

## Charlotte David Foenkinos

Gabriel, Lord Sherington, was a man who understood women perfectly. He knew women waited only until the knot was tied to start changing their husbands. Having sworn never to let anyone change him, he recognized in Verity Jolliffe the perfect wife to provide him with an heir. Now all he had to do was make her fall in love with him. What could be easier? Regency Romance by Charlotte Louise Dolan; originally published by Signet

Ce roman retrace la vie de Charlotte Salomon, artiste peintre morte à vingt-six ans alors qu'elle était enceinte. Après une enfance à Berlin marquée par une tragédie familiale, Charlotte est exclue progressivement par les nazis de toutes les sphères de la société allemande. Elle vit une passion amoureuse fondatrice, avant de devoir tout quitter pour se réfugier en France. Exilée, elle entreprend la composition d'une oeuvre picturale autobiographique d'une modernité fascinante. Se sachant en danger, elle confie ses dessins à son médecin en lui disant : "C'est toute ma vie." Portrait saisissant d'une femme exceptionnelle, évocation d'un destin tragique, Charlotte est aussi le récit d'une quête. Celle d'un écrivain hanté par une artiste, et qui part à sa recherche.

No Marketing Blurb

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He was passing by, she kissed him without thinking. Now she wonders whether she did the right thing. But Natalie isn't certain of anything anymore. One minute she was a happily married young woman, successful in her career, and convinced the future was full of promise. But when her husband was run over by a car, her whole world was turned upside down. Years later, still bruised with grief but desperate to move on with her life, she impulsively kisses her colleague Markus. For Natalie, the kiss is just a gratuitous act. For the awkward, unassuming Markus, it is the moment at which he falls hopelessly, helplessly in love. But how will he ever convince such a beautiful, intelligent but confused young woman that he is the man who can bring her back to life?

Shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize “Baume is a writer of outstanding grace and style. She writes beyond the time we live in.”—Colum McCann “Baume leaves nothing unturned in this dark and sometimes funny excavation of the human heart.” —Minneapolis Star-Tribune “Fascinating, because of the cumulative power of the precise, pleasingly rhythmic sentences, and the unpredictable intelligence of the narrator’s mind.” —Guardian Struggling to cope with urban life—and life in general—Frankie, a twenty-something artist, retreats to her family’s rural house on “turbine hill,” vacant since her grandmother’s death three years earlier. It is in this space, surrounded by countryside and wild creatures, that she

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can finally grapple with the chain of events that led her here—her shaky mental health, her difficult time in art school—and maybe, just maybe, regain her footing in art and life. As Frankie picks up photography once more, closely examining the natural world around her, she reconsiders seminal works of art and their relevance. With “prose that makes sure we look and listen,”\* Sara Baume has written an elegant novel that is as much an exploration of wildness, the art world, mental illness, and community as it is a profoundly beautiful and powerful meditation on life. \*Atlantic “Baume’s writing is near-faultless.” —Financial Times “A novel of uniqueness, wonder, recognition, poignancy, truth-speaking, quiet power, strange beauty, and luminous bedazzlement.” — Joseph O’Connor

A gripping literary thriller from an exciting new voice in fiction Hailed as 'one to watch' by the UK's Telegraph, Sam Taylor is one of the most imaginative and innovative young writers at work today. With *The Amnesiac*, his United States debut, he incorporates a murder mystery and a forgotten manuscript into an exhilarating and intelligent novel. When twenty-nine-year-old James Purdew returns to England from his home in Amsterdam, it is to discover what happened during three earlier years of his life that he cannot recall. What he finds, in an old house with a tragic history, is a nineteenth-century manuscript that begins to seem less and less like a work of fiction-and more like the key to his own lost

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past. Memory and amnesia, fiction and reality, destiny and randomness, heaven and hell-all converge to form an engrossing gothic story that is sure to appeal to fans of Carlos Ruiz Zafon's *The Shadow of the Wind*.

"Ce roman retrace la vie de Charlotte Salomon, artiste peintre morte à vingt-six ans alors qu'elle était enceinte. Après une enfance à Berlin marquée par une tragédie familiale, Charlotte est exclue progressivement par les nazis de toutes les sphères de la société allemande. Elle vit une passion amoureuse fondatrice, avant de devoir tout quitter pour se réfugier en France. Exilée, elle entreprend la composition d'une œuvre picturale autobiographique d'une modernité fascinante. Se sachant en danger, elle confie ses dessins à son médecin en lui disant : 'C'est toute ma vie'. Portrait saisissant d'une femme exceptionnelle, évocation d'un destin tragique, 'Charlotte' est aussi le récit d'une quête. Celle d'un écrivain hanté par une artiste, et qui part à sa recherche." [Source : 4e de couv.]

