

Bromley House Library Book List
January and February 2016
Non Fiction

ART

BECKETT, Wendy Encounters with God: in quest with the ancient icons of Mary
E 2859

(Continuum: 2009)

In this compelling story of discovery and spiritual adventure, Sister Wendy Beckett, a contemplative nun and beloved art commentator, travels from England, to Rome, to Ukraine, and finally to a remote monastery in Sinai, to view the earliest Icons of Mary.

BERGER, John Portraits: John Berger on artists
E 2862

(Verso: 2015)

One of the world's most celebrated art writers, John Berger takes us through centuries of art in this distinctive history that will enlighten and inspire. In Portraits, Berger connects art and history in revolutionary ways, from the prehistoric paintings of the Chauvet caves to Cy Twombly's radical work. In his penetrating and singular prose, Berger presents entirely new ways of thinking about art history, and artists both canonized and obscure, from Rembrandt, to Henry Moore, Jackson Pollock to Picasso. Throughout, Berger maintains the essential connection between politics, art and the wider study of culture. A beautifully illustrated walk through many centuries of visual culture from one of the contemporary world's most incisive critical voices.

BORER, Alain The Essential Joseph Beuys
Ex 2860

(Thames & Hudson: 1996)

Subject to passionate controversy during his lifetime, the work of Joseph Beuys is now considered one of the most significant and influential contributions to twentieth-century fine arts. This book provides a survey of Beuys's oeuvre, which he viewed as part of a larger, philosophically based practice emphasising direct democracy, free access to education and the restructuring of society to meet ecological requirements. A total of 152 works from Beuys's many fields of activity – drawings and watercolours, prints and multiples, sculpture and objects, spaces and actions – are arranged in chronological order, demonstrating the artist's formal versatility, creative richness and conceptual depth. The peculiar poetry of the materials Beuys used – felt, grease, honey, wax, copper and sulfur – emerges along

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with the gentle melancholy suffusing the work of this sensitive agent provocateur. Alain Borer analyses Beuys's motivation with special reference to the artist's written and spoken statements. The book is an informed introduction to the artistic work and conceptual world of Joseph Beuys, for anyone interested in art.

GERMANN, Martin (ed) Drawing: the bottom line

Ex 2865

(Yale University Press: 2015)

Drawing. The Bottom Line presents the works of fifty-three artists from around the globe, all working within the medium of drawing and exploiting its versatile nature in a wide variety of ways. From brief sketches to fully realized and complex constructions, drawing provides the preliminary foundation for all of these works, whether they are simply functional process materials or products of careful consideration. This extensive survey features works from a wide range of prominent contemporary art figures, including Francis Alys, Paul McCarthy, Tacita Dean, Roni Horn, Gabriel Orozco, Raymond Pettibon, and many others, as well as written contributions and short introductory texts from dozens of renowned critical voices, many of which have been selected by the artists themselves. Furthermore, the volume contains a previously published essay by influential British writer John Berger. While drawing is often thought of as an incomplete or loosely defined form, this unique anthology and the varying practices of its participants help to demonstrate drawing's extraordinarily distinctive properties and nearly infinite possibilities, affirming its significance as an artistic language.

INGRAMS, Richard Piper's Places: John Piper in England and Wales

Ex 2857

(Chatto & Windus: 1983)

LEVINSON, Orde John Piper: the complete graphic works

Ex 2858

(Faber & Faber: 1987)

PENROSE, Antony The Boy Who Bit Picasso

EJ 2864

(Thames & Hudson: 2010)

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This delightful children's book is a wonderful introduction to Picasso. It tells the true story of Antony Penrose – son of the photographer Lee Miller and the painter and writer Roland Penrose – and his childhood friendship with the great artist. Some sixty-five enchanting illustrations accompany the text, including Picasso's most appealing artworks, plus evocative archive photography by Lee Miller. An inspiring look at the creative practices of an artist, this is an illustrated book to enthral and inspire young art fans of four and over.

SHAMA, Simon The Face of Britain: the nation through its portraits

E 2861

(Viking: 2015)

Churchill and his painter locked in a struggle of stares and glares; Gainsborough watching his daughters run after a butterfly; a black Othello in the nineteenth century; the poet-artist Rossetti trying to capture on canvas what he couldn't possess in life; a surgeon-artist making studies of wounded faces brought in from the Battle of the Somme; a naked John Lennon five hours before his death.

In the age of the hasty glance and the selfie, Simon Schama has written a tour de force about the long exchange of looks from which British portraits have been made over the centuries: images of the modest and the mighty; of friends and lovers; heroes and working people. Each of them - the image-maker, the subject, and the rest of us who get to look at them - are brought unforgettably to life. Together they build into a collective picture of Britain, our past and our present, a look into the mirror of our identity at a moment when we are wondering just who we are.

WILKINSON, Philip LEGO Architecture

TUCKER, Adam Reed

Ex2863

(Dorling Kindersley: 2014)

These amazing LEGO Architecture sets showcase incredible buildings from around the world. From the Empire State Building and the Guggenheim, to Farnsworth House, LEGO® *Architecture: The Visual Guide* reveals amazing exploded images of the LEGO Architecture models, showing every LEGO brick involved in the build.

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BIOGRAPHY

AARONOVITCH, David *Party Animals : my family and other communists*
Ca 13920
(Cape: 2016)

In July 1961, just before David Aaronovitch's seventh birthday, Yuri Gagarin came to London. The Russian cosmonaut was everything the Aaronovitch family wished for - a popular and handsome embodiment of modern communism. But who were they, these ever hopeful, defiant and (had they but known it) historically doomed people? Like a non-magical version of the wizards of J. K. Rowling's world, they lived secretly with and parallel to the non-communist majority, sometimes persecuted, sometimes ignored, but carrying on their own ways and traditions. Where others went to church they went to Socialist Sunday School, society's up was their down and its heroes were their villains. Who wanted American TV when you could have Russian movies? A memoir of early life among communists, *Party Animals* first took David Aaronovitch back through his own memories of belief and action. But there was much more to it. He found himself studying the old secret service files, uncovering the unspoken shame and fears that provided the unconscious background to his own existence as a party animal. Only then did he begin to understand what had come before – both the obstinate heroism and the monstrous cowardice. And the elements that shape our fondest beliefs.

