

Dead Mens Trousers

Three stories explore different aspects of love, with a bedridden romance writer exacting revenge on her husband, a flawed beauty trying to get back at the man who marketed the drug that crippled her from birth, and the changing relationship of a miserabl

Irvine Welsh, 'poet laureate of the chemical generation', exposes the seamy underbelly of rave's utopian dream. Lloyd, our permanently pilled-up protagonist, pushes his weekends to breaking point and beyond in this frazzled trip through Scottish clubland. He experiences the vertiginous uppers and downers of the Second Summer of Love, dabbles in a spot of disc jockeying and closes in, gradually, on some kind of redemption... Selected from Irvine Welsh's novel Ecstasy. VINTAGE MINIS: GREAT MINDS. BIG IDEAS. LITTLE BOOKS. A series of short books by the world's greatest writers on the experiences that make us human Also in the Vintage Minis series: Home by Salman Rushdie Dreams by Sigmund Freud Eating by Nigella Lawson Work by Joseph Heller

Anna Karenina left her husband for a dashing officer. Lady Chatterley left hers for the gamekeeper. Now Alice Coombs has her boyfriend for nothing ... nothing at all. Just how that should have come to pass and what Philip Engstrand, Alice's spurned boyfriend, can do about it is the premise for this vertiginous speculative romance by the acclaimed author of Gun, with Occasional Music. Alice Coombs is a particle physicist, and she and her colleagues have created a void, a hole in the universe, that they have taken to calling Lack. But Lack is a nullity with taste—tastes; it absorbs a pomegranate, light bulbs, an argyle sock; it disdains a bow tie, an ice ax, and a scrambled duck egg. To Alice, this selectivity translates as an irresistible

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personality. To Philip, it makes Lack an unbeatable rival, for how can he win Alice back from something that has no flaws—because it has no qualities? Ingenious, hilarious, and genuinely mind-expanding, *As She Climbed Across the Table* is the best boy-meets-girl-meets-void story ever written.

A new movement has replaced Project Mayhem, and even Tyler Durden doesn't know how to play by these rules. Marla Singer is about to deliver her second child, but the daddy isn't her husband--it's Tyler, who's very invested in his heir, and the world he'll inherit, as *Die Off Industries* plots to fine-tune mankind. Bestselling novelist Chuck Palahniuk is back with his greatest creation, the sequel to the book that spent six months on the 2016 New York Times bestseller list. Teaming once again with award-winning artists Cameron Stewart and David Mack, Palahniuk leads a full frontal assault of the culture, from online dating to weaponized STDs, as a strange picture frame opens a road to paradise. 2019's bestselling twelve-issue series is collected in one massive hardcover. Get in touch with your ugly side. Collects *Fight Club* 3 issues #1-#12. "Whether you've been a fan since the '90s or were hooked by the jump to comics, you'll want to see what comes next in this highly unpredictable saga." - PASTE MAGAZINE "Fight Club 3 is everything that a sequel to a sequel should be. It elevates the dark themes of the novel and the first graphic novel to the next illogical, insanely violent step." - COMICON.COM "Palahniuk's work takes some of our greatest shortcomings--insufficient or inadequate parenting, toxic isolation-- then magnifies and underlines them in fractured skulls and drunken vomit." - PLAYBOY "Scabby and surreal." - DEADLINE HOLLYWOOD "The first rule of the comic book incarnation of *Fight Club* is that it'll look good." - HOLLYWOOD REPORTER "Ambitious." - ADVENTURES IN POOR TASTE "Trippy." - EVERYTHING

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ACTION "The talent and care that went into this issue is palpable, from David Mack's cover to Nate Piekos' lettering... This book does not allow you to get comfortable." - COMICWATCH
"Stewart continues to do the Fight Club saga justice with his artwork...flies and all." - ROGUES
PORTAL "Bold...Palahniuk doesn't give us what we want here but rather what we need. Namely a story that makes the reader think not just about what's going on but also about their own expectations of the archetypes portrayed in the story; the flies buzzing on the page hinting at a character's intent; the name drop of "snowflake" for a caller I.D.; a subtle tattoo on the neck. All raising enough questions to leave us staring at every panel with the steely focus of a seasoned detective combing a crime scene for clues." - BIG COMIC PAGE

