' travel companion would be his brother, Kurt. During the "honeymoon," Franz reconnected with his brother and began to look at his life with newfound perspective. The brothers decided to leave their old lives behind them. They quit their jobs, sold all their possessions, and traveled around the world, visiting fifty-three countries for the next two years. In Honeymoon With My Brother, Franz recounts this remarkable journey, during which he turned his heartbreak into an opportunity to learn about himself, the world, and the brother he hardly knew. This unique book demonstrates the utility of big data approaches in human geography and planning. Offering a carefully curated selection of case studies, it reveals how researchers are accessing big data, what this data looks like and how such data can offer new and important insights and knowledge.

"Sixties counter-culture led to a revolution in fashion so profound that its contemporary influence remains unparalleled. For the first time in history women dominated the zeitgeist; never before has this monumental time in fashion been so richly documented. Switched On provides an overview of the era and showcases the It girls and designers who defined the decade. 250 iconic photos are accompanied by lavishly illustrated profiles of Jane Birkin, Jean Shrimpton, Catherine Deneuve, Mary Quant, Sharon Tate, Twiggy, and many more. Names of some of the contributing photographers - Bert Stern, Milton Greene, Horst P. Horst, Terry O'Neill, Franco Rubartelli, David Hurn, Pierluigi Praturlon, Gianni Penati, Bud Fraker, David Montgomery, Patrick Lichfield, Henry Clarke, Arnaud de Rosnay, Slim Aarons, Arthur Evans, Jean-Marie Perier, Mark Shaw. Foreword by Betsey Johnson, Afterword by Mary Quant."--

On the heels of her New York Times bestselling book *Drinking and Tweeting*, *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* star Brandi Glanville takes readers on a wild ride through her dating life in this highly-entertaining relationship book. *Drinking and Dating* chronicles Glanville's misadventures stumbling through today's dating world. From social media blunders to bedroom escapades, Brandi withholds nothing. Each chapter is inspired by a relationship encounter she has had since her sensational divorce from actor Eddie Cibrian. Hilarious, surprising, vulnerable, and outspoken, Glanville's unexpected take on dating after heartbreak – and life in general - is as unique as she is. Just like Brandi herself, *Drinking and Dating* is sexy, funny, and eyebrow-raising.

This literary biography is “a story of obsession and the search for pure childhood . . . Moving, charming, a revelation” (Los Angeles Times). J. M. Barrie, Victorian novelist, playwright, and author of *Peter Pan, or The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up*, led a life almost as interesting as his famous creation. Childless in his marriage, Barrie grew close to the five young boys of the Davies family, ultimately becoming their guardian and surrogate father when they were orphaned. Andrew Birkin draws extensively on a vast range of material by and about Barrie, including notebooks, memoirs, and hours of recorded interviews with the family and their circle, to describe Barrie's life, the tragedies that shaped him, and the wonderful world of imagination he created for the boys. Updated with a new preface and including photos and illustrations, this “absolutely gripping” read reveals the dramatic story behind one of the classics of children's literature (Evening Standard). “A psychological thriller . . . One of the year's most complex and absorbing biographies.” —Time “[A] fascinating story.” —The Washington Post

A spirited investigation into the phenomenon of bargain hunting and the competition between buyers and sellers traces the evolution of promotional pricing and sale discounts, exploring the impact of negotiable pricing on markets, the machinations of price consultants and the growing empowerment of consumers.

From Act I: "I think you left these behind," I said, handing them to her. This happens all the time when women try to return bags they've used. Tampons, lipstick, coins, Tic Tacs, and condoms are the top treasures found. "Greasy" let out a sigh as if I were the problem. "I really don't see what the problem is here. It's none of your business what I keep in my handbag." It is when my commission is at stake! I'm not your Designer Handbag Rental Service! My name is not BagBorrowOrSteal.com! This is a place Freeman Hall, a twenty-year veteran "on the floor," knows well. While delivering side-splitting stories alongside brutally cynical commentary, Freeman recounts his most shocking experiences in Retail Hell. From the time he was attacked by a customer's four-year-old, who grabbed onto his leg like a poodle and wouldn't let go, to the day he found the fitting room walls covered in s**t, Freeman has seen and heard (smelled and felt) it all! Horrifying and hilarious, this behind-the-scenes look at what really goes on at the Big Fancy Stores is rollicking, ready-to-wear wisdom for readers everywhere.