"The Historians blends a fascinating historical intrigue with the quick pace and excitement of a thriller." — Ellen Keith, author of *The Dutch Wife* *The Secret History* meets *The Alice Network* in this riveting tale of murder and conspiracy in Sweden during WWII by critically acclaimed author Cecilia Eckbäck. It is 1943 and Sweden's neutrality in the war is under pressure. Laura Dahlgren, the bright, young right-hand of the chief negotiator to Germany, is privy to these tensions,

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even as she tries to keep her head down in the mounting fray. However, when Laura's best friend from university, Britta, is discovered murdered in cold blood, Laura is determined to find the killer. Prior to her death, Britta sent a report on the racial profiling in Scandinavia to the secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jens Regnell. In the middle of negotiating a delicate alliance with Hitler and the Nazis, Jens doesn't understand why he's received the report. When the pursuit of Britta's murderer leads Laura to his door, the two join forces to get at the truth. But as Jens and Laura attempt to untangle the mysterious circumstance surrounding Britta's death, they only become more mired in a web of lies and deceit. This trail will lead to a conspiracy that could topple their nation's identity—a conspiracy some in Sweden will try to keep hidden at any cost.

Painting For Her Life Charlotte Salomon's artistic feat under the Third Reich

When German artist Charlotte Salomon (1917-1943) handed her gouache series *Life? or Theater?* over to a friend, she beseeched him to "take good care of it, it is my entire life." A few months later, the five-months pregnant Charlotte was picked up by a Gestapo truck, deported to Drancy, and then on to Auschwitz, where she died upon arrival at the age 26. Trauma haunts many of the pages, but there is defiance, too. Born of a family plagued by depression, the work Salomon left behind is, in a very real sense, her *pièce de résistance* - in her own

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words, "something wildly eccentric." A cycle of nearly 1,300 autobiographical gouaches, it combines creative force with pioneering personal narrative into one shattering document of self-expression. Divided into three sections, the gouaches unveil a vivid self-portrait spanning across all facets of Charlotte's existence: from a complicated family life, marked by the suicides of nearly all female relatives; growing up in Berlin; her close relation to singing teacher Alfred Wolfsohn; the rise of the Nazis; to her exile to France in 1939. Throughout, the artist challenges these destructive forces by deploying playful pseudonyms and fantastical elements alongside emotional candor, remarkable observation, and a meticulous visual memory.

#1 International Bestseller Shortlisted for the 2020 Australian Prime Minister's Literary Award \* Shortlisted for the Stella Prize 2020 \* Longlisted for the 2020 Miles Franklin Award "The Big Chill with a dash of Big Little Lies . . . Knife-sharp and deeply alive." —The Guardian (London) "An insightful, poignant, and fiercely honest novel about female friendship and female aging." —Sigrid Nunez, National Book Award-winning author of *The Friend* "Friendship, ambition, love, sexual politics and death: it's all here in one sharp, funny, heartbreaking, and gorgeously written package. I loved it." —Paula Hawkins, author of *The Girl on the Train* Three women in their seventies reunite for one last, life-changing

weekend in the beach house of their late friend. Four older women have a lifelong friendship of the best kind: loving, practical, frank, and steadfast. But when Sylvie dies, the ground shifts dangerously for the remaining three. They are Jude, a once-famous restaurateur; Wendy, an acclaimed public intellectual; and Adele, a renowned actress now mostly out of work. Struggling to recall exactly why they've remained close all these years, the grieving women gather at Sylvie's old beach house—not for festivities this time, but to clean it out before it is sold. Can they survive together without her? Without Sylvie to maintain the group's delicate equilibrium, frustrations build and painful memories press in. Fraying tempers, an elderly dog, unwelcome guests, and too much wine collide in a storm that brings long-buried hurts to the surface—and threatens to sweep away their friendship for good. The Weekend explores growing old and growing up, and what happens when we're forced to uncover the lies we tell ourselves. Sharply observed and excruciatingly funny, this is a jewel of a book: a celebration of tenderness and friendship from an award-winning writer. Inspired by the history of the British “bridships,” this captivating historical debut tells the story of one woman's coming of age and search for independence—for readers of Pam Jenoff's *The Orphan's Tale* and Armando Lucas Correa's *The German Girl*. Tomorrow we would dock in Victoria on the northwest coast of