An epic novel about the bonds of friendship from the author of *Trainspotting*. The story of four boys growing up in the Edinburgh projects, *Glue* is about the loyalties, the experiences, and the secrets that hold friends together through three decades. The boys become men: Juice Terry, the work-shy fanny-merchant, with corkscrew curls and sticky fingers; Billy the boxer, driven, controlled, playing to his strengths; Carl, the Milky Bar Kid, drifting along to his own soundtrack; and the doomed Gally, exceedingly thin-skinned and vulnerable to catastrophe at every turn. We follow their lives from the seventies into the new century—from punk to techno, from speed to E. Their mutual loyalty is fused in street morality: Back up your mates, don't hit women, and, most important, never snitch—on anyone. *Glue* has the Irvine Welsh trademarks—crackling dialogue, scabrous set pieces, and black, black humor—but it is also a grown-up book about growing up—about the way we live our lives, and what happens to us when things become unstuck. "Stocked with his usual quirky, sympathetic characters, this rollicking new tale sparkles with the writer's trademark satiric wit. Its heft and narrative breadth

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should convince any remaining skeptics that Welsh—now effectively the grand old man of in-your-face Scottish fiction—is a writer to be taken seriously."—Publishers Weekly starred review

Irvine Welsh, the author of *Trainspotting*, is up to his old tricks with his new work of transgressive short fiction. Irvine Welsh's first short-story collection since his debut work *The Acid House* presents five extraordinary stories, which remind us that he is a master of the short form, a brilliant storyteller, and—unarguably—one of today's funniest and most subversive writers. In "Rattlesnakes" three young Americans, lost in the desert, are accosted by two armed Mexicans. A Korean chef and a Chicago socialite find themselves connected through the disappearance of a pooch named Toto in "The D.O.G.S. of Lincoln Park." And in the title story, Mickey Baker—an ex-pat English bar owner living on the Costa Brava—tries to keep all of his balls in the air: maintaining his barmaid's weight at the sexual maximum, attending to the youthful Persephone, and dodging his ex-wife and Spanish gangsters. In typically Welshian fashion, the characters and settings are anything but typical. These stories will make you laugh and gasp.

Now a major motion picture starring Amber Heard, Shiloh Fernandez, Kellan Lutz, and Brittany Snow *Scat* (formerly known as Michael Holloway) is young, underemployed, and trying to make it in Los Angeles. When he comes up with the idea for the hottest new soda ever, he's sure he'll become the next overnight sensation, maybe even retire early. But in the treacherous waters of corporate America there are no sure things and Scat finds that he has to fight to save his idea if his yet-to-be-realized career will ever get off the ground. With the help of a scarily gorgeous and brilliant marketing director named 6, he sets out on a mission to grab hold the fame and fortune that, time and again, elude him. This sharp-witted novel is a

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scathingly funny satire of celebrity, the pop culture machine, and the length to which a guy will go to get ahead—and get a date while doing it.

The International Bestseller from the author The New York Times called "blisteringly funny" — it's the wild and wooly crew from *Trainspotting* back for one last adventure You don't need to have seen the blockbuster movie—nor read the earlier mega-bestselling books—to get what's going on in *Dead Men's Trousers*: Four no-longer-young men who constantly think back to their bawdy, drug-filled youth together on the streets of Edinburgh, decide they want to join forces for one last caper. Careful what you wish for... "Manages a sort of ragged glory, a life-affirming comic energy . . . A whooping last hurrah for the *Trainspotting* gang." —The Guardian "Crackles with idiomatic energy and brio." —Publishers Weekly Mark Renton is finally a success. He now makes significant money managing DJs, but the constant travel, airport lounges, soulless hotel rooms, and broken relationships have left him dissatisfied with life. Then he runs into his old partner in crime, Frank Begbie, from whom he'd been hiding for years. But the psychotic Begbie appears to have reinvented himself as a celebrated artist in Los Angeles, and doesn't seem interested in revenge. Meanwhile, back in Edinburgh, Sick Boy and Spud are intrigued to learn that their old friends are back in town, and concoct a new scheme for them all . . . Which is when things start to go horribly wrong. The four men, driven by their personal histories and addictions, circle each other, confused, angry, and desperate. One of these four will not survive . . . Which one is wearing *Dead Men's Trousers*? Fast and furious, scabrously funny, and weirdly moving, this is a spectacular return of the crew from *Trainspotting*.

