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THE WONDER HOUSE

Justine Hardy

Bought for a substantial six figure pre-emptive offer, Justine Hardy's first novel is an astonishment...

The Wonder House is a houseboat moored on Nagin Lake in Kashmir. Justine Hardy's remarkable novel opens in the closing years of the twentieth century, as ferocious Pakistani and Indian claims on the disputed territory are made more complex by the rise of religious militant groups in the region.

Gracie Singh, an 80 year old Yorkshirewoman who married an Indian, lives on the Wonder House and she is looked after by two Kashmiri women, Suriya and Lila. Their cousin, Masood lives on the hill overlooking the houseboat, and is Gracie's best friend. Gracie has watched him change from a jeans-wearing, laid-back Kashmiri into an anxious father hemmed in by the growing Islamic orthodoxy. When Masood's son disappears to join a group of extremists, family life becomes increasingly difficult.

Enter Hal, a young journalist from England who is covering the conflict and comes to interview Gracie, in her role as a widow of Empire. She invites him to stay, knowing full well that he will fall in love with Lila...

The Wonder House is a beautifully crafted, superbly plotted page turner, with beautifully crafted characters. Its publication looks set to establish Justine Hardy as a major writer of literary fiction.

JUSTINE HARDY has spent the past fifteen years working as a writer, journalist and a documentary maker both in and out of India. *Scoop-wallah: Life on a Delhi Daily* (1999) was shortlisted for the Thomas Cook Travel Award and *Bollywood Boy*, her book about the Bombay film industry was a bestseller on publication in 2002. *The Wonder House* is her first novel.

'A distinctive voice informed by intelligence, sensitivity and a generous spirit' Sara Wheeler on *Scoop-Wallah*

'I loved the book. It turns out that the cult of celebrity demands the same gruesome sacrifices in the mysterious East as it does in the unfathomable West.' P.J. O'Rourke on *Bollywood Boy*

UNTITLED NOVEL ON AFRICA

Christopher Hope

In this novel, Christopher Hope – shortlisted for the Booker prize, winner of the Whitbread – attempts nothing less than to capture the experience of whites in Africa from the end of the nineteenth century to the present. It promises to be the most significant novel yet in his distinguished literary career.

In the author's words:

'I'd like to write a novel set in Africa that focuses on a series of love affairs between a variety of white men blindly in love with a force they cannot understand - a force they think they command but in reality are fearfully wrong.

I will be looking at the long, torrid, doomed affair between that elemental spirit mistakenly called 'Mother' Africa (she is, in fact, the least maternal of females) and her suitors, the white tribe who came to a lovely, cruel continent and in the name of love stripped her bare, killed her children and ruined themselves. Yet still told themselves they were in love, and then came to grief, and who simply cannot understand why and where it all went wrong.

The novel draws on the memories of a son who recalls and immortalises his mother and the daughter of a prodigious family, part Irish, part English, part African, whose history runs from the Boer War, through both World Wars, to the loss of white power in the 90's. I see my new novel as an epic tragicomedy, as dark as the European romancing of Africa.'

CHRISTOPHER HOPE was born in Johannesburg in 1944. He is the author of seven novels, including *A Separate Development* (winner of the 1981 David Higham Prize for fiction), *Kruger's Alp* (winner of the 1985 Whitbread Prize for Fiction), *Serenity House* (shortlisted for the 1992 Booker Prize) and, most recently, *Heaven Forbid*. He is also a poet and playwright and author of the celebrated memoir *White Boy Running* (1988). His latest non-fiction book, *Brothers Under the Skin: Travels in Tyranny* was published in 2003. Christopher Hope divides his time between London, Cape Town and the South of France.

ODIN'S ISLAND

A Novel

Janne Teller

Translated by Anne Born

Jules Verne meets *The Little Prince* in this fantastic – and highly original – fairytale for our times.

When Odin crash lands his sledge one Christmas 'in a storm of meteors' his arrival in a freezing Northern village causes consternation. Rescued by the hospitable islanders and their round-eyed children, Odin seeks their help to fix the leg of his injured horse, and to deliver the urgent and terrible message he is currently unable to recollect. As Odin struggles to mend Rigmorle, and to find the person to whom he must give the important tidings he has travelled with (if only he could remember them) the world at large becomes interested in this strange little man, and what his apparent descent from heaven signifies.

This is a story of exploration and a parable of political, historical and religious dispute. But above all Janne Teller's book is an immaculately written story that will delight and transport its readers.

JANNE TELLER was born in Copenhagen, where she still lives today. *Odin's Island* is her first novel, and has been translated into five languages, and her novel *Nothing* was awarded the Prize of the Danish Cultural Ministry for best children's/youth book of the year, 2001.

First published in Danish by Glydendal

Sold: Italy: Iperborea

France: Actes Sud

Germany: Goldmann Verlag /Bertelsmann

Sweden: Norstedts

UK Publication: September 2005

TEN MEN

Alexandra Gray

Sometimes by looking for the one, you find yourself. In this sparkling debut novel, the perfect romantic ingénue discovers modern love.

In this witty and endearing novel about a woman's quest to discover what will make her truly happy, we meet ten extraordinarily different men; among them, The Virgin, whose manners and charm disguise a disastrous lack of experience; The Lord, whose elegance masks his independence; and The Billionaire, who is generous and powerful but ultimately heartless.

When The Actor has been dumped, and The Husband left behind, our heroine realizes that none of these men has made her feel complete. She realizes that in her search for The One, the first person she must learn to love is herself.

ALEXANDRA GRAY now lives in London. This is her first book.

Rights: World

Publication: January 2005

Extent: 304pp

Rights Sold:

Dutch: House of Books

Japanese: Sony

COME CLOSER

Sara Gran

'What begins as a sly fable about frustrated desire evolves into a genuinely scary novel about possession and insanity. Hypnotic, disturbing, and written with such unerring confidence you believe every word.' *Bret Easton Ellis*

'Come Closer left me so profoundly disturbed, so terrified and sleepless and unable to shake free of its horrible spell, that I'd feel irresponsible urging it on another living soul if I didn't crave the company.' *Kathryn Davis*

'I read *Come Closer* on the train, in a snowstorm, on a cold December night. It was the right atmosphere for this perfectly noirish tale of madness and love ... scalpel-like clarity, expertly blending tones to create a new kind of psychological thriller. I loved this book. Days after finishing it, it has not left my mind.' *George Pelecanos*

Shocking, whipcrack-smart and utterly engrossing, *Come Closer* is a sleek and scary fable that will have everyone hooked. Amanda loves her husband, her converted loft apartment and her job as an architect. On the surface she appears to have done everything right. So why does she feel so off-balance? There's a strange tapping noise in the apartment but, as Amanda's husband Ed has pointed out, it can't be a mouse because they only hear it when she's around. Much to her husband's disgust, Amanda has also taken up smoking again. Even the friendly dog at the train station shies away from her these days. Could it be something to do with the lustful and violent dreams she's been having recently? We could devote our lives to making sense of the odd, the inexplicable, the coincidental, but most of us don't. Neither does Amanda. After all, what we think is impossible happens all the time...

