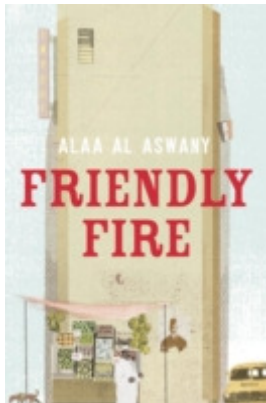


FICTION

View our selection of new novels



Friendly Fire

- By: [Aswany, Alaa Al](#)
- Translated by: [Davies, Humphrey](#)
- Publisher: [HarperCollins Publishers](#)
- Imprint: Fourth Estate Ltd
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 300 pages
- Dimensions: 197 x 130 mm, 172 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 04/02/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

The new book from Alaa Al Aswany, author of the international bestseller 'The Yacoubian Building' and 'Chicago'. 'Friendly Fire' is a novella and collection of short stories from Alaa Al Aswany, author of the bestselling 'The Yacoubian Building'. As in that novel, Al Aswany dissects modern Egyptian society and, with skill and detachment, reveals the hypocrisy, violence and abuse of power characteristic of a world in moral crisis.

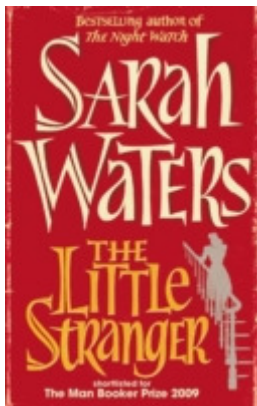
Here, though, the focus has shifted from the broad historical canvas to the minute stitches of pain that hold together an individual, a family, a school classroom and the relationship between a man and a woman. Can a man so alienated from his society that he regards all its members as no better than microbes wriggling under a microscope survive within it? Can cynical religiosity triumph over human decency? Can a man put the thought of a delicious dish of beans behind him long enough to mourn his father's death? Alongside these wry questions, other, less mordant perspectives also have their place: an ageing cabaret dancer bestows the blessing of a vanished world on her lover's son; a crippled boy wins subjective victory from objective disaster. In 'Friendly Fire', readers will find again the vivid, passionate characters of today's Cairo, clamouring to be heard.

'Friendly Fire' also features an introduction by Alaa Al Aswany giving the history of the novella, 'The Isam Abd el-Ati Papers', which was banned in Egypt for a decade.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



The Little Stranger **SHORTLISTED FOR THE MAN BOOKER PRIZE 2009**

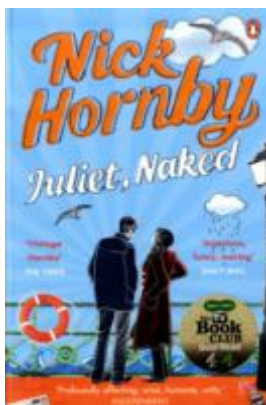
- By: [Waters, Sarah](#)
- Publisher: [Little, Brown Book Group](#)
- Imprint: Virago Press Ltd
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 512 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 126 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 05/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

In a dusty post-war summer in rural Warwickshire, a doctor is called to a patient at lonely Hundreds Hall. Home to the Ayres family for over two centuries, the Georgian house, once grand and handsome, is now in decline, its masonry crumbling, its gardens choked with weeds, its owners ? mother, son and daughter ? struggling to keep pace. But are the Ayreses haunted by something more sinister than a dying way of life? Little does Dr Faraday know how closely, and how terrifyingly, their story is about to become entwined with his.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General



Juliet, Naked

- By: [Hornby, Nick](#)
- Publisher: [Penguin Books Ltd](#)
- Imprint: Penguin Books Ltd
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 256 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 129 mm, 175 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 26/12/2009
- Price: 11,20 €

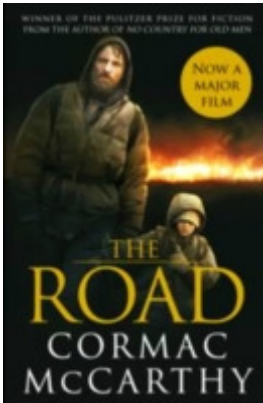
Description:

Nick Hornby returns to his roots - music and messy relationships - in this funny and touching new novel which thoughtfully and sympathetically looks at how lives can be wasted but how they are never beyond redemption. Annie lives in a dull town on England's bleak east coast and is in a relationship with Duncan which mirrors the place; Tucker was once a brilliant songwriter and performer, who's gone into seclusion in rural America - or at least that's what his fans think. Duncan is obsessed with Tucker's work, to the point of derangement, and when Annie dares to go public on her dislike of his latest album, there are quite unexpected, life-changing consequences for all three.

Nick Hornby uses this intriguing canvas to explore why it is we so often let the early promise of relationships, ambition and indeed life evaporate. And he comes to some surprisingly optimistic conclusions.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General



The Road film tie-in

- By: [McCarthy, Cormac](#)
- Edition: film tie-in ed
- Publisher: [Pan Macmillan](#)
- Imprint: Picador
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 256 pages
- Dimensions: 197 x 130 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 01/05/2009
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

By the winner of the Pulitzer Prize for fiction in 2007, this is the story of a father and son walking alone through burned America, heading through the ravaged landscape to the coast. It has been hailed as 'the first great masterpiece of the globally warmed generation. Here is an American classic which, at a stroke, makes McCarthy a contender for the Nobel Prize for Literature ...An absolutely wonderful book that people will be reading for generations' - Andrew O'Hagan.

Harvey Weinstein's film is to be released in the UK on 8 January 2010 with an all-star cast including Viggo Mortensen, Charlize Theron, Guy Pearce and Robert Duvall, and introducing major new young talent, Kodi Smit McPhee, with a soundtrack by Nick Cave and Warren Ellis. 'A work of such terrible beauty that you will struggle to look away' - Tom Gatti, "The Times". 'So good that it will devour you, in parts.

It is incandescent' - Niall Griffiths, "Daily Telegraph". 'You will read on, absolutely convinced, thrilled, mesmerised. All the modern novel can do is done here' - Alan Warner, "Guardian".

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



Twenties Girl

- By: [Kinsella, Sophie](#)
- Publisher: [Transworld Publishers Ltd](#)
- Imprint: Black Swan
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 480 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 127 mm, 320 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 21/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

Lara has always had an overactive imagination. Now she wonders if she is losing her mind. Normal twenty-something girls just don't get visited by ghosts! But inexplicably, the spirit of Lara's great aunt Sadie - in the form of a bold, demanding Charleston-dancing girl - has appeared to make one last request: Lara must track down a missing necklace Sadie simply can't rest without.

Lara's got enough problems of her own. Her start-up company is floundering, her best friend and business partner has run off to Goa, and she's just been dumped by the love of her life. But as Lara spends time with Sadie, life becomes more glamorous and their treasure hunt turns into something intriguing and romantic.

Could Sadie's ghost be the answer to Lara's problems and can two girls from different times end up learning something special from each other?

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



The Lovely Bones

- By: [Sebold, Alice](#)
- Edition: Film tie-in ed
- Publisher: [Pan Macmillan](#)
- Imprint: Picador
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 336 pages
- Dimensions: 197 x 130 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 04/12/2009
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

My name was Salmon, like the fish; first name, Susie. I was fourteen when I was murdered on December 6, 1973. My murderer was a man from our neighborhood.

My mother liked his border flowers, and my father talked to him once about fertilizer. This is Susie Salmon. Watching from heaven, Susie sees her happy suburban family devastated by her death, isolated even from one another as they each try to cope with their terrible loss alone.

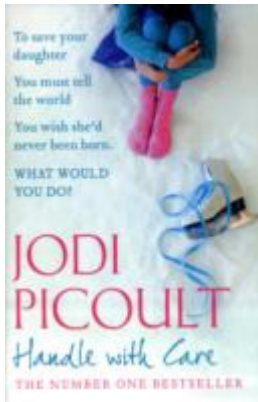
Over the years, her friends and siblings grow up, fall in love, do all the things she never had the chance to do herself. But life is not quite finished with Susie yet. "The Lovely Bones" is a luminous and astonishing novel about life and death, forgiveness and vengeance, memory and forgetting - but, above all, about finding light in the darkest of places. 'Spare, beautiful and brutal prose ...' "The Lovely Bones" is compulsive enough to read in a single sitting, brilliantly intelligent, elegantly constructed and ultimately intriguing' - "The Times".

