

## Tied Lush Stories

A collection of short, short stories and a novella about everyday life and the search for meaning. Influences are Charles Bukowski, John Fante, Knut Hamsun, Louis-Ferdinand Celine, Ernest Hemingway.

A collection of five novels in the Psy-Changeling series from New York Times and USA Today bestselling author Nalini Singh. • Branded by Fire • Blaze of Memory • Bonds of Justice • Play of Passion • Kiss of Snow

“Kick-ass were-coyote auto mechanic Mercedes Thompson” (Publishers Weekly) has leapt to the forefront of today’s urban fantasy heroes, thanks to bestselling author Patricia Briggs. Now, Mercy finds herself in the middle of a bloodbath—with only one way out... Mercy has friends in low places—and in dark ones. And now she owes one of them a favor. Since she can shapeshift at will, she agrees to act as some extra muscle when her vampire friend Stefan goes to deliver a message to another of his kind. But this new vampire is hardly ordinary—and neither is the demon inside of him. When the undead and the werewolves sent to find him don’t return, the local vampire queen turns to Mercy for help. A coyote is no match for a demon, but Mercy is determined to get her friends back—including the two werewolves circling around her heart.

A boy hunter, the president of the United States, and a terrorist plot converge to create an original and thrilling tale of wilderness survival Every boy in Oskari's remote mountain village must face a ritual hunt on his thirteenth birthday--the Trial--to become a man. It's Oskari's turn, and whatever animal he kills--if he succeeds--will symbolize who he will become. But the idea of spending a night alone in the forest makes him queasy, and the ceremonial bow he has to use is too big for him. Not long after he sets out, Oskari comes across a strange creature in the woods, emerging in eerie blue light from a smoking steel pod. He assumes it's an alien, until the figure introduces himself . . . as the president of the United States. Air Force One, sabotaged, has crashed, and the president is running for his life. Will Oskari be brave enough, strong enough, and smart enough to save the president and himself? Soon to be a major motion picture starring Samuel L. Jackson as President of the United States!

From New York Times Bestselling Author Joanne Wadsworth comes #1 bestselling The Earl’s Secret Bride, The Prince’s Bride, and Her Pirate Prince. Expect passionate happily-ever-afters, no cliffhangers, and a series that can be enjoyed in any order. The Earl’s Secret Bride ~ Desperate to escape an evil fiancé, Lady Rosamonde turns to the man who saved her once before: her brother’s friend, the Earl of Winterly. Winterly devises a plan—for a secret marriage... A passionate Regency romance! The Prince’s Bride ~ Captain Anteros Bourbon, a prince, must marry and produce an heir—but Anteros isn’t interested in taking a wife. He enlists the help of Lady Olivia Trentbury to be his pretend bride—but will a fake marriage result in real passion? Her Pirate Prince ~ Prince Anteros is in pursuit of the corsair who has stolen Lady Olivia from his castello. No one will stand in his way, not when this prince can’t help but follow his pirate tendencies. This is a high-seas adventure set in the Mediterranean. Each book in this series is standalone, and can be enjoyed out of sequence. REGENCY BRIDES SERIES The Duke’s Bride, #1 The Earl’s Bride, #2 The Wartime Bride, #3 The Earl’s Secret Bride, #4 The Prince’s Bride, #5 Her Pirate Prince, #6 Chased by the Corsair, #7 Stolen by the Pirate, #8

*The Day They Took My Uncle and Other Stories* is a collection of 15 shorts by novelist Lionel Garcia, dealing mostly with working-class and poor inhabitants of the southwestern U.S. Difficulties encountered by Latinos in America are a recurrent theme.

