

Tilting At Windmills How I Tried To Stop Worrying And Love Sport

A tense, powerful thriller from the bestselling author of *Six Four* 1985. Kazumasa Yuuki, a seasoned reporter at the North Kanto Times, runs a daily gauntlet of the power struggles and office politics that plague its newsroom. But when an air disaster of unprecedented scale occurs on the paper's doorstep, its staff is united by an unimaginable horror and a once-in-a-lifetime scoop. 2003. Seventeen years later, Yuuki remembers the adrenaline-fueled, emotionally charged seven days that changed his and his colleagues' lives. He does so while making good on a promise he made that fateful week—one that holds the key to its last solved mystery and represents Yuuki's final, unconquered fear. From Hideo Yokoyama, the celebrated author of *Six Four*, comes *Seventeen*—an investigative thriller set amid the aftermath of disaster.

Windmills and water mills are truly the wonders of an earlier era, the wooden technology of yesteryear. To us, they may be graceful and charming relics. To the colonists, however, they were a vital necessity. Colonial craftsmen constructed them to mill grain, saw wood, pump water, and do various other jobs. Furthermore, the mill was the gathering place for the villagers. While they waited for their grain to be milled, the villagers exchanged news and gossip and stories. Millers were well respected not only for their mill's output but also for their own weather forecasts, knowledge of engines and machines, and, of course, up-to-date news. Long Island is an ideal place for catching the steady wind from the ocean and bays: 125 miles long, narrow--only 20 miles across at its widest, and relatively flat. Thus, many windmills were built here and still exist here, particularly at the island's east end. As a matter of fact, the south fork of eastern Long Island contains the greatest number of surviving windmills in the United States. Before 1700, Long Island also had many water mills, some of them powered by the tide.

A modern retelling of Jane Austen's classic novel finds bookish minister's daughter Cat Morland joining her well-to-do friends in Edinburgh and falling for an up-and-coming lawyer who may harbor unsettling secrets.

An editor and writer's vivaciously entertaining, and often moving, chronicle of his year-long adventure with fifty great books (and two not-so-great ones)—a true story about reading that reminds us why we should all make time in our lives for books. Nearing his fortieth birthday, author and critic Andy Miller realized he's not nearly as well read as he'd like to be. A devout book lover who somehow fell out of the habit of reading, he began to ponder the power of books to change an individual life—including his own—and to the define the sort of person he would like to be. Beginning with a copy of Bulgakov's *Master and Margarita* that he happens to find one day in a bookstore, he embarks on a literary odyssey of mindful reading and wry introspection. From *Middlemarch* to *Anna Karenina* to *A Confederacy of Dunces*, these are books Miller felt he should read; books he'd always wanted to read; books he'd previously started but hadn't finished; and books he'd lied about having read to impress people. Combining memoir and literary criticism, *The Year of Reading Dangerously* is Miller's heartfelt, humorous, and honest examination of what it means to be a reader. Passionately believing that books deserve to be read, enjoyed, and debated in the real world, Miller documents his reading experiences and how they resonated in his daily life and ultimately his very sense of self. The result is a witty and

insightful journey of discovery and soul-searching that celebrates the abiding miracle of the book and the power of reading. The Aermotor Windmill Company, which commenced operations in Chicago in 1888, is the nation's sole remaining full-time manufacturer of water-pumping machines. The company's imprint on rural America, particularly across the West, is still visible today in the tens of thousands of its windmills that bring water to the earth's surface. *Still Turning* is the first book to explore the rise of the American windmill through the experience of this important company. Aermotor founder La Verne Noyes and engineer Thomas Perry developed and perfected the all-metal wind pump in the 1880s. Within a decade, the "mathematical windmill" began to dominate the market. Aermotor continued to expand and innovate. The ruggedness and simplicity of the American mechanical windmill has allowed it to outlast many newer water-pumping technologies over the years with minimal maintenance and oversight. Christopher C. Gillis traces this story and more, from the early days of the company to Aermotor's present-day relevance as it continues to produce its iconic windmills. *Still Turning* is a significant contribution not only to the history of wind power but also to the history of American enterprise.