'Moving and compelling ...It will put an imperceptible but stealthily insistent hold on you. I sat down in the morning to read the first couple of pages; five hours later, I was still there, book in hand, transfixed' - Maggie O'Farrell, "Sunday Telegraph".

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



Handle with Care

- By: [Picoult, Jodi](#)
- Publisher: [Hodder & Stoughton General Division](#)
- Imprint: Hodder Paperback
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 576 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 131 mm, 370 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 10/12/2009
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

Charlotte O'Keefe's beautiful, much-longed-for, adored daughter Willow is born with osteogenesis imperfecta - a very severe form of brittle bone disease. If she slips on a crisp packet she could break both her legs, and spend six months in a half body cast. After years of caring for Willow, her family faces financial disaster.

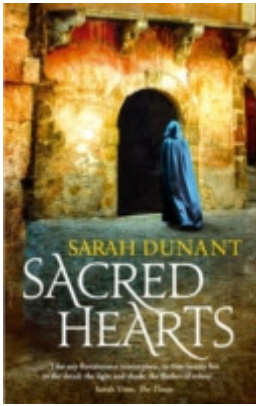
Then Charlotte is offered a lifeline. She could sue her obstetrician for wrongful birth - for not having diagnosed Willow's condition early enough in the pregnancy to be able to abort the child. The payout could secure Willow's future.

But to get it would mean Charlotte suing her best friend. And standing up in court to declare that she would have preferred that Willow had never been born...

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



Sacred Hearts

- By: [Dunant, Sarah](#)
- Publisher: [Little, Brown Book Group](#)
- Imprint: Virago Press Ltd
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 480 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 126 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 05/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

1570 in the Italian city of Ferrara, and the convent of Santa Caterina is filled with noble women who are married to Christ because many cannot find husbands outside. Enter sixteen-year-old Serafina, ripped by her family from an illicit love affair, howling with rage and hormones and determined to escape. While on the other side of the great walls, counter-reformation forces in the Church are pushing for change, inside, Serafina's spirit and defiance ignite a fire that threatens to engulf the whole convent.

SACRED HEARTS is a novel about power, creativity and passion - both of the body and of the soul. Hidden history brought alive by a wonderful storyteller, renowned for her Italian Renaissance novels.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



Just Take My Heart

- By: [Clark, Mary Higgins](#)
- Publisher: [Simon & Schuster Ltd](#)
- Imprint: Pocket Books
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 336 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 130 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 07/01/2010
- Price: 9,81 €

Description:

When Natalie Raines, famous Broadway star, is found in her home in Closter, New Jersey, dying from a gunshot wound, her former husband, Gregg Aldrich, whom she was in the process of divorcing, is the chief suspect. What no one knows is that, only days before she was murdered, Natalie accidentally came face to face with the man who killed her former roommate, Jamie Evans. Two years later, career criminal Jimmy Easton, comes forward to claim that Aldrich hired him to kill his wife, but he turned the job down.

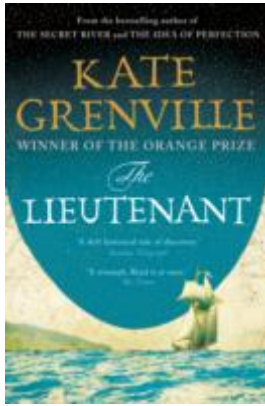
Based on Easton's testimony, Gregg is charged with the murder of his wife. Handling the case is Emily Wallace, an attractive thirty-two-year-old widowed assistant prosecutor. As Aldrich's trial is making headlines, Emily's boss, Ted Wesley, warns her that this high-profile case will reveal personal matters about her, such as the fact that she had a heart transplant.

