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# Access Free The Queens Secret Victoria Lamb

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## KEY=VICTORIA - JOSEPH NOBLE

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### THE QUEEN'S SECRET

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Random House *It's July 1575: Elizabeth I, Queen of England, arrives at Kenilworth Castle amid pomp, fanfare and a wealth of lavish festivities, laid on by the Earl of Leicester. The hopeful Earl knows this is his very last chance to persuade the Queen to marry him. But despite his attachment to the Queen and his driving ambition to be her King, Leicester is unable to resist the seductive wiles of Lettice, wife of the Earl of Essex. And soon whispers of their relationship start spreading through the court. Enraged by the adulterous lovers growing intimacy, Elizabeth employs Lucy Morgan, a young black singer and court entertainer, to spy on the couple. But Lucy, who was raised by a spy in London, uncovers far more than she bargains for. For someone at Kenilworth that summer is plotting to kill the queen. No longer able to tell friend from foe, it is soon not only the queen who is in mortal danger - but Lucy herself.*

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### HIS DARK LADY

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Random House *London, 1583. William Shakespeare has declared Lucy Morgan the inspiration for his work. But what is he hiding from his muse? Meanwhile, Lucy has her own secrets to conceal. Tempted by love, the lady-in-waiting also bore witness to the one marriage forbidden by the queen. England is in peril. Queen Elizabeth's health is deteriorating, her throne under siege. She needs a trusted circle of advisors. but who can she turn to when those closest have proved disloyal? And just how secure is Lucy's fate, now she has learned the dangerous art of keeping secrets?*

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### WITCHSTRUCK

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Random House *Meg Lytton has always known of her dark and powerful gift. Raised a*

student of the old magick by her Aunt Jane, casting the circle to see visions of the future and concocting spells from herbs and bones has always been as natural to Meg as breathing. But there has never been a more dangerous time to practise the craft, for it is 1554, and the sentence for any woman branded a witch is hanging, or burning at the stake. Sent to the ruined, isolated palace of Woodstock to serve the disgraced Elizabeth, daughter of Henry VIII and half-sister of Queen Mary, Meg discovers her skills are of interest to the outcast princess, who is desperate to know if she will ever claim the throne. But Meg's existence becomes more dangerous every day, with the constant threat of exposure by the ruthless witchfinder Marcus Dent, and the arrival of a young Spanish priest, Alejandro de Castillo, to whom Meg is irresistibly drawn - despite their very different attitudes to her secret. Thrilling and fast-paced, this is the first unputdownable story in a bewitching new series.

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## **THE QUEEN AND I**

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Penguin UK After some forty years on the throne of England to be rehoused on a council estate in the Midlands comes as something of a shock to the Queen. In fact it is a nightmare.

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## **MY NAME IS VICTORIA**

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Bloomsbury Publishing 'You are my sister now,' Victoria said, quietly and solemnly. 'Never forget it. I love you like a sister, and you are my only friend in all the world.' Miss V. Conroy is good at keeping secrets. She likes to sit as quiet as a mouse, neat and discreet. But when her father sends her to Kensington Palace to become the companion to Princess Victoria, Miss V soon finds that she can no longer remain in the shadows. Miss V's father has devised a strict set of rules for the young princess, which he calls the Kensington System. It governs her behaviour and keeps her locked away from the world. He says it is for the princess's safety, but Victoria herself is convinced that it is to keep her lonely, and unhappy. Torn between loyalty to her father and her growing friendship with the wilful and passionate Victoria, Miss V has a decision to make: to continue in silence, or to speak out. By turns thrilling, dramatic and touching, this is the story of Queen Victoria's childhood as you've never heard it before.

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## **INCEPTIO: A CARINA MITELA ROMA NOVA THRILLER**

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Roma Nova Thriller New Yorker Karen Brown is caught in a tangle of hot foreign agents, vicious maniacs and tough families. Running for her life, she flees into the alien culture of Roma Nova, the last outpost of the Roman Empire in modern Europe. Apart from an arrogant Praetorian captain, she must face a killer who wants to terminate her for a very personal reason.