In 17th-century Valladolid, Spain's new capital, Miguel Cervantes is busy writing his comic novel, *Don Quixote*. Issued in instalments, it is fast making him the most popular author in the country, when three potential disasters strike: Cervantes discovers that there is a real *Don Quixote*, just like the character he thought he'd invented; a jealous poet concocts a scheme involving one of the novel's other characters in order to make Cervantes a laughing stock; and he falls in love with a beautiful, widowed but unavailable Duchess. Many duels, misunderstandings, politicking and betrayals later, *Don Quixote* himself comes to Cervantes' rescue. A wonderful evocation of Spain in the 17th century peopled with a cast of Chaucerian characters, this is a comedy in the mediaeval sense of the word.

Mark had never thought of retiring. Barristers don't retire. However, his 64th birthday was fast approaching. 'When I'm 64' and all that, and, beneath the wig and gown, he had always had a desire to write. Time was running out. It's now or never. He – rather he and his wife, Helen – decided they would take a year out. Like their children had, only later. They quickly ruled out the West of Ireland and the Wild Atlantic Way. For obvious reasons. And opted instead for a *pueblo blanco* in Andalucía. Mark could write his bestseller there. A white-washed house in a white-washed village in the mountains of Andalucía. What more could an aspiring author want? He lost no time in getting down to it. A writing room without a view and a typewriter. And no interruptions. Everything went splendidly for a day or two, when fate intervened. Followed by weeks of slow progress while he negotiated surgery and the intricacies of plot. In May, Mark carried out a quarterly review. Radical changes were called for and implemented. Ruthlessly. Beginning with telling Helen he couldn't come home for her birthday. Summer came and went, and so did Helen. Deadlines loomed. Would Mark do it? Would he achieve his New Year's resolution: One Year, One Novel? From the author of the Dermot McNamara series, *An Eye on the Whiplash*, *Brief Cases* and *A Night at the Inns*, comes a hilarious new novel which will ring familiar to anyone who has ever thought there is a book within them.

A New York Times Bestseller Explainer-in-Chief David Macaulay updates the worldwide bestseller *The New Way Things Work* to

capture the latest developments in the technology that most impacts our lives. Famously packed with information on the inner workings of everything from windmills to Wi-Fi, this extraordinary and humorous book both guides readers through the fundamental principles of machines, and shows how the developments of the past are building the world of tomorrow. This sweepingly revised edition embraces all of the latest developments, from touchscreens to 3D printer. Each scientific principle is brilliantly explained--with the help of a charming, if rather slow-witted, woolly mammoth. An illustrated survey of significant inventions closes the book, along with a glossary of technical terms, and an index. What possible link could there be between zippers and plows, dentist drills and windmills? Parking meters and meat grinders, jumbo jets and jackhammers, remote control and rockets, electric guitars and egg beaters? Macaulay explains them all.

As Batman's descent into the madness of Gotham City's decadent underbelly continues, he must try to exorcise some of his demons—and who better to help than the Demon, Etrigan himself. And where there's demons, there's also a Deadman, a Spectre, an Enchantress and a host of other supernatural friends and foes—it's a veritable Grand Guignol!

"Sibling adventurers Leah and Alan set out on a journey to correct the balance of nature, traveling through a breathtaking world of fantasy"--

"Get your head into the clouds with Aerial Geology." —The New York Times Book Review Aerial Geology is an up-in-the-sky exploration of North America's 100 most spectacular geological formations. Crisscrossing the continent from the Aleutian Islands in Alaska to the Great Salt Lake in Utah and to the Chicxulub Crater in Mexico, Mary Caperton Morton brings you on a fantastic tour, sharing aerial and satellite photography, explanations on how each site was formed, and details on what makes each landform noteworthy. Maps and diagrams help illustrate the geological processes and clarify scientific concepts. Fact-filled, curious, and way more fun than the geology you remember from grade school, Aerial Geology is a must-have for the insatiably curious, armchair geologists, million-mile travelers, and anyone who has stared out the window of a plane and wondered what was below.

In this incisive examination of lead poisoning during the past half century, Gerald Markowitz and David Rosner focus on one of the most contentious and bitter battles in the history of public health. Lead Wars details how the nature of the epidemic has changed and highlights the dilemmas public health agencies face today in terms of prevention strategies and chronic illness linked to low levels of toxic exposure. The authors use the opinion by Maryland's Court of Appeals—which considered whether researchers at Johns Hopkins University's prestigious Kennedy Krieger Institute (KKI) engaged in unethical research on 108 African-American children—as a springboard to ask fundamental questions about the practice and future of public health. Lead Wars chronicles the obstacles faced by public health workers in the conservative, pro-business, anti-regulatory climate that took off in the Reagan years and that stymied efforts to eliminate lead from the environments and the bodies of American children.