ATHILL, Diana *Alive, Alive Oh! And other things that matter*
Ca 13921
(Granta: 2015)

Several years ago, Diana Athill accepted that she could no longer live entirely independently, and moved to a retirement home in Highgate. There, she found herself released from the daily anxieties of caring for her own property, and free to settle into her remaining years. From this vantage point, she reflects on what it feels like to be very old, and on the moments in her long life that have risen to the surface and which sustain her in these last years. What really matters in the end? And after a long life, which memories stand out? As she approaches her 100th year, Athill recalls in sparkling, precise detail the exact layout of the garden of her childhood, a vast and beautiful park attached to a large house; relates with humour, clarity and honesty her experiences of the First and Second World Wars and her trips to Europe

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as a young woman; and in the remarkable title chapter, describes her pregnancy at the age of forty-three, losing the baby and almost losing her life - and her gratitude and joy on discovering that she had survived. With vivid memories of the past mingled with candid, wise and often very funny reflections on what it's like to be very old, *Alive, Alive Oh!* reminds us what really matters, and of the joy to be found at every stage of life.

BATE, Jonathan Ted Hughes: the unauthorised life
Ca 13904

(William Collins: 2015)

Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate, was one of the greatest writers of the twentieth century. He is one of Britain's most important poets, a poet of claws and cages: Jaguar, Hawk and Crow. Event and animal are turned to myth in his work. Yet he is also a poet of deep tenderness, of restorative memory steeped in the English literary tradition. A poet of motion and force, of rivers, light and redemption, of beasts in brooding landscapes. With an equal gift for poetry and prose, and with a soul as capacious as any poet who has lived, he was also a prolific children's writer and has been hailed as the greatest English letter-writer since John Keats. With his magnetic personality and an insatiable appetite for friendship, for love and for life, he also attracted more scandal than any poet since Lord Byron. At the centre of this book is Hughes's lifelong quest to come to terms with the suicide of his first wife, Sylvia Plath, the saddest and most infamous moment in the public history of modern poetry.

Ted Hughes left behind him a more complete archive of notes and journals than any other major poet, including thousands of pages of drafts, unpublished poems and memorandum books that make up an almost complete record of Hughes's inner life, preserved by him for posterity.

Renowned scholar Sir Jonathan Bate has spent five years in his archives, unearthing a wealth of new material. Shortlisted for the Samuel Johnson Prize, his book offers for the first time the full story of Ted Hughes's life as it was lived, remembered and reshaped in his art. It is a book that honours, though not uncritically, Ted Hughes's poetry and the art of life-writing, approached by his biographer with an honesty answerable to Hughes's own.

BLANNING, T. C. W. Frederick the Great: King of Prussia
Ca 13906

(Allen Lane: Sept 2015)

Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, dominated the 18th century in the same way that Napoleon dominated the start of the 19th - a force of nature, a caustic, ruthless,

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brilliant military commander, a monarch of exceptional energy and talent, and a knowledgeable patron of artists, architects and writers, most famously Voltaire. From early in his reign he was already a legendary figure - fascinating even to those who hated him. Tim Blanning's brilliant new biography recreates a remarkable era, a world which would be swept away shortly after Frederick's death by the French Revolution. Equally at home on the battlefield or in the music room at Frederick's extraordinary miniature palace of Sanssouci, Blanning draws on a lifetime's obsession with the 18th century to create a work that is in many ways the summation of all that he has learned in his own rich and various career. Frederick's spectre has hung over Germany ever since: an inspiration, a threat, an impossible ideal - Blanning at last allows us to understand him in his *own* time.

BUNDOCK, Michael The Fortunes of Francis Barber:
the true story of the Jamaican slave who became Samuel Johnson's heir
Dd 03303

BUNDOCK, Michael The Fortunes of Francis Barber:
the true story of the Jamaican slave who became Samuel Johnson's heir
Dd 03303

(Yale University Press: 2015)

This compelling book chronicles a young boy's journey from the horrors of Jamaican slavery to the heart of London's literary world, and reveals the unlikely friendship that changed his life. Francis Barber, born in Jamaica, was brought to London by his owner in 1750 and became a servant in the household of the renowned Dr. Samuel Johnson. Although Barber left London for a time and served in the British navy during the Seven Years' War, he later returned to Johnson's employ. A fascinating reversal took place in the relationship between the two men as Johnson's health declined and the older man came to rely more and more upon his now educated and devoted companion. When Johnson died he left the bulk of his estate to Barber, a generous (and at the time scandalous) legacy, and a testament to the depth of their friendship. There were thousands of black Britons in the eighteenth century, but few accounts of their lives exist. In uncovering Francis Barber's story, this book not only provides insights into his life and Samuel Johnson's but also opens a window onto London when slaves had yet to win their freedom.

CROSS, Anthony Catherine the Great and the British
Ca 13910
(Astra: 2001)

EDLIN-WHITE, Rowena Annie Matheson : poet, essayist & feminist 1853-1924

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Ca 13909
(Smallprint: 2015)

GARFIELD, Simon (ed) A Notable Woman:
the romantic journals of Jean Lucey Pratt

Ca 13912
(Canongate: 2015)

In April 1925, Jean Lucey Pratt started a journal that she would keep for the rest of her life, producing over a million words in 45 exercise books. For sixty years, no one had an inkling of her diaries' existence, and they have remained unpublished until now. Jean wrote about anything that amused, inspired or troubled her, laying bare her life with aching honesty, infectious humour, indelicate gossip and heartrending hopefulness. She recorded her yearnings and disappointments in love. She documented the loss of a tennis match, her unpredictable driving, catty friends, devoted cats and difficult guests. With Jean we live through the tumult of the Second World War and the fears of a nation. We see Britain hurtling through a period of unbridled transformation and the shifting landscape for women in society. A unique slice of living, breathing British history, Jean's diaries are a revealing chronicle of life in the twentieth century.

GRENVILLE Kate One Life: my mother's story

Ca 13926
(Canongate: 2015)

Born to an unhappy marriage and into a deeply sexist society, Nance Russell worked hard for everything she had, and while the world changed around her, she went on to university, to opening businesses and raising a family. *One Life* is Nance's story - and many other women's too - beautifully captured by her daughter, the bestselling novelist Kate Grenville. Kate draws on the tales passed down to her to create an evocative portrait of life in twentieth-century rural Australia, and a deeply intimate and caring homage to a mother.