A NATIONAL BESTSELLER *Kink* is a groundbreaking anthology of literary short fiction exploring love and desire, BDSM, and interests across the sexual spectrum, edited by lauded writers R.O. Kwon and Garth Greenwell, and featuring a roster of all-star contributors including Alexander Chee, Roxane Gay, Carmen Maria Machado, and more. A Most-Anticipated book of 2021 as selected by *Marie Claire*, *O, The Oprah Magazine*, *Cosmopolitan*, *Time*, *The Millions*, *The Advocate*, *Autostraddle*, *Refinery29*, *Shape*, *Town & Country*, *Book Riot*, *Literary Hub*. *Kink* is a dynamic anthology of literary fiction that opens an imaginative door into the world of desire. The stories within this collection portray love, desire, BDSM, and sexual kinks in all their glory with a bold new vision. The collection includes works by renowned fiction writers such as Callum Angus, Alexander Chee, Vanessa Clark, Melissa Febos, Kim Fu, Roxane Gay, Cara Hoffman, Zeyn Joukhadar, Chris Kraus, Carmen Maria Machado, Peter Mountford, Larissa Pham, and Brandon Taylor, with Garth Greenwell and R.O. Kwon as editors. The stories within explore bondage, power-play, and submissive-dominant relationships; we are taken to private estates, therapists' offices, underground sex clubs, and even a sex theater in early-20th century Paris. While there are whips and chains, sure, the true power of these stories lies in their beautiful, moving dispatches from across the sexual spectrum of interest and desires, as portrayed by some of today's most exciting writers.

FEATURING A BRAND NEW STORY "What's special about 'Cat Person,' and the rest of the stories in *You Know You Want This*, is the author's expert control of language, character, story—her ability to write stories that feel told, and yet so unpretentious and accessible that we think they must be true." —The New York Times Book Review "Kristen Roupenian isn't just an uncannily great writer, she also knows things about the human psyche—things that I always supposed I would learn at some point, but never did...The world has made a lot more sense since reading this book." —Miranda July, New York Times bestselling author "If you think you know what this collection will be like, you're wrong. These stories are sharp and perverse, dark and bizarre, unrelenting and utterly bananas. I love them so, so much." —Carmen Maria Machado, National Book Award Finalist and author of *Her Body and Other Parties* A compulsively readable collection of short stories that explore the complex—and often darkly funny—connections between gender, sex, and power across genres. Previously published as *You Know You Want This*, "Cat Person" and *Other Stories* brilliantly explores the ways in which women are horrifying as much as it captures the horrors that are done to them. Among its pages are a couple who becomes obsessed with their friend hearing them have sex, then seeing them have sex...until they can't have sex without him; a ten-year-old whose birthday party takes a sinister turn when she wishes for "something mean"; a woman who finds a book of spells half hidden at the library and summons her heart's desire: a nameless, naked man; and a self-proclaimed "biter" who dreams of sneaking up behind and sinking her teeth into a green-eyed, long-haired, pink-cheeked coworker. Spanning a range of genres and topics—from the mundane to the murderous and supernatural—these are stories about sex and punishment, guilt and anger, the pleasure and terror of inflicting and experiencing pain. These stories fascinate and repel, revolt and arouse, scare and delight in equal measure. And, as a collection, they point a finger at you, daring you to feel uncomfortable—or worse, understood—as if to say, "You want this, right? You know you want this."

NOW AN HBO® LIMITED SERIES STARRING AMY ADAMS, NOMINATED FOR EIGHT EMMY AWARDS, INCLUDING OUTSTANDING LIMITED SERIES FROM THE #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF GONE GIRL Fresh from a brief stay at a psych hospital, reporter Camille Preaker faces a troubling assignment: she must return to her tiny hometown to cover the murders of two preteen girls. For years, Camille has hardly spoken to her neurotic, hypochondriac mother or to the half-sister she barely knows: a beautiful thirteen-year-old with an eerie grip on the town. Now, installed in her old bedroom in her family's Victorian mansion, Camille finds herself identifying with the young victims--a bit too strongly. Dogged by her own demons, she must unravel the psychological puzzle of her own past if she wants to get the story--and survive this homecoming. Praise for Sharp Objects "Nasty, addictive reading."--Chicago Tribune "Skillful and disturbing."--Washington Post "Darkly original . . . [a] riveting tale."--People

The next adventure in Kesia Lupo's stunning and original YA fantasy world. Perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo and Laini Taylor. On a mysterious island where the very earth holds magic, masked assassins plague the city and strange creatures rise from the desert. Livio has riled against his destiny his whole life. Beatrice longs to escape her life of servitude. But when a twist of fate unites them, it is up to them to stop a deadly revolution. Are they just puppets in someone else's game? Will they have to accept the hands they have been dealt or can either change their fortunes? Another thrilling, plot-driven adventure, with an even bigger twist, *We Are Bound by Stars* is a tale of masks, politics, desire and deception that will have you gripped once again in Kesia Lupo's rich fantasy world.

