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The Innocent Mage

From an incredible new voice in psychological suspense, a novel about the secrets that remain after a final bohemian summer of excess turns deadly. This taut psychological thriller begins when Karen and her nine-year-old daughter, Alice, pick up Rex from a ten-year stint in prison for murder. Flash back to the sultry summer in 1990s London when Karen, a straight-A student on the verge of college graduation, first meets the exotic, flamboyant Biba and joins her louche life in a crumbling mansion in Highgate. She begins a relationship with Biba's enigmatic and protective older brother, Rex, and falls into a blissful rhythm of sex, alcohol, and endless summer nights. Naïvely, Karen assumes her newfound happiness will last forever. But Biba and Rex have a complicated family history—one of abandonment, suicide, and crippling guilt—and Karen's summer of freedom is about to end in blood. When old ghosts come back to destroy the life it has taken Karen a decade to build, she has everything to lose. She will do whatever it takes to protect her family and keep her secret. Alternating between the fragile present and the lingering past with a shocker of an ending, *The Poison Tree* is a brilliant suspense debut that will appeal to readers of Kate Atkinson, Donna Tartt, and Tana French.

Show, Don't Tell

**Suzy's thrilling new psychological suspense chiller, *Not My Daughter*, is available for pre-order now! **

East of the Sun

A forbidden fling... Jack Quinn has always been his widowed mother's fiercest protector. So, when his mom decides to reunite with her childhood sweetheart all the way out in California, there's no question—Jack's going with her, and to hell with the consequences.... Mia McMahon isn't exactly thrilled about her wealthy father dating a woman from his past. She smells a gold digger. But once she meets Jack, she forgets all about getting his mother out of the picture—and focuses on getting him into bed! The attraction between Mia and Jack is intense, irresistible...and breaks every rule in the book. Then again, everyone knows that the most delicious affairs are the forbidden ones....

The Painted Ocean

A “hypnotic” novel of love, loss, and teenage girls finding their way on tough streets, by the New York Times–bestselling author of *Faithful* (The New York Times). On the Night of the Wolf, the Orphans drive south on the Avenue, hunting their rival gang, the Pack. In the lead is McKay, their brooding, courageous President. Left waiting at the clubhouse is the Property of the Orphans, tough girls in mascara and leather who have declared their allegiance to the crew. Tonight, a new girl has joined their ranks. She waits only for McKay. Drag races, dope, knife fights in the street. To the seventeen-year-old heroine of Alice Hoffman’s stunning first novel, the gritty world of the Avenue is beautiful and enthralling. But her love for McKay is an addiction—one that is never satisfied and is impossible to kick. Deeper and deeper she falls, until the winter’s day when she decides to break the spell once and for all. A strikingly original story about the razor-thin line between love and loss, *Property Of* showcases the vivid imagery, lyricism, and emotional complexity that are the hallmarks of Alice Hoffman’s extraordinary career.

Jasmine Skies

Why *Mummy Drinks* meets *Bridget Jones*. The first in the bestselling comedy series. Juliette is a new mother, but life isn't going the way she'd hoped. She doesn't live in a cottage with roses around the door. She doesn't own a rolling pin. And Daisy's out-of-work actor father still hasn't proposed. While Juliette sobs her way through sleepless nights and nappy changes, Nick drinks Guinness and plays computer games. Meanwhile, his helicopter mother is always on hand to find fault--with Juliette. At least when Nick pops the question, things will look upwon't they? With a supporting cast including Juliette's over-honest mother, potty-mouthed grandmother, militant hippy best friend, and handsome-but-scarred hotel magnate Alex Dalton, the first in Suzy K Quinn's hilarious, bestselling *Bad Mother* series is a sassy, uplifting, addictive treat.