'Deeply scary' *The Times*

'Very, very cool' *Daily Telegraph*

'Terrifying' *Mail on Sunday*

'Truly exceptional' *Irish Examiner*

'Brilliant' *Uncut*

SARA GRAN lives in Brooklyn, New York. This is her second novel.

Publication: May 2004

Extent: 170pp

Rights Sold:

US: Soho Press

Dutch: Ambo Anthos

German: Fischer Verlag

Hebrew: KZB

Italian: Longanesi

Swedish: Norstedts

THE GOOD DOCTOR

Damon Galgut

SHORTLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE, 2003 AND THE COMMONWEALTH WRITERS PRIZE, 2004.

'If there is a posterity, *The Good Doctor* will be seen as one of the great literary triumphs of South Africa's transition, a novel that is in every way the equal of J. M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*. Galgut is a novelist of great and growing power.' Rian Malan, author *My Traitor's Heart*

'A truly remarkable novel. I was enthralled by its intensity and the immediacy of every small twist and turn of the story' André Brink

When Laurence Waters arrives at his rural hospital posting, Frank is instantly suspicious. Laurence is everything Frank is not – young, optimistic and full of new schemes. The two become uneasy friends, while the rest of the staff in the deserted hospital view Laurence with a mixture of awe and mistrust.

The town beyond the hospital is also coping with new arrivals, and the return of old faces. The Brigadier – a self-fashioned dictator from apartheid days – is rumoured still to be alive. And down at Mama's place, a group of soldiers have moved in with their malign commandant, a man Frank has met before and is keen to avoid. Laurence wants to help – but in a world where the past is demanding restitution from the present, his ill-starred idealism cannot last. *The Good Doctor* is a gripping novelistic high-wire act.

'A latter day *Heart of Darkness*' Michael Arditti, *Daily Mail*

'Invites comparison with Greene, Conrad and Naipaul. A very fine novel'
Daily Telegraph

DAMON GALGUT was born in Pretoria in 1963. He wrote his first novel, *A Sinless Season*, when he was seventeen. His other books include *A Small Circle of Beings*, *The Beautiful Screaming of Pigs* and *The Quarry*. He lives in Cape Town.

Rights: World, excluding South Africa

US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.,

Publication: September 2003

Extent: 256pp

Rights Sold:

Canadian: McClelland & Stewart

Dutch: Meulenhoff

French: Editions de l'Olivier

German: Bertelsmann

Greek: Oceanida

Hebrew: Keter

India: Penguin India

Italian: Ugo Guanda

Latvian: AGB

Portuguese/Brazil: Companhia

Russian: Rosman

Serbian: Dejadora

Spanish: RBA

Swedish: Wahlstrom & Widstrand

Turkish: Guncel Yayinlik

Large Print: Isis

WAR LAW

Michael Byers

One of the world's foremost experts presents an illuminating and original account of the basis on which war has been waged, from the 1859 Battle of Solferino to the mistreatment of detainees by US forces in Iraq.

The international rules governing the use of military force are under unprecedented scrutiny, following the removal of Slobodan Milosevic and Saddam Hussein in wars that were not sanctioned by the UN. Michael Byers's accessible and authoritative book addresses five broad issues: UN Security Council authorization, self-defence against terrorism, pre-emptive war, humanitarian and pro-democratic intervention, and the protection of civilians and combatants during armed conflict.

These issues are examined through a series of case studies, ranging from the 1837 Caroline Incident to the mistreatment of detainees by US forces at Abu Ghraib Prison in Iraq. Particular attention is devoted to the legal controversies that surrounded the 1999 and 2001 interventions in Kosovo and Afghanistan and the 2003 war in Iraq. Byers traces the development of international humanitarian law from the 1859 Battle of Solferino to the present, including the protections owed to prisoners of war and the role of war crimes tribunals and the International Criminal Court. He also considers the unique influence of the United States in the ongoing evolution and application of this highly contentious area of international law.

War Law is neither a textbook nor a treatise, but rather an informative and stimulating read for the educated and intellectually curious non-specialist about these continually divisive, critically important issues.

MICHAEL BYERS holds the Canada Research Chair in Global Politics and International Law at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, where he also serves as Academic Director of the Liu Institute for Global Issues. He is the author of *Custom, Power and the Power of Rules* (1999), the editor of *The Role of Law in International Politics* (Oxford University Press, 2000) and a regular contributor to the *London Review of Books*.

Rights: World

US:

Publication: March 2005

Delivery: June 2004

Extent:

Proposal available

NEOCONSERVATISM

Edited and introduced by Irwin Stelzer

'Stelzer has made a valuable contribution to demythologising the neoconservative "movement", to clarifying the American traditions from which it arises and to illustrating the broad spectrum of views it embraces.' Henry Kissinger

'Conspiracy? Backward looking dogma? A new persuasion in politics? Neo-conservatism is under the spotlight in Irwin Stelzer's thought provoking and often controversial compendium of essays which any follower of American or international politics will want to digest.' Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer

'When you have a big hammer, all problems tend to look like nails' Robert Kagan

In America a small group of thinkers, known as 'neoconservatives' stands accused of hijacking the nation's foreign policy, converting it from a multilateralist nation that relies on persuasion into a unilateralist country relying exclusively on military power to achieve its aim of installing pro-American, democratic regimes in the Middle East and, eventually, in Africa and other unstable regions of the world. Their critics call the neo-cons 'democratic imperialists' in pursuit of unachievable goals.

This book contains classic and original neoconservative writing to provide the first collection for British readers of ideas that are exerting enormous influence on American foreign and defence policy and have caused such a violent reaction among those who disagree. It contains pieces by:

Irving Kristol, David Brooks, Max Boot, William Kristol, Robert Kagan, Condoleeza Rice, Margaret Thatcher, Tony Blair, John Bolton, George Will, Irving Kristol, Robert L. Bartley, Irwin Stelzer, Kenneth R. Weinstein, Adam Wolfson, Jean Kirkpatrick, Joshua Muravchik, Karlyn Bowman, Michael Gove, Jeffrey Gedmin, Joao Carlos Espada.

IRWIN STELZER is a senior fellow and director of Hudson Institute's regulatory studies program. Prior to joining Hudson Institute in 1998, Stelzer was resident scholar and director of regulatory policy studies at the American Enterprise Institute. He also is the U.S. economic and political columnist for *The Sunday Times* (London) and *The Courier Mail* (Australia), a contributing editor of *The Weekly Standard*, a member of the Publication Committee of The Public Interest, and a member of the board of the Regulatory Policy Institute (Oxford). He is also a close advisor and confidant to Rupert Murdoch.

Rights: World
US: Grove Atlantic US
Publication: October 2004
Extent: 176pp
Finished copies available

Rights Sold:
Arabic: Obeikan Publishers

THE BREAKING OF NATIONS

Order and Chaos in the twenty-first century

Robert Cooper

WINNER OF THE ORWELL PRIZE FOR POLITICAL WRITING 2004

WINNER OF THE COUNCIL OF FOREIGN RELATIONS AWARD 2004

‘The foremost commentator on the strategic issues of our age’ *New Republic*

‘Robert Cooper is Europe's pre-eminent scholar-diplomat. His bold vision for the future of Europe, and of the United States, is full of wisdom and admirable idealism. This brilliantly written book carries the transatlantic conversation to the next stage.’ Robert Kagan, author of *Paradise and Power*

‘A seminal work: not only is it a brilliant and successful attempt to bring intellectual order to the chaos of the twenty-first century, it is also a powerful reminder that Europe’s future is what its leaders make it. Nothing is pre-ordained.’

