

Running In Heels Anna Maxted

From the bestselling author of "Getting Over It. Anna Maxted's trademark mix of laugh-out-loud funny and poignancy works its magic once again as she tackles the subject of eating disorders with skill and honesty.

Gorgeous, noisy, funny Babs, is getting married. And Natalie, 27, Senior Press Officer for the London Ballet, panics. What happens when your best friend pledges everlasting love to someone else? At the wedding Natalie feels her good-girl veneer crack. She teeters on the brink of an alluringly unsuitable affair, an affair that spirals her crazily out of control. Only then does she come face to face with the truth staring at her from the mirror.

Introducing a fun and effective fitness program that uses resistance stretching to increase strength, release tension and pain, rejuvenate tissues, and much more This accessible guide gives step-by-step instructions for people who feel tight or older than they should, people with poor posture, athletes who want to boost their performance, and those who want something more than conventional stretching. This book provides you with many different stretches for the whole body including the hands and feet, as well as routines for specific goals such as improving posture, helping office workers stay healthy, stretching the back, and more. Even those with sedentary lives will see and feel a difference, with just 10-20 minutes of stretching yielding benefits that may last the whole day. Many of us are limited in our movements, hunched over, or tight. Ideally, we would

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move in a variety of ways throughout the day, keeping our bodies fresh and youthful. However, office jobs and sofas can lead to bodies that are imprisoned in a cage of tension, whose tissue is dehydrated and stuck together, with some areas that are very weak or tight. Normal stretching is not strong enough to break us out of that state. When we tense our bodies and move through that tension, we engage the fascia and recondition it into a more youthful state, restoring great posture, elasticity, and power.

Presents one hundred techniques that women can use to entice, enthrall, and pleasure their mates.

Helen Bradshaw isn't exactly living out her dreams. She's a lowly assistant editor at *GirlTime* magazine, she drives an ancient Toyota, and she has a history of choosing men who fall several thousand feet below acceptable boyfriend standard. Not to mention that she shares an apartment with a scruffy, tactless roommate, her best girlfriends are a little too perfect, and the most affectionate male in her life—her cat, Fatboy—occasionally pees in her underwear draw. Then Helen gets the telephone call she least expects: Her father has had a massive heart attack. Initially brushing off his death as merely an interruption in her already chaotic life (they were never very close, after all), Helen is surprised to find everything else starting to crumble around her. Her pushy mother is coming apart at the seams, a close friend might be heading toward tragedy, and, after the tequila incident, it looks as though Tom the vet will be sticking with Dalmatians. Turns out getting over it isn't going to be quite as easy as she thought.

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Meet Holly, the sunny twenty-nine-year-old owner of Girl Meets Boy, a dating service for those who are "beautiful inside and out." Though she's a successful matchmaker, she hasn't quite fulfilled her own relationship dreams (her ex-fiancé, Nick, seems unlikely to progress from his job as Mr. Elephant, children's party entertainer). So when her friends dare her to pick a man off the top of the pile, she's game. But in one awful evening, the seemingly perfect Stuart turns out to be a complete cad, and Holly's belief in the goodness of humanity takes a hit. What does it mean for her business and her romantic future if she can no longer trust her ability to read people? Holly's friends and colleagues are drawn into the complicated drama of her life, while Holly learns her most important lesson: to trust herself. Rueful and hilarious, *Behaving Like Adults* is a must-read novel of men and women growing up -- in spite of themselves.

The marriage revolution is at hand--it's going on right now, led by a new generation of married women who crave independence and adventure just as much as they crave commitment. With her fifteen years of experience at top women's magazines, Mandi Norwood hosts the perfect girls' night out, revealing married women's most intimate confessions from more than one hundred in-depth interviews. Sometimes hilarious, often tender, and always empowering, this smart, sexy, candid guide offers from-the-heart, savvy, and practical advice about every aspect of modern marriage from power, controlling money, and omigod-the-mother-in-law, to brazen behavior in bed. It's something entirely different--sexier, more independent and definitely more complicated. The

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balance of power has not just shifted, it's off its axis entirely. Mandi Norwood has tapped into the new beast that is modern marriage to deliver straight talk about what really happens: at the dinner table, over the checkbook and in the bedroom. In over one hundred interviews with these new-fashioned wives-hitched chicks-Norwood learned not just what women in marriages today want but how they get it. She found an energetic, adventurous generation whose intimate confessions add up to a hilarious and very candid night out with the girls. "High-voltage advice right out of Pandora's Box."-Lauren Stover, author of THE BOMBHELL MANUAL OF STYLE "As soon as he slips the ring on your finger, find this book and read it cover to cover. It's the must-have-how-to manual for marriage."-Lucy Danziger, editor-in-chief, Self