The Last Empress

Imagine shopping for a living, going undercover in the lingerie department, homing in on size-zero haute couture . . . and shopping the shop girls who think service is a dirty word. Welcome to the world of the Secret Shopper. New mum Emily wants revenge on the stick-thin assistants who laugh at her post-baby tummy and post-baby budget. But frumpiness has its advantages when you're wielding a secret camera - and sending the damning footage straight to head office. Store manager Sandie has a lifelong love of the world of retail - the glitz, the glamour, the stockroom. Then she's fitted up by an ambitious assistant and secret shopping is the only way to keep her one passion alive. Glamorous widow Grazia can't leave behind the high life, despite her chronically low bank balance. The more she's buying - and spying - the less time she has to mourn her husband or her fair-weather friends who've dumped her. They're Charlie's Shopping Angels, controlled by a mysterious figure who sends them assignments. But when they're sent to stitch up a doomed shop owned by Will, the angels begin to feel divided loyalties . . .

Perfect Silence (A DI Callanach Thriller, Book 4)

A wryly humorous, impeccably observed novel about the capriciousness of love Omar Razaghi posts a letter on September 13, 1995 that will change the course of his life forever. A doctoral student at the University of Kansas, he writes to the estate of the Latin American author Jules Gund, requesting permission to write Gund's authorized biography. His request is refused, but Omar has already accepted a fellowship from the university, and with his girlfriend's vehement encouragement, he goes in person to Uruguay to petition to Gund's three executors. Although Caroline Gund, Jules' wife, and Arden Langdon, Jules' mistress and mother of his child, are initially opposed to the idea of a biography, Omar has the support of Adam, Jules' older brother, and hopes to be able to persuade the two women. Omar's unexpected arrival in Uruguay reverberates through this odd and isolated little family group, and his stay in the languid, dreamy Ochos Rios makes him question his former life in Kansas, and his ability—even his desire—to write an "authorized" life. A novel about the random nature of love, and the ways in which we confront or avoid life's choices, *The City of Your Final Destination* is a touching, clever and wonderfully comic fourth novel from Peter Cameron. *The City of Your Final Destination* was made into a film, starring Anthony Hopkins, Laura Linney and Charlotte Gainsbourg. It was released in 2007.

Property Of

'The creative writing bible' Catherine Quinn, bestselling author of *No Contacts, No Problem* This book is about writing. It's about taking risks, experimenting and giving yourself the freedom to make mistakes. This book is about finding out what kind of writer you want to be and becoming the best writer you can be. 'I recommend this book to all my students, and I recommend it to you. Great stuff.' Alex Pheby, Head of Creative Writing, University of Greenwich

Knowledge Of Angels

Miranda and Caliban is bestselling fantasy author Jacqueline Carey's gorgeous retelling of *The Tempest*. With hypnotic prose and a wild imagination, Carey explores the themes of twisted love and unchecked power that lie at the heart of Shakespeare's masterpiece, while serving up a fresh take on the play's iconic characters. A lovely girl grows up in isolation where her father, a powerful magus, has spirited them to in order to keep them safe. We all know the tale of Prospero's quest for revenge, but what of Miranda? Or Caliban, the so-called savage Prospero chained to his will? In this incredible retelling of the fantastical tale, Jacqueline Carey shows readers the other side of the coin—the dutiful and tenderhearted Miranda, who loves her father but is terribly lonely. And Caliban, the strange and feral boy Prospero has bewitched to serve him. The two find solace and companionship in each other as Prospero weaves his magic and dreams of revenge. Always under Prospero's jealous eye, Miranda and Caliban battle the dark, unknowable forces that bind them to the island even as the pangs of adolescence create a new awareness of each other and their doomed relationship. At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

The Bette Davis Club

The diaries of a husband and wife detail their feelings about the sexuality, love, and strength of their relationship, in *The Key*, while in *Diary of a Mad Old Man*, after suffering a stroke, an aging Japanese man records his sensual and philosophical experiences, thoughts, and desires, in two novels from the acclaimed Japanese novelist. Original.

Little Altars Everywhere

Mira Levenson is excited to visit India for the first time. But upon arriving she is hurled into new sights, sounds, sweltering heat and deeply buried family secrets. From the moment Mira meets Janu she feels an instant connection to him. Nothing is as she imagined it—and suddenly home feels a long way away. But Mira is determined to uncover the truth about her family, and she must also make a decision that will break someone's heart.

