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BIOGRAPHY

BEFORE & AFTER GREAT BARDFIELD: THE ARTISTIC MEMOIRS OF LUCIE ALDRIDGE

Lucie Aldridge, edited by Robyn Cantus LA settled in Great Bardfield in 1933, with her husband, alongside Tirzah Garwood, Eric Ravilious, Charlotte and Edward Bawden. This memoir, lost on Aldridge's death in 1974 to resurface only recently in an American university archive, covers her childhood and later life too. Robert Graves, Cedric Morris, Stanley Spencer and other artists and writers roam the pages. Limited to 250 copies; illustrated with linocuts by Bawden. pbk £28.00

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Edited by Simon Heffer Vol 1 of the new (unabridged) edition - eagerly anticipated and widely enjoyed - was published earlier this year. This second volume takes us from Munich to the fall of Mussolini. As Chips fades from the corridors of power, his presence as a socialite only grows; his marriage falls apart and he begins a passionate friendship with a member of Wavell's staff. £35.00

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Algy Cluff, introduction by Taki Theodoropoulos A fourth volume of frequently Wodehousian memoir by the former owner of *The Spectator*. £20.00

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Paul Auster When Crane died at 28, he was a star: the adventurous veteran of the Wild West and Cuba during the Spanish American War, the author of a masterpiece (*The Red Badge of Courage*), and an exile - he had fled America for Britain in the wake of a scandalous love affair. In this departure into biography, Auster has set out to restore this forgotten figure to the ranks of other great C20th writers. £25.00

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Justine Picardie Catherine was the sister of Christian; in WW2 she worked with the French Resistance but was arrested in 1944 and sent to Ravensbrück. Miraculously she survived, and was awarded both the Croix de Guerre and the Légion d'Honneur. After the horrors of the war she became a flower trader, then a flower farmer. She died in 2008. Illustrated. £25.00

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Christopher Maxwell, edited by Karine Tsoumis A lavishly illustrated work of scholarship, exploring maiolica's conversations with artifacts ranging from Islamic metalwork and Chinese porcelain to Venetian lace and glass. £39.95

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Edited by Lesley Ellis Miller, Ana Cabrera Lafuente & Claire Allen-Johnstone A huge new illustrated survey. Drawing on the exceptional collections at the V&A, it explores tradition and innovation across the history and geography of silk production. £65.00

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Arthur Millner From the author and publisher (Prestel) who did the superb *Damascus Tiles* a few years ago; covering architectural ceramics from Sultanate and Mughal India, and Pakistan. £69.99

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Thomas Murray Another superb book from Prestel, in the same format as their *Textiles of Japan* and *Textiles of India*. £75.00

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Reiko Sudo, edited by Naomi Pollock First monograph on this hugely influential Japanese textile design company, with essays by Haruki Murakami, the architect Toyo Ito, curator Anna Jackson et al. £50.00

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Marina Abramovic, Klaus Biesenbach & Chrissie Iles, photographs by Marco Anelli A new edition of the extraordinary pictures taken during 'The Artist Is Present', where Abramovic invited MoMA visitors to sit opposite her in silence for 30 charged seconds. She summoned tears, laughter, even the visit of an erstwhile lover. £40.00

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Sylvie Lécallier Send us your definition of 'icon'. Answers on a postcard, please. The one that makes us laugh the most will receive a copy of this book as a prize. £45.00

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Tim Bouverie A short but extremely useful guide to help those without prior knowledge of classical music discover ways into wonders that can seem intimidating or closed. £9.99

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Richard Stokes, introduction by Ian Bostridge Wolf set the works of thirty-six poets to music. Here the genial professor of *lieder* at the Royal College of Music translates the poems, introduces the poets and Wolf's connections with them, and enlivens them with excerpts from letters. He has made this an exemplary tome for music-lovers. £30.00

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Mike Leigh, edited by Amy Raphael A revised edition to include his recent films. pbk £25.00

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ON THE NILE IN THE GOLDEN AGE OF TRAVEL