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North America, about as far away from my home as I could imagine. Like pebbles tossed upon the beach, we would scatter, trying to make our way as best as we could. Most of us would marry; some would not. England, 1862. Charlotte is somewhat of a wallflower. Shy and bookish, she knows her duty is to marry, but with no dowry, she has little choice in the matter. She can't continue to live off the generosity of her sister Harriet and her wealthy brother-in-law, Charles, whose political aspirations dictate that she make an advantageous match. When Harriet hosts a grand party, Charlotte is charged with winning the affections of one of Charles's colleagues, but before the night is over, her reputation—her one thing of value—is at risk. In the days that follow, rumours begin to swirl. Soon Charles's standing in society is threatened and all that Charlotte has held dear is jeopardized, even Harriet, and Charlotte is forced to leave everything she has ever known in England and embark on a treacherous voyage to the New World. From the rigid social circles of Victorian England to the lawless lands bursting with gold in British Columbia's Cariboo, *The Brideship Wife* takes readers on a mesmerizing journey through a time of great change. Based on a forgotten chapter in history, this is a sparkling debut about the pricelessness of freedom and the courage it takes to follow your heart.

When Hector falls in love it's the way she washes windows that does it for him.

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And so begins his new infatuation, a collection (and recollection) of beautifully observed moments spent observing his wife's every move.

Charlotte

"Masterful. Magnificent. A passionate story of survival and a real page turner. This story will stay with me for a long time." —Heather Morris, author of *The Tattooist of Auschwitz* and *Cilka's Journey Living through World War II* working in a Paris bookstore with her young daughter, Vivi, and fighting for her life, Charlotte is no victim, she is a survivor. But can she survive the next chapter of her life? Alternating between wartime Paris and 1950s New York publishing, Ellen Feldman's *Paris Never Leaves You* is an extraordinary story of resilience, love, and impossible choices, exploring how survival never comes without a cost. The war is over, but the past is never past.

Le roman de David Foenkinos retrace la vie de Charlotte Salomon, artiste peintre morte à vingt-six ans à Auschwitz. Après une enfance à Berlin, Charlotte est exclue par les nazis de toutes les sphères de la société allemande. Elle vit une passion amoureuse fondatrice, avant de devoir tout quitter pour se réfugier en France. Elle y entreprend la composition d'une œuvre picturale autobiographique d'une modernité fascinante. Se sachant en danger, elle confie ses dessins à son médecin en lui disant : « C'est toute ma vie. » Ce roman a connu un succès

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considérable depuis sa publication en septembre 2014 et a obtenu deux prestigieux prix littéraires, le prix Renaudot et le prix Goncourt des lycéens. De nombreux lecteurs ont demandé à l'auteur de montrer les œuvres peintes de Charlotte, quelques-unes des centaines de gouaches qu'elle a laissées et dont l'ensemble, intitulé *Vie ? ou Théâtre ?* raconte son histoire. Cette édition intégrale illustrée du roman est accompagnée de cinquante gouaches de Charlotte Salomon choisies par David Foenkinos, et d'une dizaine de photographies représentant Charlotte et ses proches.

Aged fifteen, as Franco's forces begin their murderous purges and cities across Spain rise up against the old order, Montse has never heard the word *fascista* before. In any case, the villagers say *facha* (the *ch* is a real Spanish *ch*, by the way, with a real spit). Montse lives in a small village, high in the hills, where few people can read or write and fewer still ever leave. If everything goes according to her mother's plan, Montse will never leave either. She will become a good, humble maid for the local landowners, *muchísimas gracias*, with every Sunday off to dance the *jota* in the church square. But Montse's world is changing. Her brother José has just returned from Lérida with a red and black scarf and a new, dangerous vocabulary and his words are beginning to open up new realms to his little sister. She might not understand half of what he says, but how can anyone

become a maid in the Burgos family when their head is ringing with shouts of Revolución, Comunidad and Libertad? The war, it seems, has arrived in the nick of time.

A tale of two torturers—Where I Left My Soul is a powerful exploration of guilt and identity in the savagery of the Algerian War. Captain Andre Degorce is reunited with Lieutenant Horace Andreani, with whom he experienced the horrors of combat and imprisonment in Vietnam. Captives now pass from the Captain's hands into Andreani's: one-time victims have become torturers. Andreani has fully embraced his new status, but Degorce has lost all sense of himself, only finding peace when he is with Tahar, a commander in the National Liberation Army. Tahar's cell now acts as a confessional for Andreani, with the jailor opening up to his prisoner.