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## **THE IRON KING**

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Voyager This was the original game of thrones' George R.R. Martin From the publishers that brought you A Game of Thrones comes the series that inspired George R.R. Martin's epic work. "Accursed! Accursed! You shall be accursed to the thirteenth generation!" The Iron King - Philip the Fair - is as cold and silent, as

*handsome and unblinking as a statue. He governs his realm with an iron hand, but he cannot rule his own family: his sons are weak and their wives adulterous; while his red-blooded daughter Isabella is unhappily married to an English king who prefers the company of men. A web of scandal, murder and intrigue is weaving itself around the Iron King; but his downfall will come from an unexpected quarter. Bent on the persecution of the rich and powerful Knights Templar, Philip sentences Grand Master Jacques Molay to be burned at the stake, thus drawing down upon himself a curse that will destroy his entire dynasty...*

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## **RUNAWAY WIFE**

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Mills & Boon

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## **THE LADIES' BOOK OF ETIQUETTE, AND MANUAL OF POLITENESS**

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## **A COMPLETE HAND BOOK FOR THE USE OF THE LADY IN POLITE SOCIETY**

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## **THE SECRET ORPHAN**

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HarperCollins UK *The USA Today bestseller This is a stunning and memorable page-turner of love, loss and resilience for fans of The Tattooist of Auschwitz Don't miss The Red Cross Orphans, the brand new historical novel from Glynis Peters coming in November 2021*

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## **MAN'S WORLD**

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*Everyone thought Kate avoided men because she was grieving for the husband she lost. The truth was the marriage had been a nightmare that left her bitter, disillusioned and never wishing to get involved again. When Eliot got the job at work that should have been hers, she wondered if that was the only reason for the conflict between them.*

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## **CONGRESSIONAL RECORD**

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## **PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE ... CONGRESS**

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## **BEAUTIFUL STORIES FROM SHAKESPEARE**

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Prabhat Prakashan *Beautiful Stories from Shakespeare is a collection edited by Edith Nesbit. There are twenty of Shakespeare's plays and a brief biography all told in a manner that is understandable, and enjoyable to children. This book is the perfect introduction to Shakespeare's work and will open many literary doors for your child!*

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## **HER LAST ASSASSIN**

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Corgi *A gripping historical thriller set in Tudor England during the reign of Elizabeth I. Lady-in-waiting Lucy Morgan is once again torn between her dangerous attraction to William Shakespeare and her fierce loyalty to Queen Elizabeth I. But England is facing its gravest threat yet. The Spanish have declared war, and Elizabeth finds herself attacked by sea " and by Catholic conspiracy from within her own court.*

*Master Goodluck goes undercover, tasked with discovering the identity of this secret assassin, leaving his ward Lucy not knowing if the spy is alive or dead. Meanwhile Queen Elizabeth is growing old in a court of troublesome young noblemen, while Lucy is struggling to love a man whose duties lie elsewhere. When the final challenge comes, these two women must be ready to face it. But there is one last surprise in store for both of them*

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## **THE NURSERY RHYMES OF ENGLAND**

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### **CHASING SECRETS**

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*Yearling Thirteen-year-old Lizzie and her secret friend Noah, who's hiding in her house, plan to rescue Noah's father from the quarantined Chinatown and save everyone they love from contracting the plague that's spreading in 1900 San Francisco.*

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### **THE GOLDEN PRINCE**

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*HarperCollins UK Roman. It's 1912, and seventeen-year-old Prince Edward is heir to the greatest throne in the world. Now he must choose between Lily, a girl who is not royal, and the princess his father has chosen for him to marry*

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### **DARK MASTER**

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### **HARLEQUIN COMICS**

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*Harlequin / SB Creative "I have something I want you to help me with. Let's have a fake marriage." Alex can't believe her ears when Philippe says this to her. He had saved her at the beach a few days earlier, but he was a guest staying in the hotel she worked at and they were virtual strangers. However, Alex is hurt when she finds out that she was betrayed by her fiancé, so she goes along with Philippe's clever trick, marrying him and being whisked off to France. She has no idea that she will encounter pain in the form of love in that extravagant chateau...*

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### **HIS DARK LADY**

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*Random House London, 1583. When young, aspiring playwright William Shakespeare encounters Lucy Morgan, one of Queen Elizabeth I's ladies-in-waiting, the two fall passionately in love. He declares Lucy the inspiration for his work, but what secret is Will hiding from his muse? Meanwhile, Lucy has her own secret - and one that could destroy her world if exposed. No longer the chaste maid so valued by the Virgin Queen, she also bore witness to the clandestine wedding of Lettice Knollys and Robert Dudley, a match forbidden by the monarch. England is in peril. Queen Elizabeth's health is deteriorating, her throne under siege from Catholic plotters and threats of war with Spain. Faced with deciding the fate of her long-term prisoner, Mary, Queen of Scots, she needs a trusted circle of advisors around her now more than ever. But who can she turn to when those closest to her have proved disloyal? And how secure is Lucy's position at court, now that she has learned the dangerous art of keeping secrets?*