With the Christmas season upon him, Detective Sergeant Bruce Robertson of

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Edinburgh's finest is gearing up socially—kicking things off with a week of sex and drugs in Amsterdam. There are some sizable flies in the ointment, though: a missing wife and child, a nagging cocaine habit, some painful below-the-belt eczema, and a string of demanding extramarital affairs. The last thing Robertson needs is a messy, racially fraught murder, even if it means overtime—and the opportunity to clinch the promotion he craves. Then there's that nutritionally demanding (and psychologically acute) intestinal parasite in his gut. Yes, things are going badly for this utterly corrupt tribune of the law, but in an Irvine Welsh novel nothing is ever so bad that it can't get a whole lot worse. . . . In Bruce Robertson Welsh has created one of the most compellingly misanthropic characters in contemporary fiction, in a dark and disturbing and often scabrously funny novel about the abuse of everything and everybody. "Welsh writes with a skill, wit and compassion that amounts to genius. He is the best thing that has happened to British writing in decades."—Sunday Times [London] "[O]ne of the most significant writers in Britain. He writes with style, imagination, wit, and force, and in a voice which those alienated by much current fiction clearly want to hear."—Times Literary Supplement "Welsh writes with such vile, relentless intensity that he makes Louis-Ferdinand Céline, the French master of defilement, look like Little Miss Muffet."—Courtney Weaver, The New York Times Book

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Review "The corrupt Edinburgh cop-antihero of Irvine Welsh's best novel since *Trainspotting* is an addictive personality in another sense: so appallingly powerful is his character that it's hard to put the book down....[T]he rapid-fire rhythm and pungent dialect of the dialogue carry the reader relentlessly toward the literally filthy denouement. "—Village Voice Literary Supplement, "Our 25 Favorite Books of 1998" "Welsh excels at making his trash-spewing bluecoat peculiarly funny and vulnerable—and you will never think of the words 'Dame Judi Dench' in the same way ever again. [Grade:] A-."—Charles Winecoff, *Entertainment Weekly*

At Edinburgh's Department of Environmental Health, hard-drinking, womanising officer Danny Skinner wants to uncover secrets: 'the bedroom secrets of the master chefs', secrets he believes might just help him understand his self-destructive impulses. But the arrival of the virginal, model-railway enthusiast Brian Kibby at the department provokes an uncharacteristic response in Skinner, and threatens to throw his mission off course. Consumed by loathing for his nemesis, Skinner enacts a curse, and when Kibby contracts a horrific and debilitating mystery virus, Skinner understands that their destinies are supernaturally bound, and he is faced with a terrible dilemma.

The Times top ten bestseller. 'An instant Scottish classic' – *The Skinny* 'A swaggering, incendiary debut' – *Guardian* 'Trainspotting for a new generation' –

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Independent 'Dialect that fizzes off the page' – Observer 'One of the most admired young voices in British fiction' – The Times 2005. Glasgow is named Europe's Murder Capital, driven by a violent territorial gang and knife culture. In the housing schemes of adjacent Lanarkshire, Scotland's former industrial heartland, wee boys become postcode warriors. 2004. Azzy Williams joins the Young Team [YTP]. A brutal gang conflict with their deadly rivals, the Young Toi [YTB] begins. 2012. Azzy dreams of another life. He faces his toughest fight of all – the fight for a different future. Expect Buckfast. Expect bravado. Expect street philosophy. Expect rave culture. Expect anxiety. Expect addiction. Expect a serious facial injury every six hours. Expect murder. Hope for a way out. Inspired by the experiences of its author, Graeme Armstrong, *The Young Team* is an energetic novel, full of the loyalty, laughs, mischief, boredom, violence and threat of life on these streets. It looks beyond the tabloid stereotypes to tell a powerful story about the realities of life for young people in Britain today.