The Mighty Quinns: Jack

Memoirs of a Geisha meets *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* in a gorgeously vivid, fresh historical that instantly captures the imagination *I am Kozaisho: Fifth daughter, Woman-For-Play, teller of stories, lover, wife, and Flower Samurai*. In the rich, dazzling, brutal world of 12th century Japan, one young girl begins her epic journey, from the warmth of family to the Village of Outcasts. Marked out by an auspicious omen, she is trained in the ancient warrior arts of the samurai. But it is through the power of storytelling that she learns to fight her fate, twisting her life onto a path even she could not have imagined. With stunning precision, the narrative evokes the beauty and clarity of the art and culture of Japan at that time, with Kozaisho's tales woven in bringing a fable-like quality to the tale.

Back to Creative Writing School

In 1991, Anita Hill's testimony during Clarence Thomas's Senate confirmation hearing brought the problem of sexual harassment to a public audience. Although widely believed by women, Hill was defamed by conservatives and Thomas was confirmed to the Supreme Court. The tainting of Hill and her testimony is part of a larger social history in which women find themselves caught up in a system that refuses to believe what they say. *Tainted Witness* examines how a tainted witness is not who someone is, but what someone can become. Why are women so often considered unreliable witnesses to their own experiences? How are women discredited in legal courts and in courts of public opinion? Why is women's testimony so often mired in controversies fueled by histories of slavery and colonialism? How do new feminist witnesses enter testimonial networks and disrupt doubt? *Tainted Witness* examines how gender, race, and doubt stick to women witnesses as their testimony circulates in search of an adequate witness. Judgment falls unequally upon women who bear witness, as well-known conflicts about testimonial authority in the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries reveal. Women's testimonial accounts demonstrate both the symbolic potency of women's bodies and speech in the public sphere and the relative lack of institutional

security and control to which they can lay claim. Each testimonial act follows in the wake of a long and invidious association of race and gender with lying that can be found to this day within legal courts and everyday practices of judgment, defining these locations as willfully unknowing and hostile to complex accounts of harm. Bringing together feminist, literary, and legal frameworks, Leigh Gilmore provides provocative readings of what happens when women's testimony is discredited. She demonstrates how testimony crosses jurisdictions, publics, and the unsteady line between truth and fiction in search of justice.

Iris Has Free Time

The companion to the beloved bestseller *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, here is the funny, heartbreaking, and powerfully insightful tale that first introduced Siddalee, Vivi, their spirited Walker clan, and the indomitable Ya-Yas.

Miranda and Caliban

An Indie Next Pick Now in paperback, Natasha Pulley's "witty, entrancing novel . . . burnishes her reputation as a gifted storyteller" (Publishers Weekly, starred review). In 1859, ex-East India Company smuggler Merrick Tremayne is trapped at home in Cornwall with an injury that almost cost him his leg. When the India Office recruits him for an expedition to fetch quinine--essential for the treatment of malaria--from deep within Peru, he knows it's a terrible idea; nearly every able-bodied expeditionary who's made the attempt has died, and he can barely walk. But Merrick is eager to escape the strange events plaguing his family's crumbling estate, so he sets off, against his better judgment, for the edge of the Amazon. There he meets Raphael, a priest around whom the villagers spin unsettling stories of impossible disappearances, cursed woods, and living stone. Merrick must separate truth from fairy tale, and gradually he realizes that Raphael is the key to a legacy left by generations of Tremayne explorers before him, one which will prove more valuable than quinine, and far more dangerous.

Skin

Promo priced NOW - the hot new romance from bestselling author, SK Quinn If you loved *Fifty Shades of Grey* (E.L. James), *Bared to You* (Sylvia Day), *This Man* (Jodi Ellen Malpas) and *Beautiful Disaster*, you'll love *The Ice Seduction* BOOK DESCRIPTION *The Nanny*. The master of the house. A forbidden love ... When Seraphina Harper accepts a nanny position at Mansfield Castle, she's intrigued to learn that her new boss is Lord Patrick Mansfield - a young, wealthy ex-army officer who is as tough as he is handsome. Strong and disciplined, Patrick believes that in his cold woodland castle, what he says goes. But Seraphina isn't a girl who likes following orders - especially from a man as arrogant as Patrick. Before long, the pair fall into a forbidden, obsessive love affair that breaks all the rules ... LOOK INSIDE this book to see why readers are loving this new romantic suspense novel ... Other books like the *Ice Seduction: Bared to You*, Sylvia Day *This Man*, Jodi Ellen Malpas *Beautiful Disaster* by Jamie Mcguire