A laugh-out-loud debut novel that will delight fans of Bridget Jones's Diary and HBO's Girls Love by the Book charts a year in the life of Lauren Cunningham, a beautiful, intelligent, and unlucky-in-love twenty-eight-year-old American. Feeling old before her time, Lauren moves to London in search of the fab single life replete with sexy Englishmen. But why can't she convince the men she's seeing that she really isn't after anything more serious than seriously good sex? Determined to break the curse, Lauren turns her love life into an experiment: each month she will follow a different dating guide until she discovers the science behind being a siren. Lauren will follow The Rules, she'll play The Game, and along the way she'll journal her (mis)adventures and maybe even find someone worth

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holding on to. Witty, gritty, and very true to life, *Love by the Book* will have you in stitches.

"To say that Babs has been my closest friend for sixteen years is rather like saying that Einstein was good at sums. We were blood sisters from the age of eleven (before my mother prized the razor out of Babs's hand)." But now Babs, noisy and as fun as a day at the beach, is getting married. And Natalie Miller, twenty-seven, senior press officer for the London Ballet, panics. What happens when your best friend pledges everlasting love to someone else? It doesn't help that Nat is dating a guy named Saul Bowcock. As the confetti flutters, her good-girl veneer cracks, and she falls into an alluringly unsuitable affair that spins her crazily out of control. Nat is on the rebound and allergic to the truth—about Babs's relationship, her boyfriend's ambition, her parents' divorce, and her golden-boy brother's little Australian secret. Her mother's lasagna and her roommate Andy's fuzzy slippers are also monstrous affronts. But what Nat really needs to face is the mirror—and herself

Wickedly witty and refreshingly honest, *Running in Heels* is a hilarious look at the lies we tell ourselves—and the unwanted truths that only our best friends can tell us.

Lucy Sullivan's been told she is getting married . . . but to who? Discover the uplifting, laugh-out-loud story of a reluctant wrestle with fate, from the No. 1 bestselling author of *Grown Ups* 'Keyes is in a class of her own' **DAILY EXPRESS** _____

'I was still at that stage in my life when I thought that weekdays were for recovering from the weekend' Twenty-six year old Lucy Sullivan is living it up (and occasionally down) in London.

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Hers is a life of quiet, undisciplined desperation. But when she and three friends visit a psychic for a bit of fun and the woman's predictions start coming true, Lucy is horrified. For the fortune teller insisted she'd soon be married - within the year, in fact. Not only does Lucy not have a boyfriend, but the chances of getting one are looking slim. Between the bottles of wine, antidepressants and her addiction to self-help books, she's not quite ready to walk, or even stumble, down the aisle sober. Is Lucy's fate really written in the stars? Or will she finally take control of her own destiny? . . .

_____ 'One of those rare books that will swallow up your day without realising it. Romantic and uplifting, it won't fail to put a smile on your face' Daily Express 'Gloriously funny' Sunday Times 'A warm and hilarious page turner' Good Housekeeping 'A modern fairy tale, it's full of Keyes's self-deprecating wit' Sunday Mirror Who would leave a highly respected, hard-won position as an investigative journalist at one of London's top newspapers for a job at a fashion rag? That's the question on everyone's mind when Annie Anderson announces she's making the move. True, the last few months have been tough on Annie, who remains haunted by memories of an undercover sting gone wrong that left an innocent woman dead. But a glossy magazine? It just doesn't seem very Annie. Her colleagues assume she's lost it, but Annie has her secret reasons. After a few days at Handbag, Annie realizes that being a fashion editor is going to be much harder than she ever anticipated. Thrown into the heart of New York Fashion Week, she is unprepared for her