Irvine Welsh's scintillating, disturbing, and altogether outrageous collection of stories—the basis for the 1998 cult movie directed by Paul McGuigan. He is called "the Scottish Celine of the 1990s" (*Guardian*) and "a mad, postmodern Roald Dahl" (*Weekend Scotsman*). Using a range of approaches from bitter realism to demented fantasy, Irvine Welsh is able to evoke the essential humanity, well

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hidden as it is, of his generally depraved, lazy, manipulative, and vicious characters. He specializes particularly in cosmic reversals—God turn a hapless footballer into a fly; an acid head and a newborn infant exchange consciousnesses with sardonically unexpected results—always displaying a corrosive wit and a telling accuracy of language and detail. Irvine Welsh is one hilariously dangerous writer who always creates a sensation.

"[An] inimitable combination of dark realism, satire and psychological insight . . . complicated, unsettling and at times beautiful."--Publishers Weekly, starred review

In the wake of a nasty child-murder case, Detective Ray Lennox of the Edinburgh PD has suffered a full-scale breakdown. He's placed on leave for mental retuning and takes off for a few days of sun in Miami. From there, *Crime* becomes an unmistakably Welshian blend of the macabre and the psychologically astute, as Lennox faces a dwindling supply of antidepressants, a bridal-magazine-toting fiancée, and cokehappy locals who lead him back into old habits and leave him to care for a child. Is he really in the right shape to be playing knight-errant to a terrified ten-year-old girl? Will his best instincts and worst judgments get them both killed, or find him the redemption he seeks? Before he was famous, Irvine Welsh lived it large and for years Sandy Macnair was his wingman. Welsh was the restless instigator, looking for excitement,

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desperate to escape the tedium of a humdrum life. And Sandy was there to help pick up the pieces when it all went wrong. This is the real-life rollercoaster ride that set the scene for some of Welsh's most iconic work - before *Trainspotting* changed everything. As they gallivanted round Britain, from Edinburgh to York and Glastonbury to London, Irvine and Sandy left a trail of destruction as they dodged the polis, the courts and endless rades, not always successfully. They climbed the fountain in Trafalgar Square, joined in the riots at Wapping and drank like they had a death wish. And along the road there was the real Begbie, the original Gorgie/Dalry Oyster Bar, ugly confrontations with Hearts fans, crazed motorcycle gangs, close encounters with smacked-out hookers, gin-soaked lesbians and even more polis.

Once upon a time in rural Maine, a big black bear found a briefcase under a tree. Hoping for food, he dragged it into the woods, only to find that all it held was the manuscript of a novel. He couldn't eat it, but he did read it, and decided it wasn't bad. Borrowing some clothes from a local store, and the name Hal Jam from the labels of his favorite foods he headed to New York to seek his fortune in the literary world. Then he took America by storm. *The Bear Went Over the Mountain* is a riotous, magical romp with the buoyant Hal Jam as he leaves the quiet, nurturing world of nature for the glittering, moneyed world of man. With a pitch-

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perfect comic voice and an eye for social satire to rival Swift or Wolfe, bestselling author William Kotzwinkle limns Hal's hilarious journey to New York, Los Angeles, and the great sprawling country in between, where a bear makes good despite his animal instincts, and where money-hungry executives see not a hairy beast with a purloined novel, but a rough-hewn, soulful, media-perfect nature guy who just might be the next Hemingway. By turns sidesplittingly funny, stingingly ironic, and unexpectedly tender, *The Bear Went Over the Mountain* captures the zeitgeist of the 1990s dead-on, in a delicious bedtime story for grown-ups.

Someone is stealing all the trousers in Kentwood and, this time, Whiffy's hapless inventor father, Dr Bruce Newton, has nothing to do with it. Or does he? Trousers are being daringly snatched in broad daylight, taken apart, and horribly put back together, so that bizarre, two-toned trousers are appearing all over town - sinisterly nailed to the front doors of some of the city's wealthiest socialites. Who is behind these ghastly garment murders and what does it all mean? Can Whiffy and the other intrepid members of The Agency stop the perpetrator before there isn't a decent pair of slacks left in the whole of Kentwood? A very amusing book. Whiffy Newton would give even Mma Ramotswe a run for her money!' -

Alexander McCall Smith

Dead Men's Trousers Melville House

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"Christian Kracht mines the feverish film culture of pre-World War II Germany and Japan for a Gothic tale of global conspiracy, personal loss, and historical entanglements large and small." --