"This album contains, in chronological order, 160 photographs taken between 1963 and 1979 by Andrew Birkin of his sister Jane Birken, Serge Gainsbourg, and their relatives."--Preliminary page.

A charming and insightful memoir about coming of age as a fashion journalist in 1980s Paris, by former *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar* editor Kate Betts, the author of *Everyday Icon: Michelle Obama and the Power of Style* “You can always come back,” my mother said. “Just go.” As a young woman, Kate Betts nursed a dream of striking out on her own in a faraway place and becoming a glamorous foreign correspondent. After college—and not without trepidation—she took off for Paris, renting a room in the apartment of a young BCBG (bon chic, bon genre) family and throwing herself into the local culture. She was determined to master French slang, style, and savoir faire, and to find a job that would give her a reason to stay. After a series of dues-paying jobs that seemed only to reinforce her outsider status, Kate's hard work and willingness to take on any assignment paid off: Her writing and intrepid forays into *la France Profonde*—true France—caught the eye of John Fairchild, the mercurial fashion arbiter and publisher of *Women's Wear Daily*, the industry's bible. Kate's earliest assignments—investigating the mineral water preferred by high society, chasing after a costumed band of wild boar hunters through the forests of Brittany—were a rough apprenticeship, but she was rewarded for her efforts and was initiated into the elite ranks of Mr. Fairchild's trusted few who sat beside him in the front row and at private previews in the ateliers of the gods of French fashion. From a woozy yet mesmerizing Yves Saint Laurent and the mischievous and commanding Karl Lagerfeld to the riotous, brilliant young guns who were rewriting all the rules—Martin Margiela, Helmut Lang, John Galliano—Betts gives us a view of what it was like to be an American girl, learning about herself, falling in love, and finding her tribe. Kate Betts's captivating memoir brings to life the enchantment of France—from the nightclubs of 1980s Paris where she learned to dance *Le Rock*, to the lavender fields of Provence and the grand spectacle of the *Cour Carrée*—and magically re-creates that moment in life when a young woman discovers who she's meant to be. Praise for *My Paris Dream* “[A] glittering coming-of-age tale.”—*Entertainment Weekly* (The Must List) “Fashion and self-examination—froth and wisdom—might seem like odd bookfellows, but Betts brings them together with winning confidence.”—*The New York Times Book Review* “As light and refreshing as an ice cream cone from the legendary *Berthillon*, *My Paris Dream* evokes the sights, sounds, smells and styles of 1980s Paris.”—*USA Today* “*My Paris Dream* is awesome.”—*Man Repeller* “What was Bett's Paris dream? Her dream was her awakening, [which] is elegantly chronicled in these pages.”—*The Daily Beast* “For those who are interested in the men and women involved in haute couture, Betts' reminiscences will be a delight.”—*Kirkus Reviews* “Full of slangy French, delectable food and swoon-worthy fashion.”—*BookPage* “An amazing story of a young woman in Paris trying to break into the fashion business.”—Sophia Amoruso, author of *#GIRLBOSS* “Kate Betts's story brought me back to my own young self and the journey I made—in my case, from a small town in Illinois to New York City.”—Cindy Crawford

50 years after the release of *Je t'aime... moi non plus*, acclaimed French journalist and broadcaster Véronique Mortaigne retells the love story between these icons of late-sixties

France.

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER From Brian Moylan, the writer of Vulture's legendary Real Housewives recaps, a table-flipping, finger-pointing, halter-topping VIP journey through reality TV's greatest saga... In the spring of 2006, a new kind of show premiered on Bravo: The Real Housewives of Orange County. Its stars were tanned, taut, and bedazzled; their homes were echoey California villas; and their drama was gossip-fueled, wine-drenched, and absolutely exquisite. Fifteen seasons on, RHOC is an institution, along with The Real Housewives of New York, Atlanta, New Jersey, Miami, Potomac, and more. Over the years these ladies have done a lot more than lunch, launching thirty-one books, a cocktail line, two jail sentences, a couple supermodel daughters, Andy Cohen's talk show career, thirty-six divorces, fourteen albums, a White House party crash, and approximately one million memes. Brian Moylan has been there through it all, in front of the screen and behind the scenes. The writer of Vulture's beloved series recaps, he's here to tell us the full story, from the inside scoop on every classic throwdown to the questions we've always wanted to know, like—what are the housewives really like off-camera? (The same.) How much money do they make? (Lots.) He has a lot to say about the legacy and fandom of a franchise that's near and dear to his heart, and inextricable from pop culture today. A must-have for any fan of real drama and fake [redacted], The Housewives is the definitive companion to an American TV treasure.