François Heisbourg, director, Fondation pour la Recherche Stratégique, Paris

The whole world has shifted on its axis three times in the last fifteen years: first, in 1989, with the fall of the Berlin Wall; second, with the terrorist attacks on American on 11 September 2001 and finally, with the rapid destruction in 2003 of Saddam Hussein’s regime in Iraq. In this landmark book, Robert Cooper sets out a radical new interpretation of this new world order. He argues that there are three types of state in the world that deal with each other in quite different ways. Among ourselves, Europeans may operate on the basis of laws, openness and cooperative security. But when dealing with a hostile outside world, Europeans need to revert to tougher methods of an earlier era – force, pre-emptive attack, deception, if we are to safeguard the peace we have achieved in Europe. Among ourselves we keep to the law. But in the jungle, we need to follow the rules of the jungle. And Europeans need to radically revise their understanding of, and relationship with, the United States of America.

‘Robert Cooper is one of the world’s most thoughtful diplomats, and he brings his world of experience to bear on the dilemmas we face after September 11 in a way that any reader will find both readable and illuminating at the same time.’ Professor Joseph Nye, author of *The Paradox of American Power*, dean of the Kennedy School of Government and former chair of the American National Intelligence Council

ROBERT COOPER is one of Europe’s most senior diplomats. He is currently Director-General of External and Politico-Military Affairs for the Council of the European Union, and special advisor to Javier Solana, EU Defence Chief.

Rights: World
US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.,
Publication: October 2003
Finished copies available
Extent: 172pp

Rights Sold:
Arabic: Obeikan
Bulgarian: Obsidian
Chinese: Peking University
Czech: Lidove Noviny
Dutch: Meulenhoff
French: Editions Denoel
Greek: Kedros
Italian: Lindau
Korean: Sejong
Polish: Media Rodzyna
Turkish: Guncel

JUDGEMENT DAY

The Trial of Slobodan Milosevic

Chris Stephen

'War crimes and the law are not the obvious subject for a cracking good read but Chris Stephen has done it. A vital and accessible book that links Yugoslavia, Milosevic and the Balkan wars to the International Criminal Court, international politics and the future of war crimes law. Oh, and a first rate courtroom drama too.'

Tim Judah, author of *Kosovo: War and Revenge* and *The Serbs: History, Myth and the Destruction of Yugoslavia*

'Chris Stephen has followed the Hague War Crimes Tribunal more closely than any other English-language writer. His compelling narrative of its genesis, told through the trial of its most famous defendant, is essential reading for anyone interested in the millennial project of ending man's inhumanity to man.'

John Jones, Barrister and War Crimes Lawyer at the Yugoslav, Rwanda and Sierra Leone tribunals

The International Criminal Court, the world's first truly global war crimes court, began work formally on 1 July 2002, after a long and complex battle to see it established. *Judgement Day* tells for the first time the remarkable inside story of the creation of this court, its charismatic and determined architects and the dramatic lengths its prosecutors went to indict its most famous defendant: Slobodan Milosevic.

Chris Stephen has had remarkable access to the lawyers – prosecution and defence – politicians and court officials in the Hague to show how the world's first head of state was brought to international account. At the heart of the story is the brooding, brutal, swaggering figure of Slobodan Milosevic himself, apparently conducting his own defence but in fact making full use of the Serbian security apparatus via telephone links to Belgrade. Culminating in the verdict against Milosevic – and a guilty verdict is by no means assured – *Judgement Day* is a gripping and authoritative account of the most important international trial since Nuremberg.

CHRIS STEPHEN is the Hague Tribunal Project Director. He has also reported for the *Guardian*, *Observer* and *New York Times* magazine from the battlefields of Croatia, Bosnia and Kosovo. He witnessed some of the horrors now being tried in The Hague, and has reported on the war crimes process from its early stages.

Rights: World

US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.

Published (August 2004)

Extent: 200pp

Finished copies available

TEN BOOKS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

A series of short volumes (30-40,000 words) by leading experts explain the origins and impact of the World's most influential – and forbidding – books.

From the *Qu'ran* to *The Origin of the Species*, *The Prince* to *Mein Kampf*, this series addresses the works that resonate from generation to generation, and take an lifetime to read and digest, and filters them through the minds of some of today's most interesting writers. In each volume in the series, the author describes the world in which each key book was written, and explains what we know of its authors. He then goes on to trace the book's afterlife, examining how its ideas influenced the outlook and behaviour of succeeding generations.

Titles contracted so far:

KAREN ARMSTRONG on *The Bible*
BRUCE LAWRENCE on *The Qu'ran*
P J O'ROURKE on *The Wealth of Nations*
FRANCIS WHEEN on *Das Kapital*
SIMON BLACKBURN on *Plato's Republic*
PHILIP BOBBIT on *The Prince*
HEW STRACHEN on *Clausewitz's On War*
ALBERTO MANGUEL on *The Iliad* and *The Odyssey*
JANET BROWNE on *The Origin of the Species*

Rights: World
US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.
Extent: 100pp
Proposal available

Rights Sold:
Canadian: Raincoast
Brazilian: Jorge Zahar and Companhia das Letras
Dutch: Mets & Schildt
Greek: Ellinika Grammata
Korean: Sejong
Spanish: Grijalbo Mondadori
Turkish: Guncel Yaylincilik

KAMA SUTRA: An intimate biography

James McConnachie

A transportingly original debut about the world's most famous -- and misunderstood -- erotic book.

The Kama Sutra was written on the Indian subcontinent in 1250. Nothing is known about either its male writer or the mysterious and sensual woman he addressed. James McConnachie's unique portrait of this erotic masterpiece evokes the world in which it was written and describes and how it would have been used. He shows that Kama Sutra is much more than a sex manual (in the modern sense of those words). It is a vivid and powerful delineation of the relationship in Hinduism between *artha*, *dharma* and *kama* and draws it inspiration from many disciplines, among them from yoga and dance.

McConnachie traces the book's journey to Europe, following its discovery by the nineteenth-century British explorer, Richard Burton and shows how it was driven underground by prudish Victorians, only to be re-discovered, and re-translated in France by Alain Daniélou. He concludes by looking at the Kama Sutra in relation to modern books about the art of love-making, and what its combination of pornography and spirituality says about European attitudes towards sex.

JAMES McCONNACHIE graduated from the University of Oxford in 1995. He is a journalist, travel writer and broadcaster. This is his first book.

Rights: World

MS delivery: September 2005

UK Publication: September 2006

Extent: approx 50,000 words

THE AMBER ROOM

The Untold Story of the Greatest Hoax of the Twentieth Century

Adrian Levy and Catherine Scott-Clark

When it was first published in the UK, *The Amber Room* made news in Britain, the United States, Russia and Germany. Its gripping climax demonstrates incontrovertibly what really happened to the most valuable lost artwork in the world.