Andrew Humphreys There was a bit of a gap between Anthony and Cleopatra's Nile cruises and the C19th heyday of purpose-built, shallow-bottomed paddle-wheelers. This book is about the latter - delicious travelling for those able to afford it, and pale enough to be admitted to linger in those cavernous lounges, under airy awnings. (May make one feel a sudden surge of sympathy for Agatha Christie, who used her pen to bring a number of such imagined travellers to grisly ends.) pbk £19.95

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Aleksandra Litvina, illustrated by Anya Desnitskaya From Moscow to Vladivostok, 5,700 miles in 7 days: engaging and informative, this presents the journey through illustrations, like a graphic novel. £19.99

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Cecilia Pardo To accompany the exhibition at the British Museum: a millenium of material culture. pbk £30.00

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Romila Thapar That venerable and dedicated historian of ancient India travelled half a century ago to northern and north-western China to work at the cave sites of Maijishan and Dunhuang; based on her diaries of the time, this is a marvellous glimpse of a vanished world. £20.00

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Jerome Tharaud & Jean Tharaud An account of Morocco in 1917, during the period of the French Protectorate, by the Tharaud brothers who also wrote a *roman-a-clef* about Kipling. pbk £15.00

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Colin Thubron Some may have supposed that Thubron had done his last Big Journey, but this is arguably his biggest yet, and most arduous. Indomitable, venerable, he follows this

immense river from its source in remote Mongolian bogs to where it emerges in the Sea of Okhotsk in the Russian Far East. It is a complicated journey, much of it surrounded by poverty, desolation, wrecked environments, social collapse and historical contortions in spite of the natural wonders of the landscapes through which he passes. CT is always fascinating and compelling, and this introduction to a world scarcely known to the West is an astonishing feat. £20.00

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Marin Montagut, photographs by Pierre Musselet & Ludovic Balay Artisan trades of Paris - a ribbon maker, the *boiseries* of Feau et Cie, pastel crayons still rolled as they were in the time of Degas, etc., presented by a designer, artist and shopkeeper. Many photographs. £30.00

GARDENS

THE STAR-NOSED MOLE: AN ANTHOLOGY OF SCENTED GARDEN WRITING

Isabel Bannerman Delightful and clever selection: Bannerman's nose must spend much of its time dusted with pollen, like one of Eva Ibbotson's heroines (Anna Grazinsky, in the book with a dachshund that swallowed a diamond - but we are getting diverted!). The star-nosed mole's conk is particularly astute, and so this fine creature has been taken as a sort of familiar by the author in her quest for the almost undoable - to convey scents in words. £20.00

HOW TO DESIGN A GARDEN

John Brookes, edited by Gwendolyn van Paasschen By the gardener who radically changed garden design in the latter part of the C20th by focusing on the achievable and vernacular: low maintenance, beautiful gardens for all, with no need for huge spaces, deep pockets or serried rows of under-gardeners. pbk £20.00

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Beth Chatto, photographs by Steven Wooster A new edition of this marvellous book on Chatto's own garden, updated where necessary by two of the gardeners who work there now - David Ward and Asa Gregers-Warg. With a revised plant directory too. Illustrated. £30.00

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Shane Connolly Catalogue for the delightful small show at the Garden Museum this autumn. pbk £15.00

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Dudley Dodd, introduction by James Stourton, photographs by Marianne Majerus The classical deliciousness that Richard Colt Hoare described in 1822 as "this elegant architectural relic of former days" before entering the garden, where "the eye is greeted with a general view of the most varied ground, enlivened by two magnificent temples, embosomed in deep Woods, and reflected in a lake of the most transparent hue"... Beautifully photographed. £40.00

THE GARDENS AT ROUSHAM: PAINTINGS BY FRANCIS HAMEL

Francis Hamel FH has lived at Rousham - William Kent's enduring masterpiece - for many years. Locked down there, he set about painting its magical, meandering gardens and this beautiful book is the happy result. With essays by Tom Stuart-Smith, Christopher Woodward and Joanna Kavenna. £30.00

GARDENS UNDER BIG SKIES: REIMAGINING OUTDOOR SPACE, THE DUTCH WAY

Noel Kingsbury, photographs by Maayke de Ridder This longterm collaborator with Piet Oudolf takes us for a look at the naturalistic, sustainable approach to gardens and parks in the Netherlands. £40.00

