

# Year Of The Fat Knight The Falstaff Diaries

Navigating between human and natural history and between science and myth, chronicles the author's journey through the oceans to rediscover the sea and its islands, birds, and beasts, and to seek encounters with animals and people. Bill Cooper, former United States Naval Intelligence Briefing Team member, reveals information that remains hidden from the public eye. This information has been kept in Top Secret government files since the 1940s. His audiences hear the truth unfold as he writes about the assassination of John F. Kennedy, the war on drugs, the Secret Government and UFOs. Bill is a lucid, rational and powerful speaker who intent is to inform and to empower his audience. Standing room only is normal. His presentation and information transcend partisan affiliations as he clearly addresses issues in a way that has a striking impact on listeners of all backgrounds and interests. He has spoken to many groups throughout the United States and has appeared regularly on many radio talk shows and on television. In 1988 Bill decided to "talk" due to events then taking place worldwide, events which he had seen plans for back in the early '70s. Since Bill has been "talking," he has correctly predicted the lowering of the Iron Curtain, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the invasion of Panama. All Bill's predictions were on record well before the events occurred. Bill is not a psychic. His information comes from Top Secret documents that he read while with the Intelligence Briefing Team and from over 17 years of thorough research. "Bill Cooper is the world's leading expert on UFOs." -- Billy Goodman, KVEG, Las Vegas. "The onlt man in America who has all the pieces to the puzzle that has troubled so many for so long." -- Anthony Hilder, Radio Free

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America "William Cooper may be one of America's greatest heros, and this story may be the biggest story in the history of the world." -- Mills Crenshaw, KTALK, Salt Lake City. "Like it or not, everything is changing. The result will be the most wonderful experience in the history of man or the most horrible enslavement that you can imagine. Be active or abdicate, the future is in your hands." -- William Cooper, October 24, 1989.

"“This is a book for anyone,” Glyn Maxwell declares of *On Poetry*. A guide to the writing of poetry and a defense of the art, it will be especially prized by writers and readers who wish to understand why and how poetic technique matters. When Maxwell states, “With rhyme what matters is the distance between rhymes” or “the line-break is punctuation,” he compresses into simple, memorable phrases a great deal of practical wisdom. In seven chapters whose weird, gnomic titles announce the singularity of the book—“White,” “Black,” “Form,” “Pulse,” “Chime,” “Space,” and “Time”—the poet explores his belief that the greatest verse arises from a harmony of mind and body, and that poetic forms originate in human necessities: breath, heartbeat, footstep, posture. “The sound of form in poetry descended from song, molded by breath, is the sound of that creature yearning to leave a mark. The meter says tick-tock. The rhyme says remember. The whiteness says alone,” Maxwell writes. To illustrate his argument, he draws upon personal touchstones such as Emily Dickinson and Robert Frost. An experienced teacher, Maxwell also takes us inside the world of the creative writing class, where we learn from the experiences of four aspiring poets. “You master form you master time,” Maxwell says. In this guide to the most ancient and sublime of the realms of literature, Maxwell shares his mastery with us.”

Many people dream of escaping modern life, but most will never act on it. This is the remarkable true story of a man who

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lived alone in the woods of Maine for 27 years, making this dream a reality—not out of anger at the world, but simply because he preferred to live on his own. A New York Times bestseller In 1986, a shy and intelligent twenty-year-old named Christopher Knight left his home in Massachusetts, drove to Maine, and disappeared into the forest. He would not have a conversation with another human being until nearly three decades later, when he was arrested for stealing food. Living in a tent even through brutal winters, he had survived by his wits and courage, developing ingenious ways to store edibles and water, and to avoid freezing to death. He broke into nearby cottages for food, clothing, reading material, and other provisions, taking only what he needed but terrifying a community never able to solve the mysterious burglaries. Based on extensive interviews with Knight himself, this is a vividly detailed account of his secluded life—why did he leave? what did he learn?—as well as the challenges he has faced since returning to the world. It is a gripping story of survival that asks fundamental questions about solitude, community, and what makes a good life, and a deeply moving portrait of a man who was determined to live his own way, and succeeded.