"Spectacular... moving, beautifully written, and a bona fide page-turner." --Publishers Weekly, Starred Review "An extraordinary book." --Lauren Groff, author of Florida
Illuminating one of the great love stories of the twentieth century - Tennessee Williams and his longtime partner Frank Merlo - *Leading Men* is a glittering novel of desire and ambition, set against the glamorous literary circles of 1950s Italy In July of 1953, at a glittering party thrown by Truman Capote in Portofino, Italy, Tennessee Williams and his longtime lover Frank Merlo meet Anja Blomgren, a mysteriously taciturn young Swedish beauty and aspiring actress. Their encounter will go on to alter all of their lives. Ten years later, Frank revisits the tempestuous events of that fateful summer from his deathbed in Manhattan, where he waits anxiously for Tennessee to visit him one final time. Anja, now legendary film icon Anja Bloom, lives as a recluse in the present-day U.S., until a young man connected to the events of 1953 lures her reluctantly back into the spotlight after he discovers she possesses the only surviving copy of Williams's final play. What keeps two people together and what breaks them apart? Can we save someone else if we can't save ourselves? Like *The Master* and *The Hours*, *Leading Men* seamlessly weaves fact and fiction to navigate the tensions between public figures and their private lives. In an ultimately heartbreaking story about the burdens of fame

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and the complex negotiations of life in the shadows of greatness, Castellani creates an unforgettable leading lady in Anja Bloom and reveals the hidden machinery of one of the great literary love stories of the twentieth-century.

Jim Francis has finally found the perfect life – and is now unrecognisable, even to himself. A successful painter and sculptor, he lives quietly with his wife, Melanie, and their two young daughters, in an affluent beach town in California. Some say he's a fake and a con man, while others see him as a genuine visionary. But Francis has a very dark past, with another identity and a very different set of values. When he crosses the Atlantic to his native Scotland, for the funeral of a murdered son he barely knew, his old Edinburgh community expects him to take bloody revenge. But as he confronts his previous life, all those friends and enemies – and, most alarmingly, his former self – Francis seems to have other ideas. When Melanie discovers something gruesome in California, which indicates that her husband's violent past might also be his psychotic present, things start to go very bad, very quickly. *The Blade Artist* is an elegant, electrifying novel – ultra violent but curiously redemptive – and it marks the return of one of modern fiction's most infamous, terrifying characters, the incendiary Francis Begbie from *Trainspotting*.

The *Trainspotting* lads are back...and in worse shape than ever. In the last gasp of youth, Simon "Sick Boy" Williamson is back in Edinburgh. He taps into one last great scam: directing and producing a porn film. To make it work, he needs bedfellows: the

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lovely Nikki Fuller-Smith, a student with ambition, ego, and troubles to rival his own; old pal Mark Renton; and a motley crew that includes the neighborhood's favorite ex-beverage salesman, "Juice" Terry. In the world of Porno, however, even the cons are conned. Sick Boy and Renton jockey for top dog. The out-of-jail and in-for-revenge Begbie is on the loose. But it's the hapless, drug-addled Spud who may be spreading the most trouble. Porno is a novel about the Trainspotting crew ten years further down the line: still scheming, still scamming, still fighting for the first-class seats as the train careens at high velocity with derailment looming around the next corner.

Responding to the current surge in present-tense novels, *Making Time* is an innovative contribution to narratological research on present-tense usage in narrative fiction.

Breaking with the tradition of conceptualizing the present tense purely as a deictic category denoting synchronicity between a narrative event and its presentation, the study redefines present-tense narration as a fully-fledged narrative strategy whose functional potential far exceeds temporal relations between story and discourse. The first part of the volume presents numerous analytical categories that systematically describe the formal, structural, functional, and syntactic dimensions of present-tense usage in narrative fiction. These categories are then deployed to investigate the uses and functions of present-tense narration in selected twenty-first century novels, including Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall*, Margaret Atwood's *Oryx and Crake*, Ian McEwan's *Nutshell*, and Irvine Welsh's *Skagboys*. The seven case studies serve to

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illustrate the ubiquity of present-tense narration in contemporary fiction, ranging from the historical novel to the thriller, and to investigate the various ways in which the present tense contributes to narrative worldmaking.