HORSPPOOL, David Richard III: a ruler and his reputation

Ca 13924
(Bloomsbury: 2015)

Famously depicted as Crookback Dick, the murderer of the Princes in the Tower and the warrior vanquished at the Battle of Bosworth Field, Richard III is one of England's most enigmatic monarchs. Now, with the discovery of Richard's bones under a car park in Leicester in 2012 and their reburial in early 2015, the obsession with this mysterious king has been further ignited. Historian David Horspool tells

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When they arrived, they were forcibly separated. Though he managed to smuggle a last note to her via an electrician, she never spoke to him again. *But You Did Not Come Back* is Marceline's letter to the father she would never know as an adult, to the man whose death has enveloped her life. With poignant honesty, she tells him of the events that have continued to haunt her, of the collapse of their family, and of her efforts to find a place in a changing world. This is a breathtaking memoir by an extraordinary woman, and an intimate and deeply moving message from a daughter to her father.

LUCAS, John The Awkward Squad: rebels in English cricket
Ca 13908
(Shoestring: 2015)

LYCETT, Andrew (ed) Kipling and War
Dd 03322
(Tauris: 2015)

Although Rudyard Kipling never fought, he was one of Britain's foremost observers of and commentators on war. Through his writing on the harsh realities of life as a private and accounts of feats of courage and comradeship during the frontier wars in India, 19th century British campaigns in Sudan, the Boer Wars and the First World War, he became the poet of the common soldier. Although he wrote propaganda for the government in the Boer and First World Wars, Kipling was also acerbic in his criticism of military incompetence, deeply compassionate towards the victims of war and despairing of the senseless bloodshed that he witnessed. Through his writing, the voices of countless soldiers and the guns of many battles echo through the years and place Kipling firmly among the leading practitioners of 19th and 20th century war literature.

MANKELL, Henning Quicksand: what it means to be a human being
Ca 13925
(Harvill Secker: 2015)

However, *Quicksand* is not a book about death and destruction, but about what it means to be human. I have undertaken a journey from my childhood to the man I am today, writing about the key events in my life, and about the people who have given me new perspectives. About men and women I have never met, but wish I had. I write about love and jealousy, about courage and fear. And about what it is like to live with a potentially fatal illness. This book is also about why the cave painters 40,000 years ago chose the very darkest places for their fascinating pictures. And about the dreadful troll that we are trying to lock away inside the bedrock of a

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(Chatto & Windus: 2015)

This selection of Iris Murdoch's most interesting and important letters gives us a living portrait of one of the twentieth century's greatest writers and thinkers. Here for the first time is Murdoch in her own words, from her schoolgirl days to her last years. The letters show a great mind at work – we watch the young Murdoch struggling with philosophical issues, often unsure of herself; witness her anguish when a novel won't come together; observe her involved in world events and exploring sensuality. They are full of sharp humour and irreverence. They also reveal her personal life, the subject of much speculation, in all its intriguing complexity: her emotional hunger and her tendency to live on the edge of what was socially acceptable. Gradually, we see how this fed into her novels' plots and characters, despite her claims that her fiction was not drawn from reality. Quite apart from giving these valuable insights, her letters bring us closer than ever before to Iris Murdoch as a person. They make for an extraordinary and intimate reading experience: she is wonderful company.

SCHEYER, Moriz

Asylum

Ca 13927

(Profile: 2016)

In 1943, hidden by the Resistance in a French convent, Moriz Scheyer began drafting an account of his wartime experiences: a tense, moving, at times almost miraculous story of flight and persecution in Austria and France. As arts editor of Vienna's principal newspaper before the German annexation of Austria, Scheyer had known the city's great artists, including Stefan Zweig and Gustav Mahler, and was himself an important literary journalist. In this book he brings his distinctive critical and emotional voice to bear on his own extraordinary experiences: Vienna at the Anschluss; Paris immediately pre-war and under Nazi occupation; the 'Exodus'; two periods of incarceration in French concentration camps; contact with the Resistance; a failed attempt at escape to Switzerland; and a dramatic rescue followed by clandestine life in a mental asylum run by Franciscan nuns. Completed in 1945, Scheyer's memoir is remarkable not just for the riveting events that it recounts, but as a near-unique survivor's perspective from that time.

SISMAN, Adam

John Le Carre: the biography

Ca 13923

(Bloomsbury: 2015)

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Over half a century since *The Spy Who came in from the Cold* made John le Carré a worldwide, bestselling sensation, David Cornwell, the man behind the pseudonym, remains an enigma. He has consistently quarried his life for his writing, and his novels seem to offer tantalizing glimpses of their author - but in the narrative of his life fact and fiction have become intertwined, and little is really known of one of the world's most successful writers. In Cornwell's lonely childhood Adam Sisman uncovers the origins of the themes of love and abandonment which have dominated le Carré's fiction: the departure of his mother when he was five, followed by 'sixteen hugless years' in the dubious care of his father, a man of energy and charm, a serial seducer and conman who hid the Bentleys in the trees when the bailiffs came calling - a 'totally incomprehensible father' who could 'put a hand on your shoulder and the other in your pocket, both gestures equally sincere'. And in Cornwell's adult life - from recruitment by both MI5 and MI6, through marriage and family life, to his emergence as the master of the spy novel - Sisman explores the idea of espionage and its significance in human terms; the extent to which betrayal is acceptable in exchange for love; and the endless need for forgiveness, especially from oneself.

SLAHI, Mohamedou Ould Guantanamo Diary

Ca 13928

(Canongate: 2015)

Since 2002, Mohamedou Ould Slahi has been imprisoned at the detainee camp at Guantánamo Bay, Cuba. In all these years, the United States has never charged him with a crime. Although he was ordered to be released by a federal judge, the U.S. government fought that decision, and there is no sign that the United States plans to let him go. Three years into his captivity Slahi began a diary, recounting his life before he disappeared into U.S. custody and daily life as a detainee. His diary is not merely a vivid record of a miscarriage of justice, but a deeply personal memoir - terrifying, darkly humorous, and surprisingly gracious. Published now for the first time, *Guantánamo Diary* is a document of immense historical importance.

WEIR, Alison The Lost Tudor Princess : the life of Lady Margaret Douglas

Ca 13914

(Ballantone Books: 2015)

She ranked high at the court of her uncle, Henry VIII, and was lady of honour to five of his wives. Beautiful and tempestuous, she created scandal - twice - by falling in love with unsuitable men. Throughout her life her dynastic ties to two crowns proved hazardous. A born political intriguer, she was imprisoned in the Tower of London three times, once under sentence of death. Her husband and son were

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brutally murdered, she warred with two queens, and proved instrumental in securing the Stuart succession to the throne of England for her grandson. Alison Weir brings Margaret Douglas's captivating character out of the shadows for the first time.