Rich in the emotional depth and historical detail for which Candice Proctor (aka C. S. Harris) is renowned, *The Last Knight* is a haunting tale of sacrifice, passion, and redemption played out against the last days of Henry II. Brittany, 1189: Nothing is more important to Attica d'Alérion than honor and her duty to her family. For the sake of her house she has agreed to a dynastic marriage with the sulky 13-year-old heir to a powerful nobleman, and when she learns of a treacherous plot against the King that could threaten the life of her beloved brother, Stephen, she risks everything in a desperate ride to warn him. The dangers of the road force Attica to join forces with Damion de Jarnac, a black knight

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with the burning ambitions of a disgraced younger son-and a deadly secret of his own. Surrounded by shifting alliances and betrayals, the two are increasingly forced to rely on only each other. And as the world around them crumbles into war, they find it more and more difficult to resist the hopeless passion that flares between them. But they cannot escape the day when conflicting loyalties and the tragedies of their time will force each to make an impossible choice between love and honor." . . . rings with clinks of armor, political intrigues, galloping horses and near-death escapes . . . Proctor, a consummate storyteller, adeptly captures the splendor, romance, and brutality of medieval Europe."-Publishers Weekly"[a] superb tale of passion and redemption as one man's quest for glory becomes an unexpected crusade to save his soul . . ." -from the original Random House edition

From Publishers Weekly: The year is 1189, and amid the swirling intrigues against ailing King Henry Plantagenet appear two spirited young people, each intent on a personal mission. Damion de Jarnac is a fearless rogue knight bound to his code of honor and by loyalty to his king. Attica d'Alerion, betrothed to a 13-year-old boy to cement a political alliance, honors family loyalty. Thus, when she learns a plot against the king may endanger her beloved brother, Stephen, she dons the disguise of a young boy and rides to warn him. Damion rescues Attica from a brigand ambush and agrees to escort her to her destination when he hears of the plot against Henry. He quickly realizes he is escorting a fearless young lady instead of a lordling, and a tumultuous romance develops between these strong-willed individuals. The book rings with clinks of armor, political intrigues, galloping chases and near-death escapes. As plot and tension escalate, Damion unhappily comes to see that Attica's brother is a traitor to the king, and he fears the decision he must make will forever banish Attica from his life. Proctor, a consummate

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storyteller, adeptly captures the splendor, romance and brutality of medieval Europe. Copyright 2000 Cahners Business Information, Inc.

Published to mark the beginning of the Britten centenary year in 2013, Paul Kildea's *Benjamin Britten: A Life in the Twentieth Century* is the definitive biography of Britain's greatest modern composer. In the eyes of many, Benjamin Britten was our finest composer since Purcell (a figure who often inspired him) three hundred years earlier. He broke decisively with the romantic, nationalist school of figures such as Parry, Elgar and Vaughan Williams and recreated English music in a fresh, modern, European form. With *Peter Grimes* (1945), *Billy Budd* (1951) and *The Turn of the Screw* (1954), he arguably composed the last operas - from any composer in any country - which have entered both the popular consciousness and the musical canon. He did all this while carrying two disadvantages to worldly success - his passionately held pacifism, which made him suspect to the authorities during and immediately after the Second World War - and his homosexuality, specifically his forty-year relationship with Peter Pears, for whom many of his greatest operatic roles and vocal works were created. The atmosphere and personalities of Aldeburgh in his native Suffolk also form another wonderful dimension to the book. Kildea shows clearly how Britten made this creative community, notably with the foundation of the Aldeburgh Festival and the building of Snape Maltings, but also how costly the determination that this required was. Above all, this book helps us understand the relationship of Britten's music to his life, and takes us as far into his creative process as we are ever likely to go. Kildea reads dozens of Britten's works with enormous intelligence and sensitivity, in a way which those without formal musical training can understand. It is one of the most moving and enjoyable biographies of a creative artist of any kind to have

