

Charlotte David Foenkinos

With the scandalous nature of her birth to live down, Isabella Fairmont dreams of a proper marriage—even if a passionless one. She saves her deepest desires for the novel she dares to pen, wherein a handsome lord with dark powers seduces her. But then her courtship with an appropriate suitor is threatened by the sudden attentions of the reclusive Earl of Black...whose pale blue eyes and brooding sensuality are exactly as she described in her book. Isabella tries to resist the mysterious Earl of Black. Yet as he pursues her, with inexplicable knowledge of her past and kisses that consume her, Isabella fears she will succumb. If only the earl could tell Isabella the truth. With very real, and treacherous, thieves endangering her life, Black will need to protect Isabella from the very people she trusts the most....

"For nearly four decades, lifelong friends Jude, Wendy, Adele, and Sylvie have seen each other through romances, child-rearing, changing careers, divorces, medical recoveries, and general aging. But now Sylvie has died, and the three remaining women are tasked with cleaning out her beach house before it's sold. Thrust together in this weathered old house on the ocean, where the ghosts of their younger selves compete with their current realities, the women ponder a collective lifetime of loves and grievances, disappointments and successes, and ultimately, how a life can change in a single unexpected instant - or over the course of a weekend"--

Taking a job with the NYPD four months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, a former small-town cop investigates the discovery of a body in the Hudson with the assistance of a mysterious, well-educated man who has uncanny knowledge of the city and its denizens.

Gabriel, Lord Sherington, was a man who understood women perfectly. He knew women waited only until the knot was tied to start changing their husbands. Having sworn never to let anyone change him, he recognized in Verity Jolliffe the perfect wife to provide him with an heir. Now all he had to do was make her fall in love with him. What could be easier? Regency Romance by Charlotte Louise Dolan; originally published by Signet

He was passing by, she kissed him without thinking. Now she wonders whether she did the right thing. But Natalie isn't certain of anything anymore. One minute she was a happily married young woman, successful in her career, and convinced the future was full of promise. But when her husband was run over by a car, her whole world was turned upside down. Years later, still bruised with grief but desperate to move on with her life, she impulsively kisses her colleague Markus. For Natalie, the kiss is just a gratuitous act. For the awkward, unassuming Markus, it is the moment at which he falls hopelessly, helplessly in love. But how will he ever convince such a beautiful, intelligent but confused young woman that he is the man who can bring her back to life?

A provocative novel about the fallout from a search for truth by the author of the national bestseller *The Lifeboat*. For Maggie Rayburn -- wife, mother, and secretary at a munitions plant -- life is pleasant, predictable, and, she assumes, secure. When she finds proof of a high-level cover-up on her boss's desk, she impulsively takes it, an act that turns her world, and her worldview, upside down. Propelled by a desire to do good -- and also by a newfound taste for excitement -- Maggie starts to see injustice everywhere. Soon her bottom drawer is filled with what she calls "evidence," her small town has turned against her, and she must decide how far she will go for the truth. For Penn Sinclair -- Army Captain, Ivy League graduate, and reluctant heir to his family's fortune -- a hasty decision has disastrous results. Home from Iraq and eager to atone, he reunites with three survivors to expose the truth about the war. They launch a website that soon has people talking, but the more they expose, the cloudier their mission becomes. *Now and Again* is a blazingly original novel about the interconnectedness of lives, the limits of knowledge, and the consequences of doing the right thing.