"Rare and wonderful to find the perfect balance of intense sexuality and finely-crafted storytelling." "I've read each of your stories countless times and they never fail to bring me genuine joy. They're so perfectly complex, interesting, sexy, sweet and genuinely funny." Depressingly-single, thirty-something Meg Oakley is secretly an aspiring writer of erotica. Recently, she has been sharing many a racy evening with her practically perfect man, Sam. Handsome, mischievous, unbearably sexy and happy to act out Meg's every fantasy, Sam has just one flaw. He's fictional. Publishing her work under a pseudonym and never sharing her secret, Meg believes she has guaranteed anonymity. That is, until she wakes up one night to find herself blindfolded and restrained by a mystery stranger who has broken into her room. Referring to himself as Sam, he has but one intention; to act out one of the scenes that Meg has previously published online. The stranger gives her the night of her life, leaving without a besotted Meg having even seen his face. To her great delight, it turns out that their one amazing night is not a unique experience as the stranger finds numerous opportunities to visit Meg and act out an array of her most secret sexual desires. Always in control of a blindfolded Meg, she is unable to identify him. Until one day, much to her amazement and surprise, she finds out who he actually is. This is a new and significantly extended version of the original 'Fictional Fantasies' book, also by Fenella Ashworth. Contemporary erotic romance for readers over the age of 18. For Fenella Ashworth's latest news, visit [www.fenellaashworth.com](http://www.fenellaashworth.com).

The fifth book in Chris Colfer's #1 New York Times bestselling series *The Land of Stories!* The Masked Man has captured all the royal families from the Land of Stories with the help of his army of literature's greatest villains, including the Wicked Witch of the West, the Queen of Hearts, and Captain Hook. With his sinister plan finally in motion, he is eager to destroy the families and take his place as emperor. Alex and Conner know they are no match against the Masked Man's legion of villains, but they realize that they may be in possession of the greatest weapon of all: their own imaginations! So begins the twins' journey into Conner's very own stories to gather an army of pirates, cyborgs, superheroes, and mummies as they band together for the ultimate fight against the Masked Man. Meanwhile, an even more dangerous plan is brewing--one that could change the fates of both the fairy-tale world and the Otherworld forever. Conner's tales come alive in the thrilling fifth adventure in the #1 New York Times

bestselling Land of Stories series.

In the Bible, the Lord tells us the story of Noah, "a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God." Have you ever wondered what that time may have been like? What could have caused the Lord to grieve in his heart and to destroy the world he had created? How! How can any family go through an ordeal like that? We all know the answer, that is, at least we do on the surface. It is only by walking closely with the Lord. But if you want to explore the possibilities and pry open the lives between the verses given to us in Genesis, then I invite you to read about Noah and his life. Open your heart to a man who has hopes and dreams, who has blessings and trials from the Lord. And then has to change his way of life to do the Lord's bidding. Learn more of the walk Noah had with God and how the Lord's ways, his purpose, intertwine in our lives and how we are bound to him in faith, hope, and love. Learn how the world of Noah's time was not really that much different from ours. They were selling and buying and making plans for the future. And it is a time of apostasy; men seek everything but God—except for those who seek the Lord and seek his paths. In Noah's day, there were people eating and drinking and making merry. They are giving in marriage and are about their work in the fields and in the cities. So come and read between the verses of the Word of the Lord! Learn more of the possibilities of the life of Noah, his wife, and their children. Open your soul to the Lord and seek his face by exploring the possible walk that a family had with the Lord of creation. See how the Tie-That-Binds is still very much relevant in our lives today.