If you put four dwarfs in a room with enough opium and alcohol, it's bound to end in tears... In 1935, MGM studios embarked on a movie adaptation of L. Frank Baum's "The Wonderful Wizard of Oz," The production called for the casting of many dwarfs to play the Munchkins of the mythical Land of Oz, and the studio began recruiting 'small persons' from all over the world. During production, rumors spread around Hollywood of wild Munchkin sex orgies, drunken behavior and general dwarf debauchery. More sinisterly, a Munchkin is said to have committed suicide by hanging himself on the set during filming--what appears to be a small human body is clearly visible hanging from a tree in the Tin Man scene. It is a claim that has passed into Hollywood legend. Set in a hotel room in Culver City, California, "Babylon Heights" is Irvine Welsh and Dean Cavanagh's scabrous and hilarious imaging of what could, very possibly, have led to the dwarf suicide.

"The best book ever written by man or woman...deserves to sell more copies than the Bible."—Rebel, Inc.

****A SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER**** Mark Renton from Trainspotting is back – and he's finally a success An international jet-setter, he now makes significant money managing DJs, but the constant travel, airport lounges, soulless hotel rooms and

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broken relationships have left him dissatisfied with his life. He's then rocked by a chance encounter with Frank Begbie, from whom he'd been hiding for years after a terrible betrayal and the resulting debt. But the psychotic Begbie appears to have reinvented himself as a celebrated artist and – much to Mark's astonishment – doesn't seem interested in revenge. Sick Boy and Spud, who have agendas of their own, are intrigued to learn that their old friends are back in town, but when they enter the bleak world of organ-harvesting, things start to go so badly wrong. Lurching from crisis to crisis, the four men circle each other, driven by their personal histories and addictions, confused, angry – so desperate that even Hibs winning the Scottish Cup doesn't really help. One of these four will not survive to the end of this book. Which one of them is wearing Dead Men's Trousers? 'Welsh is on compulsively readable, searingly funny form' The Times 'No one captures the competing affections and resentments that underpin lifelong friendships like Welsh' Esquire

The women in an Arctic village must survive a sinister threat after all the men are wiped out by a catastrophic storm in this "gripping novel inspired by a real-life witch hunt. . . . Beautiful and chilling" (Madeline Miller, bestselling author of *Circe*). When the women take over, is it sorcery or power? Finnmark, Norway, 1617. Twenty-year-old Maren Magnusdatter stands on the craggy coast, watching the skies break into a sudden and reckless storm. All forty of the village's men were at sea, including Maren's father and brother, and all forty are drowned in the otherworldly disaster. For the women left

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behind, survival means defying the strict rules of the island. They fish, hunt, and butcher reindeer—which they never did while the men were alive. But the foundation of this new feminine frontier begins to crack with the arrival of Absalom Cornet, a man sent from Scotland to root out alleged witchcraft. Cornet brings with him the threat of danger—and a pretty, young Norwegian wife named Ursa. As Maren and Ursa are drawn to one another in ways that surprise them both, the island begins to close in on them, with Absalom's iron rule threatening Vardø's very existence. "The Mercies has a pull as sure as the tide. It totally swept me away to Vardø, where grief struck islanders stand tall in the shadow of religious persecution and witch burnings. It's a beautifully intimate story of friendship, love and hope. A haunting ode to self-reliant and quietly defiant women." (Douglas Stuart, Booker Prize winning author of Shuggie Bain)

A play from the author of *Trainspotting* Within the sound-proofed walls of a disused recording studio, a score is being settled. Two inner city low-lifes take the law into their own hands to satisfy their craving for fun, fear and a freakish sense of justice. "You'll Have Had Your Hole" premièred at the West Yorkshire Playhouse and toured internationally - although it was banned in Belgium.

Chronicles the misadventures of Mark Renton and his friends as they cope with economic uncertainties, family problems, drug use and the opposite sex in 1980s Edinburgh in this new novel from the author of *Trainspotting* and *Filth*.