Obsessed with art, and with living, Charlotte attended school in Germany until it was too

dangerous to remain, fled to France, and was interned in a bleak work camp from which she narrowly escaped. Newly free, she spent two years in almost total solitude, creating a series of autobiographical art—images, words, even musical scores—that together tell her life story. A pregnant Charlotte was killed in Auschwitz at the age of 26, but not before she entrusted her life's work to a friend, who kept it safe until peacetime. The result, an extraordinary novel *avant la lettre*, was eventually published as *Life? or Theatre?* (and now reissued by Overlook), a unique, relentlessly complete artistic expression. In *Charlotte, David Foenkinos*—with passion, life, humor, and intelligent observation—has written his own utterly original tribute to Charlotte Salomon's tragic life and transcendent art. His gorgeous, haunting, and ultimately redemptive novel is the result of a long-cherished desire to honor this young artist. Infused with the emotion of a writer who connects deeply with his subject, and masterfully and sensitively translated by Sam Taylor, *Charlotte* is a triumph of creative expression, a monument to genius stilled too soon, and an ode to the will to survive.

When Hector falls in love it's the way she washes windows that does it for him. And so begins his new infatuation, a collection (and recollection) of beautifully observed moments spent observing his wife's every move.

A gripping literary thriller from an exciting new voice in fiction Hailed as 'one to watch' by the UK's Telegraph, Sam Taylor is one of the most imaginative and innovative young writers at work today. With *The Amnesiac*, his United States debut, he incorporates a murder mystery and a forgotten manuscript into an exhilarating and intelligent novel. When twenty-nine-year-old James Purdew returns to England from his home in Amsterdam, it is to discover what happened during three earlier years of his life that he cannot recall. What he finds, in an old house with a tragic history, is a nineteenth-century manuscript that begins to seem less and less like a work of fiction—and more like the key to his own lost past. Memory and amnesia, fiction and reality, destiny and randomness, heaven and hell—all converge to form an engrossing gothic story that is sure to appeal to fans of Carlos Ruiz Zafon's *The Shadow of the Wind*.

The delightful first title in a new collaboration with Channel 4's *Walter Presents*: a fast-paced comic mystery enriched by a deep love of books In the small town of Crozon in Brittany, a library houses manuscripts that were rejected for publication: the faded dreams of aspiring writers. Visiting while on holiday, young editor Delphine Despero is thrilled to discover a novel so powerful that she feels compelled to bring it back to Paris to publish it. The book is a sensation, prompting fevered interest in the identity of its author - apparently one Henri Pick, a now-deceased pizza chef from Crozon. Sceptics cry that the whole thing is a hoax: how could this man have written such a masterpiece? An obstinate journalist, Jean-Michel Rouche, heads to Brittany to investigate. By turns farcical and moving, *The Mystery of Henri Pick* is a fast-paced comic mystery enriched by a deep love of books - and of the authors who write them. In 1937 Hollywood, gossip columnist Sheilah Graham's star is on the rise, while literary wonder boy F. Scott Fitzgerald's career is slowly drowning in booze. But the once-famous author, desperate to make money penning scripts for the silver screen, is charismatic enough to attract the gorgeous Miss Graham, a woman who exposes the secrets of others while carefully guarding her own. Like Fitzgerald's hero Jay Gatsby, Graham has meticulously constructed a life far removed from the poverty of her childhood in London's slums. And like Gatsby, the onetime guttersnipe learned early how to use her charms to become a hardworking success; she is feted and feared by both the movie studios and their luminaries. A notorious drunk famously married to the doomed Zelda, Fitzgerald fell hard for his "Shielah" (he never learned to spell her name), a shrewd yet softhearted woman—both a fool for love and nobody's fool—who would stay with him and help revive his career until his tragic death three years later. Working from Sheilah's memoirs, interviews, and letters, Sally Koslow revisits their scandalous love affair and Graham's dramatic transformation in London, bringing Graham and

Fitzgerald gloriously to life with the color, glitter, magic, and passion of 1930s Hollywood.