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appeared for years. Paul Kildea is a writer and conductor who has performed many of the Britten works he writes about, in opera houses and concert halls from Sydney to Hamburg. His previous books include *Selling Britten* (2002) and (as editor) *Britten on Music* (2003). He was Head of Music at the Aldeburgh Festival between 1999 and 2002 and subsequently Artistic Director of the Wigmore Hall in London. "A fascinating account of the trials and tribulations behind what turned into a triumphant South African production of Shakespeare's bloodiest tragedy, *Titus Andronicus*' (Independent) Shakespeare in Tarantino mode is how actor Antony Sher and director Gregory Doran describe *Titus Andronicus*, one of the most violent plays ever written. They decided to mount a production at the celebrated Market Theatre in Johannesburg with a top South African multi-racial cast. This is an account of their extraordinary journey- from the historic first visit of the Royal National Theatre Studio to South Africa in 1994, to the rehearsals and controversial opening of *Titus* at the Market, and the acclaim that greeted its subsequent performances in London, Leeds and Spain. This is not only a fascinating insight into how a director and actor approach a classic play, it is also a portrait of theatre in South Africa, emerging from the dark ages of apartheid, and a moving and often funny account of Antony Sher's professional debut in his homeland."

Fall through time...Vacation to England. Check.Haunting castle ruins. Check.Proper English lord for a boyfriend. Well, almost check.Be careful what you wish for...Lucy Merriweather's supposedly perfect boyfriend attempted to murder her during a visit to Blackford Castle. Falling through time to 1300s medieval England, she lands in a tangled heap at the feet of a tarnished grumpy knight with secrets of his own and no time to spare for a crazy damsel in distress.Series Reading Order: Knights Through Time Travel

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Romances  
Book 1: A Knight to Remember  
Book 2: Knight Moves  
Book 3: Lonely is the Knight  
Book 4: Darkest Knight  
Book 5: Forever Knight  
Book 6: First Knight  
Book 7: Last Knight  
Book 8: My One and Only Knight  
Book 9: Beyond Time  
Book 10: Time After Time  
Book 11: A Moonlit Knight  
Book 12: The Knight Before Christma

The Thrift Book is a guide to how to live well while spending less by bestselling writer India Knight. Feeling poor because of the credit crunch? Feeling guilty because of global warming? Feeling like you'd like to tighten your belt, but aren't ready to embrace DIY macramé handbags? No need to panic. Put down the economy mince and buy this book instead - it's a blueprint for living beautifully, while saving money and easing your conscience. India Knight will show you: - How to make wonderful dinners with every little money - How to dress on a budget and still look fabulous - How to make friends and start sharing with your neighbours - How to holiday imaginatively - with barely a carbon footprint Try it - you have nothing to lose but your overdraft. 'A blueprint for living well, however broke you are, with thrifty tips on looking fab, cooking, pampering and partying' Cosmopolitan 'The Thrift Book might be the only sure-fire investment out there' Harper's Bazaar 'A triumphant treat and a useful and sensible manual' Independent India Knight is the author of four novels: My Life on a Plate, Don't You Want Me, Comfort and Joy and Mutton. Her non-fiction books include The Shops, the bestselling diet book Neris and India's Idiot-Proof Diet, the accompanying bestselling cookbook Neris and India's Idiot-Proof Diet Cookbook and The Thrift Book.

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India is a columnist for the Sunday Times and lives in London with her three children. Follow India on Twitter @indiaknight or on her blog at <http://indiaknight.tumblr.com>.

Republished to mark Antony Sher's sixtieth birthday. This is his "human, funny, nakedly direct memoir." The New York Times bestseller from the author of *The Life-Changing Magic of Not Giving a F\*ck and You Do You*. The no-f\*cks-given, no-holds-barred guide to living your best life. Ever find yourself stuck at the office-or even just glued to the couch -- when you really want to get out (for once), get to the gym (at last), and get started on that "someday" project you're always putting off? It's time to get your sh\*t together. In *The Life-Changing Magic of Not Giving a F\*ck*, "anti-guru" Sarah Knight introduced readers to the joys of mental decluttering . This book takes you one step further -- organizing the f\*cks you want and need to give, and cutting through the bullsh\*t cycle of self-sabotage to get happy and stay that way. You'll discover: The Power of Negative Thinking Three simple tools for getting your sh\*t together How to spend less and save more Ways to manage anxiety, avoid avoidance, and conquer your fear of failure And tons of other awesome sh\*t! Praise for Sarah Knight: "Genius." -- *Cosmopolitan* "Self-help to swear by." -- *The Boston Globe* "Hilarious... truly practical." -- *Booklist*