While lying in a coma in an Edinburgh hospital, Roy Strang experiences strange

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hallucinatory adventures that recount how he came to be in his current state, from his struggles with his disturbed family to a bizarre quest in Africa

A Sunday Times top ten bestseller. Amanda Owen has been seen by millions on ITV's The Dales and Channel 5's Our Yorkshire Farm, living a life that has almost gone in today's modern world, a life ruled by the seasons and her animals. She is a farmer's wife and shepherdess, living alongside her husband Clive and seven children at Raveuseat, a 2000 acre sheep hill farm at the head of Swaledale in North Yorkshire. It's a challenging life but one she loves. In The Yorkshire Shepherdess she describes how the rebellious girl from Huddersfield, who always wanted to be a shepherdess, achieved her dreams. Full of amusing anecdotes and unforgettable characters, the book takes us from fitting in with the locals to fitting in motherhood, from the demands of the livestock to the demands of raising a large family in such a rural backwater. Amanda also evokes the peace of winter, when they can be cut off by snow without electricity or running water, the happiness of spring and the lambing season, and the backbreaking tasks of summertime – haymaking and sheepshearing – inspiring us all to look at the countryside and those who work there with new appreciation.

When Lucy Brennan, a Miami Beach personal-fitness trainer, disarms an apparently crazed gunman, the police and the breaking-news cameras are not far behind. Within hours, Lucy becomes a hero. The solitary eye-witness, the depressed and overweight Lena Sorenson, thrilled by Lucy's heroism and decisiveness, becomes obsessed with

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the trainer and enrolls as a client at her Bodysculpt gym. It quickly becomes clear that Lena is more interested in Lucy's body than her own, and a budding fatal attraction takes hold. However, it's when Lucy imprisons Lena, and can't stop thinking about the sex lives of Siamese twins, that the real problems start. In *Lucy and Lena*, Irvine Welsh has created two of his most memorable female protagonists, and one of the most bizarre, sadomasochistic folie à deux in contemporary fiction. *The Sex Lives of Siamese Twins* taps into two great obsessions of our time--how we look and where we live--and tells a story so subversive and dark it blacks out the Florida sun.

Award-winning writer Abir Mukherjee is back with another brilliant mystery novel in the Raj-era Wyndham and Banerjee series. *Calcutta, 1923* When a Hindu theologian is found murdered in his home, the city is on the brink of all-out religious war. Can officers of the Imperial Police Force, Captain Sam Wyndham and Sergeant Surendranath Banerjee track down those responsible in time to stop a bloodbath? Set at a time of heightened political tension, beginning in atmospheric Calcutta and taking the detectives all the way to bustling Bombay, the latest instalment in this 'unmissable' (The Times) series presents Wyndham and Banerjee with an unprecedented challenge. Will this be the case that finally drives them apart?

Shortlisted for the William Hill Sports Book of the Year Award The Sunday Times Sports Book of the Year The Times Sports Book of the Year Telegraph Football Book of the Year 'Ferris's wonderful memoir represents a twin triumph. He has

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endured every kind of setback in life but has invariably reinvented himself; and his writing is a pure pleasure.' The Sunday Times 'Enough depth and humanity to make your average football autobiography look like a Ladybird book.' Telegraph 'A masterpiece of the genre' Brian McNally 'Football memoirs rarely produce great literature but Ferris's *The Boy on the Shed* is a glistening exception.' Guardian 'Fascinating and stylishly told.' David Walsh, The Sunday Times *The Boy on the Shed* is a story of love and fate. At 16, Paul Ferris becomes Newcastle United's youngest-ever first-teamer. Like many a tricky winger from Northern Ireland, he is hailed as 'the new George Best'. As a player and later a physio and member of the Magpies' managerial team, Paul's career acquaints him not only with Kevin Keegan, Kenny Dalglish and Bobby Robson, Ruud Gullit, Paul Gascoigne and Alan Shearer but also with injury, insecurity and disappointment. Yet this autobiography is more than a tale of the vagaries of sporting fortune. It begins during 'The Troubles' in a working-class Catholic family in the Protestant town of Lisburn, near Belfast. After a childhood scarred by his mother's illness and sectarian hatred, Paul meets the love of his life, his future wife Geraldine. Talented and carefree on the pitch, shy and anxious off it, he earns a tilt at stardom. His first spell at Newcastle turns sour, as does his return as a physio, although obtaining a Masters degree shows him what he could

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achieve away from football. When Paul qualifies as a barrister, a career in Law beckons. Instead, a craving to prove himself in the game draws him back to St James' Park as part of Shearer's management triumvirate - with unfortunate consequences. Written with brutal candour, dark humour and consummate style, *The Boy on the Shed* is a riveting and moving account of a life less ordinary. Shares the history of zombies in cinema, offers historical context to an exhaustive zombie filmography, and discusses how the images of zombies have changed throughout their history.