Charlotte

A Kirkus Review Best Book of 2017 and a Washington Post Notable Work of Fiction. Winner of the British Book Awards Fiction Book of the Year and overall Book of the Year, selected as the Waterstones Book of the Year, and a Costa Book Award Finalist "A novel of almost insolent ambition--lush and fantastical, a wild Eden behind a garden gate...it's part ghost story and part natural history lesson, part romance and part feminist parable. I found it so transporting that 48 hours after completing it, I was still resentful to be back home." -New York Times "An irresistible new novel...the most delightful heroine since Elizabeth Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*...By the end, *The Essex Serpent* identifies a mystery far greater than some creature 'from the illuminated margins of a manuscript': friendship." -Washington Post "Richly enjoyable... Ms. Perry writes beautifully and sometimes agreeably sharply... *The Essex Serpent* is a wonderfully satisfying novel. Ford Madox Ford thought the glory of the novel was its ability to make the reader think and feel at the same time. This one does just that." -Wall Street Journal An exquisitely talented young British author makes her American debut with this rapturously acclaimed historical novel, set in late nineteenth-century England, about an intellectually minded young widow, a pious vicar, and a rumored mythical serpent that explores questions about science and religion, skepticism, and faith, independence and love. When Cora Seaborne's brilliant, domineering husband dies, she steps into her new life as a widow with as much relief as sadness: her marriage was not a happy one. Wed at nineteen, this woman of exceptional intelligence and curiosity was ill-suited for the role of society wife. Seeking refuge in fresh air and open space in the wake of the funeral, Cora leaves London for a visit to coastal Essex, accompanied by her inquisitive and obsessive eleven-year old son, Francis, and the boy's nanny, Martha, her fiercely protective friend. While admiring the sites, Cora learns of an intriguing rumor that has arisen further up the estuary, of a fearsome creature said to roam the marshes claiming human lives. After nearly 300 years, the mythical Essex Serpent is said to have returned, taking the life of a young man on New Year's Eve. A keen amateur naturalist with no patience for religion or superstition, Cora is immediately enthralled, and certain that what the local people think is a magical sea beast may be a previously undiscovered species. Eager to investigate, she is introduced to local vicar William Ransome. Will, too, is suspicious of the rumors. But unlike Cora, this man of faith is convinced the rumors are caused by moral panic, a flight from true belief. These seeming opposites who agree on nothing soon find themselves inexorably drawn together and torn apart—an intense relationship that will change both of their lives in ways entirely unexpected. Hailed by Sarah Waters as "a work of great intelligence and charm, by a hugely talented author," *The Essex Serpent* is "irresistible . . . you can feel the influences of Mary Shelley, Bram Stoker, Wilkie Collins, Charles Dickens, and Hilary Mantel channeled by Perry in some sort of Victorian séance. This is the best new novel I've read in years" (Daily Telegraph).

Charlotte Salomon is born into a family stricken by suicide and a country at war – but there is something exceptional about her. She has a gift, a talent for painting. And she has a great love, for a brilliant, eccentric musician. But just as she is coming in to her own as an artist, death is coming to control her country. The Nazis have come to power and, a Jew in Berlin, her life is narrowing – she is kept from her art, torn from her love and her family, chased from her country. And still she is not safe, not from the madness that has hunted her family, or the one gripping Europe . . . Charlotte is a heart-breaking true story – inspiring, unflinching, awful, hopeful – of a life filled with curiosity, animated by genius and cut short by hatred. A beautifully, lucidly told memorial, it has become an international sensation.

An exhaustive resource for penguin-o-philes, amateur and academic alike, Penguin-Pedia unites careful analysis of the behavior, habitat, reproduction,

feeding habits, and population levels of all seventeen penguin species with the author's personal observations and reflections. Each chapter draws on a wealth of scientific data and reports, as well as providing detailed measurements and weights of penguins from various colonies and nests. An extensive bibliography will direct students of the penguin to scholarly books and journals, while dozens of full-color photographs of penguins in their natural habitat and personal accounts provide entertainment for the layman. A full directory of penguin exhibiting zoos from around the world completes this source of all things penguin. The sinking of an ocean liner leaves a newly married woman battling for survival in this powerful debut novel. Grace Winter, 22, is both a newlywed and a widow. She is also on trial for her life. In the summer of 1914, the elegant ocean liner carrying her and her husband Henry across the Atlantic suffers a mysterious explosion. Setting aside his own safety, Henry secures Grace a place in a lifeboat, which the survivors quickly realize is over capacity. For any to live, some must die. As the castaways battle the elements, and each other, Grace recollects the unorthodox way she and Henry met, and the new life of privilege she thought she'd found. Will she pay any price to keep it? *The Lifeboat* is a page-turning novel of hard choices and survival, narrated by a woman as unforgettable and complex as the events she describes.