‘This book is trash. It’s done by those haters in the West who once again want to cast a shadow over the Soviet Union and its army... propagandist claptrap’

Retired Gen. Valentin Varennikov, deputy head of the Soviet General Staff from 1979-84, former commander-in-chief of Soviet land forces

‘This gripping book has all the twists and turns of a good detective story; and like one of them it delivers a fascinating and unexpected conclusion. The fact that it is not detective fiction but detecting fact makes it all the more compelling.’

Richard Crampton, Professor of East European history, University of Oxford

‘This book is a very dangerous and aimed at revising history... It aims at discrediting the role of Russia and the Red Army in the victory in the Second World War. Thus you can come to a conclusion that Nazi Germany fell victim to the Allies, that is, Russia, the United States and Great Britain’ **Mikhail Shvydkoi, former Russian Minister of Culture**

‘The story has all the ingredients of an Indiana Jones adventure -- spies, crooks, Nazis and a fabulous lost treasure -- but the authors are experienced investigative reporters and well qualified for the task of separating fact from fiction... a compelling picture of the true fate of the Amber Room.’ ***Sunday Times***

‘Fascinating new material... Catherine Scott-Clark and Adrian Levy have applied their skills as investigative journalists to piece together what happened to the Amber Room.’ **Gina Thomas, *Sunday Telegraph***

CATHERINE SCOTT-CLARK AND ADRIAN LEVY are internationally renowned investigative journalists who worked as staff writers and foreign correspondents for *The Sunday Times*. They now write for the *Guardian Weekend* magazine and their work is globally syndicated. Their first book, *Stone of Heaven*, was published in 2001.

Rights: World
US: Walker Books
Publication: June 2004
Finished copies available
Extent: 400pp

Rights Sold:
Brazilian: Record
Dutch: Byblos
Spanish: Destino

THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA: A HISTORY

Julia Lovell

An epic history by a brilliant young historian that follows the rise and fall of the Great Wall's fortunes over two millennia.

Over 2,200 years old, and 4,300 miles long, The Great Wall is indisputably, one of the Most stupendous constructions ever to have been built by human beings. But behind the wall's vast exterior and the myths that surround it lies a gripping and complex history. It is a history full of extraordinary characters – from emperors to engineers, soldiers to statesmen, eunuchs to poets – and astonishing incident. This panoramic book, the first full history for nearly a generation, is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand China – past and present.

JULIA LOVELL is one of Cambridge University youngest lecturers and a leading sinologist. She has recently translated a prize-winning Chinese novel, *A Dictionary of Maqiao*, and she writes widely on China for *The Times*, *The TLS* and *The Observer* amongst other publications.

Rights: World

Publication: February 2006

Delivery: February 2005

Proposal Available

Rights Sold:

Canadian: Penguin Canada

HUMANITY: AN EMOTIONAL HISTORY

Stuart Walton

A bold and strikingly innovative history of human experience.

In his emotional history of humanity Walton examines the history of each of our core emotions -- fear, anger, disgust, sadness, jealousy, contempt, shame, embarrassment, surprise and happiness -- in turn. For Walton, love and hate (between which there is famously only a thin line), are fundamental feelings that inveigle their way into *all* the other emotions. And he shows convincingly that without the emotions, there would be no human history. *An Emotional History of Humanity* mixes history, philosophical insight and cutting edge science to produce of vivid, exuberant, and necessarily idiosyncratic account of the emergence of modern men and women.

STUART WALTON is author the acclaimed *Out of It: A Cultural History of Intoxication* (Hamish Hamilton, 2001).

Rights: World

Publication: November 2004

Manuscript delivered

Extent: 340pp

Rights Sold:

Brazilian: Record

COLOSSUS: BLETCHLEY PARK'S LAST SECRET

Paul Gannon

This enthralling account of the last untold story of Second World War code-breaking uses recently declassified documents to tell the story of the invention of the world's first electronic computer: Colossus.

In 1940, almost a year after the outbreak of the Second World War, Allied radio operators at the interception station in South London began picking up messages in a signalling pattern strikingly different from the standard Morse code. As the months passed, traffic in this new encryption increased dramatically and Bletchley Park codebreakers worked furiously to decipher the new binary-system code. Unlike with Enigma however, the scientists had no access to a model and breaking the code was a feat of brilliant logical deduction alone. Outwitting the binary cipher machines is now recognized as the greatest codebreaking achievement of the Second World War, exceeding even the cracking of the Enigma codes.

The key to the breaking of the binary cipher lay with an entirely new invention – the first electronic, programmable computer, named Colossus. Yet the need for post-war secrecy meant that for decades this extraordinary achievement remained highly classified. Even today, the far less sophisticated Eniac, a decimal-based calculating machine invented in the U.S. after the war, is still generally credited as the first computer and precursor to the digital age. Using recently declassified information, interwoven with firsthand historical accounts and schematic diagrams, Paul Gannon presents a gripping account of the race to build Colossus, the world's true first computer.

PAUL GANNON is a journalist and author who regularly contributes to leading trade, technical and general publications about all aspects of information and communications technology.

Rights: World

UK Publication: October 2005

Proposal available

Extent: 304pp

THE PLANT HUNTERS

Jennifer Potter

The remarkable lives and times of the John Tradescants, father and son, immortalized in Philippa Gregory's bestselling novels *Earthly Joys* and *Virgin Earth*.

In 1614, John Tradescant – plant hunter, collector and ‘lover of all nature varieties’ – was appointed gardener to the Duke of Buckingham, royal favourite and purported lover to James I of England. He was employed to cross oceans and visit exotic islands to bring back new specimens of plants, birds, shells and rocks for their masters’ collections. Yet these adventures were fraught with difficulties and much of the valuable cargo died on tortuous return journeys to Britain. These quests nevertheless allowed John Tradescant – and later his son – to consolidate their own remarkable horticultural achievement, a garden with a sumptuous collection of rare fruits, herbs and flowers. With the new plants they introduced, the Tradescants stretched the frontiers of horticultural knowledge and ignited a national passion for gardening that has never been quelled.

From their obsession with mulberries to feed the silk industry, to their extraordinary voyages to the brave new world of the Americas, Jennifer Potter has created a vivid portrait of two curious men who created a seventeenth-century earthly garden of delights.

JENNIFER POTTER has always been drawn to the exotic and the strange. After a childhood divided between Malaysia and the Lake District, she wrote three successful novels *The Taking of Agnès* (1984), *The Long Lost Journey* (1989) and *After Breathless* (1995). Following a stint of study in landscape conservation, she wrote two works of non-fiction, *Secret Gardens* (1998) and *Lost Gardens*, which was made into two television series. She continues to write widely on gardens and garden history, with regular reviews for the *Times Literary Supplement* and monthly pieces for *BBC Homes and Antiques*. She gained a distinction in the Royal Horticultural Society's general certificate of horticulture and is a member of the London Historic Parks and Gardens Committee.