Esmeralda is a shy witch who longs to be noticed. This year she and her cat Pickitywick are attending The North American Spell In, a large witch's convention and she has a plan to get the attention she deserves. In an old spell book she finds a mysterious recipe for Changing Tea and brews up the potion. The spell is supposed to turn you into the person you have always wanted to be, and seems to be working very well until events happen that make Esmeralda question if the magic is from a spell or located deep inside herself.

New York Times Bestseller Winner of the Women's Prize for Fiction World Fantasy Awards Finalist From the New York Times bestselling author of Jonathan Strange & Mr Norrell, an intoxicating, hypnotic new novel set in a dreamlike alternative reality. Piranesi's house is no ordinary building: its rooms are infinite, its corridors endless, its walls are lined with thousands upon thousands of statues, each one different from all the others. Within the labyrinth of halls an ocean is imprisoned; waves thunder up staircases, rooms are flooded in an instant. But Piranesi is not afraid; he understands the tides as he understands the pattern of the labyrinth itself. He lives to explore the house. There is one other person in the house—a man called The Other, who visits Piranesi twice a week and asks for help with research into A Great and Secret Knowledge. But as Piranesi explores, evidence emerges of another person, and a terrible truth begins to unravel, revealing a world beyond the one Piranesi has always known. For readers of Neil Gaiman's *The Ocean at the End of the Lane* and fans of Madeline Miller's *Circe*, Piranesi introduces an astonishing new world, an infinite labyrinth, full of startling images and surreal beauty, haunted by the tides and the clouds.

"A great read!" "The storyline and character development is wonderful!" Daisy has barely thought about sex in years, much less participated in it. Hardly surprising when her trust was destroyed by a cheating ex. Instead, she is happy to focus all her efforts on raising her child in the sure knowledge that sex is completely

overrated anyway. When their sons become firm friends, Daisy is suddenly thrown into the orbit of the delicious Nick Jackson. At first, he simply infiltrates Daisy's increasingly erotic dreams. However, he is soon upsetting her equilibrium by interacting with her in a much more up close and intimate manner. Nick begins to show Daisy the full range of carnal pleasures that she's been missing out on all these years. But can she really risk putting her trust in another man and allow herself to fall in love?

"Falling in love with the has-been noble I lined up to marry is sadly wrong." Princess Pollianna the First, smartest royal ever. Wrong is about to get wronger. Square-jawed, handsome Xander gets kidnapped and his brother, John, returns from Hell. The fire in this guy's eyes says he's not to be messed with. With Princess Po tied and roped over his horse, with hand firmly clasped on her ample ass, John sets out to rescue his beloved bro, while not looking at aforesaid cute ass...or doing anything bad to it. As he travels the roads, a ragtag band falls in around him. True Love will light their way, except John doesn't believe in True Love. "As wholesome as a threesome up against a thorn-entangled wall." Features Fighting, Dwarf Giants, a Killer Bunny, Storytellers, True Love, Angsty Tortured Anti-heroes, Snooty Princesses, Rope, Monsters, Mayhem, And quite a lot of Steam. Inspired by The Princess Bride.

A Black Tie Affair and Other Mystery Stories | Universe

A REESE'S BOOK CLUB PICK WINNER OF THE NATIONAL BOOK CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD One of the Best Books of the Year NPR, Time, Esquire, BuzzFeed, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel A romance unexpectedly sparks between two wounded friends. A marriage ends for what seem like noble reasons, but with irreparable consequences. A young woman holds on to an impossible dream even as she fights for her survival. Two lovers reunite after unimaginable tragedy, both for their country and in their lives. A baby's christening brings three generations of a family to a precarious dance between old and new. A man falls to his death in slow motion, reliving the defining moments of the life he is about to lose. Set in locales from Miami and Port-au-Prince to a small unnamed country in the Caribbean and beyond, here are eight emotionally absorbing stories, rich with hard-won wisdom and humanity. At once wide in scope and intimate, *Everything Inside* explores with quiet power and elegance the forces that pull us together or drive us apart, sometimes in the same searing instant. "Haunting, profound—an answered prayer for those who have long treasured [Danticat's] essential contributions to the Caribbean literary canon." —O, The Oprah Magazine "A beautiful book. . . . Danticat's birthplace, Haiti, emerges in an almost mythic fashion. . . . She has curated this slim volume, bringing its elements together to create a satisfying whole." —The New York Times Book Review "A master of the short story form. . . . In these eight narratives of unexpected romance, personal tragedy, and family complications, Danticat's compassionate sensitivity to the ties that bind us shines through." —Esquire Immensely rewarding. . . . Clear-eyed . . . gorgeous. . . . A stunning