Meticulously researched and controversial in scope and imagination, "And So It Was Written" travels to a time when a Third Temple is built and the Ark of the Covenant holding the Ten Commandments is found. As the Romans prepare to reclaim Israel, two sets of brothers—None Roman and one Jewish—find their friendships, hatreds, and lives intertwined.

Berlijn, 1933. Met de opkomst van het nationaalsocialisme wordt de introverte scholiere Charlotte Salomon almaar stiller, en ze is vaak alleen; haar klasgenootjes mogen niet meer met joden omgaan. Toch begint het leven haar langzaam maar zeker ook toe te lachen: haar stiefmoeder, een beroemde zangeres, brengt leven in de brouwerij, en heeft bovendien een wel erg aantrekkelijke zangleraar, die interesse lijkt te hebben in Charlotte. Dan wordt ze ook nog eens – bij hoge uitzondering, ze is immers joods – toegelaten tot de kunstacademie. Haar wereld stort in wanneer ze vlucht naar haar grootouders in Zuid-Frankrijk, en daar voor het eerst beseft dat haar moeder niet is overleden aan de gevolgen van een zware griep, maar zelf een einde aan haar leven heeft gemaakt. Zelfmoord herhaalt zich binnen haar familie als een refrein. Charlotte is vastberaden deze naargeestige traditie hier en nu te doorbreken. Ze gaat aan het werk; ze moet schilderen, de doden tot leven wekken. Ze schildert veel, snel, kleurrijk en groots, ze gaat de strijd aan in een gigantisch kunstproject dat schilderijen, muziek en tekst combineert: Leven? Of theater? Maar de dreiging van de dood is overal om haar heen: in haar familie, in haar geboortestad, in haar Franse toevluchtsoord – en, tot slot, in Auschwitz. Charlotte is het buitengewone portret van een bijzondere en ongekennd moedige vrouw. David Foenkinos ging in haar voetsporen op zoek naar het ware verhaal van haar

leven, en heeft dat weten te vatten in een onvergetelijke roman. Niet eerder was een literair eerbetoon zo aangrijpend.

HHhH: "Himmlers Hirn heisst Heydrich", or "Himmler's brain is called Heydrich". The most dangerous man in Hitler's cabinet, Reinhard Heydrich was known as the "Butcher of Prague." He was feared by all and loathed by most. With his cold Aryan features and implacable cruelty, Heydrich seemed indestructible—until two men, a Slovak and a Czech recruited by the British secret service, killed him in broad daylight on a bustling street in Prague, and thus changed the course of History. Who were these men, arguably two of the most discreet heroes of the twentieth century? In Laurent Binet's captivating debut novel, we follow Jozef Gabčík and Jan Kubiš from their dramatic escape of Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia to England; from their recruitment to their harrowing parachute drop into a war zone, from their stealth attack on Heydrich's car to their own brutal death in the basement of a Prague church. A seemingly effortlessly blend of historical truth, personal memory, and Laurent Binet's remarkable imagination, HHhH—an international bestseller and winner of the prestigious Prix Goncourt du Premier Roman—is a work at once thrilling and intellectually engrossing, a fast-paced novel of the Second World War that is also a profound meditation on the nature of writing and the debt we owe to history. HHhH is one of The New York Times' Notable Books of 2012.