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## **NOBLE AMBITIONS**

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### **THE FALL AND RISE OF THE POST-WAR COUNTRY HOUSE**

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Random House \*A Daily Telegraph Book of the Year 2021\* 'Preposterously entertaining' Observer 'Brilliant' Daily Telegraph 'Rollicking' Sunday Times From the bestselling author of *The Long Weekend: a wild, sad and sometimes hilarious tour of the English country house after the Second World War, when Swinging London collided with aristocratic values. As the sun set slowly on the British Empire in the years after the Second World War, the nation's stately homes were in crisis. Tottering under the weight of rising taxes and a growing sense that they had no place in twentieth-century Britain, hundreds of ancestral piles were dismantled and demolished. Perhaps even more surprising was the fact that so many of these great houses survived, as dukes and duchesses clung desperately to their ancestral seats and tenants' balls gave way to rock concerts, safari parks and day trippers. From the Rolling Stones rocking Longleat to Christine Keeler rocking Cliveden, Noble Ambitions takes us on a lively tour of these crumbling halls of power, as a rakish, raffish, aristocratic Swinging London collided with traditional rural values. Capturing the spirit of the age, Adrian Tinniswood proves that the country house is not only an iconic symbol, but a lens through which to understand the shifting fortunes of Britain in an era of monumental social change. Lavishly illustrated in full colour, with over 50 photographs.*

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### **UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE (SPECIAL FORCES, BOOK 1)**

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Scholastic Inc. Discover the secret missions behind America's greatest conflicts. Danny Manion has been fighting his entire life. Sometimes with his fists. Sometimes with his words. But when his actions finally land him in real trouble, he can't fight the judge who offers him a choice: jail... or the army. Turns out there's a perfect place for him in the US military: the Studies and Observation Group (SOG), an elite volunteer-only task force comprised of US Air Force Commandos, Army Green Berets, Navy SEALs, and even a CIA agent or two. With the SOG's focus on covert action and psychological warfare, Danny is guaranteed an unusual tour of duty, and a hugely dangerous one. Fortunately, the very same qualities that got him in trouble at home make him a natural-born commando in a secret war. Even if almost nobody knows he's there. National Book Award finalist Chris Lynch begins a new, explosive fiction series based on the real-life, top-secret history of US black ops.

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## **LIVES OF THE NOVELISTS**

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### **A HISTORY OF FICTION IN 294 LIVES**

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Yale University Press No previous author has attempted a book such as this: a complete history of novels written in the English language, from the genre's seventeenth-century origins to the present day. In the spirit of Dr. Johnson's *Lives of the Poets*, acclaimed critic and scholar John Sutherland selects 294 writers whose works illustrate the best of every kind of fiction—from gothic, penny dreadful, and pornography to fantasy, romance, and high literature. Each author was chosen,

Professor Sutherland explains, because his or her books are well worth reading and are likely to remain so for at least another century. Sutherland presents these authors in chronological order, in each case deftly combining a lively and informative biographical sketch with an opinionated assessment of the writer's work. Taken together, these novelists provide both a history of the novel and a guide to its rich variety. Always entertaining, and sometimes shocking, Sutherland considers writers as diverse as Daniel Defoe, Henry James, James Joyce, Edgar Allan Poe, Virginia Woolf, Michael Crichton, Jeffrey Archer, and Jacqueline Susann. Written for all lovers of fiction, *Lives of the Novelists* succeeds both as introduction and re-introduction, as Sutherland presents favorite and familiar novelists in new ways and transforms the less favored and less familiar through his relentlessly fascinating readings.

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## **WITCHRISE**

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Random House Oxfordshire, 1555. Meg Lytton was born with a powerful gift for magic, as her mother and aunt were before her. But practising witchcraft in Tudor England is a dangerous business - as is hiding her secret betrothal to the handsome young priest, Alejandro de Castillo. Meg is called back into the service of Princess Elizabeth, who has fallen passionately in love with Robert Dudley - a married man. When Meg cannot foretell a happy future for Elizabeth and Dudley, the furious, tempestuous princess turns on Meg. Even more perilous, Meg learns that her enemy, the cruel witchfinder Marcus Dent, has joined forces with none other than the dark and ruthless priests of the Spanish Inquisition. She is in greater danger than ever - and her future with Alejandro hangs in the balance.