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new world's bewildering hierarchy—though she's becoming increasingly familiar with “that fashion feeling” she gets when facing constant comparisons to the über-thin, ultra-glam women around her. It would be easier working in a war zone than getting the right seat at the Marc Jacobs show. But if there's one thing Annie knows, it's interviewing. So when she scores an exclusive with the hot up-and-coming designer Mark Mailer, she's back on familiar ground. The gossip du jour has Mark and his supermodel girlfriend Patty Lang on the outs after Patty's disastrous and very public return to her first love: heroin. Annie senses there's much more to the story, but before she can coax Mark to open up, he's dead—shot before Annie's eyes in what appears to be attempted robbery. Though shaken, Annie believes that Mark's death was anything but random, and a grief-stricken Patty agrees. From New York to London to Milan, while taking on a tyrannical boss, slick-as-oil PR execs, and egomaniacal designers with the depth of a linen blouse, Annie searches for answers. But in the pursuit of a good story, Annie must not lose sight of her common sense—or the consequences could make her the next fashion victim. From the Hardcover edition. Heartache, professional differences, and other mistakes threaten to separate two very different sisters--Cassandra, a successful woman caught in a not-so-wonderful marriage, and Lizbet, a dreamer striving to become a journalist.

She's his wife, his everything, and God help the thugs who dared to take her hostage. When an ex-military security expert's wife is taken hostage along with her

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colleagues, he'll use every weapon in his arsenal to get her out safely. But when it turns out someone they both trust is working with the bad guys, she'll have to fight alongside him to gain their freedom. Olivia Brannan arrives at her Atlanta financial firm on what should be one of the best mornings of her life. But she walks into eerie silence, greeted only by bloodstains. Her quiet, civilized workplace is under attack. When she can't reach Dain, her uber-protective hero, she realizes she must stay alive on her own until help arrives. And she must decide-is she prepared to kill to save herself and the gift she has for her husband? Dain Brannan is a client security specialist at JCL Security. He's one of the best in the business. But even in his worst nightmares, he never expected to have to use his skills to rescue his beloved Livie. When thugs take her firm's personnel hostage, he'll do anything to save her-including go around or through the police. Can his team do what the SWAT teams cannot-bring her and her colleagues out alive? Southern Nights: Enigma -Come For Me (Book 1) Deceive Me (Book 2) And see where it all began with the original Southern Nights -Teach Me (Book 1) Trust Me (Book 2) Take Me (A Southern Nights Standalone) In this moving story about losing and finding love again, a woman sets out to find the perfect matches for those closest to her. Forty-eight-year-old Nantucketer Dabney Kimball Beech has always had a gift for matchmaking. Some call her ability mystical, while others, her husband, celebrated economist John Boxmiller Beech, and her daughter, Agnes, who is clearly engaged to the wrong man, call it meddling. But there's no arguing with her

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results: With 42 happy couples to her credit and all of them still together, Dabney has never been wrong about romance. Never, that is, except in the case of herself and Clendenin Hughes, the green-eyed boy who took her heart with him long ago when he left the island to pursue his dream of becoming a journalist. Now, after spending twenty-seven years on the other side of the world, Clen is back on Nantucket, and Dabney has never felt so confused, or so alive. But when tragedy threatens her own second chance, Dabney must face the choices she's made and share painful secrets with her family. Determined to make use of her gift before it's too late, she sets out to find perfect matches for those she loves most.

To escape the city, to live close to nature in the beauty and quiet of the wilderness, to try to find within oneself a pioneer resourcefulness of spirit, mind, and hand—it is an almost universal dream. Helen Hoover and her husband made it come true for themselves, and this is the richly told story of how they did it. As she demonstrated in *The Gift of the Deer*—a book greatly loved and praised—Mrs. Hoover has the gift of sharing with her readers her own profound feeling for the wilderness she has made her home and for the wild animals whom she makes her friends, without destroying the integrity of their wild lives. But she was not always so at ease with nature. And she tells here how she and her husband, leaving behind everything that was familiar to them, bridged the infinite distance in life-style from Chicago, where they had lived, to a cabin home on the fringe of Minnesota's northernmost wilderness. Neither of them had so much

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as a Cub Scout's experience of the woods, and their first year was punctuated with near-disasters. They quickly discovered that a long-time desire for the simple Thoreauvian life was not enough. The obstinance of inanimate objects—the crumbling stone foundation, the leaky roof, the unruly double-bitted ax that must be mastered when you depend on a woodburning stove at thirty below—was new to them. The changing seasons astonished the not only with surprising loveliness but with unexpected crises of survival. But they managed, despite their trials, to rebuild their primitive cabin. And, as they worked and learned, they built for themselves, little by little, a rewarding relationship not only with the sparsely settled community but with a marvelous succession of their closest neighbors: wild weasels and jays, squirrels and shy fishers, even bears in the basement. The reader experiences it all, the hardships and joys, the gradual feeling of becoming connected to earth and elements, of belonging. This is the special delight of Helen Hoover's warm, evocative, and sometimes extremely funny account of the way in which two city people made for themselves *A Place in the Woods*.