And, during the trial, Emily experiences sentiments which defy all reason and continue after Gregg Aldrich's fate is decided by the jury. In the meantime, she does not realize that her own life is now at risk.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FGB Adventure / thriller](#)



The Lieutenant

- By: [Grenville, Kate](#)
- Publisher: [Canongate Books Ltd](#)
- Imprint: Canongate Books Ltd
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 320 pages
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 04/02/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

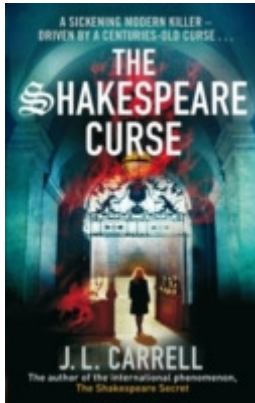
In 1788 Daniel Rooke sets out on a journey that will change the course of his life. As a lieutenant in the First Fleet, he lands on the wild and unknown shores of New South Wales. There he sets up an observatory to chart the stars.

But this country will prove far more revelatory than the stars above. Based on real events, *The Lieutenant* tells the unforgettable story of Rooke's connection with an Aboriginal child - a remarkable friendship that resonates across the oceans and the centuries.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



The Shakespeare Curse

- By: [Carrell, J.L.](#)
- Publisher: [Little, Brown Book Group](#)
- Imprint: Sphere
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 512 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 126 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 21/01/2010
- Price: 9,81 €

Description:

A brutally murdered body is discovered on a remote Scottish hillside ? with a mysterious ancient knife beside it. The victim was a beautiful young woman, throat slashed by an unknown assailant. The circumstances of the murder suggest ancient Pagan sacrifice.

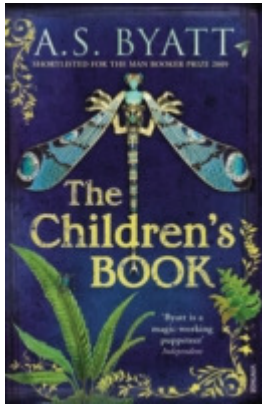
Then a trench on that same hill is found filled with blood. The shocking discoveries all seem to be linked by the ancient curse of Macbeth. From the streets of New York to the twisting corridors of Hampton Court Palace to a remote loch in the Scottish Highlands, the race is on to stop a deadly modern serial killer who will do anything to uncover priceless ancient treasures...A thrilling, action-packed page-turner, The Shakespeare Curse blends present-day crime with fascinating revelations from the life and work of Shakespeare.

It is one of the most eagerly-awaited novels of 2010.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FGB Adventure / thriller](#)



The Children's Book

- By: [Byatt, A.S.](#)
- Publisher: [Vintage](#)
- Imprint: Vintage
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 624 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 130 mm, 400 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 07/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

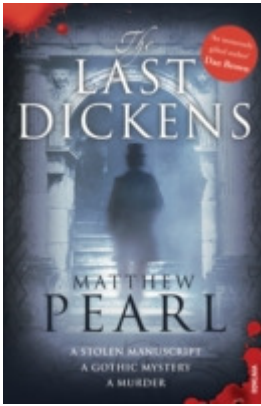
Famous author Olive Wellwood writes a special private book, bound in different colours, for each of her children. In their rambling house near Romney Marsh they play in a story-book world - but their lives, and those of their rich cousins and their friends, the son and daughter of a curator at the new Victoria and Albert Museum, are already inscribed with mystery. Each family carries its own secrets.

They grow up in the golden summers of Edwardian times, but as the sons rebel against their parents and the girls dream of independent futures, they are unaware that in the darkness ahead they will be betrayed unintentionally by the adults who love them. This is the children's book.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



The Last Dickens

- By: [Pearl, Matthew](#)
- Publisher: [Vintage](#)
- Imprint: Vintage
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 464 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 129 mm, 313 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 07/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

News of the untimely death of Charles Dickens reaches James R. Osgood at his American publisher. Expecting the arrival of the latest instalment of *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and suspicious of unscrupulous New York publishers keen to get their hands on the novel, Osgood sends his clerk, Daniel Sands, to await its arrival.