An insider's hilarious, whirlwind account of his years spent globe-trotting in search of the holy grail of handbags: the Birkin For more than twenty years, the Hermès Birkin bag has been the iconic symbol of fashion, luxury, and wealth. Though the bag is often seen dangling from the arms of celebrities, there is a fabled waiting list of more than two years to buy one from Hermès, and the average fashionista has a better chance of climbing Mount Everest in Prada pumps than of possessing one of these coveted carryalls. Unless, of course, she happens to know Michael Tonello . . . Michael's newfound career started with an impulsive move to Barcelona, a vanished job assignment, no work visa, and an Hermès scarf sold on eBay to generate some quick cash. But soon the resourceful Michael discovered the truth about the waiting list and figured out the secret to getting Hermès to part with one of these precious bags. Millions of dollars worth of Birkins later, Michael had become one of eBay's most successful entrepreneurs—and a Robin Hood to thousands of desperate rich women. With down-to-earth wit, Michael chronicles the unusual ventures that took him to nearly every continent, from eBay to Paris auction house and into the lives of celebrities and poseurs. Flirting with danger, Michael recounts the heady rush of hand delivering his first big score to famed songwriter Carole Bayer Sager in Paris; how he had to hire thugs to rescue a bag that one of his "shoppers" held for ransom; and the story of the Oscar-worthy performances that allowed him to snag "reserved" bags from other, less dogged Birkin seekers. Whether he's relating his wining and dining, buying and selling, dodging and weaving, laughing and crying, or schmoozing and stammering, Michael is a master raconteur who weaves together tales of hunting Birkins in the world's most posh locales, memories of meals that would make any gastronome salivate, anecdotes of obsessed collectors with insatiable desires, and sweetly intimate stories about his family, friends, and finding true love. The result is a memoir that is distinctive, fun, page-turning, and as addictive as its namesake.

Set against the backdrop of the Nazi occupation of World War II, The Hôtel on Place Vendôme is the captivating history of Paris's world-famous Hôtel Ritz—a breathtaking tale of glamour, opulence, and celebrity; dangerous liaisons, espionage, and resistance—from Tilar J. Mazzeo, the New York Times bestselling author of The Widow Clicquot and The Secret of Chanel No. 5 When France fell to the Germans in June 1940, the legendary Hôtel Ritz on the Place Vendôme—an icon of Paris frequented by film stars and celebrity writers, American heiresses and risqué flappers, playboys, and princes—was the only luxury hotel of its kind allowed in the occupied city by order of Adolf Hitler. Tilar J. Mazzeo traces the history of this cultural landmark from its opening in fin de siècle Paris. At its center, The Hotel on Place Vendôme is an extraordinary chronicle of life at the Ritz during wartime, when the Hôtel was simultaneously headquarters to the highest-ranking German officers, such as Reichsmarshal Hermann Göring, and home to exclusive patrons, including Coco Chanel. Mazzeo takes us into the grand palace's suites, bars, dining rooms, and wine cellars, revealing a hotbed of illicit affairs and deadly intrigue, as well as stunning acts of defiance and treachery. Rich in detail, illustrated with black-and-white photos, The Hotel on Place Vendôme is a remarkable look at this extraordinary crucible where the future of post-war France—and all of post-war Europe—was transformed.