Rights: World

UK Publication: September 2005

Proposal available

Extent: 224pp

SHIPPED: LENIN AND THE EXILE OF THE PHILOSOPHERS

Lesley Chamberlain

Part dramatic narrative, part intellectual history, *Shipped* is an epic story of deportation and exile.

In 1922, Lenin personally drew up a list of some 160 ‘undesirable’ intellectuals – mostly philosophers, academics, scientists and journalists – to be deported from the new Soviet State. Two ships sailed from Petrograd that autumn, taking these eminent men and their families away to what became permanent exile in Berlin, Prague and Paris.

Shipped tells the story of the writers, journalists and scholars thrown out of their homeland. It describes the world they left behind, and the émigré communities abroad they were forced to join. Lesley Chamberlain creates a rich portrait of this chilling historical moment, evoked with immediacy through the journals, letters, and memoirs of the exiles. *Shipped* also tells the story of the fate of ideas: not just those of Lenin, but of the writers and thinkers forced to leave their homeland – Sergei Bulgakov and Nikolai Berdyaev among them – who made unique contributions to the cultural and intellectual life of the twentieth century.

Praise for *Motherland*:

‘A valiant, fascinating and intellectually rigorous attempt to make sense of an extremely difficult subject’ T.J. Binyon, author of *Pushkin*

LESLEY CHAMBERLAIN is a writer and reviewer distinguished for her wide-ranging work from travel (*In the Communist Mirror*) to philosophy (*Nietzsche in Turin*). In 2003 she published her first novel with Atlantic Books, *Girl in a Garden*. Her most recent book is *Motherland: A Philosophical History of Russia*.

Rights: World

UK Publication: June 2005

FALLEN ORDER: Intrigue, Heresy, and Scandal in the Rome of Galileo and Caravaggio

Karen Liebreich

This ‘astonishing story’ (*Sunday Telegraph*) has made news headlines in the UK, Ireland, Australia and South Africa. It reveals, for the first time, how the patron saint of Catholic schools covered up the first recorded child sex scandal in the Catholic Church and has led to calls for him to be desanctified.

‘This brilliantly accessible book could not be more timely ... a piece of investigative writing that it relentless in its search for the truth.’ **Karen Armstrong**

‘One reads Liebreich’s vigorous account of the order’s downward spiral with mounting disbelief, though with immense admiration for her calm sense of perspective’ *Sunday Times*

‘The story that Liebreich can now unravel is as racy and full of machinations as *The Name of the Rose* ... beautifully written.’ *Guardian*

‘A compulsive page-turner’ *Catholic Herald*

In 1621, the Spaniard Father José de Calasanz established the Piarist Order to educate the poor children of Rome. His schools flourished and quickly became established throughout Catholic Europe, eventually educating thousands of children. Yet in 1646, Calasanz’s order was abruptly abolished by the pope, amid rumours of a great scandal. Karen Liebreich uses highly restricted archive material to reveal the sexual abuse of children practised by some of the leading priests in the order; how Calasanz knew of the scandal; and how Pope Innocent X put a man known to be one of the most prolific abusers in charge of an order dedicated to the education of children.

Although the order was eventually suppressed, it was later revived and is still in existence today, its turbulent past ignored. This original and important book is an explosive account of an episode in history that the Catholic Church has failed to acknowledge in modern times.

KAREN LIEBREICH has a doctorate in history from Cambridge University and a research diploma from the European University Institute in Florence. She has worked as cultural assistant for the French Institute in London, and has been a television documentary researcher and producer for the BBC and The History Channel.

Rights: World
US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.,
Publication: May 2004
script available
Extent: 400pp

PHILOSOPHY: THE LATEST ANSWERS TO THE OLDEST QUESTIONS

Nicholas Fearn

What are we? What do we know? How should we act?

The work of philosophers such as Plato, Aristotle, Bertrand Russell and Ludwig Wittgenstein has been explained many times for the benefit of the lay reader, but there are no guidebooks to the developments of the last five decades. *Philosophy: The State of the Art* will be the first book to relate, for the general reader, the thoughts of the world's most eminent *living* philosophers, along with the greatest among the very recently deceased.

The book will be constructed around a series of interviews with philosophers working in the Anglo-American and continental European traditions. The subject of these talks, and of the narrative in general, will be the latest answers to the three great questions of philosophy: 'What are we?' 'What do we know?' and 'How should we act?' These cover our understanding of what it is to be human, what our limitations and capabilities are, and also what we should do with them. The interviewees are as follows (arranged by location rather than nationality):

In the United States

Donald Davidson, Daniel Dennett,
Ned Block, Paul and Patricia
Churchland, Jerry Fodor, Saul
Kripke, Ruth Barcan-Marcus,
Alasdair MacIntyre, Thomas
Nagel, Robert Nozick, Hilary
Putnam, Richard Rorty, John
Searle, Peter Singer, Charles
Taylor, Noam Chomsky, David
Lewis, David Chalmers, John
Rawls, Ronald Dworkin

In Britain

Derek Parfit, P. F. Strawson
Michael Dumett, David Wiggins
Mary Midgely, DH Mellor, Bernard
Williams

In Germany

Jürgen Habermas
Hans-Georg Gadamer
Axel Honneth

In France

Jean Baudrillard, Jacques
Derrida, Alain Finkielkraut,
Bernard Henri-Levi, Paul
Ricoeur, Julia Kristeva
Pierre Bourdieu, Étienne
Balibar, Luce Irigaray

In Italy

Antonio Negri
Giorgio Agamben

Philosophy: The State of the Art is a brilliant and highly original contribution to the lay reader's philosophical library.

NICHOLAS FEARN is the author of *Zeno and the Tortoise* which has been translated into 17 languages.

Rights: World

Publication: November 2004

Delivery: June 2004

Extent: 300pp

Proposal available

Rights Sold:

Dutch: Ambo Anthos

MOTHERLAND: A PHILOSOPHICAL HISTORY OF RUSSIA

Lesley Chamberlain

A radical new interpretation of Russian thought and history.

‘A valiant, fascinating and intellectually rigorous attempt to make sense of an extremely difficult subject’ **T.J. Binyon**, *Sunday Telegraph*

Lesley Chamberlain, novelist, traveller and historian of ideas, has been pondering the enigma of Russia for over 30 years. She finds that over the last two centuries the country has tried to define the good man and the right way to be. What this moral passion in philosophy and literature has made of Russian culture and where that culture fits in the world spectrum is of enormous and enduring interest. One of her key contentions is that the Russian moral tradition has been continuous from the early nineteenth century to the present day. This Long Tradition, obscured by the Soviet era, favours 'naive' theories of knowledge and reality because of the persistent threat of social disorder. Mystical and political ideals drawn from the common European heritage reappear in a new guise in Russia's unique contribution to philosophy, which is far removed from classical Western concerns but touches presciently on postmodern themes. *Motherland* is both a scholarly introduction to a subject viewed from a new angle and an eloquently-narrated journey in the history of ideas from a highly original writer.

LESLEY CHAMBERLAIN is a writer and reviewer distinguished for her wide-ranging work from travel (*In the Communist Mirror*) to philosophy (*Nietzsche in Turin*). In 1998 she published a collection of Russian stories, *In a Place Like That*, described in the *TLS* as ‘a brilliant book...a touching and humorous requiem to a lost world’.