THE KEW GARDENER'S GUIDE TO GROWING TREES: THE ART AND SCIENCE TO GROW WITH CONFIDENCE

Tony Kirkham Another slim but excellent guide from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew - how to grow, when and how to stake, propagate and prune; notes on individual species, etc. £12.99

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Simon Morley From the classical world to modernism, alchemy to neurobiology, by an art historian and rose-nut. £25.00

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John Phibbs & Joe Cornish Though Repton came late to his calling as a landscape gardener (his coinage), his winning mix of attractive sketches, bound up into the famous 'Red books', and his taste for gentle, rolling views quickly brought him success. This pleasing book is well researched, taking in over a dozen of his landscape schemes that cover his career, including Mulgrave Castle, Courteenhall, Stanage and Endsleigh. £55.00

VEGETABLES: THE DEFINITIVE GUIDE FOR GARDENERS

Roger Phillips Phillips turns from foraging to growing in this well illustrated guide; many photographs, very practical. £25.00

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Andrea Sanchez Ancient olives, boulders of clipped rosemary, glaucous and green: an experienced Mediterranean landscape gardener's work on this dry, salty island is full of stylish ideas for drought-resistant planting. £39.00

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Niall Williams & Christine Breen The two authors - husband and wife - settled in the west of Ireland over thirty years ago, casting off from their life in the US on a romantic impulse to begin a new life near Christine's family roots. A wonderfully evocative memoir of a year in their sequestered place, threatened by both illness and modernity. £18.99

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John Lewis-Stempel Another short delightfulness from JLS, following his *Secret Life of the Owl*, *The Glorious life of the Oak* and others. He and these slim yearly productions are becoming an institution. £9.99

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Karen Lloyd A collection of essays about both repair and despair in the face of the accelerating loss of biodiversity in the Anthropocene. Lloyd's research takes her from the Carpathians to Perthshire, to a wolf running down a suburban street in the Netherlands to the reappearance of Imperial eagles in Hungarian farmlands that had suffered from the brutalist approach to agriculture of the Communist era. £16.99

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Richard Mabey A lovely hardback reissue of Mabey's book about beech trees, prompted by the great storm of 1987 when so many blew down. One of a trio of reprints from Little Toller to celebrate Mabey's 80th birthday. £18.00

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Stephen Moss Follows Moss's previous books on the robin, the swallow and the wren. Eventually - presumably - he will reach that most magnificent if malodorous of birds - the gannet... £12.99

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Lev Parikian It stands to reason that the Japanese would have haiku-length seasons, unlike our monolithic four... Thanks to Parikian, a conductor, writer and "atrocious birdwatcher" (his words), these delicious phases - which we all recognise - are investigated through an English year. £14.99

HOW I BECAME A TREE

Sumana Roy Strange and wonderful meditation on arboreal being, drawing on literary history, theology, philosophy, botany, folklore, mythology and even cinema. Shades of Czeslaw Milosz's poem 'Notes': "Not that I want to be a god or a hero. Just to change into a tree, grow for ages, not hurt anyone." Peopled with a Calcutta taxi driver who keeps potted plants in his cab, Tagore and his love for his garden, etc. Published in India in 2017 and now picked up by Yale. £18.99

AVIAN ILLUMINATIONS: A CULTURAL HISTORY OF BIRDS

Boria Sax Fascinating study of our relationship with birds, from hunting to providing us with food, as messengers, guardians, omens, deities, metaphors, symbols and inspiration. Many illustrations. £25.00

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Edited by Fiona Stafford Another nice stripey anthology from Everyman: Damon Galgut, Angela Carter, Tove Jansson, Ovid, Thos. Love Peacock, Sylvia Townsend Warner, D.H. Lawrence, Daphne du Maurier, Jean Giono, *et al.* £12.99

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Richard I Vane-Wright 760 species of *Lepidoptera*, painted between 1780 and 1800 by an amateur entomologist and wine merchant called William Jones, who worked from the collections of Joseph Banks, the Linnaean Society, Dru Drury *et al.* as well as his own. This beautiful facsimile is published in partnership with the Oxford University Museum of Natural History which holds the only manuscript copy (in six vols) of this astonishing work. It also contains contextual commentary, a brief biography of Jones's life, notes on C18th butterfly collectors and taxonomy, etc. Over a thousand illustrations... £65.00