"A twisted modern love story" (Parade), Tell Me Lies is a sexy, thrilling novel about that one person who still haunts you—the other one. The wrong one. The one you couldn't let go of. The one you'll never forget. Lucy Albright is far from her Long Island upbringing when she arrives on the campus of her small California college and happy to be hundreds of miles from her mother—whom she's never forgiven for an act of betrayal in her early teen years. Quickly grasping at her fresh start, Lucy embraces college life and all it has to offer. And then she meets Stephen DeMarco. Charming. Attractive. Complicated. Devastating. Confident and cocksure, Stephen sees something in Lucy that no one else has, and she's quickly seduced by this vision of herself, and the sense of possibility that his attention brings her. Meanwhile, Stephen is determined to forget an incident buried in his past that, if exposed, could ruin him, and his single-minded drive for success extends to winning, and keeping, Lucy's heart. Lucy knows there's something about Stephen that isn't to be trusted. Stephen knows Lucy can't tear herself away. And their addicting entanglement will have consequences they never could have imagined. Alternating between Lucy's and Stephen's voices, Tell Me Lies follows their connection through college and post-college life in New York City. "Readers will be enraptured" (Booklist) by the "unforgettable beauties in this very sexy story" (Kirkus Review). With the psychological insight and biting wit of Luckiest Girl Alive, and the yearning ambitions and desires of Sweetbitter, this keenly intelligent and supremely resonant novel chronicles the exhilaration and dilemmas of young adulthood and the difficulty of letting go—even when you know

you should.

The stunning true story of Bergdorf Goodman's legendary personal shopper Eighty-six-year-old Betty Halbreich is a true original who could have stepped straight out of Stephen Sondheim's repertoire. She has spent nearly forty years as the legendary personal shopper at Bergdorf Goodman, where she works with socialites, stars, and ordinary women off the street. She has helped many find their true selves through fashion, frank advice, and her own brand of wisdom. She is trusted by the most discriminating persons—including Hollywood's top stylists—to tell them what looks best. But Halbreich's personal transformation from cosseted young girl to fearless truth teller is the greatest makeover of her career.

From the author of Fashionopolis: The Price of Fast Fashion and the Future of Clothes - Once luxury was available only to the rarefied and aristocratic world of old money and royalty. It offered a history of tradition, superior quality, and a pampered buying experience. Today, however, luxury is simply a product packaged and sold by multibillion-dollar global corporations focused on growth, visibility, brand awareness, advertising, and, above all, profits. Award-winning journalist Dana Thomas digs deep into the dark side of the luxury industry to uncover all the secrets that Prada, Gucci, and Burberry don't want us to know. Deluxe is an uncompromising look behind the glossy façade that will enthrall anyone interested in fashion, finance, or culture.

In this groundbreaking analysis of personality type, bestselling author of Better Than Before and The Happiness Project Gretchen Rubin reveals the one simple question that will transform what you do at home, at work, and in life. During her multibook investigation into understanding human nature, Gretchen Rubin realized that by asking the seemingly dry question "How do I respond to expectations?" we gain explosive self-knowledge. She discovered that based on their answer, people fit into Four Tendencies: Upholders, Questioners, Obligers, and Rebels. Our Tendency shapes every aspect of our behavior, so using this framework allows us to make better decisions, meet deadlines, suffer less stress, and engage more effectively. More than 600,000 people have taken her online quiz, and managers, doctors, teachers, spouses, and parents already use the framework to help people make significant, lasting change. The Four Tendencies hold practical answers if you've ever thought: • People can rely on me, but I can't rely on myself. • How can I help someone to follow good advice? • People say I ask too many questions. • How do I work with someone who refuses to do what I ask—or who keeps telling me what to do? With sharp insight, compelling research, and hilarious examples, The Four Tendencies will help you get happier, healthier, more productive, and more creative. It's far easier to succeed when you know what works for you.

* Vogue covers throughout the magazine's history - the epitome of elegance and sophisticated glamour

Bringing Home the Birkin My Life in Hot Pursuit of the World's Most Coveted Handbag Harper Collins

When sixteen-year-old Angel meets Call at the mall, he buys her meals and says he loves her, and he gives her some candy that makes her feel like she can fly. Pretty soon she's addicted to his candy, and she moves in with him. As a favor, he asks her to hook up with a couple of friends of his, and then a couple more. Now Angel is stuck working the streets at Hastings and Main, a notorious spot in Vancouver, Canada, where the girls turn tricks until they disappear without a trace, and the authorities don't care. But after her friend Serena disappears, and when Call brings home a girl who is even younger and more vulnerable than her to learn the trade, Angel knows that she and the new girl have got to find a way out.

In J. L. Carr's deeply charged poetic novel, Tom Birkin, a veteran of the Great War and a broken marriage, arrives in the remote Yorkshire village of Oxgodby where he is to restore a recently discovered medieval mural in the local church. Living in the bell tower, surrounded by the resplendent countryside of high summer, and laboring each day to uncover an anonymous painter's depiction of the apocalypse, Birkin finds that he himself has been restored to a new, and hopeful, attachment to life. But summer ends, and with the work done, Birkin must leave. Now, long after, as he reflects on the passage of time and the power of art, he finds in his memories some consolation for all that has been lost.