HHhH: "Himmlers Hirn heisst Heydrich", or "Himmler's brain is called Heydrich". The most dangerous man in Hitler's cabinet, Reinhard Heydrich was known as the "Butcher of Prague." He was feared by all and loathed by most. With his cold Aryan features and implacable cruelty, Heydrich seemed indestructible—until two men, a Slovak and a Czech recruited by the British secret service, killed him in broad daylight on a bustling street in Prague, and thus changed the course of History. Who were these men, arguably two of the most discreet heroes of the twentieth century? In Laurent Binet's captivating debut novel, we follow Jozef Gabčík and Jan Kubiš from their dramatic escape of Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia to England; from their recruitment to their harrowing parachute drop into a war zone, from their stealth attack on Heydrich's car to their own brutal death in the basement of a Prague church. A seemingly

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effortlessly blend of historical truth, personal memory, and Laurent Binet's remarkable imagination, *HHhH*—an international bestseller and winner of the prestigious Prix Goncourt du Premier Roman—is a work at once thrilling and intellectually engrossing, a fast-paced novel of the Second World War that is also a profound meditation on the nature of writing and the debt we owe to history. *HHhH* is one of The New York Times' Notable Books of 2012.

Charlotte Salomon is born into a family stricken by suicide and a country at war. But there is something exceptional about her - she has a gift, a talent for painting. And she has a great love, for a brilliant, eccentric musician. But just as she is coming into her own as an artist, death is coming to control her country. The Nazis have come to power and, as a Jew in Berlin, Charlotte's life is narrowing, and she knows every second is precious. Inspiring, unflinching, terrible and hopeful, Charlotte is the heartbreaking true story of a life filled with curiosity, animated by genius and cut short by hatred.

Winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature \* Winner of the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year Award \* Short-listed for the Costa First Novel Award \* Long-listed for the Desmond Elliott Prize \* Long-listed for the Guardian First Book Award 2015, Readers' Choice \* Long-listed for the Warwick Prize for Writing 2015 \* Long-listed for 2015 Edinburgh First Novel Award "A deeply attuned portrait of the human mind...An unsettling literary surprise of the best sort."—Atlantic "This book is like a flame in daylight: beautiful and unexpected."—Anne Enright It is springtime, and two outcasts—a man ignored, even shunned by his village, and the one-eyed dog he takes into his quiet, tightly shuttered life—find each other, by accident or fate, and forge an unlikely connection. As their friendship grows, their small, seaside town falsely perceives menace where there is only mishap—and the duo must take to the road. Gorgeously

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written in poetic and mesmerizing prose, *Spill Simmer Falter Wither* is one of those rare stories that utterly and completely imagines its way into a life most of us would never see. It transforms us in our understanding not only of the world, but also of ourselves. "A man-and-his-dog story like no other."—San Francisco Chronicle "[*Spill Simmer Falter Wither*] hums with its own distinctiveness."—Guardian (UK) "A tour de force...A stunning and wonderful achievement by a writer touched by greatness." —Joseph O'Connor, for the Irish Times

With the scandalous nature of her birth to live down, Isabella Fairmont dreams of a proper marriage—even if a passionless one. She saves her deepest desires for the novel she dares to pen, wherein a handsome lord with dark powers seduces her. But then her courtship with an appropriate suitor is threatened by the sudden attentions of the reclusive Earl of Black...whose pale blue eyes and brooding sensuality are exactly as she described in her book. Isabella tries to resist the mysterious Earl of Black. Yet as he pursues her, with inexplicable knowledge of her past and kisses that consume her, Isabella fears she will succumb. If only the earl could tell Isabella the truth. With very real, and treacherous, thieves endangering her life, Black will need to protect Isabella from the very people she trusts the most....

From the author of *The Balance Project* comes a dual-timeline narrative featuring a 1949 Miss Subways contestant and a modern-day advertising executive whose careers and lives intersect. "Schnall has written a book that is smart and timely...Feels perfect for fans of *Beatriz Williams* and *Liza Klausmann*." —Taylor Jenkins Reid, acclaimed author of *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo* "A fast-paced, clever novel filled with romantic possibilities, high-stakes decisions, and harsh realities. Perfect for fans of *Fiona Davis's The Dollhouse*, this engrossing tale highlights the role that ambition, sexism, and true love will forever play in

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women's lives." —Amy Poeppel, author of *Small Admissions* In 1949, dutiful and ambitious Charlotte's dream of a career in advertising is shattered when her father demands she help out with the family business. Meanwhile, Charlotte is swept into the glamorous world of the Miss Subways beauty contest, which promises irresistible opportunities with its Park Avenue luster and local fame status. But when her new friend—the intriguing and gorgeous fellow-participant Rose—does something unforgivable, Charlotte must make a heart-wrenching decision that will change the lives of those around her forever. Nearly 70 years later, outspoken advertising executive Olivia is pitching the NYC subways account in a last ditch effort to save her job at an advertising agency. When the charismatic boss she's secretly in love with pits her against her misogynistic nemesis, Olivia's urgent search for the winning strategy leads her to the historic Miss Subways campaign. As the pitch date closes in on her, Olivia finds herself dealing with a broken heart, an unlikely new love interest, and an unexpected personal connection to Miss Subways that could save her job—and her future. *The Subway Girls* is the charming story of two strong women, a generation apart, who find themselves up against the same eternal struggle to find an impossible balance between love, happiness, and ambition.