collection that features some of the best writing of Danticat's brilliant career.”

—NPR

Steadfast hot solder: "Army ranger John 'Bear' Midwinter has two rules when it comes to the ladies--no tiny women, and no dancers. So why does petite ballet teacher Veda Hayes turn his blood into liquid fire? Still, the heat between them won't be denied. Will this soldier melt ... or burn up?"--Publisher.

The popular Wild Australia Stories - Boxed Set Vol 2 Turtle Reef - Book 4 Can Zoe protect the reef she loves? Or will fighting to save it mean she loses everything? From the bestselling author of Billabong Bend, Brumby's Run and Currawong Creek comes a wonderful new novel set against the spectacular beauty of Queensland's far north coast. Unlucky-in-love zoologist Zoe King has had enough of Sydney. Seeking a fresh start, she moves to the small sugar town of Kiawa to take up an exciting new role in marine science. She is charmed by the region's beauty – by its rivers and rainforests. By its vast cane fields, sweeping from the foothills down to the rocky coral coast. And by its people – its farmers and fishermen, unhurried and down to earth, proud of their traditions. Her work at the Reef Centre provides all the passion she needs, and Zoe finds a friend in Bridget, the centre's director. The last thing she expects is to fall for her boss's boyfriend, cane king Quinn Cooper. Zoe focuses on her research and tries to ignore the growing attraction between them. But things aren't quite adding up at the Reef Centre, and when animals on the reef begin to sicken and die, Zoe's personal and professional worlds collide. She faces a terrible choice. Will protecting the reef mean betraying the man she loves? Journey's End - Book 5 Sometimes a tree change might be just what you need From the bestselling author of Brumby's Run, Currawong Creek and Turtle Reef comes an inspiring story of family, friendship and the healing power of love. When Sydney botanist Kim Sullivan and her husband inherit Journey's End, a rundown farm high on the Great Eastern Escarpment, they dream of one day restoring it to its natural state. Ten years later, however, Kim is tragically widowed. Selling up is the only practical option, so she and her children head to the mountains to organise the sale. The last thing Kim expects is for Journey's End to cast its wild spell on them all. The family decides to stay, and Kim forges on with plans to rewild the property, propagating plants and acquiring a menagerie of native animals. But wayward wildlife, hostile farmers and her own lingering grief make the task seem hopeless. That is until she meets the mysterious Taj, a man who has a way with animals. Kim begins to feel that she might find love again. But Taj has his own tragic past – one that could drive a wedge between them that cannot be overcome ... Wasp Season - Book 6 You'll never see a wasp in the same way again ... When Beth's marriage ends, she's determined to build a new life in the country for herself and her children. A quiet life lived closer to nature. She thinks she's achieved the impossible – a civilised separation, a happy home and a cordial relationship with her estranged husband, Mark. There's even the promise of a new love. But when Mark tries to change the rules, Beth's peaceful world is

turned upside down. Disturbingly, she also discovers that European wasps have invaded her garden. Beth's obsession with them and their queen holds up a distorted mirror to the human drama. As the chaos in Beth's life gathers momentum, connections between the two worlds come sharply into focus. The lives of Beth and the others are neither separate to, nor safe from, the natural world.