One of the most vivid, gripping and chilling first novels of recent years, *The Republic of Trees* tells the story of Michael, Louis, Alex and Isobel, four children on the edge of adolescence, who run away to the forest to establish their own utopian community. All seems well in the Republic of Trees - until the sudden arrival of Joy. Under her influence, their relationships grow more erotic and obsessive, and the shadows of a nightmarish dystopia start to encroach on reality

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A tale of two torturers—Where I Left My Soul is a powerful exploration of guilt and identity in the savagery of the Algerian War. Captain Andre Degorce is reunited with Lieutenant Horace Andreani, with whom he experienced the horrors of combat and imprisonment in Vietnam. Captives now pass from the Captain's hands into Andreani's: one-time victims have become torturers. Andreani has fully embraced his new status, but Degorce has lost all sense of himself, only finding peace when he is with Tahar, a commander in the National Liberation Army. Tahar's cell now acts as a confessional for Andreani, with the jailor opening up to his prisoner.

In Australian bestselling author Charlotte Nash's U.S. debut, a young woman attends her ex-boyfriend's Paris wedding and discovers more than she ever dreamed in the ultimate city of love. Imagine you are invited to Paris, the City of Love, to witness the wedding of your first love to a woman you've never met. Would you go? It's been ages since Rachael West has seen the man she once believed she couldn't live without. Receiving his wedding invitation was bittersweet—she was oddly touched he's asked her, but knows that facing him on

this day would be the hardest thing she's ever done. But her friends and family convince her to attend. After all, it's an all-expenses-paid trip to Paris! Surely she can get through that one day, and discover all the delights of that magical city the remainder of the time. So Rachael leaves her small town, setting off for the City of Lights with her best friend, two feuding neighbors, and a suitcase full of home-sewn couture in tow. She's determined to let Paris work its magic—and it does by way of a handsome photojournalist. And before her adventure is over, Rachael will be faced with yet another choice. But this time, hers isn't the only happiness at risk

Aged fifteen, as Franco's forces begin their murderous purges and cities across Spain rise up against the old order, Montse has never heard the word *fascista* before. In any case, the villagers say *facha* (the *ch* is a real Spanish *ch*, by the way, with a real spit). Montse lives in a small village, high in the hills, where few people can read or write and fewer still ever leave. If everything goes according to her mother's plan, Montse will never leave either. She will become a good, humble maid for the local landowners, *muchísimas gracias*, with every Sunday off to dance the *jota* in the church square. But Montse's world is changing. Her brother José has just returned from Lérida with a red and black scarf and a new, dangerous vocabulary and his words are beginning to open up new realms to his little sister. She might not understand half of what he says, but how can anyone become a maid in the Burgos family when their head is ringing with shouts of *Revolución, Comunidad and Libertad*? The war, it seems, has arrived in the nick of time.

Shortlisted for the Goldsmiths Prize “Baume is a writer of outstanding grace and style. She writes beyond the time we live in.”—Colum McCann “Baume leaves nothing unturned in this dark and sometimes funny excavation of the human heart.” —Minneapolis Star-Tribune “Fascinating, because of the cumulative power of the precise, pleasingly rhythmic sentences, and the unpredictable intelligence of the narrator’s mind.” —Guardian Struggling to cope with urban life—and life in general—Frankie, a twenty-something artist, retreats to her family’s rural house on “turbine hill,” vacant since her grandmother’s death three years earlier. It is in this space, surrounded by countryside and wild creatures, that she can finally grapple with the chain of events that led her here—her shaky mental health, her difficult time in art school—and maybe, just maybe, regain her footing in art and life. As Frankie picks up photography once more, closely examining the natural world around her, she reconsiders seminal works of art and their relevance. With “prose that makes sure we look and listen,”* Sara Baume has written an elegant novel that is as much an exploration of wildness, the art world, mental illness, and community as it is a profoundly beautiful and powerful meditation on life. *Atlantic “Baume’s writing is near-faultless.” —Financial Times “A novel of uniqueness, wonder, recognition, poignancy, truth-speaking, quiet power, strange beauty, and luminous bedazzlement.” — Joseph O’Connor