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Charles Foster Charles Foster is one of those rare people who seem to cram several lives into their own allotted span while the rest of us just about manage one... Adopting a sort of method-acting approach to research, the book opens with him and his son half-starved, certainly wet, tired and famished, as they try to experience what it was to be a hunter-gatherer. Full of the unexpected, spilling with ideas, anecdote, and intelligence. £16.99

RATIONALITY: WHAT IT IS, WHY IT SEEMS SCARCE, WHY IT MATTERS

Steven Pinker The light of reason is safe in the hands of Prof. Pinker, experimental cognitive scientist. He even manages to explain why we are surrounded by crack-pots, quacks and conspiracy theorists. £25.00

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Susanne Wedlich, translated by Ayca Turkoglu Irresistible at any time, but especially at Xmas. Scholarly study of slippery subject. £20.00

FOOD

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Rachel Allen "Ballymaloe!" - thus would Lewis Carroll have chortled in his joy had he ever had the pleasure of sitting down to a soup of the evening with Rachel Allen, scattered with beautiful za'atar croutons. £22.00

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Leonard Barkan Genial mix of aesthetics, lit crit, philosophy, art and history. Rabelais, Vermeer, ancient Rome and a classical Greek text in 16 vols about a single meal. The latter would have given Proust something to think about. £40.00

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Jane Churchill & Emily Astor, introduction by Bob Colacello Nancy L was Nancy A's niece: this book brings together their recipes from their Virginian home Mirador, also Cliveden - a mix of English, French and Southern dishes to tempt, repeatedly. £40.00

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Sally Clarke A cookbook for novices that began life as a primer for Clarke's student son. Full of good things, easily achieved, that will cheer the hesitant and their comrades at the table. Omelette with fresh goat's cheese and herbs, fish thumbs with lemon mayonnaise, orange zest and cinnamon shortbread... £30.00

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Laurel Evans Between the Alps, the Appenines and the Tyrrhenian Sea grow bitter oranges, basil, olives... The Genoese are likely to ignite if anyone disagrees that their cuisine is the best in Italy. £32.50

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Dorothy Hartley Stolid? Pallid? Pasty? Rubicund? Mottled? Wattled? A hardback re-issue of this classic history of food production and cooking from the medieval period to WW2. First published in 1954 and never out of print, this is both practical cookbook (up to a point) and fascinating social history. £25.00

TASTING VIETNAM: FLAVORS AND MEMORIES FROM MY GRANDMOTHER'S KITCHEN

Anne-Solenne Hatte & Alain Ducasse The grandmother in question was Vietnamese, and exiled in the Vietnam war. A good-looking book on this healthy and nourishing cuisine. Has Ducasse's imprimatur so should be excellent. £27.95

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Rukmini Iyer Iyer does it again - this time keeping it sweet. The last in her five-volume series dedicated to delicious, fresh food made with minimum effort. £18.99

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Virgilio Martinez Over 600 recipes, from the Peruvian chef whose own restaurant has been named the #1 restaurant in Latin America many times over. £35.00

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Monica Nelson For the curious and florivorous, this is a chic book that could sit happily in the photography section. Recipes and essays. £28.00

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Yotam Ottolenghi & Noor Murad What to do when you find yourself staring in bafflement at the inside of your kitchen cupboards... Help is at hand from the sainted Yotam and his team. pbk £25.00

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Jay Rayner Another generous tranche of memoir from a man with a well-spattered shirt-front. pbk £6.99

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Claudia Roden Over half a century of experience has gone into this new book from one of our greatest living food writers, cultural anthropologist and national treasure, who returns here to her chief love - the food of the Mediterranean, from Europe to North Africa and the Levant. £28.00

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Dan Saladino Globalisation in food production has led to monocultures and a huge loss of biodiversity around the world. Saladino's polemic about endangered foods and food culture - and the pushback by pioneering farmers, producers, cooks et al makes for startling reading. Highly praised by food boffins and scientists alike. £25.00