When Daniel's body is found by the docks, the manuscript is nowhere to be found, Osgood must embark on a transatlantic quest that leads him to the dangerous streets of London in order to unearth the rest of Dickens' final mystery and solve another of his own.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



The Rapture

- By: [Jensen, Liz](#)
- Publisher: [Bloomsbury Publishing PLC](#)
- Imprint: Bloomsbury Publishing PLC
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 352 pages
- Dimensions: 198 x 129 mm
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 04/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

In a merciless summer of biblical heat and destructive winds, Gabrielle Fox's main concern is a personal one: to rebuild her career as a psychologist after a shattering car accident. But when she is assigned Bethany Krall, one of the most dangerous teenagers in the country, she begins to fear she has made a terrible mistake. Raised on a diet of evangelistic hellfire, Bethany is violent, delusional, cruelly intuitive and insistent that she can foresee natural disasters - a claim which Gabrielle interprets as a symptom of doomsday delusion.

But when catastrophes begin to occur on the very dates Bethany has predicted, and a brilliant, gentle physicist enters the equation, the apocalyptic puzzle intensifies and the stakes multiply. Is the self-proclaimed Nostradamus of the psych ward the ultimate manipulator, or could she be the harbinger of imminent global cataclysm on a scale never seen before? And what can love mean in 'interesting times'? A haunting story of human passion and burning faith set against an adventure of tectonic proportions, "The Rapture" is an electrifying psychological thriller that explores the dark extremes of mankind's self-destruction in a world on the brink.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[FBC Modern fiction](#)



Paw Tracks in the Moonlight

- By: [O'Connor, Denis](#)
- Publisher: [Constable and Robinson](#)
- Imprint: Constable
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 224 pages, Integrated colour illustrations
- Dimensions: 178 x 126 mm, 215 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 29/10/2009
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

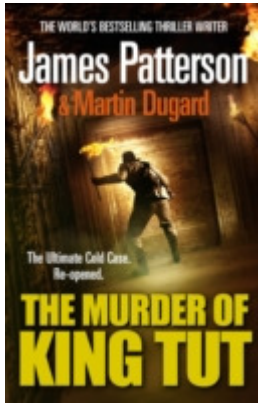
When Denis O'Connor rescues a three-week-old kitten from certain death during a snowstorm, little does he know how this tiny creature will change his life forever. Against all odds the kitten - who he names Toby Jug - survives and forms an unusually strong bond with his rescuer. Set against the rural splendour of Northumberland, "Paw Tracks in the Moonlight" charmingly chronicles the adventures of one man and his Maine Coone cat.

From an invasion of bees at Owl Cottage to the case of the disappearing tomatoes, life with Toby Jug - who believes himself to be human - is never dull. Nevertheless, it is only when Denis and Toby Jug embark on a summer camping trip on horseback in the Cheviot Hills that a new world opens up for them both.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[CV Biography & autobiography](#)
[WNGC Cats](#)



The Murder of King Tut

- By: [Patterson, James](#)
- Publisher: [Arrow Books Ltd](#)
- Imprint: Arrow Books Ltd
- Format: Paperback
- Pagination: 352 pages, maps
- Dimensions: 198 x 129 mm, 241 grams
- Country of Pub.: United Kingdom
- Pub Date: 07/01/2010
- Price: 11,20 €

Description:

Thrust onto Egypt's throne when just nine years old, King Tut's reign was fiercely debated from the outset. After nine years in power, Tut suddenly perished and his name was purged from Egyptian history. To this day, his death remains shrouded in controversy.

Now, in "The Murder of King Tut", James Patterson and Martin Dugard dig through the evidence to arrive at their own account of Tut's life and untimely death. The result is an exhilarating true crime tale of intrigue, passion, and betrayal that casts fresh light on one of the oldest mysteries of all.

Additional Information:

- Readership: General

[1QDAE Ancient Egypt](#)

[3D BCE to c 500 CE](#)

[FSC True crime](#)

[HBHA African history: BCE to c 500 CE](#)