One of the most vivid, gripping and chilling first novels of recent years, *The Republic of Trees* tells the story of Michael, Louis, Alex and Isobel, four children on the edge of adolescence, who run away to the forest to establish their own utopian community. All seems well in the Republic of Trees - until the sudden arrival of Joy. Under her influence, their relationships grow more erotic and obsessive, and the shadows of a nightmarish dystopia start to encroach on reality . . .

A Bookshop in Berlin: The Rediscovered Memoir of One Woman's Harrowing Escape from the

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Nazis by Françoise Frenkel: Conversation Starters A Bookshop in Berlin: The Rediscovered Memoir of One Woman's Harrowing Escape from the Nazis is a nonfiction book written by Françoise Frenkel. The book is about Frenkel's La Maison du Livre, Berlin's first bookstore. The bookshop became the refuge of exchange when the Nazi ideology started to empower the culturally rich Berlin city. It is a story of one woman who was fearless enough to share her personal hardships, terror, the cruelty that she encountered, and her own odyssey to safety. Frenkel's A Bookshop in Berlin: The Rediscovered Memoir of One Woman's Harrowing Escape from the Nazis is a republished book from its original title, Rien où poser sa tête or No Place to Lay One's Head. It was republished by Atria Books on December 3, 2019. A Brief Look Inside: EVERY GOOD BOOK CONTAINS A WORLD FAR DEEPER than the surface of its pages. The characters and their world come alive, and the characters and its world still live on. Conversation Starters is peppered with questions designed to bring us beneath the surface of the page and invite us into the world that lives on. These questions can be used to create hours of conversation: -Foster a deeper understand of the book -Promote an atmosphere of discussion for groups -Assist in the study of the book, either individually or corporately -Explore unseen realms of the book as never seen before Disclaimer This book is an independent resource to supplement the original book and is not affiliated nor endorse by the original work in any way. If you have not yet purchased a copy of the original book, please do before purchasing this unofficial Conversation Starters. Download your copy now on sale Read it on your PC, Mac, iOS or Android smartphone, tablet devices.

On the last day of 1999, a survivor grandmother in Tel Aviv shares with her

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granddaughter her tragic life story as a child hidden in a pit, with only a rat for company. The granddaughter tells the legend of "Girl and Rat" to her teacher; in 2009 those who heard it through her classmates establish an internet website with poems. From now on this memory is spread all over the world and becomes a myth. A future anthropologist, researching its mysterious roots in 2099, discovers Father Stanislaw's personal journal documenting his rescue of that little Jewish girl, and so the chain of remembearers moves from the present to the future and back to the past.

Obsessed with art, and with living, Charlotte attended school in Germany until it was too dangerous to remain, fled to France, and was interned in a bleak work camp from which she narrowly escaped. Newly free, she spent two years in almost total solitude, creating a series of autobiographical art—images, words, even musical scores—that together tell her life story. A pregnant Charlotte was killed in Auschwitz at the age of 26, but not before she entrusted her life's work to a friend, who kept it safe until peacetime. The result, an extraordinary novel *avant la lettre*, was eventually published as *Life? or Theatre?* (and now reissued by Overlook), a unique, relentlessly complete artistic expression. In *Charlotte*, David Foenkinos—with passion, life, humor, and intelligent observation—has written his own utterly original tribute to Charlotte Salomon's tragic life and transcendent art.

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His gorgeous, haunting, and ultimately redemptive novel is the result of a long-cherished desire to honor this young artist. Infused with the emotion of a writer who connects deeply with his subject, and masterfully and sensitively translated by Sam Taylor, Charlotte is a triumph of creative expression, a monument to genius stilled too soon, and an ode to the will to survive.