A detailed study of the life of one of the most important and influential musical figures of the nineteenth century.

A hilarious memoir chronicles the adventures and misadventures of a woman whose perfect life, perfect job, and perfect man vanish when she goes from a six-figures career to unemployment. Original.

"Like an urban Dian Fossey, Wednesday Martin decodes the primate social behaviors of Upper East Side mothers in a brilliantly original and witty memoir about her adventures assimilating into that most secretive and elite tribe. After marrying a man from the Upper East Side and moving to the neighborhood, Wednesday Martin struggled to fit in. Drawing on her background in anthropology and primatology, she tried looking at her new world through that lens, and suddenly things fell into place. She understood the other mothers' snobbiness at school drop-off when she compared them to olive baboons. Her obsessional quest for a Hermes Birkin handbag made sense when she realized other females wielded them to establish dominance in their troop. And so she analyzed tribal migration patterns; display rituals; physical adornment, mutilation, and mating practices; extra-pair copulation; and more. Her conclusions are smart, thought-provoking, and hilariously unexpected. Every city has its Upper East Side, and in Wednesday's memoir, readers everywhere will recognize the strange cultural codes of powerful social hierarchies and the compelling desire to climb them. They will also see that Upper East Side mothers want the same things for their children that all mothers want--safety, happiness, and success--and not even sky-high penthouses and chauffeured SUVs can protect this ecologically released tribe from the universal experiences of anxiety and loss. When Wednesday's life turns upside down, she learns how deep the bonds of female friendship really are. Intelligent, funny, and heartfelt, Primates of Park Avenue lifts a veil on a secret, elite world within a world--the exotic, fascinating, and strangely familiar culture of privileged Manhattan motherhood"--

Before RuPaul's Drag Race propelled the cultural phenomenon into the global spotlight, drag had been around for thousands of years. Immerse yourself in the rich history of drag in this lusciously illustrated guide. The history of drag has been formed by many intersections: fashion, theatre, sexuality and politics--all coming together to create the show stopping entertainment millions witness today. In this extensive work, Jake Hall delves deep into the ancient beginnings of drag, to present day and beyond. Vibrant illustrations enhance the rich history from Kabuki theatre to Shakespearean, the revolutionary Stonewall riots to the still thriving New York ballroom scene. Nothing will go undocumented in this must-have documentation of all things drag.

The eagerly anticipated first monograph to celebrate the fifty-years-and-counting career of decorating legend Mario Buatta. Influenced by the understated elegance of Colefax and Fowler and the doyenne of

exuberant American decor, Sister Parish, Buatta reinvented the English Country House style stateside for clients such as Henry Ford II, Barbara Walters, Malcolm Forbes, and Mariah Carey, and for Blair House, the President's guest quarters. The designer is acclaimed for his sumptuous rooms that layer fine antiques, confectionary curtains, and sublime colorations, creating an atmosphere of lived-in opulence. This lavishly illustrated survey—filled with images taken for the foremost shelter magazines as well as many unpublished photographs from the designer's own archive—closely follows Buatta's highly documented career from his professional start in the 1950s working for department store B. Altman & Co. and Elisabeth Draper, Inc. to his most recent projects, which include some of the country's finest residences. Buatta shares exclusive insights into his process, his own rules for decorating, and personal stories of his adventures along the way.

Contrasts between the relationships of two sisters, Ursula and Gudrun, and their love affairs with Birkin and Gerald.

In her own singularly beautiful style, Newbery Medal winner Sharon Creech intricately weaves together two tales, one funny, one bittersweet, to create a heartwarming, compelling, and utterly moving story of love, loss, and the complexity of human emotion. Thirteen-year-old Salamanca Tree Hiddle, proud of her country roots and the "Indian-ness in her blood," travels from Ohio to Idaho with her eccentric grandparents. Along the way, she tells them of the story of Phoebe Winterbottom, who received mysterious messages, who met a "potential lunatic," and whose mother disappeared. As Sal entertains her grandparents with Phoebe's outrageous story, her own story begins to unfold—the story of a thirteen-year-old girl whose only wish is to be reunited with her missing mother.