Irvine Welsh returns to Edinburgh, the home of *Trainspotting* and so many of his novels since, with a new novel featuring one of his most iconic and beloved characters—'Juice' Terry Lawson—that's thick on the Scottish brogue, heavy on the filth and masterful in its comedic timing. *A Decent Ride* sees Irvine Welsh back in Edinburgh, this time with one of his most compelling and popular characters front and center: the rampaging force of nature that is 'Juice' Terry Lawson, first seen in *Glue*. Juice is a man who contains multitudes: he's a top shagger, drug-dealing, gonzo pornstar and taxi driver. As we ride along in Juice's cab through the depraved streets of Edinburgh, Juice encounters a series of charmingly filthy characters, each of whom present their own, uh, unique challenges. Has he finally met his match in Hurricane 'Bawbag'? Can he discover the fate of the

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missing beauty, Jinty Magdalen, and keep her idiot-savant lover, the man-child Wee Jonty, out of prison? Will he find out the real motives of unscrupulous American businessman and reality-TV star, Ronald Checker? And, crucially, will Juice be able to negotiate life after a terrible event robs him of his sexual virility, and can a new fascination for the game of golf help him to live without . . . a decent ride? (The meaning of the title is starting to sink in now, huh?). So buckle your seatbelts and prepare for one unforgettable ride.

Comfortable, flattering pants can be challenging to make--but here, David Coffin provides his inventive methods for getting it right. With his characteristic precision and straight talk--and with the help of photographs, drawings, and a series of video sequences on the accompanying DVD--Coffin teaches the reader how to get great results, whether making a showcase garment or an everyday pair.--From publisher description.

'Enlightening ... Funny, smart, original and provocative ... It is hard to imagine the stalwarts of Mock the Week recognising the Druze militia leader Walid Jumblatt in a London cinema' New Statesman What I brought to comedy was an authentic working-class voice plus a threat of genuine violence - nobody in Monty Python looked like a hard case who'd kick your head in In 1971, comedians on the working men's club circuit imagined that they would be free to continue telling

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their tired, racist, misogynistic gags forever. But their nemesis, a nineteen-year-old Marxist art student, was slowly coming to meet them... Thatcher Stole My Trousers chronicles a time when comedy and politics united in electrifying ways. Recounting the founding of the Comedy Store, the Comic Strip and the Young Ones, and Alexei's friendships with the comedians who – like him – would soon become household names, this is a unique and beguiling blend of social history and memoir. Fascinating, funny, angry and entertaining, it is a story of class and comedy, politics and love, fast cars and why it's difficult to foul a dwarf in a game of football.

The classic mystery that introduces Inspector Henry Tibbett. “If you’re hungry for a really good whodunit, you will welcome the debut of Patricia Moyes.” —The New York Times Are you craving Christie? Yearning for a plot? Whimpering softly into your teacup about the days when one could count on a nice civilized, mannerly sort of murder, with a sleuth who was reasonably free of neuroses and substance addictions? Patricia Moyes to the rescue! In *Dead Men Don't Ski* she introduces Inspector Henry Tibbett, a blissfully ordinary English copper with a pleasantly plump wife and a nose for the bad guys. Sadly for Henry (but happily for us) that nose has a knack of ruining his vacations. In *Dead Men*, he and Emmy are headed for the Italian Dolomites, ready for a spot of skiing and some first-class

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people-watching, all those athletic youngsters in their swanky late-1950s ski outfits. It's all very "Mad Men" until one dead body turns up, and then another, and it becomes clear that Murder has come to the mountain. Praise for Patricia Moyes "The author who put the 'who' back in whodunit." —Chicago Daily News "A new queen of crime . . . her name can be mentioned in the same breath as Agatha Christie and Ngaio Marsh." —Daily Herald "An excellent detective novel in the best British tradition. Superbly handled." —Columbus Dispatch "Intricate plots, ingenious murders, and skillfully drawn, often hilarious, characters distinguish Patricia Moyes' writing." —Mystery Scene

Heading home from a lecture tour in the United States, Oscar becomes entangled with the La Grange acting dynasty, and the mystery of the serial killer targeting them after the surprising death of the family poodle.

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