HISTORY

DUNSTERVILLE, L.C The Adventures of Dunsterforce

Dd 03314

(Naval & Military Press: 2007)

Personal memoir of the top secret British expedition to the Caucasus in 1917 to frustrate the export of the Bolshevik revoltion, and protect Britain's interests in the area.

GOODWIN, Robert Spain: the centre of the world 1519-1682

Dd 03312

(Bloomsbury: 2015)

In the sixteenth century, the Spaniards became the first nation in history to have worldwide reach; across most of Europe to the Americas, the Philippines, and India. Goodwin tells the story of Spain and the Spaniards, from great soldiers like the Duke of Alba to literary figures and artists such as El Greco, Velázquez, Cervantes, and Lope de Vega, and the monarchs who ruled over them.

At the beginning of the modern age, Spaniards were caught between the excitement of change and a medieval world of chivalry and religious orthodoxy, they experienced a turbulent existential angst that fueled an exceptional Golden Age, a fluorescence of art, literature, poetry, and which inspired new ideas about International Law, merchant banking, and economic and social theory.

HARDING, Thomas The House by the Lake: a story of Germany

Ca 13922

(William Heinemann: 2015)

In the spring of 1993, Thomas Harding travelled to Berlin with his grandmother to visit a small house by a lake. It was her 'soul place', she said – a sanctuary she had been forced to leave when the Nazis swept to power. The trip was a chance to see the house one last time, to remember it as it was. But the house had changed. Twenty

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years later Thomas returned to Berlin. The house now stood empty, derelict, soon to be demolished. A concrete footpath cut through the garden, marking where the Berlin Wall had stood for nearly three decades. Elsewhere were signs of what the house had once been – blue tiles showing behind wallpaper, photographs fallen between floorboards, flagstones covered in dirt. Evidence of five families who had made the house their home over a tumultuous century. *The House by the Lake* is a groundbreaking work of history, revealing the story of Germany through the inhabitants of one small wooden building: a nobleman farmer, a prosperous Jewish family, a renowned Nazi composer, a widow and her children, a Stasi informant. Moving from the late nineteenth century to the present day, from the devastation of two world wars to the dividing and reuniting of a nation, it is a story of domestic joy and contentment, of terrible grief and tragedy, and of a hatred handed down through the generations.

MCLYNN, Frank Genghis Khan : the man who conquered the world
Ca 13915

(The Bodley Head: 2015)

Genghis Khan was by far the greatest conqueror the world has ever known, whose empire stretched from the Pacific Ocean to central Europe, including all of China, the Middle East and Russia. So how did an illiterate nomad rise to such colossal power, eclipsing Alexander the Great, Julius Caesar and Napoleon? Credited by some with paving the way for the Renaissance, condemned by others for being the most heinous murderer in history, who was Genghis Khan? His actual name was Temujin, and the story of his success is that of the Mongol people: a loose collection of fractious tribes who tended livestock, considered bathing taboo and possessed an unparalleled genius for horseback warfare. United under Genghis, a strategist of astonishing cunning and versatility, they could dominate any sedentary society they chose. Combining fast-paced accounts of battles with rich cultural background and the latest scholarship, Frank McLynn brings vividly to life the strange world of the Mongols, describes Temujin's rise from boyhood outcast to become Genghis Khan, and provides the most accurate and absorbing account yet of one of the most powerful men ever to have lived.

MONTEFIORE, Simon Sebag The Romanovs: 1612-1918
Ca 13918

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(Weidenfield & Nicolson: 2016)

This is the intimate story of twenty tsars and tsarinas, some touched by genius, some by madness, but all inspired by holy autocracy and imperial ambition. Montefiore's gripping chronicle reveals their secret world of unlimited power and ruthless empire-building, overshadowed by palace conspiracy, family rivalries, sexual decadence and wild extravagance, and peopled by a cast of adventurers, courtesans, revolutionaries and poets, from Ivan the Terrible to Tolstoy, from Queen Victoria to Lenin. To rule Russia was both imperial-sacred mission and poisoned chalice: six tsars were murdered and all the Romanovs lived under constant threat to their lives. Peter the Great tortured his own son to death while making Russia an empire, and dominated his court with a dining club notable for compulsory drunkenness, naked dwarfs and fancy dress. Catherine the Great overthrew her own husband - who was murdered soon afterwards - loved her young male favourites, conquered Ukraine and fascinated Europe. Paul was strangled by courtiers backed by his own son, Alexander I, who faced Napoleon's invasion and the burning of Moscow, then went on to take Paris. Alexander II liberated the serfs, survived five assassination attempts, and wrote perhaps the most explicit love letters ever written by a ruler. *The Romanovs* climaxes with a fresh, unforgettable portrayal of Nicholas and Alexandra, the rise and murder of Rasputin, war and revolution - and the harrowing massacre of the entire family.

YATES, Keith Graf Spee's Raiders: challenge to the Royal Navy 1914-1915

Dd 03313

Early in World War One Spee and his gallant men gave the Imperial German Navy the confidence to challenge the Royal Navy's long-held supremacy at sea.

LITERARY CRITICISM

BRANDRETH, Gyles Word Play: a cornucopia of puns, anagrams,
euphemisms and other contortions and curiosities of the English language

Da 01735

(Coronet: 2015)

'No matter how eloquently a dog may bark, he cannot tell you that his parents were poor but honest.' Only words can do that. Words are magic. Words are fun. Join Gyles Brandreth - wit and word-meister, *Just A Minute* regular, *One Show* reporter, denizen of *Countdown's* Dictionary Corner, founder of the National Scrabble Championships, patron of The Queen's English Society, *QI*, *Room 101*, *Have I Got News For You* and *Pointless* survivor - on an uproarious and unexpected magic carpet ride around the awesome world of words and wordplay. Puns, palindromes,

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pangrams, Malaprops, euphemisms, mnemonics, acronyms, anagrams, alphabeticals, Tweets, verbiage, verbarrhea - if you can name it, you should find it here, along with the longest, shortest, wittiest, wildest, oldest, latest, oddest, most interesting and most memorable words in the English language - the richest, most remarkable language ever known.