Namechecked as the "LeBron James of plant styling..." by "Good Morning America", Hilton Carter now shows how you can make, style, decorate and care for your own stunning plant-inspired interior with his 25 step-by-step DIY projects and plant hacks. Carter, the Instagram star of the plant world and creator of green interiors has given us glimpses into many stunning plant-filled homes where ivy and creeping figs hang miraculously from ceilings, moss and ferns grow effortlessly to create living walls, fiddle leaf ferns and cheese plants thrive, whilst air plants beautify artworks and succulents flourish whether in pots on windowsills or planted in terrariums... Now in his third book, *Wild Creations*, Hilton actually shows you how you can create these amazing fixtures that enable plants to become such an integral part of an interior. Divided into four sections, *Wild Ideas*, *Wild Hacks*, *Wild Rants* and *Wild Plants*, *Wild Creations* shows you step by step how you can create air plant wreaths, moss walls, leather hanging plant stands, terrariums and many more stunning projects that will give you the green interior you crave. And just so your plants feel at home in your interior there is even a painting by numbers jungle mural, plus plant-scented candles to make sure your interior not only stays wild but that you and all its inhabitants thrive from the health giving benefits of greenery.

Sick of striving? Giving up on grit? Had enough of hustle culture? Daunted by the 10,000-hour rule? Relax: As the French know, it's the best way to be better at everything. In the realm of love, what could be less seductive than someone who's trying to seduce you? Seduction is the art of succeeding without trying, and that's a lesson the French have mastered. We can see it in their *laissez-faire* parenting, chic style, haute cuisine, and enviable home cooking: They barely seem to be trying, yet the results are world-famous--thanks to a certain *je ne sais quoi* that is the key to a more creative, fulfilling, and productive life. For fans of both Mark Manson's *The Subtle Art of Not Giving a F*ck* and Alain de Botton's *How Proust Can Change Your Life*, philosopher Ollivier Pourriol's *The French Art of Not Trying Too Hard* draws on the examples of such French legends as Descartes, Stendhal, Rodin, Cyrano de Bergerac, and Françoise Sagan to show how to be efficient à la française, and how to effortlessly reap the rewards. A PENGUIN LIFE TITLE

An important, though neglected, figure in twentieth-century British horror fiction, Sir Charles Birkin (1907-1985) began his literary career as editor of the popular – and now highly collectible – *Creeps* series of horror anthologies in the 1930s, which featured tales by well-known writers such as H.R. Wakefield, Lord Dunsany and Russell Thorndike, as well as contributions by Birkin himself. A master of the conte cruel, often with a Grand Guignol finish, Birkin found true horror not in ghosts or the supernatural but in the hearts of men and women. Never before reprinted and extremely scarce, *Devils' Spawn* (1936) collects sixteen of Birkin's stories, many of them first published in the *Creeps* volumes, including the horror gems "The Terror on Tobit" and "The Harlem Horror". Birkin's collection *The Smell of Evil* (1965) is also available from Valancourt Books.

A searing, deeply candid memoir about a young woman's journey to understanding her complicated parents—her mother an Okinawan war bride, her father a Vietnam veteran—and her own, fraught cultural heritage. Elizabeth's mother was working as a nightclub hostess on U.S.-occupied Okinawa when she met the American soldier who would become her husband. The language barrier and power imbalance that defined their early relationship followed them to the predominantly white, upstate New York suburb where they moved to raise their only daughter. There, Elizabeth grew up with the trappings of a typical American childhood and adolescence. Yet even though she felt almost no connection to her mother's distant home, she also felt out of place among her peers. Decades later, Elizabeth comes to recognize the shame and self-loathing that haunt both her and her mother, and attempts a form of reconciliation, not only to come to terms with the embattled dynamics of her family but also to reckon with the injustices that reverberate throughout the history of Okinawa and its people. Clear-eyed and profoundly humane, *Speak, Okinawa* is a startling accomplishment—a heartfelt exploration of identity, inheritance, forgiveness, and what it means to be an American.

Matsuda, the former Shogun's senior general, finds himself banished. Caught in a plot to kill the New Shogun, he is torn between love and duty, and again breaks the rules of exile to avenge his boyhood friend. His bushido spirit overcomes the many challenges that beset him, until it seems he can enjoy life once again.

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