Rights: World

Published (June 2004)

Extent: 350pp

Finished copies available

THE TRUTH ABOUT HORMONES

Vivienne Parry

An up-to-the-minute, highly entertaining book about what, exactly, we know about those mysteriously powerful things, hormones.

Hormones rule your internal world: they control your growth, your metabolism, weight, water balance, your body clocks, fertility, muscle tone, mood, the speed of ageing, whether you want sex or not (and whether you enjoy it) and even who you fall in love with. Their effects may occur in seconds and be over in a flash, or take months and last for thirty years. Whilst some hormones – like oestrogen, testosterone or insulin – are very familiar, most are little known and, among the general public, none are understood. But not knowing what they do doesn't stop people claiming 'it's your hormones' whenever someone is tetchy, spotty, unhappy, fearful, tearful or just plain awful. As it happens, they are right. It is our hormones. And yes, we are completely in thrall to things we know nothing about. Vivienne Parry tackles this strange and complex world for the first time. In a fascinating, unputdownable read, full of wonderful stories, Vivienne Parry sheds some light on our conceptual darkness.

The Truth About Hormones is also a treasure trove of fascinating stories. For example:

- Had Brad Pitt been a true Trojan, he would have practised the first known instance of hormone replacement therapy, by eating the glands of his dead conquests.
- In the 1930s, the bon ton flocked to Switzerland to have injections of lamb's testicles. They are still doing it in 2004
- If you shine a light on the back of your knees, you can fool your body into resetting its internal clock. This is due to the hormone melatonin
- The hormones used for infertility treatment in Italy are still manufactured using nun's urine, collected daily from the Vatican City.

VIVIENNE PARRY is a science commentator for the *Guardian* and the science editor of *Good Housekeeping* magazine. She has been a columnist for the *News of the World*, a presenter of the BBC science programme, *Tomorrow's World*, and a reporter for *Panorama*. She read genetics and immunology at University College, London and wrote her thesis on the history of the hormone, a word first coined in June 1905. Thereafter she spent 15 years running a medical research charity concerned with women's health (and hormones), before running away to the media.

Rights: World

Publication: June 2005

Delivery: November 2004

Extent: 270pp

THE TRUTH ABOUT STRESS

Angela Patmore

An explosive book that lays waste to the claim that stress is bad for you, and exposes a multi-billion pound industry.

Sometimes the greatest harm is done by those who believe they are doing the most good. Stress seems to be the twenty-first century plague – a disease with physical, financial and emotional consequences that has reached epidemic proportions. Millions of pounds, euros and dollars are committed to fighting its destructive effects. A massive industry is devoted to improving, and perhaps even saving, our lives. There are some 4,000,000 websites dedicated to stress in England alone.

Or is it? In this explosive re-assessment, Angela Patmore explodes *The Truth About Stress*. She de-mystifies the “illness” taking a cold, hard look at what stress actually is, and tackles the multi-million pound industry – unregulated, and populated by well-meaning, but unqualified, practitioners – that devotes itself to the cure for the ultimate in modern ailments. Stress is a young and poorly defined condition, which was identified by the very industries that aim to combat it. The concept was invented in the 1930s by Hans Selye who argued that the only way to combat stress is, in fact, to cease to live. From symptoms to cure, *The Truth About Stress* debunks a condition that has become central to our understanding of modern life.

ANGELA PATMORE is a former University of East Anglia research fellow and International Fulbright Scholar. She has written extensively for newspapers and magazines and contributed to many television and radio programmes on stress. She also serves on the Metropolitan Police External Experts' stress advisory group under the chairmanship of Commissioner Sir John Stevens. In 1996 she was invited by UEA's Centre for Environmental and Risk Management to review of the literature on stress. Her report, *Killing the Messenger*, served as a catalyst for UK critics and revisionists of the stress management industry from the sciences, medicine, psychology and the arts.

Rights: World

UK Publication: February 2005

FRANK ZAPPA

Barry Miles

Religion-baiting, republican-hating, chain-smoking, coffee-addicted, classically-trained, guitar-virtuoso, Frank Zappa was a cult icon to armies of fans around the world.

Barry Miles' definitive biography follows Zappa from his sickly Italian-American childhood in the 1940s (when his father, Frank senior, worked for the US military and was used to test the efficacy of new biological warfare agents) to his death from cancer in the 1990s.

Barry Miles knew Frank Zappa well and was present at the recording of some of his most important albums. His sparkling biography brings the Zappa the musician and composer, Zappa the controversialist and Zappa the family man (despite his love of groupies, he was married for more than 30 years) together for the first time. It is an authoritative and hugely enjoyable portrait of a singular man and a vivid evocation of the West Coast scene.

'I really, really admire him. He's at least trying to do something different with the form. It's incredible how he has his band as tight as a real orchestra. I'm very impressed by the kind of discipline he can bring to rock that nobody else can seem to bring to it.' John Lennon

'Frank Zappa was high up there in rock heaven... whenever I think I want to escape I think of him.' Vaclav Havel

'Whether writing symphonies, satirical broadsides or casting a caustic glow across the frontier of madness that makes up the American political landscape; whether testifying before Congress to put the PMRC in its rightful lowly place, or acting as a cultural conduit for President Vaclav Havel and the Czech government, Frank was a force for reason and honesty in the business deficient in those areas.' Lou Reed

BARRY MILES is author of many seminal books on popular culture, including the authorised biography of Paul McCartney, *Paul McCartney: Many Years from Now*; *Ginsberg: A Biography*; *William Burroughs: El Hombre Invisible*; *Jack Kerouac: King of the Beats* and *The Beat Hotel: Ginsberg, Burroughs and Corso in Paris, 1957—1963*.

Rights: World

US: Grove Atlantic Inc

Publication: November 2004

Manuscript available

Extent: 288pp

Rights Sold:

German: Rogner & Bernhardt

SHERLOCK HOLMES: THE BIOGRAPHY

Nick Rennison

This highly original book turns the magnifying glass inwards on the life of this greatest of literary sleuths

Sherlock Holmes was renowned for his deductive logic: 'when you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.' Nick Rennison uses Arthur Conan Doyle's outline of Sherlock Holmes's career to present a straight account of the man behind the famous detective. From his mysterious connections to the British criminal underworld to his early acquaintance with Dr Watson, *Sherlock Holmes: the biography* blends fiction and social history to answer some of the questions that readers have long puzzled over: Where did Holmes gain his skill as a boxer and what were his connections to the world of prizefighting in the early 1870s? Did he have professional experience as an actor on the London stage? How was Holmes introduced to the drug culture of the times and to what extent did drugs affect his career? Did he really spend the 'missing years' of 1891–94 in the guise of a Norwegian explorer, travelling to Tibet and visiting Mecca, Khartoum and the south of France? Was he entirely truthful in what he told Watson?

NICK RENNISON works as an editor, writer and bookseller. His books include a poetry anthology (*Poets on Poets*, Carcanet 1998), a short study of Sigmund Freud and two guides to fiction, *The Good Reading Guide* (Sixth Edition, Bloomsbury 2003) and *The Good Reading Guide to Crime Fiction* (Second Edition, Bloomsbury 2003). He has been fascinated by the life and career of Sherlock Holmes since first reading about him as a child.