His control sets her free...and her trust throws him for a loop. Club 3, Book 2 Carlie Milton is finally out from under her judgmental mother's thumb. She has a great job, great friends, a loving father and brother... but her love life is a series of disasters. When she's rescued from her latest dating debacle by bodybuilder Jake Stone, she can't resist his invitation to his BDSM club. The results are orgasmic, and Carlie comes back for more...until the night she goes all in. And Jake's reaction, driven by a ghost from his past, drives her back into her shell. An ex-Marine, Jake believes self-discipline and control are the only things holding his life together. Until Carlie. Her lush body, tender vulnerability and unquestioning trust shake him to the core, jarring loose the tight lid he keeps on his demons-at the worst possible time. Now, to help her find the courage to try again, he's going to have to do something he's never done before. Make peace with his past...and convince himself that leading with his heart doesn't have to end in pain. Warning: Contains a hard-nosed ex-Marine with a soft heart and a way with knots, and a plucky heroine who isn't afraid to let him learn to navigate her curves.

Readers of Asian & Pacific Short Stories will have the exciting experience of encountering for the first time the recent work of some of Asia's most talented writers. Collected in this anthology are short stories by authors in nine Asian and Pacific countries: Australia, the Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, and the Republic of Vietnam. These writers speak in many different languages, and their stories tell of life in places as diverse as the Australian prairie and the Malaysian jungle. The reader will be transported from a ranch in New Zealand to the war-and demonstration-torn streets of Saigon--from a fishing village in Korea to an Australian resort hotel. People from many different Asian cultures come to life in these stories: an old woman peddling dumplings in a Thai village; two young New Zealand boys growing up in their own unique ways--one through love, the other through taking responsibility; a Vietnamese mother who thinks she is a failure if she cannot breast feed her children; a Japanese gentlemen whose aristocratic appearance conceals a rather different "real life."

The most popular, provocative, and unforgettable essays from the past fifteen years of the New York Times "Modern Love" column—including stories from the Amazon Original series starring Tina Fey, Andy Garcia, Anne Hathaway, Catherine Keener, Dev Patel, and John Slattery A young woman goes through the five stages of ghosting grief. A man's promising fourth date ends in the emergency room. A female lawyer with bipolar disorder experiences the highs and lows of dating. A widower hesitates about introducing his children to his new girlfriend. A divorcée in her seventies looks back at the beauty and rubble of past relationships. These are just a few of the people who tell their stories in Modern Love, Revised and Updated, featuring dozens of the most memorable essays to run in The New York Times "Modern Love" column since its debut in 2004. Some of the stories are unconventional, while others hit close to home. Some reveal the way technology has changed dating forever; others explore the timeless struggles experienced by anyone who has ever searched for love. But all of the stories are, above everything else, honest. Together, they tell the larger story of how relationships begin, often fail, and—when we're lucky—endure. Edited by longtime "Modern Love" editor Daniel Jones and featuring a diverse selection of contributors, this is the perfect book for anyone who's loved, lost, stalked an ex on social media, or pined for true romance: In other words, anyone interested in the endlessly complicated workings of the human heart.

Featuring essays by: Veronica Chambers • Terri Cheney • Deborah Copaken • Trey Ellis • Jean Hanff Korelitz • Ann Hood • Mindy Hung • Amy Krouse Rosenthal • Ann Leary • Andrew Rannells • Larry Smith • Ayelet Waldman • and more!

To become a wise custodian of secrets, Owlet, being a forestry adviser needs to learn. That is why his parents gave the chick their family Forest Book full of all kinds of information. It so happened that the wind blew out important pages from the Book. Little Bear stepped in to help Owlet. He was the one who collected what was required for his friend by traveling through forests, fields, talking to local habitats...

Sex Talk features these 6 flaming hot stories... ## 150 Telephone Sex She likes to talk on the phone... doing it... ## 151 Fitness Center The fitness center is values the needs of people. And they only want one thing: to be naked and fuck... ## 152 The Sandpiper She likes to wander the beaches... naked. And of course she doesn't stay alone... ## 153 Analingus Everybody should do, what she likes best. And she does... ## 154 The Engagment She is an artist, an actress. But she is not so successful. Why? She is quite uncompromizing, eager to experiment and... completely shameless... ## 155 Beach Bar The beach bar is called Basic and is exactly that. And she works there as an waitress... and introduces completely new customs right from the start... \*Sex Talk\* is Marcus Hanon's new hot story collection. Hot women in funny adventures and erotic humor on more than 80 pages.