After following the advice from a manual called "How to Meet and Marry Mr Right", Jane learns that in love there is neither pattern nor promise. This is a funny collection of connected stories and a portrait of Jane, a woman manoeuvring her way through love, sex and relationships.

After years of living vicariously through the heroines in her novels, bestselling author Eloisa James takes a leap

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that most of us can only daydream about. She sells her house, leaves her job as a Shakespeare professor, and packs her husband and two protesting children off to Paris. Grand plans are abandoned as she falls under the spell of daily life as a Parisienne — exquisite food, long walks by the seine, reading in bed, displays of effortless chic around every corner, and being reminded of what really matters in a place where people seem to kiss all the time. Against one of the world's most picturesque backdrops, she copes with her Italian husband's notions of quality time; her two hilarious children, ages eleven and fifteen, as they navigate schools — not to mention puberty — in a foreign language; and her formidable mother-in-law, marina, who believes dogs should be fed prosciutto and wives should live in the kitchen. An irresistible love letter to a city that will make you want to head there, *Paris in Love* is also a joyful testament to the pleasures of savouring life.

This book is aimed at primary care providers who care for the pediatric age group (general pediatrician, the PCP working with pediatric patients, and family medicine providers) with the goal of covering the endocrine differential diagnosis of common signs and symptoms of possible endocrine disease as well as appropriate initial laboratory evaluation and interpretation. While multiple pediatric endocrine textbooks exist, most of them are heavy in coverage of physiology and rare diseases, with less discussion of practical steps in evaluation and diagnosis. This book distinguishes itself through a very practical approach. The first section is organized by presenting signs and symptoms, the second section is organized by laboratory interpretation, and the third section provides summaries of common pediatric endocrine

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disorders. Chapters are concise, providing critical clinical information including clinical pearls, common diagnoses and important points in patient counseling. Written by experts in the field, *Endocrine Conditions in Pediatrics* is a valuable resource that provides general pediatricians and other primary care providers with all of the information they need to provide superb patient care before transferring to a pediatric endocrinologist when necessary.

For the smart woman who demands more insightful advice in her seduction manual than 'have a glass of wine and share a bubble bath, ' this guide is packed full of tips to suit every mood. Ranging from naughty and kinky to romantic and passionate, this fabulous guide will tell you everything you need to keep your sex life sizzling forever.

Walk-in closet full of designer everything? Check. Private Caribbean island? Check. Connection to the aristocracy? Working on it. Cunning, malicious stalker? Double check. Welcome to the world of the Kents, a charismatic, ambitious, and fabulously wealthy English family with two sisters – one as strong and sparkling as the other is delicate and wounded – who must somehow put their differences aside to keep an unknown enemy from bringing them down. Wild and beautiful Emily Kent has had the world laid at her feet by her ruthless mother and billionaire father – but it's not enough. Gifted with her mother's to-die-for looks, her father's hard-scrabble business sense, and both of her parents' lust for control, Emily is determined to make her own luck by seducing the only man she's ever wanted, a man who can make her dreams of attaining the heights of old-money English society come true. By contrast, Emily's step-sister, Claudia, is a fragile soul—her mother died when she was five, leaving her to the unkind reign of step-mother Innocence. In an uncharacteristic burst of rebellion, Claudia trades her gilded lifestyle for an ordinary flat and daytime job where she meets

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the man of her dreams... or so she imagines. But, Emily and Claudia are caught up in a desperate situation that may be beyond their control. As for their father, disgraced tycoon Jack Kent, and his wife Innocence, they are too obsessed with the fight for supremacy over their vast empire to see that a mighty and sinister opponent is plotting to ruin them all. A hopeless unromantic gets a crash course in love in the fourth hilarious novel from bestselling author Anna Maxted. After her disaster of a marriage ends when she is just twenty, Hannah is convinced you have to be out of your mind (or desperate) to tie the knot. And life without a husband at thirty-one is just fine, thank you very much. She has a steady job working as a private investigator (albeit a mediocre one); a devoted boyfriend of five years, Jason; and a wonderful relationship with her dad (it's a shame her mother is such a lost cause). Then, on a romantic weekend retreat to a faux-ancient castle, Jason proposes marriage, leaving Hannah with no choice but the obvious: to turn him down cold. Much to her horror, four weeks later, Jason becomes engaged to his next-door neighbor, a fine baker and "proficient seamstress." Has Hannah blown her last chance at a solid relationship as her family claims? Jason agrees to give her another chance -- but only if she meets his terms, among them a promise to dust off the many skeletons in her closet. Brimming with her characteristic blend of humor and heartache, Anna Maxted's *Being Committed* is a perceptive look at intimacy (and its substitutes), commitment phobia, and the power others have over us.