A close look at Charlotte Salomon's fantastical autobiography *Life? or Theater?* and the way that German social history has omitted the stories of German Jewish women and suicide

A provocative novel about the fallout from a search for truth by the author of the national bestseller *The Lifeboat*. For Maggie Rayburn -- wife, mother, and secretary at a munitions plant -- life is pleasant, predictable, and, she assumes, secure. When she finds proof of a high-level cover-up on her boss's desk, she impulsively takes it, an act that turns her world, and her worldview, upside down. Propelled by a desire to do good -- and also by a newfound taste for excitement -- Maggie starts to see injustice everywhere. Soon her bottom drawer is filled with what she calls "evidence," her small town has turned against her, and she must decide how far she will go for the truth. For Penn Sinclair -- Army Captain, Ivy League graduate, and reluctant heir to his family's fortune -- a hasty decision has disastrous results. Home from Iraq and eager to atone, he reunites with three

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survivors to expose the truth about the war. They launch a website that soon has people talking, but the more they expose, the cloudier their mission becomes. Now and Again is a blazingly original novel about the interconnectedness of lives, the limits of knowledge, and the consequences of doing the right thing. The sinking of an ocean liner leaves a newly married woman battling for survival in this powerful debut novel. Grace Winter, 22, is both a newlywed and a widow. She is also on trial for her life. In the summer of 1914, the elegant ocean liner carrying her and her husband Henry across the Atlantic suffers a mysterious explosion. Setting aside his own safety, Henry secures Grace a place in a lifeboat, which the survivors quickly realize is over capacity. For any to live, some must die. As the castaways battle the elements, and each other, Grace recollects the unorthodox way she and Henry met, and the new life of privilege she thought she'd found. Will she pay any price to keep it? The Lifeboat is a page-turning novel of hard choices and survival, narrated by a woman as unforgettable and complex as the events she describes.

'A luminous tale about the courage of the lone female artist.' Joan London Born in Germany in 1876, Paula Modersohn-Becker was the first female artist to paint herself not only naked but pregnant. Being Here is a moving account of the life of this ground-breaking Expressionist painter, by the acclaimed French writer Marie

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Darrieussecq. As her art evolves, Paula is torn between Paris and her home in northern Germany. In Paris she can focus on her work, and mix with artists like Rodin and Monet, or her close friend the poet Rainer Maria Rilke. But Germany is home, and that's where her painter husband Otto lives. Darrieussecq thrillingly describes Paula's discovery of her style and choice of subjects—women, babies, domestic life. She tells the story of her fraught marriage, her ambivalence about combining her passion for her career as an artist with motherhood. And she recounts her tragic death at thirty-one, days after giving birth. Marie Darrieussecq was born in Bayonne in 1969 and is recognized as one of the leading voices of contemporary French literature. Her first novel, *Pig Tales*, was translated into thirty-five languages. In 2013 she was awarded the Prix Médicis and the Prix des Prix. Text publishes her three most recent novels, *Tom Is Dead*, *All the Way and Men*, as well as *Being Here*, *The Life of Paula Modersohn-Becker*. 'Marie Darrieussecq reads the testament of Modersohn-Becker—the letters, the diaries, and above all the paintings—with a burning intelligence and a fierce hold on what it meant and means to be a woman and an artist.' J.M. Coetzee 'There are few writers who may have changed my perception of the world, but Darrieussecq is one of them.' The Times 'The internationally celebrated author who illuminates those parts of life other writers cannot or do not want to reach.' Independent

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'Penny Hueston's translation from the original French, reads strangely—and in a good way—like true crime...Heartbreaking.' West Australian 'A brief, powerful artistic life that went painfully unrewarded—until after the painter's death.' Julian Barnes, Best Summer Holiday Reads, Guardian [UK] 'Darrieussecq has written this painful story because of her own sorrow at not knowing Paula Modersohn-Becker and of not knowing of her; sorrow, too, at her early death and truncated creativity. Darrieussecq looks squarely at a subject that is often too brutal to explore.' Monthly 'Lyrical and touching... Blending historical fact with imaginative flair, Darrieussecq brings her figures to life, imbuing them with emotion, character, and power...Being Here feels almost effortlessly beautiful, a short work of non-fiction told like a flowing piece of fictional prose.' AU Review 'Translated elegantly by Penny Hueston, the study retains some of the spacious, if not capacious quality of the French language and its ability to articulate the phenomena of presence and absence—the continued aliveness of the paintings and the sad and sudden death of the painter.' Conversation 'In Darrieussecq's hands, Modersohn-Becker's story is both individual and exemplary: a frightening, energising fable' Guardian 'Darrieussecq animates the short life of a passionate German artist with vivid, spare prose...This taut biography, written in the present tense, has the urgency and poignancy of the best novels.' Suzy Freeman-