Everyone's favorite guide to fiction that's thrilling, mysterious, suspenseful, thought-provoking, romantic, and just plain fun is back—and better than ever in this completely revamped and revised edition. A must for every readers' advisory desk, this resource is also a useful tool for collection development librarians and students in LIS programs. Inside, RA experts Wyatt and Saricks cover genres such as Psychological Suspense, Horror, Science Fiction, Fantasy, Romance, Mystery, Literary and Historical Fiction, and introduce the concepts of Adrenaline and Relationship Fiction; include everything advisors need to get up to speed on a genre, including its appeal characteristics, key authors, sure bets, and trends; demonstrate how genres overlap and connect, plus suggestions for guiding readers among genres; and tie genre fiction to the whole collection, including nonfiction, audiobooks, graphic novels, film and TV, poetry, and games. Both insightful and comprehensive, this matchless guidebook will help librarians become familiar with many different fiction genres, especially those they do not regularly read, and aid library staff in connecting readers to books they're sure to love.

Don Edwards grew up in rural southern USA. There, among few distractions, he learned that life can be lived and that love may be found, but both are ultimately taken by the "chronic Tick-Tock" of time. Based on this, he has been trying to clarify his purpose with the help of poetry. Scars and Stories is his first collection and, within its pages, he tackles love and death, since these are all that really matter. His poems show us that love can elevate us above the gravity of everyday life. At the same time, we are reminded that, despite our sense of decision-making power, we live with a mere illusion of control. Of course, ultimately death wins all battles. The clock is constantly ticking but we can offer and accept love and, in doing so, not fear the darkness or the final day.

At the same time that 1970s feminist psychoanalytic theorists like Jean Baker Miller and Nancy Chodorow were challenging earlier models that assumed the masculine psyche as the norm for human development and mental/emotional health, writers such as Anne Sexton, Olga Broumass, and Angela Carter were embarked on their own revisionist project to breathe new life into fairy tales and classical myths based on traditional gender roles. Similarly, in the 1990s, second-wave feminist clinicians continued the work begun by Chodorow and Miller, while writers of fantasy that include Terry Windling, Tanith Lee, Terry Pratchett, and Catherynne M. Valente took their inspiration from revisionist authors of the 1970s. As Schanoes shows, these two decades were



both particularly fruitful eras for artists and psychoanalytic theorists concerned with issues related to the development of women's sense of self. Putting aside the limitations of both strains of feminist psychoanalytic theory, their influence is undeniable. Schanoes's book posits a new model for understanding both feminist psychoanalytic theory and feminist retellings, one that emphasizes the interdependence of theory and art and challenges the notion that literary revision involves a masculinist struggle with the writer's artistic forbearers.

When an award-winning southern writer demands that their untraditional, shoestring film company make the movie of her life, producer Angie reluctantly accompanies her colleagues to Georgia, where a man from her past is preparing to marry a wealthy and popular debutante. Reprint.