Fritz Zwicky was one of the most inventive and iconoclastic scientists of the twentieth century. Among other accomplishments, he was the first to infer the existence of dark matter. He also clashed with better-known peers and became a pariah in the scientific

community. John Johnson, Jr.,'s biography brings this tempestuous maverick alive.

Wind Energy Engineering: A Handbook for Onshore and Offshore Wind Turbines is the most advanced, up-to-date and research-focused text on all aspects of wind energy engineering. Wind energy is pivotal in global electricity generation and for achieving future essential energy demands and targets. In this fast moving field this must-have edition starts with an in-depth look at the present state of wind integration and distribution worldwide, and continues with a high-level assessment of the advances in turbine technology and how the investment, planning, and economic infrastructure can support those innovations. Each chapter includes a research overview with a detailed analysis and new case studies looking at how recent research developments can be applied. Written by some of the most forward-thinking professionals in the field and giving a complete examination of one of the most promising and efficient sources of renewable energy, this book is an invaluable reference into this cross-disciplinary field for engineers. Contains analysis of the latest high-level research and explores real world application potential in relation to the developments Uses system international (SI) units and imperial units throughout to appeal to global engineers Offers new case studies from a world expert in the field Covers the latest research developments in this fast moving, vital subject

To Tilt at Windmills is the memoir of Briton Fred Thomas who served with the International Brigades in the Spanish Civil War (July 1936-March 1939). Inspired by a memorable return to Iberian battlefields forty years later, and based on diaries kept during the many months Thomas spent as a gunner with the British Anti-Tank Battery, the narrative moves eloquently along a journey into the war zone, through the several campaigns in which he fought and where he was twice wounded, and finally to the withdrawal of the Brigades from the conflict. What distinguishes Thomas' account is the remarkable detail provided by the diaries and the measured tone of his reminiscence, There is, as well, the poignant inquiry of the veteran into the shape and meaning of experience as a young soldier. The historian Paul Preston has cited the "warmth, directness and deep humanity" of To Tilt at Windmills, "an important contribution to the collective memory of the war.

In 1948 a desire awoke in Don Elkins to move beyond the boundaries of the known in order to grasp the greater human purpose in context of the universe itself. Seven years later Elkins dedicated his life to a long-term investigation with a single objective: to find and fit together the puzzle pieces that would disclose this picture. This is his story. This is partners' story. This is the biography of L/L Research. Those who slowly and steadily, year after year made a labor of love to build a massive library of channeled philosophy, who gave away the fruit of their labors for the benefit of others similarly seeking, and who reached profoundly into the deep unknown to achieve the Ra contact, resulting in their extraordinary offering to others known as the Law of One material.

Tilting at Windmills contains the transcripts of a seven-day interview conducted by Gary L. Bean with the then two surviving original members of L/L Research: Carla L. Rueckert and Jim McCarty. It includes exploration of the Ra contact, the life story of L/L Research, personal biography of its three founding members, and examination of spiritual principles and philosophy. Along with abundant endnotes, headers, mirrored margins, complementary typefaces, exquisite indentation, line and paragraph spacing, and other absolutely splendid formatting.

They chose their own roads, but they couldn't change their destination. . . Twenty years ago, Vanessa Massey couldn't wait to graduate from high school and make her small hometown of Danton Hill a distant memory--despite an indelible friendship she'd recently forged. But life has largely ignored her plans, and time has summoned her back to the shores of Lake Ontario for a school reunion that could change everything. After four years as Danton Hill High's resident outcast, Adam Blackburn went on to a successful career in New York City. Yet now he's drawn homeward for a reunion he's surprisingly curious to attend--if he and his car survive the fierce summer storm that's hit. Adam always hated storms and their destruction. And sure enough, he soon collides with another vehicle in the blinding rain. But it turns out the driver is the one person he'd hoped to see: Vanessa. Reunited by Mother Nature, the two take shelter in an abandoned farmhouse where they are forced to decipher their unresolved history. Together, they'll unravel the twists of fate that have brought them to the present--and discover the remarkable truth that may carry them through the future. . . Praise for Joseph Pittman's *A Christmas Wish* "A wonderful Christmas story of moving on beyond grief and loss." --RT Book Reviews, 4 1/2 Stars "This gentle read is big on heart." --Library Journal

In *Wind Turbine Syndrome: A Communicated Disease*, Simon Chapman and Fiona Crichton explore the claims and tactics of the anti-windfarm movement, examine the scientific evidence, and consider how best to respond to anti-windfarm arguments. This is an eye-opening account of the rise of the anti-windfarm movement, and a timely call for a more evidence-based approach.