Cracks

It is, perhaps, the fifteenth century and the ordered tranquillity of a Mediterranean island is about to be shattered by the appearance of two outsiders: one, a castaway, plucked from the sea by fishermen, whose beliefs represent a challenge to the established order; the other, a child abandoned by her mother and suckled by wolves, who knows nothing of the precarious relationship between Church and State but whose innocence will become the subject of a dangerous experiment. But the arrival of the Inquisition on the island creates a darker, more threatening force which will transform what has been a philosophical game of chess into a matter of life and death

Pastel Orphans

Lili Allure, legendary burlesque artiste, has left behind her East End childhood and difficult mother. Busy bathing in giant champagne glasses and designing her own glamorous routines, she hasn't seen her family in years. But when her mother dies, the curtain is raised on Lili's past. Viv's last words were of secrets and mysterious yellow letters - and a Victorian scandal that has cast a shadow over the family for generations. As Lili hunts for the yellow letters, she begins to see and hear things that can't be real. It almost feels like Viv is haunting her. Is grief making Lili lose her grip on reality? Or are her family secrets more sinister than she ever imagined?

The Key and Diary of a Mad Old Man

Two little girls are taken by their mother to Morocco on a 1960s pilgrimage of self-discovery. For Mum it is not just an escape from the grinding conventions of English life but a quest for personal fulfilment; her children, however, seek something more solid and stable amidst the shifting desert sands. 'Just open the book and begin, and instantly you will be first of all charmed, then intrigued and finally moved by this fascinating story' Spectator.

What Milo Saw

"The Innocent Mage is come, and we stand at the beginning of the end of everything." Being a fisherman like his father isn't a bad life, but it's not the one that Asher wants. Despite his humble roots, Asher has grand dreams. And they call him to Dorana, home of princes, beggars and the warrior mages who have protected the kingdom for generations. Little does Asher know, however, that his arrival in the city is being closely watched by members of the Circle, people dedicated to preserving an ancient magic. Asher might have come to the city to make his fortune, but he will find his destiny.

The Pillow Book of the Flower Samurai

Każda dziewczyna ma swoją cenę Stephanie chce zostać aktorką, ale nie stać jej na studia. Przyjeżdża do Tokio znęcona opowieściami przyjaciółek o łatwości zarabiania tam pieniędzy - wystarczy pracować jako hostessa i śmiać się z dowcipów podpitych biznesmenów. Żadnego seksu! Na miejscu okazuje się, że wszystko wygląda zupełnie inaczej..

Silkworm Secrets

"When Margo's niece becomes a runaway bride --taking with her a family heirloom--her mother offers Margo fifty grand to retrieve her spoiled daughter and the invaluable property she stole. Together with the jilted and justifiably crabby fiancé, Margo sets out in a borrowed 1955 red MG on a cross-country chase and finds herself along the way"--

The Bad Mother's Diary

At the end of the nineteenth century China is rocked by foreign attacks and local rebellions. The only constant is the power wielded by one woman, Tzu Hsi, also known as Empress Orchid, who must face the perilous condition of her empire and devastating personal losses. In this sequel to the bestselling Empress Orchid, Anchee Min brings to life one of the most important figures in Chinese history, a very human leader who sacrifices all she has to protect both those she loves and her doomed empire.

Little Gypsy

Born in 1979, Roxy Freeman grew up travelling around Ireland and England in a traditional horse-drawn wagon with her mother and father and six siblings. Life was harsh but it was a childhood of freedom spent in harmony with nature. Roxy didn't know her times-tables but she could milk a goat, ride a horse and cook dinner for the whole family on an open fire before she was ten. Early life was idyllic but when her father brought the family to England, they faced prejudice and hostility and Roxy found herself receiving the very unwelcome attentions of a family friend - which she endured in secret. Despite all of the difficulties she faced, she developed a passion for flamenco and traditional music and developed a career as a dancer, which took her around the world. Her beautifully written story is a frank portrait of what life is really like for women and girls of traveller communities.