Japan. The last decade of the 17th century. Men who lived by the sword find themselves cut adrift while women begin to confront new threats and opportunities. The austere demands of the haikai poet are no match for the growing popularity of urban performers, and the medieval samurai ethos has been replaced by the culture of the merchant and the shogun's bureaucrats. This colourful but remote world is portrayed in these stories. Basho, Japan's greatest poet, features in several of them. We also meet Ohasu, a young woman trapped in the decadence of the pleasure quarters; Hasegawa, a rogue samurai who seeks solace in wine, in the rigours of Zen Buddhism, and in his willingness to defend an outmoded code. A mysterious woman buried in an imperial nunnery struggles with an unbearable remorse; a senior shogunate official seeks to preserve Basho's poetic legacy; a teenage sociopath tries to carve out his own career with a gratuitous and murderous assault; and a bizarrely preternatural pariah executioner accepts his destiny. Sometimes surprising, sometimes horrifying, *The Plum Rains & Other Stories* brings to life a uniquely beautiful and violent world. Angry and confused, they went looking for answers. They found none. There were no books to help them with the emotional upheaval they were going through. There were no explanations from the hospital as to why they had lost their baby and the counselling on offer was largely ineffective. What followed was an awkward few months where they could not grieve together and their relationship was severely strained. It was not just their relationship with each other that was affected. Family and friends who did not know how to deal with the situation also became isolated from them. Realising that communication was the key to getting through this sorrowful time, they finally started talking and found a way to get their relationship back on track. They also found that if they spoke honestly and openly to family and friends, they could get those relationships back as well. Knowing that other couples who have lost a baby would be going through similar difficulties, they decided to write down their experience in an effort to help them. Their beautifully written and poignant story, dealing with an issue that is too rarely acknowledged and discussed openly, is one of complete and heart-rending honesty. Sinclair Sexsmith presents a cornucopia of lesbian kink ? tantalizing tales rich in variety and saucy details of girls put in their place ? and held there firmly. A girly-girl reaps a sweet punishment for refusing to mess up her oh-so-pink lipstick and a well-equipped top takes charge. Whether readers dream of surrendering to a lover or of taking control, *Say Please* offers plenty of erotic inspiration and gives readers exactly what they want! In "The Cruellest Kind," Kiki Delovely's naughty narrator gets her just desserts from her butch girlfriend with some fierce back alley bondage while D.L. King's domme makes

her submissive strip before an unseen audience, binds her to a bench, and gives her a good strapping in "A Public Spectacle." Anna Watson' bored housewife gets more than she bargains for in "The Keys" when she follows a lesbian animal trainer out to a queer bar and anything goes in Xan West's sexy "Strong" when a transgender butch and genderqueer sub engage in some very tough love.

Jae is a slave in a dying desert world. Once verdant with water from a magical Well, the land is drying up, and no one remembers the magic needed to keep the water flowing. If a new source isn't found soon, the people will perish. Jae doesn't mind, in a way. By law, she is bound by a curse to obey every order given her, no matter how vile. At least in death, she'll be free. Elan's family rules the fading realm. He comes to the estate where Jae works, searching for the hidden magic needed to replenish the Well, but it's Jae who finds it, and she who must wield it. Desperate to save his realm, Elan begs her to use it to locate the Well. But why would a slave—abused, beaten, and treated as less than human—want to save the system that shackles her? Jae would rather see the world burn. Though revenge clouds her vision, she agrees to help if the realm's slaves are freed. Then Elan's father arrives. The ruler's cruelty knows no limits. He is determined that the class system will not change—and that Jae will remain a slave forever.

"Ferocious and intelligent." —Kirkus Reviews "Allen's lush debut mixes current, pressing questions with fantasy while exploring systematic injustice and historical oppression...readers will clamor for the sequel." —Publishers Weekly

"Classic murder mystery plots reminiscent of Agatha Christie and Ellery Queen."-Kirkus Discoveries"The writing is assured and lively, and the logic is credible."-Barbara Kay, National Post columnist Opera singer and part-time sleuth, Philippa Beary, returns in the second of a series of lighthearted mystery books featuring the Beary family. In *A Black Tie Affair and Other Mystery Stories*, Philippa-together with her feisty city councillor father and her detective inspector brother-foils would-be criminals in a variety of settings. In the title story, set against the backdrop of the world of professional singing, Bertram Beary thwarts the poisoning of a beautiful prima donna during a New Year's Eve gala performance of *Die Fledermaus*. In "The Mephisto Waltz Jump," rivalry between two young champions at the skating rink results in a catastrophic accident-or was it an accident? And an abandoned dog becomes the key to the unravelling of a deadly plot in "A Grim Ferry Tale." With subjects that range from political controversies to disasters at the Christmas pantomime, these nine intriguing stories will challenge mystery lovers everywhere.

Stories by writers with Southern backgrounds deal with the modern problems of life in the South

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