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Nigel Slater Nigel's desert island dishes. £30.00

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Rick Stein Another good book from a great chef on cooking at home - as we all have been for months and months. £26.00

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Stanley Tucci Memoir of life in and out of the kitchen from the Italian-American actor who is also a passionate cook. Funny, lively. £20.00

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Lia Leendertz Packed full of useful information on matters such as tides, and when to expect a meteor shower. Thoroughly charming. £12.99

HOW TO LIVE IN THE COUNTRY: A MONTH-BY-MONTH GUIDE

Tom Hodgkinson An almanac from the Idler Academy founder that is full of ideas to bring on a ruddy glow. Just the thing for those who have fled the cities for the Good Life during the pandemic. It's hard to imagine how those who bought in the rose-filled summer will manage in winter, when the sedge has withered from the lake and no birds sing, but Hodgkinson, a Devonian of long standing, is here to help them. £10.99

LETTERS TO MICHAEL: A FATHER WRITES TO HIS SON 1945-1947

Charles Phillipson He doesn't just write letters to his very young son, he illustrates them, copiously, in order to draw his son into the world of reading. His sketches of a walk in the wind, of men with umbrellas, a postman on his bicycle, etc are absolutely delightful, full of charm and playfulness. The book is bound in duck-egg blue cloth and comes from that gem of a small publisher, Slightly Foxed. £22.00

FOR CHILDREN

THE WEEK AT WORLD'S END

Emma Carroll It's 1962, the Cuban missile crisis is in full swing but nothing, of course, is happening in World's End Close. Until a runaway girl is found in the coalshed... Exciting historical thriller for ages 9-12. £12.99

NEVER, NOT EVER!

Beatrice Alemagna Pascaline goes batty at the prospect of going to school. (Actually she is a bat.) Alemagna is a wonderful illustrator and storyteller: her previous books - such as *A Lion in Paris* - exude charm and humour. Ages 3-5. £12.99

WEATHER: POP-UP BOOK

Maike Biederstaedt Storm clouds, a rainbow, a tornado, snowflakes and more... from a gifted illustrator. Ages 6-10. £19.99

BY ROWAN AND YEW

Melissa Harrison The Hidden Folk are disappearing from the world; four of them - Moss, Sorrell, Burnet and Dormer - set out on a journey through autumn and winter to try to solve this troubling mystery. A magical sequel to *By Ash, Oak and Thorn*, and reminiscent of BB's *Little Grey Men*. Beautifully rooted in the natural world. Ages 7-10. pbk £7.99

EAST OF THE SUN, WEST OF THE MOON

Jackie Morris The incomparable Morris of *The Lost Words* fame has taken the Norwegian tale and retold it, accompanied by masses of her wonderful illustrations. Smallish format, in her 'Tales from the Wild' series. Ages 8-11. £16.99

HOW WAS THAT BUILT?: THE STORIES BEHIND AWESOME STRUCTURES

Roma Agrawal, illustrated by Katie Hickey Illustrated picture book about structural engineering (The Brooklyn Bridge, the Sapporo Dome, etc)... by a woman who worked on the Shard. Ages 6-10. £14.99

KOLOBOK: A RUSSIAN BUN - ON THE RUN!

Sian Valvis, illustrated by Dovile Ciapaite A rhyming riff about a close relation of the Gingerbread Man but adapted from a Russian folk tale. Pleasing illustrations. Ages 4-7. £12.99

THE SNOWMAN: A FULL-COLOUR RETELLING OF THE CLASSIC

Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by Raymond Briggs A hardback reissue with Morpurgo's words added to Briggs's illustrations. Ages 6-9. £14.99

THE WILD SWANS

Jackie Morris Another in Morris's 'Tales from the Wild' series: smallish format, beautifully illustrated of course. This is Morris's retelling of an old story, first collected by the Brothers Grimm and then retold by Andersen. A girl's brothers are turned to swans and she must perform feats to release them. Ages 8-11. £14.99

THERE'S A GHOST IN THIS HOUSE

Oliver Jeffers Interactive picture book for tots, roaming a house with a little girl looking for ghosts. Ages 3-5. £20.00