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## **THE BLACKHOUSE**

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## **THE LEWIS TRILOGY**

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Quercus The first book in an enthralling mystery series from award-winning author Peter May. "A WRITER I WOULD FOLLOW TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH." --Marilyn Stasio, *The New York Times* Book Review "SHINES WITH INTRIGUE AND SUPERB PLOTTING." --USA Today Every step toward solving the case brings Scottish detective Fin Macleod closer to a dangerous confrontation with the dark events of the past that shaped--and nearly destroyed--his life. When a grisly murder occurs on the Isle of Lewis that bears similarities to a brutal killing on mainland Scotland, Edinburgh detective and native of the Isle of Lewis Fin Macleod is dispatched to the Outer Hebrides to investigate, embarking at the same time on a voyage into his own troubled past. As Fin reconnects with the people and places of his tortured childhood, the desolate but beautiful island and its ancient customs assert their grip on his psyche.

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## **HER LAST ASSASSIN**

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Random House A gripping historical thriller set in Tudor England during the reign of Elizabeth I. Lady-in-waiting Lucy Morgan is once again torn between her dangerous attraction to William Shakespeare and her fierce loyalty to Queen Elizabeth I. But England is facing its gravest threat yet. The Spanish have declared war, and

*Elizabeth finds herself attacked by sea – and by Catholic conspiracy from within her own court. Master Goodluck goes undercover, tasked with discovering the identity of this secret assassin, leaving his ward Lucy not knowing if the spy is alive or dead. Meanwhile Queen Elizabeth is growing old in a court of troublesome young noblemen, while Lucy is struggling to love a man whose duties lie elsewhere. When the final challenge comes, these two women must be ready to face it. But there is one last surprise in store for both of them ...*

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## **CASTLES, CUSTOMS, AND KINGS**

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### **TRUE TALES BY ENGLISH HISTORICAL FICTION AUTHORS**

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*An anthology of essays from the second year of the English Historical Fiction Authors blog, this book transports the reader across the centuries from prehistoric to twentieth century Britain. Nearly fifty different authors share the stories, incidents, and insights discovered while doing research for their own historical novels. From medieval law and literature to Tudor queens and courtiers, from Stuart royals and rebels to Regency soldiers and social calls, experience the panorama of Britain's yesteryear. Explore the history behind the fiction, and discover the true tales surrounding Britain's castles, customs, and kings.*

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## **TO CALAIS, IN ORDINARY TIME**

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*Canongate Books SHORTLISTED FOR THE WALTER SCOTT PRIZE FOR HISTORICAL FICTION LONGLISTED FOR THE ORWELL PRIZE FOR POLITICAL FICTION A BOOK OF THE YEAR IN THE TIMES, GUARDIAN, SUNDAY TIMES, DAILY EXPRESS, SCOTSMAN and SPECTATOR Three journeys. One road. England, 1348. A gentlewoman flees an odious arranged marriage, a Scots proctor sets out for Avignon and a young ploughman in search of freedom is on his way to volunteer with a company of archers. All come together on the road to Calais. Coming in their direction from across the Channel is the Black Death, the plague that will wipe out half of the population of Northern Europe. As the journey unfolds, overshadowed by the archers' past misdeeds and clerical warnings of the imminent end of the world, the wayfarers must confront the nature of their loves and desires. A tremendous feat of language and empathy, it summons a medieval world that is at once uncannily plausible, utterly alien and eerily reflective of our own. James Meek's extraordinary *To Calais, In Ordinary Time* is a novel about love, class, faith, loss, gender and desire - set against one of the biggest cataclysms of human history.*

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## **QUEEN VICTORIA**

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### **POPULAR BOOKS BY LYTTON STRACHEY : ALL TIMES BESTSELLER DEMANDING BOOKS**

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*BEYOND BOOKS HUB Queen Victoria is a biography written by Lytton Strachey in 1921. It details her life from childhood through marriage and widowhood to old age.*

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## HAM HOUSE

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### 400 YEARS OF COLLECTING AND PATRONAGE

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*Paul Mellon Ctr for Studies Built in 1610 during the reign of James I and remodeled in 1637–39 by the future first Earl of Dysart, Ham House and its gardens have endured through centuries of English history while remaining representative of the styles and culture of the original inhabitants. It is one of the few places where Caroline décor—as developed by British architect Inigo Jones and familiar to Peter Paul Rubens and Anthony van Dyck—can still be appreciated. To mark the 400th anniversary of one of the most famous houses in Europe, eighteen internationally recognized scholars join National Trust curators in documenting the history of Ham House and its collections. The new discoveries, reattributions, and revelations of the contributors are accompanied by specially commissioned photography of the house and its contents. An appendix includes complete transcriptions of house inventories for the 17th, 18th, and 19th centuries, published here for the first time.*