THE HILARIOUS, TOUCHING LIFE STORY OF THE ICONIC COMEDIAN AND NATIONAL TREASURE

'Fabulous? Yes. Funny? Absolutely' Mail on Sunday  
Jennifer Saunders' comic creations have brought joy to



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millions. From Comic Strip to Comic Relief, from Bollyswilling Edina in Ab Fab to her takes on Madonna or Mamma Mia, her characters are household names. But it's Jennifer herself who has a place in all our hearts. This is her funny, moving and frankly bonkers memoir, filled with laughter, friends and occasional heartache - but never misery. BONKERS is full of riotous adventures: accidentally enrolling on a teacher training course with a young Dawn French, bluffing her way to each BBC series, shooting Lulu, trading wild faxes with Joanna Lumley, touring India with Ruby Wax and Goldie Hawn. Prepare to chuckle, whoop, and go BONKERS. 'Beautifully written and frequently hilarious' Guardian 'Her account of battling breast cancer is as honest as it is uplifting' Daily Mail 'Endearing and hilarious. If only all celebrity biographies were this funny' Telegraph The second installment in Mallory's All the King's Men series introduces a knight who is rising in the ranks of the king's army until he falls for the beautiful Lady Isobel. Original.

'Warm, anxious and true - a Little Book of Un-Calm' Caitlin Moran Shortlisted for Non-Fiction Book of the Year at the National Book Awards Sometimes things are more ordinary than you think. And sometimes they're a whole lot odder than you can possibly imagine. By turns poignant, comic and uplifting, Curious is a book of stories from Rebecca Front's life, all of them true, though sometimes perhaps a little bent out of shape in the telling. It is a beguiling celebration of the curiosities of everyday life, and of what it is to be curious - in every sense of the word.

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The story of how Antony Sher adapted Primo Levi's book *If This is a Man* into a one-man stage play, and performed it for the National Theatre.

Join Tom on an incredible treasure hunt through time and battle history's mightiest warriors. The second book in a new time-travelling series – perfect for fans of *Beast Quest*.

Welcome to the world of Fat Colin; a world that consists of all the important things in life such as hating one's mother, desiring the unattainable, diets, and nose pore strips. It seemed uncomplicated, if superficial. Time for a change. He decides to take immediate action regarding his weight and the state of his nonexistent love life. His best mate, the ever cheery and optimistic Fat Tash, has been begging him to do one of those 10k runs. How hard can it be? It's only running. In their naivety, they invited everyone and their granny to watch them cross over the finish line, so failure is not an option. Unfortunately, it seems imminent. In the lead up to the 10k run, life goes on. Fat Tash meets "The One", but Fat Colin can't get over the fact that her new beau is 23 years her senior and sports a moustache. He can't voice his opinion on the matter because she'll respond with her usual raised eyebrows and say something like, "There's a nasty little bitch standing in front of me and I think she goes by the name of Jealousy". He has no cause to be jealous because his own love life has started to take shape. He's admired Mark from afar and a Valentine's Day hoax sees their worlds meet when his affections are returned. He feels ruffled. Why does Mark like him? Mark is gorgeous. Fat Colin is not. What does he want with him? And then there's handsome and mysterious next door neighbour Tom who may or may not have feelings for Fat Colin. Now he will embark on an emotional journey - sometimes touching, often humiliating, and always

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complicated - that shows the modern day knight has ditched the horse and armour in favour of a Fiat Punto and fake tan, and that life's bendy road is littered with unavoidable potholes. Oh, and don't even get him started on his work colleagues; the eccentric Janet's dissent into madness, Jobbie Bobbie violating the air with her flatulence, gossip-vulture Grace who is trying for a baby and enjoys nothing more than furnishing Fat Colin with all the smutty details, and new recruit Julien who seems determined to sleep with everyone in the office. In a life that is made up of the people around you, your diary can become your very own personal soap opera. Just ask Fat Colin.