A self-proclaimed knight Señor Quexada has read so many books about knights in shining armor that he thinks he is one. He gives himself a name more fitting for a knight -- Don Quixote -- and sets off one evening with his squire. At dawn they come across what Don Quixote recognizes as an army of monstrous giants. "Master!" cries Sancho Panza. "They are only windmills!" But Don Quixote knows what he has to do . . . Don Quixote is the creation of the Spanish writer Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. Eric A. Kimmel skillfully and cleverly crystallizes the character, and with his powerful line and vibrant color Leonard Everett Fisher completes the funny, loving portrait.

Tilting at Windmills A Novel of Cervantes and the Errant Knight Crown

This casebook gathers a collection of ambitious essays about both parts of the novel (1605 and 1615) and also provides a general introduction and a bibliography. The essays range from Ramón Menéndez Pidal's seminal study of how Cervantes dealt with chivalric literature to Erich Auerbach's polemical study of Don Quixote as essentially a comic book by studying its mixture of styles, and include Leo Spitzer's masterful probe into the essential ambiguity of the novel through minute linguistic analysis of Cervantes' prose. The book includes pieces by other major Cervantes scholars, such as Manuel Durán and Edward C. Riley, as well as younger scholars like Georgina Dopico Black. All these essays

ultimately seek to discover that which is peculiarly Cervantean in Don Quixote and why it is considered to be the first modern novel.

As Ambassador and Special Envoy on Afghanistan from 1989 to 1992, Peter Tomsen has had close relationships with Afghan leaders and has dealt with senior Taliban, warlords, and religious leaders involved in the region's conflicts over the last two decades. Now Tomsen draws on a rich trove of never-before-published material to shed new light on the American involvement in the long and continuing Afghan war. This book offers a deeply informed perspective on how Afghanistan's history as a "shatter zone" for foreign invaders and its tribal society have shaped the modern Afghan narrative. It brings to life the appallingly misinformed secret operations by foreign intelligence agencies, including the Soviet NKVD and KGB, the Pakistani ISI, and the CIA. American policy makers, Tomsen argues, still do not understand Afghanistan; nor do they appreciate how the CIA's covert operations and the Pentagon's military strategy have strengthened extremism in the country. At this critical time, he shows how the U.S. and the coalition it leads can assist the region back to peace and stability.

He cites improvements in the performance, reliability, and cost effectiveness of modern wind turbines to support his contention that wind energy has come of age as a commercial technology.

This lyrical debut novel celebrates the joys and tears of love lost and found, and of a life renewed--in a most unexpected place. . . At thirty-four, Brian Duncan has it all. A trendy Manhattan life, a high-powered PR job, and a gorgeous fiancée with an exciting future of her own. Then, in a single moment of deception, Brian's world crumbles. Bitterly betrayed, he decides to toss away all he has worked for. Irresistibly drawn to the road, he leaves the city's busy streets behind. . . On a hillside along New York's Hudson River Valley, Brian is transfixed by the beauty of an enormous windmill. Running toward it is a lovely little girl and her alluring mother, Annie Sullivan, who owns the windmill. The two strike a chord in Brian's heart and soon he discovers the small-town charms of Linden Corners--and of Annie, whose elusive quality matches his own questions about life. And as their relationship deepens into passion, through the force of nature and the hand of fate, Brian will learn that love comes in unexpected ways. Pittman's debut novel is a feel-good fantasy. . . a nice feel for pace and place."--Publishers Weekly

In seventeenth-century Valladolid, Spain's new capital, Miguel Cervantes is busy writing his comic masterpiece, Don Quixote, which is being issued in installments. It is quickly making him the most popular author in the country, when three potential disasters strike: Cervantes discovers that there is a real Don Quixote, just like the character he thought he'd invented; a jealous poet concocts a scheme involving one of the novel's other characters to make Cervantes a laughingstock; and Cervantes falls in love with a beautiful, widowed, but un-available duchess. Many duels, misunderstandings, politicking, and betrayals later, Don