### PAUL MELLON'S LEGACY

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### A PASSION FOR BRITISH ART : MASTERPIECES FROM THE YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART

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*Yale University Press Paul Mellon (1907--1999) was an unparalleled collector of British art. His collection, now at Yale in the museum and study center he founded to house it, rivals those in Britain's national museums and is unquestionably the most comprehensive representation of British art held outside of the United Kingdom. This book and the exhibition that it accompanies celebrate the centenary of his birth. Five introductory essays examine Mellon's extraordinary collecting activity, as well as his role in creating both the Yale Center for British Art and the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art in London as gifts to his alma mater (Yale 1929). A lavishly illustrated catalogue section showcases 148 of the most exquisite and important paintings, watercolors, drawings, prints, sculpture, rare books, and manuscript material in the Yale Center's collection, including major works by Thomas Gainsborough, Joshua Reynolds, George Stubbs, John Constable, and J. M. W. Turner.*

### ON COLOR

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*Yale University Press Our lives are saturated by color. We live in a world of vivid colors, and color marks our psychological and social existence. But for all color's inescapability, we don't know much about it. Now authors David Scott Kastan and Stephen Farthing offer a fresh and imaginative exploration of one of the most intriguing and least understood aspects of everyday experience. Kastan and Farthing, a scholar and a painter, respectively, investigate color from numerous perspectives: literary, historical, cultural, anthropological, philosophical, art historical, political, and scientific. In ten lively and wide-ranging chapters, each devoted to a different color, they examine the various ways colors have shaped and continue to shape our social and moral imaginations. Each individual color becomes the focal point for a consideration of one of the extraordinary ways in which color*

appears and matters in our lives. Beautifully produced in full color, this book is a remarkably smart, entertaining, and fascinating guide to this elusive topic.

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## **DRESSING DANGEROUSLY**

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## **DYSFUNCTIONAL FASHION IN FILM**

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*A thought-provoking examination of the challenging and sometimes sinister roles that fashion has played in the history of cinema*

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## **MY ENEMY, THE QUEEN**

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Fawcett Books "SHE'S THE QUEEN OF THE GENRE; WITH HER AT THE HELM, YOU KNOW YOU'RE IN FOR A GREAT RIDE." --*The Ocala Star-Banner* It was Lettice who married the Earl of Leicester, whom Elizabeth I loved. And it was Lettice who was the mother of the Queen's beloved Earl of Essex. That young earl would one day break the Queen's heart. It was always Lettice, the constant spoiler in the triangle of love surrounding Elizabeth. . . . "Victoria Holt is the mistress of historical, romantic suspense." --*The Chattanooga Times*

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## **SLOW HORSES**

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## **SLOUGH HOUSE THRILLER 1**

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Hachette UK \*Now a major TV series starring Gary Oldman\* 'The most exciting development in spy fiction since the Cold War' *The Times* Slough House is the outpost where disgraced spies are banished to see out the rest of their derailed careers. Known as the 'slow horses' these misfits have committed crimes of drugs and drunkenness, lechery and failure, politics and betrayal while on duty. In this drab and mildewed office these highly trained spies don't run ops, they push paper. Not one of them joined the Intelligence Service to be a slow horse and the one thing they have in common is they want to be back in the action. When a boy is kidnapped and held hostage, his beheading is scheduled for live broadcast on the net. And whatever the instructions of their masters at the Intelligence Service headquarters, the slow horses aren't going to just sit quiet and watch. 'Captivating' Christopher Brookmyre 'Wonderfully cynical' Bernard Cornwell

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## **WOLF BRIDE**

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Sourcebooks, Inc. Hilary Mantel meets Sylvia Day: the first installment in a deliciously erotic trilogy, set against the sumptuous backdrop of the scandal-ridden Tudor Court by Elizabeth Moss. BOUND TO HIM AGAINST HER WILL... Lord Wolf, hardened soldier and expert lover, has come to King Henry VIII's court to claim his new bride: a girl who has intrigued him since he first saw her riding across the Yorkshire moors. Eloise Tyrell, now lady-in-waiting to Queen Anne Boleyn, has other ideas. She has no desire to submit to a man she barely knows and who-though she is loath to admit it-frightens her more than a little. Their first kiss awakens in both a fierce desire that bares them to the soul. But as the court erupts into scandal around the ill-fated Queen, Eloise sees firsthand what happens when powerful men tire of