UTTERLY DARK AND THE FACE OF THE DEEP

Philip Reeve Utterly Dark is the name of a girl washed up on the shores of the Autumn Isles as a baby, where her guardian is the Watcher. Reeve has a gift for well-imagined worlds, and this new book is thrilling. Ages 8-11. pbk £7.99

THE SEA

Piret Raud Rather like La Fontaine's King Log and good on consequences: the Sea loves reading aloud to her fish children but they are just too noisy and she goes away. A cat comes along and offers to read to the little darlings instead... but all ends well. Ages 4-6. £9.99

EINSTEIN THE PENGUIN

Iona Rangeley, illustrated by David Tazzyman Cheerful, funny book about a penguin coming to stay, for ages 7-10. £12.99

JOURNEY TO THE LAST RIVER

Unknown Adventurer, illustrated by Teddy Keen Caimans, anacondas and the Amazon rainforest: presented as an explorer's scrapbook, complete with piranha-nibbled pages. Ages 8-11. £14.99

GULLIVER'S TRAVELS

Jonathan Swift, illustrated by Robert Ingpen New edition, with Ingpen's fine illustrations throughout. He has previously illustrated *The Wind in the Willows*, *Treasure Island* and Kipling. £20.00

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ROBINSON CRUSOE

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Michael Morpurgo, illustrated by George Butler A story of bravery on the island of Ithaca in WW2, for ages 8-12. £12.99

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Felicità Sala Charming picture book about gardens around the world, growing fruit and vegetables and recipes for youngsters, by the same author/illustrator who did *Lunch at 10 Pomegranate Street*. Ages 5-7. £12.99

EINSTEIN: THE FANTASTIC JOURNEY OF A MOUSE THROUGH TIME AND SPACE

Torben Kuhlmann Another lovely mouse-meets-science book, following on from Lindbergh, Edison and Armstrong. This time a mouse misses the world's biggest cheese festival and turns back time - but by eighty years too many. He needs the help of a certain employee of the Swiss Patent Office to put things right. Ages 6-8. £14.99

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Charles Dickens, edited by Lisbeth Zwerger This classic story with watercolours by one of the greatest living illustrators, the artistic heiress of Dulac and Rackham. For ages 8-80. £17.99

AARTI & THE BLUE GODS

Jasbinder Bilan Myth and magic surround a girl brought up on an island - but who is she? Will she remember and be able to return whence she came? A third adventure for Aarti; the first two have been greatly praised by adults and children alike. Ages 8-12. pbk £7.99

AT THE HEIGHT OF THE MOON: A BOOK OF BEDTIME POETRY AND ART

Edited by Annette Roeder, Alison Baverstock & Matt Cunningham Glorious book of poetry, art and some short fiction, blending word and image in an entrancing way. Ages 7-11. £18.99

BANDOOLA: THE GREAT ELEPHANT RESCUE

William Grill Any new book from Grill is cause for celebration and once again he has produced a superb work of narrative history for children. Bandoola was a Burmese elephant who, together with the mahout who had gentled him and a British war veteran, led 53 other elephants and 200 refugees to safety in Northern India in 1942. James Howard Williams had worked with elephants as a forester in the Burmese jungle and then with a team of elephants with British Special Forces when they found themselves cornered by the Japanese. Layers of detail and illustrated with pencil drawings as Grill did before with *Shackleton's Journey* and *The Wolves of Currumpaw*. Ages 7-12. £15.99

FRANZ-FERDINAND THE DANCING WALRUS

Marcus Pfister Who could resist such a title? A picture book about the pursuit of dreams - and ballet - even if you are a walrus. (Perhaps that's what the walrus who spent months lounging on Tenby Lifeboat station earlier this year was dreaming of - while practising his *tendu* and twirling a flipper. Now he's in the Mediterranean and heading for the Black Sea, to Odessa and then by train to the Marinsky Theatre? That's another story). Ages 2-5. £12.99

SISTERS OF THE LOST MARSH

Lucy Strange When a travelling fayre stops off in the village of Hollow-in-the-Marsh, six sisters slip out of their farmhouse to see the show. But where is Grace? Who saw her last? A gloriously Gothic tale for ages 9-11. pbk £7.99