Quixote himself comes to Cervantes' rescue. This sparkling tale of crazed knights, thwarted love, and literary rivalry is set against the back-ground of a mighty empire suffering from a century of reckless wars and a ruling hierarchy stultified by patronage and ritual. Peopled with an engagingly idiosyncratic cast that ranges from a Machiavellian duke to a misanthropic poacher, this charming story is imbued with the spirit, verve, and humor of the great novel to which it pays playful tribute. Tilting at Windmills is a dazzling evocation of Cervantes' life and times, and a brilliant weave of fact, fiction, and farce.

Andy Miller is a sports atheist. The beautiful game, the roar of the crowd, winning, losing, taking part - these mean nothing to him. But at thirty he is worried. He thinks he's turning into a bit of a crank. So Andy decides that he must try to love sport - and just maybe it will love him back. He shivers for a season in the stands at QPR, braves the queues at Wimbledon, stays (reasonably) sober at the Boat Race, gets his money's worth at a WWF event. But to really show his commitment, he takes up the one sport now dear to his heart - crazy golf. Dreaming of putting glory, he heads for Europe and the International circuit. No one can accuse him of being a crank now . . .

Up until the late 1960s the story of Australian literary magazines was one of continuing struggle against the odds, and of the efforts of individuals such as Clem Christesen, Stephen Murray-Smith and Max Harris. During that time, the magazines played the role of 'enfant terrible', creating a space where unpopular opinions and writers were allowed a voice. The magazines have very often been ahead of their time and some of the agendas they have pursued have become 'central' to representations where once they were marginal. Broadly, 'little' magazines have often been more influential than their small circulations would first indicate, and the author's argument is that they have played a valuable role in the promotion of Australian literature.

Discover the inner workings of the House of Slaughter in this new horror series exploring the secret history of the Order that forged Erica Slaughter into the monster hunter she is today. You know Aaron Slaughter as Erica's handler and rival. But before he donned the black mask, Aaron was a teenager training within the House of Slaughter. Surviving within the school is tough enough, but it gets even more complicated when Aaron falls for a mysterious boy destined to be his competition.

Jeff Lemire! The Eisner Award-winning superhero saga returns in this ongoing series picking up twenty years later with new series artist Caitlin Yarsky. Now, it's twenty years later, and Lucy, and the world, have moved on. Living in the suburbs of Spiral City, Lucy is married and has children. But all is not blissful. Her marriage is falling apart, her job has reached a dead end, and for mysterious reasons, she hasn't picked up the hammer in years. But, as her domestic life begins to crumble, the secrets of the last twenty years, and the reasons Lucy really gave up being Black Hammer, begin to resurface, threatening her family, and the peace she has tried hard to find for herself. A new chapter in the Eisner Award-winning Black Hammer series!

The founder of the Washington Monthly magazine recounts his life and career and describes the ideas and events that have shaped his liberal outlook

SHORTLISTED for the 2011 Man Booker Prize for Fiction An intense psychological drama that echoes sophisticated entertainments like Gorky Park and The Talented Mr. Ripley. Nick Platt is a British lawyer working in Moscow in the early 2000s—a

place where the cascade of oil money, the tightening grip of the government, the jostling of the oligarchs, and the loosening of Soviet social mores have led to a culture where corruption, decadence, violence, and betrayal define everyday life. Nick doesn't ask too many questions about the shady deals he works on—he's too busy enjoying the exotic, surreally sinful nightlife Moscow has to offer. One day in the subway, he rescues two willowy sisters, Masha and Katya, from a would-be purse snatcher. Soon Nick, the seductive Masha, and long-limbed Katya are cruising the seamy glamour spots of the city. Nick begins to feel something for Masha that he is pleased to think is love. Then the sisters ask Nick to help their aged aunt, Tatiana, find a new apartment. Of course, nothing is as it seems—including this extraordinary debut novel. The twists in the story take it far beyond its noirish frame—the sordid and vivid portrayal of Moscow serves as a backdrop for a book that examines the irresistible allure of sin, featuring characters whose hearts are as cold as the Russian winter.