Among the revolutions of the last century, none was more important or potentially more lasting than the one in the arts called "Modernism". Among the giants of that movement were writers who changed our conceptions of poetry and prose forever. Now, well into the new century, we can look back to admire and reflect on figures from that period. Last year saw biographies of two monumental poets of Modernism: Robert Crawford's first volume on T. S. Eliot, and David Moody's concluding third volume on the life of Ezra Pound. We are excited to announce the first full-length critical biography of the third member, too often overlooked, of that extraordinary group. The beautifully illustrated David Jones: Engraver, Soldier, Painter, Poet by Thomas Dilworth will stand for generations as the great biography this wonderful artist deserves. Jones (1895–1974) was a painter, a wood- and copper-engraver and maker of painted inscriptions, but it was as a poet that he left his most lasting mark. Eliot called him "one of the most distinguished writers of my generation" and Dylan Thomas said he "would like to have done anything as good as David Jones has done." Auden praised his poem In Parenthesis as "the greatest book [ever] about the Great War", and The Anathemata as one of the "truly great poems

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in Western Literature." His work, the whole of it, enables him to stand alongside Eliot, Pound, and James Joyce as an incomparable figure in literary Modernism.

Great Shakespeare Actors offers a series of essays on great Shakespeare actors from his time to ours, starting by asking whether Shakespeare himself was the first--the answer is No--and continuing with essays on the men and women who have given great stage performances in his plays from Elizabethan times to our own. They include both English and American performers such as David Garrick, Sarah Siddons, Charlotte Cushman, Ira Aldridge, Edwin Booth, Henry Irving, Ellen Terry, Edith Evans, Laurence Olivier, John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson, Peggy Ashcroft, Janet Suzman, Judi Dench, Ian McKellen, and Kenneth Branagh. Individual chapters tell the story of their subjects' careers, but together these overlapping tales combine to offer a succinct, actor-centred history of Shakespearian theatrical performance. Stanley Wells examines what it takes to be a great Shakespeare actor and then offers a concise sketch of each actor's career in Shakespeare, an assessment of their specific talents and claims to greatness, and an account, drawing on contemporary reviews, biographies, anecdotes, and, for some of the more recent actors, the author's personal memories of their most notable performances in Shakespeare roles.

"It is 1483, and Sir Thomas Lemuel Hawke, a Cornish knight, is about to ride into battle. On the eve of his departure, he composes a letter to his four young children, consisting of twenty virtues that provide instruction on how to live a noble life, and on all the lessons, large and small, that he might have imparted to them himself were he not expecting to die on the battlefield. "Why am I alive? Where was I before I was born? What will happen to me when I die? Whatever well our lives are drawn from, it is deep, wild, mysterious, and

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unknowable..."Rules for a Knight is many things: a code of ethics; an intimate record of a lifelong quest; a careful recounting of a knight's hardest won lessons, deepest aspirations, and most richly instructive failures; and an artifact, a relic of a father's exquisite love. Drawing on the ancient teachings of Eastern and Western philosophy and religion, on literature, and poetry, and on the great spiritual and political writings of our time, Ethan Hawke has written a parable that--in the story of a young man's journey toward a life of authenticity and meaning--captures the instinctive movement of the heart toward truth and beauty. Rules for a Knight has the appeal of Arthurian legend; the economy of Aesop; and the vitality, intelligence, and risk-taking that could only emanate from Ethan Hawke"--

Thinking Shakespeare gives theater artists practical advice about how to make Shakespeare's words feel spontaneous, passionate, and real. Based on Barry Edelstein's thirty-year career directing Shakespeare's plays, this book provides the tools that artists need to fully understand and express the power of Shakespeare's language.

Year of the Fat KnightThe Falstaff DiariesNick Hern Books  
Now in paperback. The acclaimed account of researching and playing one of the greatest roles in English drama.

Leon is rich, bisexual, Jewish and white South African. Holed up in his London mansion hiding from the spectres of AIDS, apartheid and anti-semitism, he is drowning in a sea of vodka, sex and cocaine. But a chance meeting with a young Afrikaner catapults him into a completely new existence.