*their wives... Lust in the Tudor Court: Wolf Bride Rebel Bride Rose Bride Praise for Erotic Romances by Elizabeth Moss: "Fifty Shades of Tudor sex." -The Sunday Times "For a terrific historical romance with a couple who can't keep their hands off each other, this is perfect."-RT Book Reviews "Infused with political intrigue, royal pageantry, infidelity, scandal, historical authenticity, romance and love, this story brings yesteryear to life while heating up the pages and fascinating readers."- Romance Junkies*

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## **DIANA**

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### **HER TRUE STORY**

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*An intimate portrait of the Princess of Wales describes her public and private life, reveals details about her marital problems, and discusses her attitudes toward motherhood and public service.*

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### **IN THIS HOUSE OF BREDE**

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### **A VIRAGO MODERN CLASSIC**

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*Hachette UK By the author of Black Narcissus. 'Her craftsmanship is always sure; her understanding of character is compassionate and profound; her prose is pure, delicate, and gently witty' New York Times 'The motto was Pax but the word was set in a circle of thorns. Peace, but what a strange peace, made of unremitting toil and effort.' Bruised by tragedy, Philippa Talbot leaves behind a successful career with the civil service for a new calling: to join an enclosed order of Benedictine nuns. In this small community of fewer than one hundred women, she soon discovers all the human frailties: jealousy, love, despair. But each crisis of heart and conscience is guided by the compassion and intelligence of the Abbess and by the Sisters' shared bond of faith and ritual. Away from the world, and yet at one with it, Philippa must learn to forgive and forget her past . . .*

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### **WARTIME WITH THE CORNISH GIRLS (THE CORNISH GIRLS SERIES)**

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*HarperCollins UK 1941. The Blitz rages over London. And even in Cornwall, the war is being fought..*

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### **ANCIENT AND MODERN GEMS AND JEWELS**

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### **IN THE COLLECTION OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN**

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*Royal Collection Publications "This catalogue is the first comprehensive study of the 328 objects that make up this little-known area of the Royal Collection. The ancient gems and intaglios have been catalogued by John Boardman, and although they are few in number, they include the magnificent Claudius cameo that was once in the collection of Charles I. The later, post-Renaissance pieces have been studied by Kirsten Aschengreen Piacenti, and these include the great Tudor portrait cameos, a superb series of Italian sixteenth-century portrait cameos of North Italian 'Beauties', the group of exquisite eighteenth-century Italian carnelians bought by George III from Consul Smith in 1762 and a fine selection of Garter badges, several bearing the*

*signature of the gem-engravers Marchant and Burch." "Close examination by gemmologists has produced an accurate technical analysis of all the stones and settings, and newly commissioned photographs bring out the distinctive features of each piece. Casts are illustrated wherever possible, and close-up images of signatures, inscriptions and hallmarks support the detailed descriptions in the text. Research into the collection has resulted in new information concerning the mounts of many of the gems, and this is summarised in an illustrated appendix. Also published in full, and for the first time, is the collection of intaglios once owned by Henry, Prince of Wales, which was recorded in a series of wax impressions made by Elias Ashmole at the request of Charles II in June 1660."--BOOK JACKET.*

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## **FOUR SISTERS: THE LOST LIVES OF THE ROMANOV GRAND DUCHESES**

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*Pan Macmillan On 17 July 1918, four young women walked down into the cellar of a house in Ekaterinburg. The eldest was twenty-two, the youngest only seventeen. Together with their parents and their thirteen-year-old brother, they were all brutally murdered. Their crime: to be the daughters of the last Tsar and Tsaritsa of All the Russias. In Four Sisters acclaimed biographer Helen Rappaport offers readers the most authoritative account yet of the Grand Duchesses Olga, Tatiana, Maria and Anastasia. Drawing on their own letters and diaries, she paints a vivid picture of their lives in the dying days of the Romanov dynasty. We see, almost for the first time, their journey from a childhood of enormous privilege, throughout which they led a very sheltered and largely simple life, to young womanhood – their first romantic crushes, their hopes and dreams, the difficulty of coping with a mother who was a chronic invalid and a haemophiliac brother, and, latterly, the trauma of the revolution and its terrible consequences. Compellingly readable, meticulously researched and deeply moving, Four Sisters gives these young women a voice, and allows their story to resonate for readers almost a century after their death. 'An astoundingly intimate tale of domestic life lived in the crucible of power' – Observer*