An inventive, ambitious interpretation of Don Quixote for our times, Mr Iyer Goes To War is a playful, profound adventure heralding a bold new voice in Indian fiction. Dispatched to a home in the sacred city of Varanasi, Lalgudi Iyer spends his days immersed in scripture. When an accident leaves him with concussion, he receives a vision of his past incarnation - he was the mythological warrior Bhima, sent from the heavens to destroy evil. Convinced of his need to continue Bhima's mission and revive the noble principles of the Mahabharata, Iyer embarks on an epic adventure down the sacred Ganges with the help of his trust companion Bencho, the undertaker. His attempts at restoring order to the world - and winning the heart of the half-beautiful but oblivious widow Damayanti - are hampered only by his complete detachment from the reality of contemporary India. Mr Iyer Goes to War introduces a bold, witty new voice of Indian fiction in this playful and profound tale of love, adventure and friendship.

For three best friends, a small town, endless days of summer and an old radio form the recipe for an unforgettable adventure. It's summer in Delley, a quiet town in the American Midwest. Perhaps too quiet for Jeremy, Stella, and Sam, three inquisitive kids with a desire to solve mysteries and seek adventure in a place that, to be honest, doesn't offer a lot of either. However, when Jeremy gets an old radio that connects him and his friends to a girl who needs their help, the adventure they find themselves in may be a bit more dangerous than they hoped for.

Cervantes' Don Quixote is the most widely read masterpiece in world literature, as appealing to readers today as four hundred years ago. In *Fighting Windmills* Manuel Durán and Fay R. Rigg offer a beautifully written excursion into Cervantes' great novel and trace its impact on writers and thinkers across centuries and continents. How did Cervantes write such a rich tale? Durán and Rigg explore the details of Cervantes' life, the techniques with which he constructed the novel, and the central themes of the adventures of Don Quixote and his earthy squire Sancho Panza. The authors then provide an insightful, panoramic view of Cervantes' powerful influence on generations of writers as diverse as Descartes, Voltaire, Dickens, Dostoyevsky, Twain, and Borges.

George Denton never believed in the notion of love at first-sight not when his parents regaled him with the story of how they met not when his elderly grandmother married her bridge partner not even when the prettiest girl in all the world moved to the

picturesque village of Lincoln Point. But from the moment the baby who came to be called Sky let out his first wail inside the house on Archer Avenue, George knew his life would never be the same again. Here was a child orphaned at birth, a child seemingly blessed with a remarkable gift, looking to his Uncle George to teach him the lessons of life, of the power of love and the realization of dreams.

“Beautifully evokes scenes of two girls adrift in the . . . bohemian beach culture . . . a breathtaking, fiercely feminine take on American magical realism.” —Interview Magazine Set in Long Beach, California, beginning in the 1970s, *The Salt God’s Daughter* follows Ruthie and her older sister Dolly as they struggle for survival in a place governed by an enchanted ocean and exotic folklore. Guided by a mother ruled by magical, elaborately-told stories of the full moons, which she draws from *The Old Farmer’s Almanac*, the two girls are often homeless, often on their own, fiercely protective of each other, and unaware of how far they have drifted from traditional society as they carve a real life from their imagined stories. Imbued with a traditional Scottish folktale and hints of Jewish mysticism, *The Salt God’s Daughter* examines the tremulous bonds between sisters and the enduring power of maternal love—a magical tale that presents three generations of extraordinary women who fight to transcend a world that is often hostile to those who are different. “Indeed, Ruby has written a complicated, multi-layered work that shifts shapes to bridge the relationship between tragedy and redemption.” --The Huffington Post “Three generations of indelibly original women wrestle with the confines of their lives against a shimmering backdrop of magic, folklore, and deep-buried secrets . . . To say I loved this book is an understatement.” --Caroline Leavitt, New York Times bestselling author “The selkie myth lies at the heart of Ruby’s second novel . . . This is a bewitching tale of lives entangled in lushly layered fables of the moon and sea.” --Kirkus Reviews

The extraordinary prize-winning debut from Andrew Miller. Winner of the IMPAC Award and James Tait Black Memorial Prize. At the dawn of the Enlightenment, James Dyer is born unable to feel pain. A source of wonder and scientific curiosity as a child, he rises through the ranks of Georgian society to become a brilliant surgeon. Yet as a human being he fails, for he can no more feel love and compassion than pain. Until, en route to St Petersburg to inoculate the Empress Catherine against smallpox, he meets his nemesis and saviour.

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