Le roman de David Foenkinos retrace la vie de Charlotte Salomon, artiste peintre

morte à vingt-six ans à Auschwitz. Après une enfance à Berlin, Charlotte est exclue par les nazis de toutes les sphères de la société allemande. Elle vit une passion amoureuse fondatrice, avant de devoir tout quitter pour se réfugier en France. Elle y entreprend la composition d'une oeuvre picturale autobiographique d'une modernité fascinante. Se sachant en danger, elle confie ses dessins à son médecin en lui disant : « C'est toute ma vie. » Ce roman a connu un succès considérable depuis sa publication en septembre 2014 et a obtenu deux prestigieux prix littéraires, le prix Renaudot et le prix Goncourt des lycéens. De nombreux lecteurs ont demandé à l'auteur de montrer les oeuvres peintes de Charlotte, quelques-unes des centaines de gouaches qu'elle a laissées et dont l'ensemble, intitulé *Vie ? ou Théâtre ?* raconte son histoire. Cette édition intégrale illustrée du roman est accompagnée de cinquante gouaches de Charlotte Salomon choisies par David Foenkinos, et d'une dizaine de photographies représentant Charlotte et ses proches.

“The Historians blends a fascinating historical intrigue with the quick pace and excitement of a thriller.” — Ellen Keith, author of *The Dutch Wife* *The Secret History* meets *The Alice Network* in this riveting tale of murder and conspiracy in Sweden during WWII by critically acclaimed author Cecilia Ekbäck. It is 1943 and Sweden’s neutrality in the war is under pressure. Laura Dahlgren, the bright, young right-hand of the chief negotiator to Germany, is privy to these tensions, even as she tries to keep her head down in the mounting fray. However, when Laura’s best friend from university, Britta, is discovered murdered in cold blood, Laura is determined to find the killer. Prior to her death, Britta sent a report on the racial profiling in Scandinavia to the secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Jens Regnell. In the middle of negotiating a delicate alliance with Hitler and the Nazis, Jens doesn’t understand why he’s received the report. When the pursuit of Britta’s murderer leads Laura to his door, the two join forces to get at the truth. But as Jens and Laura attempt to untangle the mysterious circumstance surrounding Britta’s death, they only become more mired in a web of lies and deceit. This trail will lead to a conspiracy that could topple their nation’s identity—a conspiracy some in Sweden will try to keep hidden at any cost.

'A diary is an assassin's cloak which we wear when we stab a comrade in the back with a pen', wrote William Soutar in 1934. But a diary is also a place for recording everyday thoughts and special occasions, private fears and hopeful dreams. *The Assassin's Cloak* gathers together some of the most entertaining and inspiring entries for each day of the year, as writers ranging from Queen Victoria to Andy Warhol, Samuel Pepys to *Adrian Mole*, pen their musings on the historic and the mundane. Spanning centuries and international in scope, this peerless anthology pays tribute to a genre that is at once the most intimate and public of all literary forms. This new updated edition is published to mark the twentieth anniversary of the book's original publication.

Ce roman retrace la vie de Charlotte Salomon, artiste peintre morte à vingt-six ans alors qu'elle était enceinte. Après une enfance à Berlin marquée par une

tragédie familiale, Charlotte est exclue progressivement par les nazis de toutes les sphères de la société allemande. Elle vit une passion amoureuse fondatrice, avant de devoir tout quitter pour se réfugier en France. Exilée, elle entreprend la composition d'une oeuvre picturale autobiographique d'une modernité fascinante. Se sachant en danger, elle confie ses dessins à son médecin en lui disant : "C'est toute ma vie." Portrait saisissant d'une femme exceptionnelle, évocation d'un destin tragique, Charlotte est aussi le récit d'une quête. Celle d'un écrivain hanté par une artiste, et qui part à sa recherche.