Rights: World

UK Publication: August 2005

Proposal available

Extent: 228pp

FORTUNES DAUGHTERS
THE EXTRAVAGANT LIVES OF THE JEROME SISTERS:
JENNIE CHURCHILL, CLARA FREWEN AND LEONIE LESLIE

Elisabeth Kehoe

'A saga of sex, intrigue, and desperate domestic finances, *Fortune's Daughters* is as lurid a bit of social history as you're likely to find this year... solid history, well told and thoroughly researched; it features the mother and two aunts of the twentieth-century's greatest statesman, Winston Churchill; and that at its moral centre is a drama of sibling love and loyalty unsurpassed in the annals of Anglo-American (or any other) High Society.' Nelson Aldrich, author of *Old Money*, *The Mythology of America's Upper Class*

'A remarkable book, which tells the inter-connected stories of the Jerome sisters: three high-spirited late nineteenth century Americans who stormed British high society and made a lasting impact on it through their personalities, their husbands and their descendants, among whom was Winston Churchill. Written with empathy, insight, scholarship and superbly constructed and controlled throughout, this is an outstanding first book, which deserves -- and will surely get -- a wide and appreciative readership' David Cannadine, author of *The Decline and Fall of the British Aristocracy*

The story of the three Jerome sisters is one of love and money – in equal measure. Their father, Leonard Jerome, was a profligate New York stockbroker whose beautiful wife, Clara Hall, was as extravagant as her husband. Their three daughters – Jennie, Clara and Leonie – were provided with every advantage, and lived a charmed existence. Clara Jerome had plans for her lovely daughters. A fortuitous encounter in London with the Prince of Wales, who later became Edward VII, launched the girls into English society. Acclaimed wherever they went, the Jerome sisters became known as “the Good, the Witty and the Beautiful.”

Jennie (“the beautiful”) married Randolph Churchill, younger son of the Duke of Marlborough. Clara (“the good”) was romanced by the dashing and unfaithful Moreton Frewin, a younger son who had squandered what capital he had on gambling, sports and women, while Leonie (“the witty”) married into the distinguished Irish family, the Leslie, who were disappointed by their son’s choice of New World bride.

Elisabeth Kehoe’s wonderfully vivid book will use new archival research to follow the progress of the Jerome sisters, who remained very close to both of their parents, and to each other, throughout their lives. Their stories are ones of human strength and weakness, and the eternal and ultimately, for all three, unsuccessful, quest for happiness.

ELISABETH KEHOE took her doctorate in history at the School of Advanced Study, University of London. She is an American citizen based in Ireland and this is her first book.

Rights: World

US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.

Published (September 2004), finished copies available

CLARA'S GRAND TOUR

TRAVELS WITH A RHINOCEROS IN EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY EUROPE

Glynis Ridley

WINNER OF THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORICAL RESEARCH PRIZE, 2002

A charming and unique biography of Clara, a globe-trotting eighteenth-century celebrity who was also a 3½-tonne Indian rhinoceros.

From the Renaissance until the end of the eighteenth century only eight live rhinoceroses survived the journeys from their native homes long enough to be displayed to curious European audiences. By far the longest-lived of these was Clara. For seventeen years from 1741 to 1758 her Dutch owner travelled with her all over mainland Europe and to Britain (taking in modern day Austria, England, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Switzerland), engineering her display in front of ordinary people and the grandest of royal courts. And as her popularity threatened to decline, her owner orchestrated a series of modern advertising campaigns, including the announcement of her death (which infallibly resulted in increased bookings). Clara's story raises a series of questions from the practical - how can her co-operation be assured in front of the crowned heads of Europe? - to the abstract - what does Clara mean to those who see her, is she a world of marvels beyond their own or a challenge to their most fundamental theological and philosophical beliefs?

GLYNIS RIDLEY is a lecturer in 18th century studies at Queen's University, Belfast.

Rights: World

Published (July 2004)

Finished copies available

VOLTAIRE IN EXILE

Ian Davidson

'We know the old fox as a great man of letters, but to be allowed a peek into his domestic life and to see Voltaire in his garden, Voltaire the money lender, the master of three chateaux, the exasperating fibber and groveller, the amateur actor and, above all, the sly correspondent, is a rare treat. Voltaire could not have wished for a more sensitive or a wiser biographer. Seemingly without any effort Davidson has taken a mountain of historical research and fashioned it into a true reading pleasure, written a keen eye for detail and with great humanity.' Philipp Blom

An outstanding new account of Voltaire and his formidable contribution to human rights in the last 25 years of his life.

A poet, playwright, philosopher and historian, Voltaire is perhaps best known as a key protagonist in the Enlightenment. Yet during his lifetime he was revered by the French public as a vigorous advocate of individual freedom. Remarkably, he began this crusade late in life, following his banishment by Louis XV in 1754 to indefinite exile.

Voltaire challenged the authoritarian power of the state and the Catholic Church in several memorable cases of personal injustice, including those of Calas, Sirven and La Barre. He was renowned for his prodigious correspondence with the prominent political figures of his era, among them Frederick II of Prussia and Catherine the Great. Using his network of contacts to mobilise public opinion, he campaigned for human rights and penal reform. The most prominent of these cases, that of the English admiral John Byng, inspired the famous execution scene in his satirical masterpiece, *Candide*. Voltaire's successes made him a celebrated hero, and in 1778, despite disapproval from the court at Versailles, he returned to Paris triumphant, the focus of widespread public adulation.

Voltaire in Exile is the first mainstream English-language study of the subject to be published in over thirty years. It is a profound, sympathetic review of the major contributions to human rights made by one of the giants of European civilization.

IAN DAVIDSON is best known as a contributor to, and former Foreign Editor of, the *Financial Times*. He is a recipient of the David Watt Prize (1990) and is currently a fellow of the European Policy Centre. *Voltaire in Exile* is his first book.

US Rights: Grove Atlantic Inc
Publication: November 2004
script available
Extent: 300pp

THE BAGHDAD BLOG

Salam Pax

The book of the global internet sensation.

‘My man Salam. Tells it like he sees it, and sees it like I can’t’ William Gibson

‘This funny, heartening, distressing and important book.’ *Observer*

In September 2002, a young Iraqi calling himself 'Salam Pax' began posting accounts of everyday life in Baghdad on to the internet. Written in English, these bulletins contained everything from reviews of the latest CDs by Bjork, to descriptions of Saddam's brutal regime. In writing this web diary, Salam took a huge risk. Had he been caught criticizing Saddam on his web site, it would have cost him his life.

Salam Pax's incisive, candid and dryly funny articles soon attracted a massive worldwide readership. In the months that followed, as an American-led force gathered to destroy the Iraqi regime, Salam's diary became a unique record of the resentment, amusement and terror felt by an ordinary man living through the final days of a long dictatorship, and the chaos that followed its destruction.

This book tells the story of the war in Iraq from *inside* that besieged country. It provides a unique perspective on the conflict and its aftermath. It is a remarkable document.