DORREN, Gaston Lingo: a language spotter's guide to Europe

Da 01729

(Profile: 2015)

Welcome to Europe as you've never known it before, seen through the peculiarities of its languages and dialects. Combining linguistics and cultural history, Gaston Dorren takes us on an intriguing tour of the continent, from Proto-Indo-European (the common ancestor of most European languages) to the rise and rise of English, via the complexities of Welsh plurals and Czech pronunciation. Along the way we learn why Esperanto will never catch on, how the language of William the Conqueror lives on in the Channel Islands and why Finnish is the easiest European language. mSurprising, witty and full of extraordinary facts, this book will change the way you think about the languages around you. Polyglot Gaston Dorren might even persuade you that English is like Chinese.

GWYNNE, N.M. Gwynne's Latin:

the ultimate introduction to Latin including the Latin in everyday English

Da 01732

(Ebury Press: 2014)

Mr Gwynne, author of the *Sunday Times* bestselling phenomenon *Gwynne's Grammar*, is just as emphatic about the importance of Latin as he is about the importance of grammar. From the novice to the more well-versed, *Gwynne's Latin* is essential for anyone interested in learning Latin; Mr Gwynne promises to teach you more Latin in half an hour than you would learn from years of being taught Latin at school. He also includes a fascinating section on everyday Latin usage, which discusses all the Latin words and idioms we still use today, such as 'quid pro quo' and 'sui generis'. Though we need no further convincing – as we know, Mr Gwynne is *never* wrong – here are just some of the many reasons why Latin is utterly wonderful:

- Latin is an academic subject easy enough for the least intelligent of us to grasp all the basic elements of, and yet difficult enough to be demanding for its greatest scholars.

- For well over a thousand years it was the means of communication that united the whole of Europe culturally and in every other significant way.

- It is the direct ancestor of, between them, the five most widely-spoken European

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languages, and both of the official South American languages.

- It is the ancestor and source of more than half of the English language, partly directly and partly through French, which for some centuries was England's official language.

Following in the same beautifully designed footsteps of *Gwynne's Grammar*, *Gwynne's Latin* will teach you all the fundamentals of Latin quickly, thoroughly and better than all the competition.

MARTIN, Andrew *Reacher Said Nothing: Lee Child and the making of 'make me'*
Da 01734

(Bantam: 2015)

On September 1, 1994, Lee Child went out to buy the paper to start writing his first novel, in pencil. The result was *Killing Floor*, which introduced his hero Jack Reacher. Twenty years later, on September 1, 2014, he began writing *Make Me*, the twentieth novel in his number-one- bestselling Reacher series. Same day, same writer, same hero. The difference, this time, was that he had someone looking over his shoulder. Andy Martin, uber Reacher fan, Cambridge academic, expert on existentialism, and dedicated surfer, sat behind Lee Child in his office and watched him as he wrote. While Lee was writing his Reacher book, Andy was writing about the making of *Make Me*. *Reacher Said Nothing* is a book about a guy writing a book. An instant meta-book. It crosses genres, by bringing a high-level critical approach to a popular text, and gives a fascinating insight into the art of writing a thriller, showing the process in real time. It may well be the first of its kind.

SEELEY, Fank *Saviour or Supermen:
old and new essays on Tolstoy and Dostoevsky*

Da 01731

(Astra: 1999)

TAYLOR, D. J. *The Prose Factory: literary life in Britain since 1918*

Da 01733

(Chatto & Windus: 2016)

What do we mean when we talk about 'taste'? 'Taste' takes countless forms. There is the exclusive taste of highbrow critics such as T.S. Eliot and F.R. Leavis. There is the taste of ordinary book lovers persuaded to buy the best-sellers of the day. And there is the taste of Virginia Woolf's elusive 'common reader'. A taste that in the days of the Victorian reading public was founded on shared standards but now, in the age of Twitter and the blogosphere, is fragmenting into chaos. Spanning a century of literary history, from the pitched battles fought between Eliot-era modernists and

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Georgian traditionalists to the political in-fighting of the Thirties, the arrival of the upwardly mobile post-war 'New Man' and the impact of creative writing degrees and the media don, *The Prose Factory* explores the myriad influences on English literary life in the past century and the way in which they have shaped our preferences. It is also a tale of personalities – 'star reviewers', sniping critics, caballing editors, crusading ideologues, megalomaniac professors, Arts Council functionaries – a tale of dazzling successes and embittered failures in which gossip and intrigue are as important as intellectual zeal. Above all, it is a study of change. We live in a world where it is ever more difficult for professional writers to make a living, where the dangers of institutionalisation lurk on every corner and where critical authority is giving way to the whims of cyberspace. Wide-ranging and controversial, as interested in the newspaper essayist and the bookclub best-seller as the view from Mount Olympus, *The Prose Factory* is the book that D.J. Taylor was born to write.

MISCELLANEOUS

ARMSTRONG, Karen Fields of Blood

Dd 03302

(Vintage: 2015)

It is the most persistent myth of our time: religion is the cause of all violence. But history suggests otherwise. Karen Armstrong, former Roman Catholic nun and one of our foremost scholars of religion, speaks out to disprove the link between religion and bloodshed. *Fields of Blood* is a celebration of the ancient religious ideas and movements that have promoted peace and reconciliation across millennia of civilization.

BRADEN, Polly Great interactions:

life with learning disabilities and autism: a photo-essay

DdX03334

(Dewi Lewis: 2016)

There are around 1.5 million people in the UK with a learning disability and 700,000 with autism. Polly Braden has worked with MacIntyre*, a leading national charity in the field, to show the ways in which it works with the children and adults that it supports. Her photographs look at the everyday moments, achievements and milestones. The subject is complex but the aim is simple: to highlight everyday interactions and life-changing experiences. These are stories about the barriers faced

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in life, but they are also inspiring, often filled with moments of achievement in things which once seemed difficult if not impossible from finding employment or using public transport to gaining a measure of independence, graduating from high school or getting married. Great Interactions looks to engage decision-makers and the wider public to ensure that people with a learning disability receive the same opportunities as anyone else.

CORTON, Christine London Fog: the biography

Dd 03304

(Harvard University Press: 2015)

The classic London fogs-thick yellow "pea-soupers"-were born in the industrial age and remained a feature of cold, windless winter days until clean air legislation in the 1960s. Christine L. Corton tells the story of these epic London fogs, their dangers and beauty, and the lasting effects on our culture and imagination of these urban spectacles.