Following in the footsteps of Nick Asbury's bestselling *Exit Pursued by a Badger*, actor and Royal Shakespeare Company alumnus Keith Osborn tells the story of the company's extraordinary 2008/9 season in Stratford and London, with much drama on and off stage. Keith

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appeared in Gregory Doran's acclaimed productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Love's Labours Lost* and, of course, Doran's *Hamlet* with David Tennant in the title role. Keith's blog was followed by thousands of loyal readers, the book contains some new material covering the early parts of the season and a short account of the BBC's filming of *Hamlet* in the summer of 2009, rounded out with many rehearsal and production photos taken throughout the season.

*Year of the Mad King: The Lear Diaries*, is Antony Sher's account of researching, rehearsing and performing one of Shakespeare's greatest roles: *King Lear*. His honest, illuminating and witty commentary provides an intimate, first-hand look at the development of his *Lear* and the production as a whole. Also included are a selection of his paintings and sketches, many reproduced in full color.

Scottish broadcaster and author Sally Magnusson's bestselling memoir of caring (with her two sisters) for their mother Mamie during many years of living with dementia. Sad and funny, wise and honest, this deeply intimate account of insidious losses and unexpected joys is also a call to arms that challenges us all to think differently about how we cope with a disease like dementia and care for our loved ones. This book began as an attempt to hold on to my witty, storytelling mother with the one thing I had to hand. Words. Then, as the enormity of the social crisis my family was part of began to dawn, I wrote with the thought that other forgotten lives might be nudged into the light along with hers. Dementia is one of the greatest social, medical,

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economic, scientific, philosophical and moral challenges of our times. I am a reporter. It became the biggest story of my life. - Sally Magnusson Regarded as one of the finest journalists of her generation, Mamie Baird Magnusson's whole life was a celebration of words - words that she fought to retain in the grip of a disease which is fast becoming the scourge of the 21st century. Married to writer and broadcaster Magnus Magnusson, they had five children of whom Sally is the eldest. As well as chronicling the anguish, the frustrations and the unexpected laughs and joys that she and her sisters experienced while accompanying their beloved mother on the long dementia road for eight years until her death in 2012, Sally Magnusson seeks understanding from a range of experts and asks penetrating questions about how we treat older people, how we can face one of the greatest social, medical, economic and moral challenges of our times, and what it means to be human. An extraordinary and deeply personal memoir, a manifesto and a call to arms, in one searingly beautiful narrative. [Facebook.com/WhereMemoriesGo](https://www.facebook.com/WhereMemoriesGo)

This is the story of the relationship between two unlikely correspondents. Yusuf is a would-be intellectual coloured on Death Row in Pretoria, convicted of murdering one and a half people. Adrian is the half that got away, having survived Yusuf's assault during an afternoon of casual sex.

Abandoned by her lover after a quarrel, Dougless Montgomery is stranded in rural England, but with the sudden appearance of Nicholas Stafford, Earl of Thornwyck--who died centuries ago--a passionate affair

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begins.

Get swept up in all the gritty, wild details of a roller-coaster love story with the ultimate bad boy in the first spinoff novel after 44 CHAPTERS ABOUT 4 MEN, the book that inspired the hit Netflix original series SEX/LIFE. In 1997, Ronald “Knight” McKnight was the meanest, most misunderstood guy in town. . . perhaps on the entire planet. He hated everyone, except for BB Easton—the perky, quirky punk chick he couldn’t avoid. BB, on the other hand, liked everybody . . . except for Knight. She was scared to death of him, actually. All she wanted was to marry Little Mermaid’s Prince Eric-lookalike and king of the local punk scene Lance Hightower. But Knight was patient. Persistent. Unexpected. And once he got under BB’s skin, her life would never be the same. A forbidden love story overflowing with '90s nostalgia, dark humor, and heart-wrenching angst, and based on a true story.

A poetic translation of the classic Arthurian story is an edition in alliterative language and rhyme of the epic confrontation between a young Round Table hero and a green-clad stranger who compels him to meet his destiny at the Green Chapel. Reprint. 20,000 first printing.

Miles Cameron weaves an epic tale of magic and mercenaries, war and depravity, politics and intrigue in this action-packed debut fantasy *The Red Knight*.

Twenty eight florins a month is a huge price to pay, for a man to stand between you and the Wild. Twenty eight florins a month is nowhere near enough when a wyvern's jaws snap shut on your helmet in the hot stink of battle, and the beast starts to rip the head from your shoulders.