The Ice Seduction

There, I came across a cluster of NYU graduates standing in cap and gown. They were laughing and posing for photos. Was it June again already? Their voices echoed through the subway tunnel. "Congratulations!" "Congratulations!" their parents said. And I wanted to yell, "Don't do it! Go back! You don't know what it's like!" Whether passed out drunk at The New Yorker where she's interning; assigning Cliffs Notes when hired to teach humanities at a local college; getting banned from a fleet of Greek Island ferries while on vacation, or trying to piece together the events of yet another puzzling blackout—"I prefer to call them pink-outs, because I'm a girl"—Iris is never short on misadventures. From quarter-life crisis to the shock of turning thirty, Iris Has Free Time charts a madcap, melancholic course through that curious age—one's twenties—when childhood is over, supposedly. Iris Smyles has created in Iris Smyles an irresistible anti-heroine whose innocent iconoclasm startles as it charms.

The City of Your Final Destination

Don't miss the new standalone thriller from Helen Fields, *The Shadow Man*. Coming Spring 2021 and available to pre-order now! 'Relentless pace, devilish cleverness and a laser-sharp focus on plot.' Chris Brookmyre

Where the Iron Crosses Grow

The Crimea has been the scene of conflict throughout its history. First occupied by the Russians in the 18th century it was the scene of the Crimean War, and was drawn into the Russian Civil War, as well as World War II. Today it remains a much disputed region with the Crimea at the center of ongoing tensions between East and West. Throughout World War II the Crimea was a microcosm of the more general war on the Eastern Front, reflecting the ebb and flow of fortunes of that conflict. It was a crucible that saw first Soviet and then German armies surrounded, overwhelmed, and then destroyed. The nature of the fighting in the Crimea was unusual for the Eastern Front, with naval forces playing an important role, as the Crimea's position in the Black Sea gave rise to a major role for naval supply, amphibious landings, and, ultimately, evacuation. However, in other ways it was more characteristic of the Eastern Front, and the fighting for and occupation of the region saw the same level of atrocity and ethnic cleansing commonplace throughout the war in the East, with each side reaching the depths of barbarity in their treatment of the civilian population. Based on extensive new archival research, this incredible narrative history by acclaimed historian Robert Forczyk sheds new light on this vital aspect of the Eastern Front that has not been covered in English before.

The Guilty One

Forty years after a beautiful schoolgirl disappears into the South African veld, the survivors of her former swimming team gather at a reunion and piece together the weeks prior to her disappearance, a period marked by a dark secret. By the author of *The Perfect Place*. Reprint.

News from Gardenia

Cameron Paradise, a stunningly beautiful twenty-four-year-old personal trainer, flees Hawaii and her champion-surfer husband, Gregg, in the middle of one of his abusive tirades and makes her way to L.A. Tall, blond, with a body to die for, it doesn't take Cameron long to find a job at an exclusive private fitness club where she encounters LA's most important players. She has plans to open her own studio one day, and while every man she meets comes on to her, she is more focused on saving money and working hard than getting caught up in the L.A. scene of wild parties and recreational drugs. Until she meets Ryan Lambert, an extremely successful independent movie producer. Ryan is married to overly privileged Mandy Lambert, the daughter of Hamilton J. Heckerling, a Hollywood power-player son-of-a-bitch mogul. Ryan has never cheated on his demanding Hollywood Princess wife, but when he meets Cameron, all bets are off, especially since she's seeing his best friend Don Verona, the devastatingly attractive talk-show-host and legendary player. In her latest sizzling blockbuster, internationally bestselling author Jackie Collins explores what happens when lust and desire collide with

marriage and power-and the results lead to murder.

The Secret Shopper's Revenge

Clea is back and is still searching for the answers about her missing father and her connection with the elusive and dangerous Sage. But will her discoveries put her in even greater danger?