Cambridge is sweltering, during an unusually hot summer. To Jackson Brodie, former police inspector turned private investigator, the world consists of one accounting sheet - Lost on the left, Found on the right - and the two never seem to balance. Surrounded by death, intrigue and misfortune, his own life haunted by a family tragedy, Jackson attempts to

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unravel three disparate case histories and begins to realize that in spite of apparent diversity, everything is connected... Melissa Pimentel delivers smart, funny, and modern retelling of Jane Austen's *Persuasion*, where a young woman comes face-to-face with a lost love, proving that the one that got away is sometimes the one you get back. Ruby and Ethan were perfect for each other. Until the day they suddenly weren't. Ten years later, Ruby's single, having spent the last decade focusing on her demanding career and hectic life in Manhattan. There's barely time for a trip to England for her little sister's wedding. And there's certainly not time to think about seeing Ethan there for the first time in years. But as the family frantically prepare for the big day, Ruby can't help but wonder if she made the right choice all those years ago? Because there's nothing like a wedding for stirring up the past

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Join Tom and Matt, Knights of the Realm, with the baby and Mrs Dragon on a mission to The Horrible Princess's castle! With magic dungeons, fire breathing dragons, and an army of dolls, this is one courageous quest!

In this #1 New York Times bestseller in Sue Grafton's Alphabet series, private investigator Kinsey Millhone has her hands full when a job that should be easy money takes a turn for the worse. Reba Lafferty was a daughter of privilege, the only child of an adoring father. Nord Lafferty was already in his fifties when Reba was born, and he could deny her nothing. Over the years, he quietly settled her many scrapes with the law, but wasn't there for her when she was convicted of embezzlement and sent to the California Institution for Women. Now, at thirty-two, she's about to be paroled, having served twenty-two months of a four-year sentence. Her father wants to be sure Reba stays straight, stays home and away from the drugs, the booze, and the gamblers... It seems a straightforward assignment for Kinsey: babysit Reba until she

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settles in, make sure she follows all the niceties of her parole. Maybe a week's work. Nothing untoward—the woman seems remorseful and friendly. And the money is good. But life is never that simple, and Reba is out of prison less than twenty-four hours when one of her old crowd comes circling round... The unforgettable new novel from Top Ten bestseller Lisa Jewell, author of *Ralph's Party*, *The Making of Us* and *The House We Grew Up In*. You think you have the perfect life. You're successful. Attractive. Well liked. And you've just got married for the third time. But that's OK because everyone's happy. Your children are happy. You're happy. And so is your new wife... London, 3am: a tragic accident, and Adrian's life starts to fall apart. Because everyone has secrets and secrets have consequences. Some of which can be devastating. The marriage revolution is at hand—it's going on right now, led by straight-shooting, brutally honest gloves-off contemporary *Married Girls*. With her fifteen years of experience at top women's magazines, Mandi Norwood speaks to this new generation of married women who crave independence and adventure just as much as they crave commitment. Like a great girls' night out, this smart, sexy, candid guide reveals married girls' most intimate confessions from over one hundred in-depth interviews. So what makes today's *Married Girls*'s marriage different from her mother's marriage? Sometimes hilarious, often tender, and always empowering, Mandi Norwood delivers from-the-heart, savvy, and practical advice about every aspect of modern marriage from power, controlling money, omigod-the-mother-in-law, to brazen behavior in bed.

A novel of love, loss, and lessons about men and women behaving badly is penned by the bestselling author of "Getting Over It" and "Running in Heels."