THE FALSE ROSE

Jakob Wegelius, translated by Peter Graves Sally Jones is a marvellous heroine, endowed with a equally splendid friend and sailing companion - the gorilla first met in *The Murderer's Ape*. Here is a dangerous necklace, a smuggler queen, and adventure from Lisbon to the Shetlands. Translated from the Swedish; intelligent and fun. Ages 8-12. £16.99

THE HAPPY OWLS

Celestino Piatti A re-issue from 1963 - an adored classic that has been out of print ever since. Two owls share the secret of their happiness with the greedy and squabbling barnyard fowl but to no avail. Marvellous illustrations from the Italian illustrator and designer and a fine introduction to the gentle art of finding joy in contemplation and solitude. Highly recommended for ages 3-7. Or 100. £12.99

THE PROVENSEN BOOK OF FAIRY TALES

Alice Provensen & Martin Provensen Excellent anthology of fairy tales by Oscar Wilde, Hans Christian Andersen, Eleanor Mordaunt et alia selected by the Provensens and with their glorious, old-fashioned illustrations. Out of print since 1971 apparently... Ages 7 - 14. £19.99

WHEN I'M BIG

Ella Bailey A small creature emerges from a dinosaur's egg and wanders into the world, wondering who - or what - she is. Delightful picture book for ages 3-5. £12.99

DAUGHTER OF THE DEEP

Rick Riordan First in a new adventure series about marine exploration that take its cues from Jules Verne. Ages 8-12. £14.99

FRINDLESWYLDE

Natalia O'Hara & Lauren O'Hara Hurrah for the O'Hara sisters and their blessed talents as author/illustrators. A boy steals the light from a lantern and Cora must follow him to his icy kingdom to get it back where, of course, feats are required... A tale of snowy magic for ages 5-8. £14.99

GREEK MYTHS FOR LITTLE CHILDREN

Rosie Dickins, illustrated by Sara Ugolotti Arion and the Dolphin, King Midas, Pandora's Box, Heracles and Athena populate this introduction to Greek myths for the very young - ages 3-6. £12.99

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Adam Kay Brilliant approach to the human body that has all the verve and glee of the Horrible History series. Prepare yourself for some bracing insights coming your way after Christmas dinner about what precisely is happening to your recently ingested bird... Ages 7-12. £14.99

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Emma Chichester Clark A 'chapter book' with lots of illustrations about a girl rescuing a bear cub, by a greatly loved author and illustrator. For ages 7-10. £10.99

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Shirley Hughes Charming book for the earliest years, with rhymes selected and illustrated by the magnificent Shirley Hughes. £12.99

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Philip Parker, illustrated by Liz Kaye What was going on at the same time around the world - woolly mammoths in the north while the Egyptians built their pyramids, etc. Ages 7-10. £16.99

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Clare Helen Welsh, illustrated by Jenny Lovlie A picture book about the migration of an Arctic tern, who passes on her immense journey caribou, whales, geese, turtles, butterflies. Ages 3-6. £12.99

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THE WILD BEFORE

Piers Torday A prequel to *The Dark Wild* trilogy, in which a young hare sets out to protect the precious Mooncalf in a changing, dangerous world. For ages 8-11. £12.99

JULIA AND THE SHARK

Kiran Millwood Hargrave To be precise, a Greenland shark. These gnarled, prehistoric creatures can live over 500 years; this one lives under a girl's bed. With beautiful, sooty black and yellow illustrations. Ages 9+. £12.99

THE BOOK OF STOLEN DREAMS

David Farr, illustrated by Kristina Kister Two siblings, threatened with separation by a grim and authoritarian state, go on the run to protect a book and find its missing page before it falls into the wrong hands: long journeys, a dangerous opponent and thrilling adventures. For ages 8-12. £12.99

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THE CHRISTMAS PIG

J.K. Rowling, illustrated by Jim Field A pig, beloved of a small boy, goes missing on Christmas Eve... It's hard to judge the contents when the cover is so monstrous - but Rowling is a reliable author. For 7-10. £20.00