Glass Geishas

From the cobbled streets where Komomo walks in her elaborate dress to the inner sanctums of her dressing room, these pages offer a rare look at a contemporary teen's journey to becoming a geisha, photographed in full color by Naoyuki Ogino. This is the story of a contemporary Japanese teenager who, in a search for an identity, became fascinated with the world of geisha, and discovered in herself the will and the commitment to embark on the many years of apprenticeship necessary to become one. It is also the story of a young Japanese photographer who grew up

Devoted

When I was a little girl, my dad left me and my mum, and he never came back. And you're supposed to be gutted when that happens. But secretly I preferred it without him, cos it meant I had my mum completely to myself, without having to share her with anyone. And I sort of inherited all the affection she used to give to my dad - like he'd left it behind for me as a gift, to say sorry for deserting me So says eleven year old Shruti of her broken home in suburban middle England. But hopes of her mother's affection are in vain: speaking little English, and fluent in only Hindi and Punjabi, Shruti's mother is lost, and soon falls prey to family pressure to remarry. To find another husband means returning to India and leaving Shruti behind. Meanwhile at school a new arrival, the indomitable Meena, dispenses with Shruti's bullying problems and transforms her day to day life. Desperate for companionship Shruti latches on to Meena to the point of obsession, following her through high school and on to university. But when Meena invites Shruti to join her on holiday in India, she has no idea how dangerous her obsession will turn out to be Gabriel Packard's THE PAINTED OCEAN has been described by Colum McCann 'as fearless tour de force. It is a rare achievement - an emotionally rich work of literature, delivered in the form of a gripping, page-turning story. The depiction of a British Indian childhood and adolescence is utterly compelling, as is the allegorical exploration of the human condition.'

Tainted Witness

A treehouse perched high in a mulberry tree provides a haven for best friends, Bobby and Ruby. However, Bobby's troubled family life and the secrets the two share as children will not only shape their childhood but will also re-connect and entwine their lives as adults. A story about secrets untold and the endurance of love to overcome the past.

The Bedlam Stacks

Every girl has her price . . . To Steph, working as a bar hostess in Japan sounds too good to be true. Friends say she can earn a fortune simply by flirting with drunk businessmen, and there's no sex involved - honest. Old friends, Julia and Annabel, are earning piles of cash in Tokyo and say hostessing is perfectly safe. But once in Japan, Steph realises Julia is a shadow of her former self and Annabel has disappeared. No one cares that Annabel's gone - least of all a troubled and secretive Julia. As Steph searches for her missing friend, she is lured into gritty, glamorous Roppongi - an exotic world of sex, modern-day geishas and easy money. There she meets Mama San, a charismatic and powerful hostess club owner, who has worked in the shadowy Japanese sex industry all her life and knows everything about pleasing men. But the longer Steph stays in Tokyo's sex district, the less finding Annabel seems to matter. Steph soon realises she must discover what's happened to Annabel, or risk selling a part of herself she'll never get back.

A Geisha's Journey

A BIG story about a small boy who sees the world a little differently Milo curled his thumb and forefinger together to make a small hole and held his fingers up to Al's eyes. 'Look through here. That's what I see. Kind of, only worse.' 'Wow, that must be amazing.' Milo shrugged. 'Not really.' 'I mean, it makes you focus, doesn't it? I bet you see all kinds of stuff that other people miss.' Nine-year-old Milo Moon has retinitis pigmentosa: his eyes are slowly failing and he will eventually go blind. But for now he sees the world through a pin hole and notices things other people don't. When Milo's beloved gran succumbs to dementia and moves into a nursing home, Milo soon realises there's something wrong at the home. So with just Tripi, the nursing home's cook, and Hamlet, his pet pig, to help, Milo sets out on a mission to expose the nursing home and the sinister Nurse Thornhill. Insightful, wise and surprising, What Milo Saw is filled with big ideas and simple truths. Milo sees the world in a very special way and it will be impossible for you not to fall in love with him and then share his story with everyone you know.