Two thirtysomethings try to find their way through the complications of post-marriage love in this beloved novel from

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#1 New York Times bestselling author Judy Blume. Margo and B.B. are each divorced, and each is trying to reinvent her life in Colorado—while their respective teenage daughters look on with a mixture of humor and horror. But even smart women sometimes have a lot to learn—and they will, when B.B.'s ex-husband moves in next door to Margo... Includes a New Introduction by the Author

Hannah thinks you have to be insane to get married. She's content with her life - the job as private investigator at Hound Dog Investigations, the boyfriend of five years, Jason, and the wonderful father (pity her mother is such a disaster). Besides, she's tried marriage once before, but she ended up divorced before she was 21. So, when the long-suffering Jason proposes, Hannah doesn't think twice about turning him down. Still, she is a little shaken when, a month later, the man has the nerve to get engaged to someone else. Is she not up to settling down? Hannah's family are convinced she blew her one chance of hooking a permanent man, and maybe - just maybe - there's something in Jason's theory that being committed means first coming to terms with your past...

Discovery in Haste is the first book to survey the English printed medical dictionary, a greatly under-researched area, from Andrew Boorde's Breviary of Helthe of 1547 to Benjamin Lara's surgical dictionary of 1796. The book begins with Andrew Boorde's Breviary of Helthe of 1547, moves on to medical glossaries, which were produced through the whole period, the 'physical dictionaries' of the mid-seventeenth century which first employed 'dictionary' in the title, the translation into English of Steven Blancard's dictionary, Latin medical dictionaries of the late seventeenth century by Thomas Burnet and John Cruso, the influential dictionary by John Quincy which dominated the eighteenth century, surgical dictionaries through to that by Benjamin Lara, Robert James's massive encyclopaedic dictionary and the work

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derived from it by John Barrow, as well as George Motherby's dictionary of 1775. The characteristics of each are discussed and their inter-relationships explored. Attention is also paid to the printing history and the way the publishers influenced the works and, where appropriate, to the influence each had on succeeding dictionaries. This book is the first to locate medical dictionaries within the history of lexicography. "In the early hours of a summer morning, a young woman steps into the path of an oncoming bus. A tragic accident? Or suicide? At the center of this puzzle is Adrian Wolfe, a successful architect and grief-stricken widower, who, a year after his third wife's death, begins to investigate the cause. As Adrian looks back on their brief but seemingly happy marriage, disturbing secrets begin to surface"--Amazon.com. When their picture-perfect Cotswold village family life with a perpetually young father and hippy mother is shattered by a tragic Easter weekend, four siblings pursue separate adult lives before a reunion reveals astonishing truths. By the author of *Before I Met You*.

Lisa Edwards This Prada-wearing magazine editor thinks her life is over when her "fabulous" new job turns out to be a deportation to Dublin to launch Colleen magazine. The only saving grace is that her friends aren't there to witness her downward spiral. Might her new boss, the disheveled and moody Jack Devine, save her from a fate worse than hell? Ashling Kennedy Ashling, Colleen's assistant editor, is an award-winning worrier, increasingly aware that something fundamental is missing from her life -- apart from a boyfriend and a waistline. Clodagh "Princess" Kelly Ashling's best friend, Clodagh, lives the domestic dream in a suburban castle. So why, lately, has she had the recurring urge to kiss a frog -- or

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sleep with a frog, if truth be told? As these three women search for love, success, and happiness, they will discover that if you let things simmer under the surface for too long, sooner or later they'll boil over.

Discover the Keyes to a Great Read!

Running in Heels A Novel Harper Collins

The Stone Diaries marked a new phase in a literary career already ablaze with achievement. As well as the many international awards it received, including the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Governor General's Award, the book also met with universal critical acclaim and topped bestseller lists around the world. "Carol Shields," raved Maclean's, "has crafted a small miracle of a novel." "The Stone Diaries," said the New York Times Book Review, "reminds us again why literature matters." The San Diego Tribune called The Stone Diaries "a universal study of what makes women tick." Now, in Larry's Party, Carol Shields does the same for men. Larry Weller, born in 1950, is an ordinary guy made extraordinary by his creator's perception, irony and tenderness. Larry's Party gives us, as it were, a CAT scan of his life, in episodes between 1977 and 1997 that flash backward and forward seamlessly. As Larry journeys toward the new millennium, adapting to society's changing expectations of men, Shields' elegant prose transforms the trivial into the momentous. We follow this young floral designer through two marriages and divorces, his interactions with parents, friends and a son. And throughout, we witness his deepening passion for garden mazes -- so like life, with their teasing treachery and promise of reward.