CUMMING, Laura The Vanishing Man: in pursuit of Velazquez

Dd 03331

(Chatto & Windus: 2016)

The Vanishing Man is a riveting detective story and a brilliant reconstruction of an art controversy, but it is also a homage to the art of Velázquez, written by a critic who remains spellbound by his genius, as readers will be spellbound by this book" - Colm Tóibín. In 1845, a Reading bookseller named John Snare came across the dirt-blackened portrait of a prince at a country house auction. Suspecting that it might be a long-lost Velázquez, he bought the picture and set out to discover its strange history. When Laura Cumming stumbled on a startling trial involving John Snare, it sent her on a search of her own. At first she was pursuing the picture, and the life and work of the elusive painter, but then she found herself following the bookseller's fortunes too – from London to Edinburgh to nineteenth-century New York, from fame to ruin and exile. An innovative fusion of detection and biography, this book shows how and why great works of art can affect us, even to the point of mania. And on the trail of John Snare, Cumming makes a surprising discovery of her own. But most movingly, *The Vanishing Man* is an eloquent and passionate homage to the Spanish master Velázquez, bringing us closer to the creation and appreciation of his works than ever before.

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FULWOOD, Neil More Raw Material: work inspired by Alan Sillitoe

Dd 03300

(Lucifer: 2015)

Alan Sillitoe was many things: novelist, short story writer, memoirist, travel writer, essayist, playwright, poet. This anthology seeks to celebrate Alan's creative diversity, the importance of his home town, and the spirit of his work. The anthology pushes the focus beyond Nottingham, although it features writers who have already made their own unique contribution to the East Midlands literary scene.

HALL, David

Worktown:

the astonishing story of the project that launched mass observation

Dd 03321

(Weidenfeld & Nicolson: 2015)

In the late 1930s the Lancashire town of Bolton witnessed a ground-breaking social experiment. Over three years, a team of ninety observers recorded, in painstaking detail, the everyday lives of ordinary working people at work and play - in the pub, dance hall, factory and on holiday. Their aim was to create an 'anthropology of ourselves'. The first of its kind, it later grew into the Mass Observation movement that proved so crucial to our understanding of public opinion in future generations. The project attracted a cast of larger-than-life characters, not least its founders, the charismatic and unconventional anthropologist Tom Harrisson and the surrealist intellectuals Charles Madge and Humphrey Jennings. They were joined by a disparate band of men and women - students, artists, writers and photographers, unemployed workers and local volunteers - who worked tirelessly to turn the idle pleasure of people-watching into a science.

Drawing on their vivid reports, photographs and first-hand sources, David Hall relates the extraordinary story of this eccentric, short-lived, but hugely influential project. Along the way, he creates a richly detailed, fascinating portrait of a lost chapter of British social history, and of the life of an industrial northern town before the world changed for ever.

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most complete account yet published of the development of Britain's submarine fleet, its capabilities, its weapons, its infrastructure, its operations and above all - from the testimony of many submariners and the first-hand witness of the authors - what life is like on board for the denizens of the silent deep. Dramatic episodes are revealed for the first time: how HMS *Warspite* gathered intelligence against the Soviet Navy's latest ballistic-missile-carrying submarine in the late 1960s; how HMS *Sovereign* made what is probably the longest-ever trail of a Soviet (or Russian) submarine in 1978; how HMS *Trafalgar* followed an exceptionally quiet Soviet 'Victor III', probably commanded by a Captain known as 'the Prince of Darkness', in 1986. It also includes the first full account of submarine activities during the Falklands War. But it was not all victories: confrontations with Soviet submarines led to collisions, and the extent of losses to UK and NATO submarine technology from Cold War spy scandals are also made more plain here than ever before.

LILLY, Ian Moscow and Petersburg: the city in Russian culture
Dd 03306
(Astra: 2002)

LUKER, Nicholas (ed) Out of the Shadows: neglected works in Soviet prose
Da 01730
(Astra: 2003)

MACASKILL, William Doing Good Better:
 effective altruism and a radical new way to make a difference
Ba 465
(Gauardian Faber: 2015)

Almost all of us want to make a difference. So we volunteer, donate to charity, recycle or try to cut down our carbon emissions. But rarely do we know how much of a difference we're really making. In a remarkable re-examination of the evidence, *Doing Good Better* reveals why buying sweatshop-produced goods benefits the poor; why cosmetic surgeons can do more good than charity workers; and why giving to a relief fund is generally not the best way to help after a natural disaster. By examining the charities you give to, the volunteering you do, the goods you buy and the career you pursue, this fascinating and often surprising guide shows how through simple actions you can improve thousands of lives - including your own.

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MACFARQUHAR, Larissa Strangers Drowning:
voyages to the brink of moral extremity

Ba 466

(Allen Lane: 2015)

What does it mean to devote yourself wholly to helping others? In *Strangers Drowning*, Larissa MacFarquhar seeks out people living lives of extreme ethical commitment, and tells their intimate stories: their stubborn integrity and their compromises; their bravery and their recklessness; their wrenching dilemmas. A couple adopts two children in distress. But then they think: if they can change two lives, why not four? Or ten? They adopt twenty. But how do they weigh the needs of unknown children in distress against the needs of the children they already have? Another couple finds a leprosy colony in the wilderness in India, living in huts with no walls, knowing that their two small children may contract leprosy or be eaten by panthers. The children survive. But what if they hadn't? How would their parents' risk have been judged? We honour such generosity and high ideals; but when we call people 'do-gooders' there is scepticism in it, even hostility. Why do moral people make us uneasy? Between her stories, MacFarquhar threads a lively history of the novels, philosophy, social science, and self-help that have contributed to a deep suspicion of do-gooders in Western culture. Through its sympathetic and beautifully vivid storytelling, *Strangers Drowning* confronts us with fundamental questions about what it means to be human. In a world of strangers drowning in need, how much should we help, and how much can we help? Is it right to care for strangers even at the expense of those we are closest to? Moving and provocative, *Strangers Drowning* challenges us to think about what we value most, and why.

MANGUEL, Alberto Curiosity

Dd 03333

(Yale: 2015)

Curiosity has been seen through the ages as the impulse that drives our knowledge forward and the temptation that leads us toward dangerous and forbidden waters. The question 'Why?' has appeared under a multiplicity of guises and in vastly different contexts throughout the chapters of human history. Why does evil exist? What is beauty? How does language inform us? What defines our identity? What is our responsibility to the world? In this book, Alberto Manguel's most personal work to date, the author tracks his own life of curiosity through the books that have mapped his way. Manguel chooses as his guides a selection of writers who sparked his imagination in new directions. He dedicates each chapter to a single thinker, scientist, artist, or other figure who demonstrated in a fresh way how to ask 'Why?'