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But if standing and fighting is hard, leading a company of men -- or worse, a company of mercenaries -- against the smart, deadly creatures of the Wild is even harder. It takes all the advantages of birth, training, and the luck of the devil to do it. The Red Knight has all three, he has youth on his side, and he's determined to turn a profit. So when he hires his company out to protect an Abbess and her nunnery, it's just another job. The abby is rich, the nuns are pretty and the monster preying on them is nothing he can't deal with. Only it's not just a job. It's going to be a war. . . If you're a fan of Mark Lawrence, John Gwynne, or Brian McClellan you won't want to miss out on this intricate, epic debut fantasy.

This account of the renowned composer's neglected wife—including her years in a Soviet prison—is “a story both riveting and wrenching” (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). Serge Prokofiev was one of the twentieth century's most brilliant composers yet is an enigma to historians and his fans. Why did he leave the West and move to the Soviet Union despite Stalin's crimes? Why did his astonishing creativity in the 1930s soon dissolve into a far less inspiring output in his later years? The answers can finally be revealed, thanks to Simon Morrison's unique and unfettered access to the family's voluminous papers and his ability to reconstruct the tragic, riveting life of the composer's wife, Lina.

Morrison's portrait of the marriage of Lina and Serge Prokofiev is the story of a remarkable woman who fought for survival in the face of unbearable betrayal and despair and of the irresistibly talented but heartlessly self-absorbed musician she married. Born to a Spanish father and Russian mother in Madrid at the end of the nineteenth century and raised in Brooklyn, Lina fell in love with a rising-star composer—and

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defied convention to be with him, courting public censure. She devoted her life to Serge and art, training to be an operatic soprano and following her brilliant husband to Stalin's Russia. Just as Serge found initial acclaim—before becoming constricted by the harsh doctrine of socialist-realist music—Lina was at first accepted and later scorned, ending her singing career. Serge abandoned her and took up with another woman. Finally, Lina was arrested and shipped off to the gulag in 1948. She would be held in captivity for eight awful years. Meanwhile, Serge found himself the tool of an evil regime to which he was forced to accommodate himself. The contrast between Lina and Serge is one of strength and perseverance versus utter self-absorption, a remarkable human drama that draws on the forces of art, sacrifice, and the struggle against oppression. Readers will never forget the tragic drama of Lina's life, and never listen to Serge's music in quite the same way again.

The Teutonic Knights is an epic of medieval times and national destiny, ranking as one of the highest achievements from the pen of Henryk Sienkiewicz, the Nobel Prize winner for Literature in 1905. The novel follows the adventures of Macko, a resourceful and wise veteran of war, and his young nephew, Zbyszko, the symbol of a maturing nation, as they struggle, along with the unified peoples of Poland and Lithuania, against the oppressive religious military order, the Teutonic Knights. Among the many memorable characters are Jurand, a merciless, bitter fighter consumed with revenge; his daughter, the innocent Danusia, a girl of twelve who must face the barbarity of the German knighthood; the strong-willed Jagienka, equally adept at shooting a crossbow or administering an estate; Hlawa, a Czech squire of noble birth who is as quick with his wit as he is with his axe; Sanderus, a peddler of religious relics and indulgences whose earthly cravings seem greater than any spiritual needs. A host of

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other memorable characters fills the canvas set against lush, almost magical forests, dangerous marshes replete with tales of human heads walking on spider legs, winter blizzards that blanket the world in a white wonderland - all at once beautiful and foreboding. Splendid castles are described here, court hunts, single combats that test valor and strength. The customs of knights with their code of honor and feelings of love are adroitly explored. The entirety culminates in one of the most important battles in medieval history, the Battle of Grunwald. The Teutonic Knights was published in America in 1900 in various competing translations of erratic quality. Not until 1943 did a translation worthy of this masterpiece appear, but unfortunately its release was limited to Great Britain. It is this translation that has been revised and edited by Miroslaw Lipinski with an eye for both fluidity in the English language and fidelity to the original Polish.