Salam Pax is a 30 year-old man who lives in Baghdad and writes a fortnightly column about life in Iraq for the *Guardian*. Salam Pax is a pseudonym.

Rights: World

US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.

Published

Extent: 176pp

Rights Sold:

Australian: Text

Brazilian: Companhia das Letras

Canadian: McArthur & Co

Catalan: RBA

Danish: Aschehoug

Dutch: Spectrum

French: Hachette Litteratures

German: ECON

Italian: Sperling & Kupfer

Japanese: Sony

Korean: Hangsoop

Norwegian: Gyldendal Norsk

Polish: G & J Media

Spanish: Grijalbo Mondadori

Turkish: Guncel Yayinlik

POST OFFICE MAURITIUS: The Hunt for the World's most Rare and Precious Stamp

Helen Morgan

A philatelic odyssey of fame, fortune and forgery, inspired by the legend of the Blue Mauritius.

Mauritius was only the fifth country in the world – and the first British colony – to produce adhesive postage stamps. Issued in 1847, of negligible penny value, the indigo-blue 'Post Office Mauritius' had become the most famous and expensive stamp in the world by the end of the century. Only twenty-six copies of the Blue Mauritius are known to exist today, and with a single specimen worth more than \$1,000,000, there are plenty of hunters who believe there are more to be discovered...

Helen Morgan chases the Blue Mauritius from its origins on a small island in the Indian Ocean to the crowded auction rooms of Europe; from twentieth-century discoveries in France, India, Mauritius and Great Britain to the curious people who have loved, lost and lusted after these little scraps of paper.

HELEN MORGAN is an art historian and archivist by training, and a research fellow at the Australian Science and Technology Heritage Centre at the University of Melbourne. She was the inaugural recipient of the Chand A and Z Research Fund in Classic Philately, administered by the British Library, which supported her travel to London, France and Singapore in 2003 to undertake further research for *Post Office Mauritius*. Helen lives with her Mauritian husband in Melbourne, Australia.

Rights: World

Published

Extent: 176pp

Proposal available

Final length 60,000 words

DICTATOR'S HOMES

Peter York

Interiors of the rich and terrifying.

Our homes are an extension of our personalities. It is the place where we can be truly ourselves, and they reveal to the world a great deal about what makes us tick.

When the world's greatest Dictators close their front doors, put on their slippers and collapse on the sofa, what decorations adorn the living-room walls? Do they relax with a Martini beside their garishly decorated indoor pool, play in their ersatz pagoda, or simply enjoy a quiet moment on their pure gold toilet?

In *Dictator's Homes*, the style guru Peter York looks, for the first time, at how some of history's most alarming men and women have chosen to decorate their homes. His brilliantly funny -- and brilliantly incisive book -- peeks at Hitler's bathroom, Saddam Hussein's bedroom and Mobutu's ante-room, via Mussolini's study and Milosevic's holiday home. Published in the same highly illustrated format as *Hip Hotels*, *Dictator's Homes* offers more of an insight into the workings of these dangerous minds than any interview or archive ever could.

PETER YORK is an internationally renowned writer and journalist. His earlier publication, *The Sloane Rangers Handbook*, was one of the best-selling books of the 1980s.

Rights: World

Publication: October 2005

Delivery: January 2005

Sampler available

40 integrated colour and black & white half-tones

20,000 word text

DIVINE LOVE

Sara Hulse & Toby Starbuck

In this touching book Sara Hulse & Toby Starbuck take their own romance to investigate Frank Sinatra's confident assertion that 'love and marriage go together like a horse and carriage'.

Sara and Toby met and fell in love. Their romance has managed to survive ill health, family crises, moving house and even bereavement. Having surmounted so many of life's obstacles they feel they're ready to tackle the big one: the wedding.

In *Divine Love*, Sara and Toby embark upon a journey that is part wedding plan, part philosophical odyssey. They examine the role of love in the world's great religions and the role of religion in promoting love world-wide. As they travel Sara and Toby meet a multitude of couples from puppy-lovers and mid-western wedding planners to pensioners and priests, each with their own recipe for lasting love. In doing so they discover the answers to some of contemporary life's most bewildering questions: without a broader belief system, can marriage still have a meaning beyond the public declaration of a temporarily held conviction that *this is the one*? In place of the promise of Heaven, can love be its own reward?

SARA AND TOBY recently abandoned their West Hampstead love nest for the Sussex countryside, regularly returning to the capital for work, sushi and fashionable clothing. When in town, Toby provides the scripts for movie trailers and Sara works at a literary agency.

Rights: World

Publication: June 2005

Delivery: January 2005

WHERE HAVE ALL THE GOOD TIMES GONE?

THE RISE AND FALL OF THE MUSIC INDUSTRY

Louis Barfe

The first single volume history of the music industry in the United States and Britain.

Louis Barfe's elegantly written, authoritative and highly entertaining history charts the meteoric rise and slow decline of the popular recording industry. It begins with the dance craze popularized by Scott Joplin at turn of the twentieth century and sensationalized by Irving Berlin's *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, which led millions in 1910 to dance who had never so much as tapped their feet along to music before, and ends with Napster. Barfe shows how the immense amounts of free music available online have traumatic implications it has for the industry. Louis Barfe has trawled the key archives and has written an account of the excessive and turbulent histories of the great recording companies, their leaders and their stars that is original, definitive and often wildly entertaining.

'Louis Barfe tells his tale with wit, accuracy and an acute awareness of how the machinations of the record world were affected by contemporary social and political events... A winner' Tim Rice, *Literary Review*

'Indispensable, truly exceptional... a scholarly yet entertaining tome. **'**
Paul Stokes, *Q Magazine*

'Louis Barfe: the man who knows everything.' *Record Collector*

LOUIS BARFE is the radio critic for the *New Statesman* magazine and reports on the British publishing industry for *Publishing News*. This is his first book.

Rights: World
Publication: May 2004
script available
Extent: 340pp

ESSENTIAL MILITARIA

Nicholas Hobbes

This riotous collection of military facts and figures includes such categories as ‘The Eight Wounds Sustained by Alexander the Great’ and ‘The Six Former Lives of General George S. Patten’.

An essential collection of bizarre military trivia for anyone who’s ever wondered what killed Alexander the Great; who the greatest military disciplinarians were; or what the biggest battles in history were.

Clever and addictive, *Essential Militaria* will arm you with thousands of factoids – ranging from the eccentric to the ridiculous – for every occasion. For example:

Leaders represented on Belgian Playing Cards during WWII:

- 1. Winston Churchill – King of Spades**
- 2. FDR – King of Diamonds**
- 3. Charles de Gaulle – King of Clubs**
- 4. Joseph Stalin – King of Hearts**
- 5. Adolf Hitler – The Joker**

A must-buy gift for the holiday season.

Rights: World
US: Grove/Atlantic Inc.
finished copies available
Extent: 176pp

Rights Sold:
Canadian: McArthur & Co
Finnish: WSOY
Hebrew: Kinneret Zmora Bitan
Japanese: Hara Shobo
Spanish: Destino
Turkish: Guncel Yayinlik

DEAR BAREFOOT

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