'A luminous tale about the courage of the lone female artist.' Joan London Born in Germany in 1876, Paula Modersohn-Becker was the first female artist to paint herself not only naked but pregnant. *Being Here* is a moving account of the life of this ground-breaking Expressionist painter, by the acclaimed French writer Marie Darrieussecq. As her art evolves, Paula is torn between Paris and her home in northern Germany. In Paris she can focus on her work, and mix with artists like Rodin and Monet, or her close friend the poet Rainer Maria Rilke. But Germany is home, and that's where her painter husband Otto lives. Darrieussecq thrillingly describes Paula's discovery of her style and choice of subjects—women, babies, domestic life. She tells the story of her fraught marriage, her ambivalence about combining her passion for her career as an artist with motherhood. And she recounts her tragic death at thirty-one, days after giving birth. Marie Darrieussecq is a French writer born in Bayonne in 1969. Her first novel, *Pig Tales*, was published in 1996 and subsequently translated into thirty-five languages. She has written some fifteen books for adults, including novels, short fiction, a play, and nonfiction works. In 2013 she was awarded both the Prix Médicis and the Prix des Prix for her novel *Men*. *Being Here*, her biography of Paula Modersohn-Becker, was released in 2017. She is a regular contributor to contemporary art magazines in France and Britain and also writes for *Libération* and *Charlie Hebdo*. She lives in Paris. 'Marie Darrieussecq reads the testament of Modersohn-Becker—the letters, the diaries, and above all the paintings—with a burning intelligence and a fierce hold on what it meant and means to be a woman and an artist.' J.M. Coetzee 'There are few writers who may have changed my perception of the world, but Darrieussecq is one of them.' *The Times* 'The internationally celebrated author who illuminates those parts of life other writers cannot or do not want to reach.' *Independent* 'An allusive short memoir that reads like a novel.' *Australian* 'Penny Hueston's translation from the original French, reads strangely—and in a good way—like true crime...Heartbreaking.' *West Australian* 'A brief, powerful artistic life that went painfully unrewarded—until after the painter's death.' Julian Barnes, *Best Summer Holiday Reads*, *Guardian UK* 'A vividly empathetic impressionist collage...This lively, attractive book is an excellent introduction to [Modersohn-Becker's] world and her astonishing achievement.' *New Zealand Listener*

Winner of the Rooney Prize for Irish Literature * Winner of the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year Award * Short-listed for the Costa First Novel

Award * Long-listed for the Desmond Elliott Prize * Long-listed for the Guardian First Book Award 2015, Readers' Choice * Long-listed for the Warwick Prize for Writing 2015 * Long-listed for 2015 Edinburgh First Novel Award "A deeply attuned portrait of the human mind...An unsettling literary surprise of the best sort."—Atlantic "This book is like a flame in daylight: beautiful and unexpected."—Anne Enright It is springtime, and two outcasts—a man ignored, even shunned by his village, and the one-eyed dog he takes into his quiet, tightly shuttered life—find each other, by accident or fate, and forge an unlikely connection. As their friendship grows, their small, seaside town falsely perceives menace where there is only mishap—and the duo must take to the road. Gorgeously written in poetic and mesmerizing prose, *Spill Simmer Falter Wither* is one of those rare stories that utterly and completely imagines its way into a life most of us would never see. It transforms us in our understanding not only of the world, but also of ourselves. "A man-and-his-dog story like no other."—San Francisco Chronicle "[*Spill Simmer Falter Wither*] hums with its own distinctiveness."—Guardian (UK) "A tour de force...A stunning and wonderful achievement by a writer touched by greatness." —Joseph O'Connor, for the Irish Times