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Leading us through a full gallery of inquisitives, among them Thomas Aquinas, David Hume, Lewis Carroll, Rachel Carson, Socrates, and, most importantly, Dante, Manguel affirms how deeply connected our curiosity is to the readings that most astonish us, and how essential to the soaring of our own imaginations.

MYTTING, Lars Norwegian Wood:
 chopping, stacking and drying wood the Scandinavian way

Dd 03311

(MacLehose: 2015)

Chopping and stacking wood is a pastime where the world makes sense once more. Because our relationship to fire is so ancient, so universal, it seems that in learning about wood, you can also learn about life. And who better to impart this wisdom than an expert from Scandinavia, where the extreme climate has obliged generations to hone and share their skills with tools, wood and heat production. Lars Mytting has distilled the wisdom of enthusiasts, from experienced lifelong growers, stackers and burners to researchers and professionals of combustion and tree culture. Part guide to the best practice in every aspect of working with this renewable energy source, part meditation on the human instinct for survival, this definitive handbook on the art of chopping, stacking and drying wood in the Scandinavian way has resonated across the world.

PAVORD, Anna *Landskipping: painters, ploughmen and places*

Cc 03840

(Bloomsbury: 2016)

Landskipping is a ravishing celebration of landscape, its iridescent beauty and its potential to comfort, awe and mesmerise. In spirit as Romantic as rational, Anna Pavord explores the different ways in which we have, throughout the ages, responded to the land. In the eighteenth century, artists first started to paint English scenery, and the Lakes, as well as Snowdon, began to attract a new kind of visitor, the landscape tourist. Early travel guides sought to capture the beauty and inspiration of waterfall, lake and fell. Sublime! Picturesque! they said, as they laid down rules for correctly appreciating a view. While painters painted and writers wrote, an entirely different band of men, the agricultural improvers, also travelled the land, and published a series of remarkable commentaries on the state of agricultural England. They looked at the land in terms of its usefulness as well as its beauty, and, using their reports, Anna Pavord explores the many different ways that land was managed and farmed, showing that what is universal is a place's capacity to frame and define our experience. Moving from the rolling hills of Dorset to the

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peaks of the Scottish Highlands, this is an exquisite and compelling book, written with zest, passion and deep understanding.

ROBERTS, David What More Can I Say?
Dd 03316
(David Roberts: 2015)

SANDBROOK, Dominic The Great British Dream Factory:
 the strange history of our national imagination

Dd 03318
(Allen Lane: 2015)

Britain's empire has gone. Our manufacturing base is a shadow of its former self; the Royal Navy has been reduced to a skeleton. In military, diplomatic and economic terms, we no longer matter as we once did. And yet there is still one area in which we can legitimately claim superpower status: our popular culture.

It is extraordinary to think that one British writer, J. K. Rowling, has sold more than 400 million books; that *Doctor Who* is watched in almost every developed country in the world; that James Bond has been the central character in the longest-running film series in history; that *The Lord of the Rings* is the second best-selling novel ever written (behind only *A Tale of Two Cities*); that the Beatles are still the best-selling musical group of all time; and that only Shakespeare and the Bible have sold more books than Agatha Christie. To put it simply, no country on earth, relative to its size, has contributed more to the modern imagination.

This is a book about the success and the meaning of Britain's modern popular culture, from Bond and the Beatles to heavy metal and *Coronation Street*, from the Angry Young Men to Harry Potter, from Damien Hirst to *The X Factor*.

STERNE, Laurence A Sentimental Journey Through France and Italy
Dd 03310
(Dent: 1906)

WILSON, Colin The Occult

Dd 03305
(Watkins: 2015)

Colin Wilson's classic work is the essential guidebook to the mind-expanding experiences and discoveries of the 20th century. His genius lies in producing a skilful synthesis of the available material clarifying without simplifying, seeing the occult in the light of reason and reason in the light of the mystical and paranormal. It

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is a journey of enlightenment. He provides a wide-ranging survey of the subject, a comprehensive history of "magic" and an insightful exploration of our latent powers, and brings his own refreshingly optimistic and stimulating interpretation to the worlds of the paranormal, the occult and the supernatural.

SUBRAMANIAN, Samanth This Divided Island: stories from the Sri Lanka war
Dd 03332

(Atlantic: 2015)

In the summer of 2009, the leader of the dreaded Tamil Tiger guerrillas was killed, bringing to a bloody end the stubborn and complicated civil war in Sri Lanka. For nearly thirty years, the war's fingers had reached everywhere: into the bustle of Colombo, the Buddhist monasteries scattered across the island, the soft hills of central Sri Lanka, the curves of the eastern coast near Batticaloa and Trincomalee, and the stark, hot north. With its genius for brutality, the war left few places, and fewer people, untouched. What happens to the texture of life in a country that endures such bitter conflict? What happens to the country's soul? Samanth Subramanian gives us an extraordinary account of the Sri Lankan war and the lives it changed. Taking us to the ghosts of summers past, and to other battles from other times, he draws out the story of Sri Lanka today - an exhausted, disturbed society, still hot from the embers of the war. Through travels and conversations, he examines how people reconcile themselves to violence, how religion and state conspire, how the powerful become cruel, and how victory can be put to the task of reshaping memory and burying histories.

POETRY & PLAYS

BELL, Kathleen(ed) Over Land, Over Sea: poems for those seeking refuge
Db 2590

(Five Leaves: 2015)

An anthology of 102 poems expressing solidarity with the refugees who are currently receiving so little welcome as they take to boats and rafts to cross the Mediterranean and make their way with difficulty through Europe. Readers are invited to take a view of the situation which is not governed by the fear and hatred

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whipped up by the language of media and many politicians. The book has been produced in the East Midlands by an editorial committee, typesetter and publisher working free of charge, and the initial print costs were covered by a crowdfunding campaign. All proceeds from sales of the book will be shared between the charities: Médecins Sans Frontières, Leicester City of Sanctuary and Nottingham Refugee Forum. Contributors include: Alan Baker, Kathleen Bell, A.C. Clarke, Kerry Featherstone, Chrissie Gittins, Mark Goodwin, Tania Hershman, Siobhan Logan, Emma Lee, Carol Leeming, Joanne Limburg, Aoife Mannix, Roy Marshall, Hubert Moore, Thomas Orszag-Lund, Simon Perril, Sheenagh Pugh, Mahendra Solanki, Maria Taylor, Rory Waterman, Gregory Woods.