Szklane gejsze

In 1930s Berlin, young Henrik, the son of a Jewish father and Aryan mother, watches the world around him crumbling: people are rioting in the streets, a strange yellow star begins appearing in shop windows, and friends are forced to move or they simply disappear. After his father becomes gravely ill, Henrik and his little sister, Greta, are taken by their mother to Poland for safety. However, not even the pastoral surroundings of their new home can protect them from the terrors of war. When the Nazis invade and Greta is kidnapped, Henrik must shed his youthful innocence and search for his lost sister, a quest that will further reveal a harrowing landscape of violence and struggle?but also unexpected connections. Uniquely told from the perspective of youth plunged into adult chaos, "Pastel Orphans" is a coming-of-age story that explores profound lessons in self-belief, kindness, and human endurance. Revised edition: This edition of Pastel Orphans includes editorial revisions. "

Hideous Kinky

From award winner Julia Gregson, author of *Jasmine Nights*, this sweeping international bestseller brilliantly captures the lives of three young women on their way to a new life in India during the 1920s. As the *Kaisar-I-Hind* weighs anchor for Bombay in the autumn of 1928, its passengers ponder their fate in a distant land. They are part of the "Fishing Fleet"—the name given to the legions of English women who sail to India each year in search of husbands, heedless of the life that awaits them. The inexperienced chaperone Viva Holloway has been entrusted to watch over three unsettling charges. There's Rose, as beautiful as she is naïve, who plans to marry a cavalry officer she has met a mere handful of times. Her bridesmaid, Victoria, is hell-bent on losing her virginity en route before finding a husband of her own. And shadowing them all is the malevolent presence of a disturbed schoolboy named Guy Glover. From the parties of the wealthy Bombay socialites to the poverty of Tamarind Street, from the sooty streets of London to the genteel conversation of the Bombay Yacht Club, *East of the Sun* takes us back to a world we hardly understand but yearn to know. This is a book that has it all: glorious detail, fascinating characters, and masterful storytelling.

MARRIED LOVERS

When Gavin Meckler's light aircraft encounters a mysterious cloud and crashes to earth, he discovers that the eerily quiet landscape in which he has landed is 200 years older than the one from which he took off. In this gentle, peaceful, sustainable new world, it is possible to travel from one side of the globe to the other in a matter of minutes without burning fuel, and everyone is a gardener because that's how they can be sure to eat. Inspired by William Morris's utopian novel *News from Nowhere*, Robert Llewellyn shows us a future where we don't burn anything to make anything else and which isn't hovering on the brink of disaster; where aliens haven't invaded, meteors haven't hit and zombies haven't taken over. In short, a world where humanity eventually gets it right. All the technology described in the novel has seen the light of day in reality. Llewellyn's future isn't perfect and may not be very likely, but it is entirely possible.

Don't Tell Teacher

For the people of Caer Cad, 'skin' is their totem, their greeting, their ancestors, their land Ailia does not have skin. Abandoned at birth, she serves the Tribequeen of her township. Ailia is not permitted to marry, excluded from tribal ceremonies and, most devastatingly, forbidden to learn. But the Mothers, the tribal ancestors, have chosen her for another path Lured by the beautiful and enigmatic Taliesin, Ailia embarks on an unsanctioned journey to attain the knowledge that will protect her people from the most terrifying invaders they have ever faced. Set in Iron-Age Britain on the cusp of Roman invasion, *Skin* is a thrilling, full-blooded, mesmerising novel about the collision of two worlds, and a young woman torn between two men.

The Poison Tree

Moving and suspenseful, Lisa Ballantyne's *The Guilty One* is a psychological thriller about the darkness in each of us. It explores how we are all tied to our pasts, and what it means to be guilty. Solicitor Daniel Hunter is called to defend 11-year-old Sebastian who has been charged with the murder of a young boy on a London playground. While examining Sebastian's life in order to save it, Daniel can't help but be transported to his own difficult youth spent in foster care—a time when the one he trusted the most was the one who betrayed him... Emotionally wrought, and with an abundance of twists and turns, *The Guilty One* is a character-driven novel of suspense that explores the true nature of guilt.

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