ORPHAN, CLOCK KEEPER, AND THIEF, twelve-year-old Hugo lives in the walls of a busy Paris train station, where his survival depends on secrets and anonymity. But when his world suddenly interlocks with an eccentric girl and her grandfather, Hugo's undercover life, and his most precious secret, are put in jeopardy. A cryptic drawing, a treasured notebook, a stolen key, a mechanical man, and a hidden message from Hugo's dead father form the backbone of this intricate, tender, and spellbinding mystery.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER \* Taking place nearly a century before the events of A Game of Thrones, A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms compiles the first three official prequel novellas to George R. R. Martin's ongoing masterwork, A Song of Ice and Fire. NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY LOS ANGELES TIMES AND BUZZFEED These never-before-collected adventures recount an age when the Targaryen line still holds the Iron Throne, and the memory of the last dragon has not yet passed from living

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consciousness. Before Tyrion Lannister and Podrick Payne, there was Dunk and Egg. A young, naïve but ultimately courageous hedge knight, Ser Duncan the Tall towers above his rivals--in stature if not experience. Tagging along is his diminutive squire, a boy called Egg--whose true name is hidden from all he and Dunk encounter. Though more improbable heroes may not be found in all of Westeros, great destinies lay ahead for these two . . . as do powerful foes, royal intrigue, and outrageous exploits. Featuring more than 160 all-new illustrations by Gary Gianni, *A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms* is a must-have collection that proves chivalry isn't dead--yet. Praise for *A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms* "Readers who already love Martin and his ability to bring visceral human drama out of any story will be thrilled to find this trilogy brought together and injected with extra life."--Booklist "The real reason to check out this collection is that it's simply great storytelling. Martin crafts a living, breathing world in a way few authors can. . . . [Gianni's illustrations] really bring the events of the novellas to life in beautiful fashion."--Tech Times "Stirring . . . As Tolkien has his *Silmarillion*, so [George R. R.] Martin has this trilogy of foundational tales. They succeed on their own, but in addition, they succeed in making fans want more."--Kirkus Reviews (starred review) "Pure fantasy adventure, with two of the most likable protagonists George R. R. Martin has ever penned."--Bustle "A must-read for Martin's legion of fans . . . a rousing prelude to [his] bestselling *Song of Ice and Fire* saga . . . rich in human drama and the colorful worldbuilding that distinguishes other books in the series."--Publishers Weekly

We live forever, barring accidents. Just like everyone else in the universe. The Doctor travels back to the Ancient Days, an era where life flourishes and death is barely known... Then come the Kotturuh – creatures who spread through the

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cosmos dispensing mortality. They judge each and every species and decree its allotted time to live. For the first time, living things know the fear of ending. And they will go to any lengths to escape this grim new spectre, death. The Doctor is an old hand at cheating death. Now, at last, he can stop it at source. He is coming for the Kotturuh, ready to change everything so that Life wins from the start. Not just the last of the Time Lords. The Time Lord Victorious.

A Finalist for the Costa Book Award Longlisted for the Orwell Prize Named a Best Book of the Year by The Times (London)

• New Statesman (London) • Daily Express (London) •

Commonweal magazine In the summer of 1993, Thomas Harding traveled to Germany with his grandmother to visit a small house by a lake on the outskirts of Berlin. It had been her “soul place,” she said—a holiday home for her and her family, but also a refuge—until the 1930s, when the Nazis’ rise to power forced them to leave. The trip was his grandmother’s chance to remember her childhood sanctuary as it was. But the house had changed, and when Harding returned once again nearly twenty years later, it was about to be demolished. It now belonged to the government, and as Harding began to inquire about whether the house could be saved, he unearthed secrets that had lain hidden for decades. Slowly he began to piece together the lives of the five families who had lived there: a wealthy landowner, a prosperous Jewish family, a renowned composer, a widow and her children, a Stasi informant. All had made the house their home, and all but one had been forced out. The house had weathered storms, fires and abandonment, witnessed violence, betrayals and murders, and had withstood the trauma of a world war and the dividing of a nation.

Breathtaking in scope and intimate in its detail, *The House by the Lake* is a groundbreaking and revelatory new history of Germany, told over a tumultuous century through the story of

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a small wooden house.

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