BURNS, Robert The Poems and Songs of Robert Burns
Db 2595
(Cassell & Co: 1908)

DE LA MARE, Walter Collected Poems
Db 2594
(Faber & Faber: 1942)

GOLDSMITH, Oliver The Poems and Plays of Oliver Goldsmith
Db 2596
(Dent: 1923)

LANGLAND, William The Vision of Piers Plowman
Db 2597
(Dent: 1949)

LANGLEY, R.F. Complete Poems
Db 2599
(Carcenet: 2015)

R.F. Langley is known for his meticulous observation of the natural world and his highly original voice. This volume brings together his two previous Carcanet collections, *Collected Poems* (2000) and *The Face of It* (2007), along with his celebrated but uncollected late poems, including 'To a Nightingale', which won the 2011 Forward Prize for Best Individual Poem. The book includes a biographical

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introduction and a rare note by the poet on his own compositional practice. Langley kept a careful record of the reading and writing which inspired his poems; this edition is fully annotated with these sources, making it an invaluable guide for readers wanting to explore the visionary imagination of this master craftsman.

MARLOWE, Christopher Collected Works

Db 2598

(Ernest Benn: 1948)

MCMILLAN, Andrew Physical

Db 2592

(Cape Poetry: 2015)

Raw and urgent, these poems are hymns to the male body – to male friendship and male love – muscular, sometimes shocking, but always deeply moving. We are witness here to an almost religious celebration of the flesh: a flesh vital with the vulnerability of love and loss, to desire and its departure. In an extraordinary blend of McMillan's own colloquial Yorkshire rhythms with a sinewy, Metaphysical music and Thom Gunn's torque and speed – 'your kiss was deep enough to stand in' – the poems in this first collection confront what it is to be a man and interrogate the very idea of masculinity. This is poetry where every instance of human connection, from the casual encounter to the intimate relationship, becomes redeemable and revelatory.

PATERSON, Don 40 Sonnets

Db 2600

(Faber & Faber: 2016)

This new collection from Don Paterson, his first since the Forward prize-winning *Rain* in 2009, is a series of forty sonnets. Some take a more traditional form, some are highly experimental, but what these poems share is a lyrical intelligence and musical gift that has been visible in his work since his first book of poems, *Nil Nil*, in 2009. In *40 Sonnets* Paterson returns to some of his central themes - contradiction and strangeness, tension and transformation, the dream world, and the divided self - in some of the most powerful and formally assured poems he has written to date.

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whose only experience of democracy in the early years following the Soviet collapse was instability, poverty and criminality. But soon Putin orchestrated the preservation of a new kind of authoritarianism, consolidating power, reasserting his country's might, brutally crushing revolts and swiftly dispatching dissenters, even as he retained the support of many.

STEVEN, Levitt D. When to Rob a Bank: a rogue economist's guide to the world
F 1199

(Allen Lane: 2015)

Over the past decade, Steven D. Levitt and Stephen J. Dubner have published more than 8,000 blog posts on Freakonomics.com. Now the very best of this writing has been carefully curated into one volume, the perfect solution for the millions of readers who love all things Freakonomics.

Discover why taller people tend to make more money; why it's so hard to predict the Kentucky Derby winner; and why it might be time for a sex tax (if not a fat tax).

You'll also learn a great deal about Levitt and Dubner's own quirks and passions.

Surprising and erudite, eloquent and witty, Freaks and Friends demonstrates the brilliance that has made their books an international sensation.

RELIGION

JORDAN, Michael Buddha: his life in images

A 1725

(Sevenoaks: 2005)

KLOSTERMAIER, Klaus A Concise Encyclopedia of Hinduism

A 1724

(Oneworld Publications: 1998)

From the classical to the contemporary, this is a comprehensive, systematic and accessible encyclopaedia of the phenomenon known as 'Hinduism'. Drawing on his extensive knowledge of the religion and its texts, Klostermaier presents the theoretical and practical aspects of Hinduism that render this most ancient of religions a living faith. It features the major systems of Hindu thought, covers figures from Manu to Gandhi and includes locations from Ramesvaram, on the southernmost tip of India, to the Himalayas in the north. Written with assurance,

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also explores medicinal uses of the hawthorn, the use of its fruit in the world's first wine, and the symbolic role its spikes and flowers played in pagan beliefs and Christian iconography.

WULF, Andrea The invention of nature :
the adventures of Alexander von Humboldt, the lost hero of science

Ca 13913

(John Murray: 2015)

Alexander von Humboldt (1769-1859) is the great lost scientist: more things are named after him than anyone else. There are towns, rivers, mountain ranges, the ocean current that runs along the South American coast, there's a penguin, a giant squid - even the Mare Humboldtianum on the moon. His colourful adventures read like something out of a *Boy's Own* story: Humboldt explored deep into the rainforest, climbed the world's highest volcanoes and inspired princes and presidents, scientists and poets alike. Napoleon was jealous of him; Simon Bolívar's revolution was fuelled by his ideas; Darwin set sail on the *Beagle* because of Humboldt; and Jules Verne's Captain Nemo owned all his many books. He simply was, as one contemporary put it, 'the greatest man since the Deluge'. Taking us on a fantastic voyage in his footsteps - racing across anthrax-infected Russia or mapping tropical rivers alive with crocodiles - Andrea Wulf shows why his life and ideas remain so important today. Humboldt predicted human-induced climate change as early as 1800, and *The Invention of Nature* traces his ideas as they go on to revolutionize and shape science, conservation, nature writing, politics, art and the theory of evolution. He wanted to know and understand everything and his way of thinking was so far ahead of his time that it's only coming into its own now. Alexander von Humboldt really did invent the way we see nature.

TRAVEL

THEROUX, Paul Deep South: four seasons on back roads

Cb 03870

(Hamish Hamilton: 2015)

For the past fifty years, Paul Theroux has travelled to the far corners of the earth - to China, India, Africa, the Pacific Islands, South America, Russia, and elsewhere - and brought them to life in his cool, exacting prose. In *Deep South* he turns his gaze to a region much closer to his home. Travelling through North and South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama and Arkansas, Paul Theroux writes of the

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stunning landscapes he discovers - the deserts, the mountains, the Mississippi - and above all, the lives of the people he meets. The South is a place of contradictions. There is the warm, open spirit of the soul food cafes, found in every town, no matter how small. There is the ruined grandeur of numberless ghostly towns, long abandoned by the industries that built them. There are the state gun shows and the close-knit, subtly forlorn tribe of people who attend and run them. Deep in the heart of his native country, Theroux discovers a land more profoundly foreign than anything he has previously experienced.