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Greene, Best Books of 2017, Australian Book Review 'One of those books that catches you by surprise, Being Here is art history that feels like a beautifully crafted novel...It's effortlessly beautiful, and highlights the ever more important need to tell the stories of women in art.' AU Review, Top Ten Books of 2017 A Kirkus Review Best Book of 2017 and a Washington Post Notable Work of Fiction. Winner of the British Book Awards Fiction Book of the Year and overall Book of the Year, selected as the Waterstones Book of the Year, and a Costa Book Award Finalist "A novel of almost insolent ambition--lush and fantastical, a wild Eden behind a garden gate...it's part ghost story and part natural history lesson, part romance and part feminist parable. I found it so transporting that 48 hours after completing it, I was still resentful to be back home." -New York Times "An irresistible new novel...the most delightful heroine since Elizabeth Bennet in Pride and Prejudice...By the end, The Essex Serpent identifies a mystery far greater than some creature 'from the illuminated margins of a manuscript': friendship." -Washington Post "Richly enjoyable... Ms. Perry writes beautifully and sometimes agreeably sharply... The Essex Serpent is a wonderfully satisfying novel. Ford Madox Ford thought the glory of the novel was its ability to make the reader think and feel at the same time. This one does just that." -Wall Street Journal An exquisitely talented young British author makes her American

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debut with this rapturously acclaimed historical novel, set in late nineteenth-century England, about an intellectually minded young widow, a pious vicar, and a rumored mythical serpent that explores questions about science and religion, skepticism, and faith, independence and love. When Cora Seaborne's brilliant, domineering husband dies, she steps into her new life as a widow with as much relief as sadness: her marriage was not a happy one. Wed at nineteen, this woman of exceptional intelligence and curiosity was ill-suited for the role of society wife. Seeking refuge in fresh air and open space in the wake of the funeral, Cora leaves London for a visit to coastal Essex, accompanied by her inquisitive and obsessive eleven-year old son, Francis, and the boy's nanny, Martha, her fiercely protective friend. While admiring the sites, Cora learns of an intriguing rumor that has arisen further up the estuary, of a fearsome creature said to roam the marshes claiming human lives. After nearly 300 years, the mythical Essex Serpent is said to have returned, taking the life of a young man on New Year's Eve. A keen amateur naturalist with no patience for religion or superstition, Cora is immediately enthralled, and certain that what the local people think is a magical sea beast may be a previously undiscovered species. Eager to investigate, she is introduced to local vicar William Ransome. Will, too, is suspicious of the rumors. But unlike Cora, this man of faith is convinced the

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rumors are caused by moral panic, a flight from true belief. These seeming opposites who agree on nothing soon find themselves inexorably drawn together and torn apart—an intense relationship that will change both of their lives in ways entirely unexpected. Hailed by Sarah Waters as "a work of great intelligence and charm, by a hugely talented author," *The Essex Serpent* is "irresistible . . . you can feel the influences of Mary Shelley, Bram Stoker, Wilkie Collins, Charles Dickens, and Hilary Mantel channeled by Perry in some sort of Victorian séance. This is the best new novel I've read in years" (Daily Telegraph).

The delightful first title in a new collaboration with Channel 4's *Walter Presents*: a fast-paced comic mystery enriched by a deep love of books In the small town of Crozon in Brittany, a library houses manuscripts that were rejected for publication: the faded dreams of aspiring writers. Visiting while on holiday, young editor Delphine Despero is thrilled to discover a novel so powerful that she feels compelled to bring it back to Paris to publish it. The book is a sensation, prompting fevered interest in the identity of its author - apparently one Henri Pick, a now-deceased pizza chef from Crozon. Sceptics cry that the whole thing is a hoax: how could this man have written such a masterpiece? An obstinate journalist, Jean-Michel Rouche, heads to Brittany to investigate. By turns farcical and moving, *The Mystery of Henri Pick* is a fast-paced comic mystery enriched

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by a deep love of books - and of the authors who write them.

The sensational new novel from Charlotte Roche, author of *Wetlands* In her controversial first novel, *Wetlands*, which *The New York Times* called "a cri de coeur against the oppression of a waxed, shaved, douched and otherwise sanitized women's world," Roche wrote about sex and the female body in an unprecedentedly frank way. Roche's second novel, *Wrecked*, is just as raw and powerful as her debut but is a more mature work that deals with sex, death, fidelity and the question of what is expected from a 21st-century wife and mother. It's easier to give a blow job than to make coffee. That's what Elizabeth Kiehl, mother of seven-year-old Liza, thinks to herself after a particularly lengthy and inventive bout of sex with her husband Georg--recounted in detail over the book's first sixteen pages. Elizabeth makes great efforts to pleasure her husband in the bedroom and is also an extremely thoughtful and caring mother to her daughter. But her perfect mother and wife act hides a painful past and a tragic rift in her psyche. As a result, Elizabeth's relationship with Georg is rather unusual: most husbands and wives wouldn't watch porn together or go off on joint trips to a local brothel for threesomes with prostitutes while their daughter is at school. But is their relationship unhealthy or just a very modern marriage?