Painting For Her Life Charlotte Salomon's artistic feat under the Third Reich When German artist Charlotte Salomon (1917-1943) handed her gouache series *Life? or Theater?* over to a friend, she beseeched him to "take good care of it, it is my entire life." A few months later, the five-months pregnant Charlotte was picked up by a Gestapo truck, deported to Drancy, and then on to Auschwitz, where she died upon arrival at the age 26. Trauma haunts many of the pages, but there is defiance, too. Born of a family plagued by depression, the work Salomon left behind is, in a very real sense, her *pièce de résistance* - in her own words, "something wildly eccentric." A cycle of nearly 1,300 autobiographical gouaches, it combines creative force with pioneering personal narrative into one shattering document of self-expression. Divided into three sections, the gouaches unveil a vivid self-portrait spanning across all facets of Charlotte's existence: from a complicated family life, marked by the suicides of nearly all female relatives; growing up in Berlin; her close relation to singing teacher Alfred Wolfsohn; the rise of the Nazis; to her exile to France in 1939. Throughout, the artist challenges these destructive forces by deploying playful pseudonyms and fantastical elements alongside emotional candor, remarkable observation, and a meticulous visual memory.

This introduction provides a historical overview of the graphic novel, with a strong focus on its international significance.

Ivan Jablonka's grandparents' lives ended long before his began: although Matès and Idesa Jablonka were his family, they were perfect strangers. When he set out to uncover their story, Jablonka had little to work with. Neither of them was the least bit famous, and they left little behind except their two orphaned children, a handful of letters, and a passport. Persecuted as communists in Poland, as

refugees in France, and then as Jews under the Vichy regime, Matès and Idesa lived their short lives underground. They were overcome by the tragedies of the twentieth century: Stalinism, the mounting dangers in Europe during the 1930s, the Second World War, and the destruction of European Jews. Jablonka's challenge was, as a historian, to rigorously distance himself and yet, as family, to invest himself completely in their story. Imagined oppositions collapsed—between scholarly research and personal commitment, between established facts and the passion of the one recording them, between history and the art of storytelling. To write this book, Jablonka traveled to three continents; met the handful of survivors of his grandparents' era, their descendants, and some of his far-flung cousins; and investigated twenty different archives. And in the process, he reflected on his own family and his responsibilities to his father, the orphaned son, and to his own children and the family wounds they all inherited. *A History of the Grandparents I Never Had* cannot bring Matès and Idesa to life, but Jablonka succeeds in bringing them, as he soberly puts it, to light. The result is a gripping story, a profound reflection, and an absolutely extraordinary history.

The sensational new novel from Charlotte Roche, author of *Wetlands* In her controversial first novel, *Wetlands*, which *The New York Times* called "a cri de coeur against the oppression of a waxed, shaved, douched and otherwise sanitized women's world," Roche wrote about sex and the female body in an unprecedentedly frank way. Roche's second novel, *Wrecked*, is just as raw and powerful as her debut but is a more mature work that deals with sex, death, fidelity and the question of what is expected from a 21st-century wife and mother. It's easier to give a blow job than to make coffee. That's what Elizabeth Kiehl, mother of seven-year-old Liza, thinks to herself after a particularly lengthy and inventive bout of sex with her husband Georg--recounted in detail over the book's first sixteen pages. Elizabeth makes great efforts to pleasure her husband in the bedroom and is also an extremely thoughtful and caring mother to her daughter. But her perfect mother and wife act hides a painful past and a tragic rift in her psyche. As a result, Elizabeth's relationship with Georg is rather unusual: most husbands and wives wouldn't watch porn together or go off on joint trips to a local brothel for threesomes with prostitutes while their daughter is at school. But is their relationship unhealthy or just a very modern marriage?

On the last day of 1999, a survivor grandmother in Tel Aviv shares with her granddaughter her tragic life story as a child hidden in a pit, with only a rat for company. The granddaughter tells the legend of "Girl and Rat" to her teacher; in 2009 those who heard it through her classmates establish an internet website with poems. From now on this memory is spread all over the world and becomes a myth. A future anthropologist, researching its mysterious roots in 2099, discovers Father Stanislaw's personal journal documenting his rescue of that little Jewish girl, and so the chain of remembrance moves from the present to the future and back to the past.

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