Wanted: A bold adventurer who wants to travel the world from a comfortable and safe spot behind a desk that has seen the likes of kings and queens, paupers and princes. A humble book and rare manuscript shop seeks a keenly intelligent investigator to assist

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us in our search for things thought lost, and in our quest to return lost items to their rightful owners. Never an adventurer, no one was more surprised than Delaney Nichols when she packed her bags and moved halfway across the world to Edinburgh, Scotland to start a job at The Cracked Spine, a bookshop located in the heart of the city. Her new boss, Edwin MacAlister, has given her the opportunity of a lifetime, albeit a cryptic one, and Delaney can't wait to take her spot behind the desk. The Cracked Spine is filled with everything a book lover could want, each item as eclectic as the people who work there; the spirited and lovable Rosie, who always has tiny dog Hector in tow; Hamlet, a nineteen-year-old thespian with a colored past and bright future; and Edwin, who is just as enigmatic and mysterious as Delaney expected. An extra bonus is Tom the bartender from across the street, with his cobalt eyes, and a gentle brogue—and it doesn't hurt that he looks awfully good in a kilt. But before she can settle into her new life, a precious artifact goes missing, and Edwin's sister is brutally murdered. Never did Delaney think that searching for things lost could mean a killer, but if she's to keep her job, and protect her new friends, she'll need to learn the truth behind this Scottish tragedy.

Charlotte Salomon is born into a family stricken by suicide and a country at war – but there is something exceptional about her. She has a gift, a talent for painting. And she has a great love, for a brilliant, eccentric musician. But just as she is coming in to her own as an artist, death is coming to control her country. The Nazis have come to power

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and, a Jew in Berlin, her life is narrowing – she is kept from her art, torn from her love and her family, chased from her country. And still she is not safe, not from the madness that has hunted her family, or the one gripping Europe . . . Charlotte is a heart-breaking true story – inspiring, unflinching, awful, hopeful – of a life filled with curiosity, animated by genius and cut short by hatred. A beautifully, lucidly told memorial, it has become an international sensation.

In Australian bestselling author Charlotte Nash's U.S. debut, a young woman attends her ex-boyfriend's Paris wedding and discovers more than she ever dreamed in the ultimate city of love. Imagine you are invited to Paris, the City of Love, to witness the wedding of your first love to a woman you've never met. Would you go? It's been ages since Rachael West has seen the man she once believed she couldn't live without. Receiving his wedding invitation was bittersweet—she was oddly touched he's asked her, but knows that facing him on this day would be the hardest thing she's ever done. But her friends and family convince her to attend. After all, it's an all-expenses-paid trip to Paris! Surely she can get through that one day, and discover all the delights of that magical city the remainder of the time. So Rachael leaves her small town, setting off for the City of Lights with her best friend, two feuding neighbors, and a suitcase full of home-sewn couture in tow. She's determined to let Paris work its magic—and it does by way of a handsome photojournalist. And before her adventure is over, Rachael will be faced with yet another choice. But this time, hers isn't the only happiness at risk . . . .

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Meticulously researched and controversial in scope and imagination, "And So It Was Written" travels to a time when a Third Temple is built and the Ark of the Covenant holding the Ten Commandments is found. As the Romans prepare to reclaim Israel, two sets of brothers—None Roman and one Jewish—find their friendships, hatreds, and lives intertwined.

In 1937 Hollywood, gossip columnist Sheilah Graham's star is on the rise, while literary wonder boy F. Scott Fitzgerald's career is slowly drowning in booze. But the once-famous author, desperate to make money penning scripts for the silver screen, is charismatic enough to attract the gorgeous Miss Graham, a woman who exposes the secrets of others while carefully guarding her own. Like Fitzgerald's hero Jay Gatsby, Graham has meticulously constructed a life far removed from the poverty of her childhood in London's slums. And like Gatsby, the onetime guttersnipe learned early how to use her charms to become a hardworking success; she is feted and feared by both the movie studios and their luminaries. A notorious drunk famously married to the doomed Zelda, Fitzgerald fell hard for his "Shielah" (he never learned to spell her name), a shrewd yet softhearted woman—both a fool for love and nobody's fool—who would stay with him and help revive his career until his tragic death three years later. Working from Sheilah's memoirs, interviews, and letters, Sally Koslow revisits their scandalous love affair and Graham's dramatic transformation in London, bringing Graham and Fitzgerald gloriously to life with the color, glitter, magic, and passion of

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1930s Hollywood.

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