THE EDELWEISS PIRATES

Dirk Reinhardt, introduction by Michael Rosen, translated by Rachel Ward A novel about the loosely-organised, anti-Nazi youth movement in Germany that emerged in the 1930s in defiance of the Hitlerjugend. 16-year-old Daniel comes to discover their history through the diary of a haunted old man, only to find that his relationship with them is very personal. Ages 11-15. pbk £7.99

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James Marriott & Terry Macalister This extraordinary book is much, much more than a simple analysis of Britain's relationship and future with oil. It is a travel book and social commentary that takes us from Milford Haven to Canvey Island and the north of Scotland; a history of the shifting relationship of the oil industry with government over the last half century; and an even-handed look at the current fragmentation of its ownership that has resulted in scant social or political answerability and minimal financial transparency. This pattern is now being replicated in the development of wind power. Written with humour, modesty and confidence, this book will change the way in which you view the world. £20.00

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Elizabeth Von Arnim Two women in their mid-twenties, stifled by marriage and the monotony of Hampstead society, come across an advertisement in *The Times*: 'To Those Who Appreciate Wisteria and Sunshine. Small mediaeval Italian Castle on the shores of the Mediterranean...' A charming and very witty novella, Wodehousian at moments, for all those in need of another summer. £12.99

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Mediterranean...' A charming and very witty novella, Wodehousian at moments, for all those in need of another summer. pbk £8.99

JOHN CRAXTON: A LIFE OF GIFTS

Ian Collins "John seemed only to float in a current of pleasure as reflected in his pictures. But hedonism, always a sturdy attribute, acquires a heroic quality with age...": Ian Collins' biography of Craxton - whom he knew well for the painter's last decade - is an enchantment from beginning to end: funny, affectionate, detailed, exemplary. The pollen of happiness shared by all the Craxtons that was identified by Elizabeth Jane Howard continues to rub off on us all through the paintings and through this magnificent biography. Many illustrations. £25.00

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Marisa Anne Bass & Anne Goldgar et al A gorgeous, illustrated study of the ways in which shells were circulated, depicted, collected and valued during a time of remarkable global change, by aristocrats and apothecaries, scholars, tradesman, men and women. Cabinets of curiosity, shell grottoes, and Petronella Oortman's astonishing dollshouse - a series of miniature *Kunstkammern* complete with a display of tiny shells. £42.00

THE ECHO CHAMBER

John Boyne The Cleverley family is graced with fame and fortune, but disaster in their media world is just a tweet away... This satire on social media and today's culture wars will make you ROFL. A light-hearted but coruscating comment on the way we live, love and communicate today. #damocles? £16.99

LAST WALTZ IN VIENNA

George Clare In February 1938 Georg Klar, a Jewish lad of seventeen, went to his first ball in Vienna, staying until the band's last waltz. A month later came the Anschluss. The ensuing years brought chaos and tragedy to his family; he became George Clare, serving in the British army. This is a marvellous memoir of his early life, and what happened next, in a handsome clothbound edition from Slightly Foxed. It was also "a key book for the writing of Leopoldstadt", says Tom Stoppard. £18.50

CHARLOTTE PERRIAND: THE MODERN LIFE

Edited by Justin McGuirk A handsomely produced catalogue from the recent retrospective at the Design Museum which gives an excellent overview of the French architect and designer. Pleasantly petite compared to the Complete Works in four vols. £24.95

GOOD MORNING, MIDNIGHT

Jean Rhys This slim modernist novel written in 1939 is unforgettable. A young English woman returns to Paris after a long absence to take stock of her life. A study in bleakness, sadness and isolation, it is also a masterpiece of beautiful, sharp and poignant writing. Haunting. pbk £6.99

HOW TO BE A LIBERAL: THE STORY OF FREEDOM AND THE FIGHT FOR ITS SURVIVAL

Ian Dunt Amongst the plethora of recent books on the threats facing liberal democracy, this one stands out for the author's talent for making complex subjects comprehensible. He sees the danger coming both from the nationalistic Right and from the identity politics of the left. Such is the clarity of Dunt's thinking and writing that several reviewers called this passionate and thrilling defence of liberal values a 'page-turner'. £25.00

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IN THE DARKROOM

Susan Faludi He was a resistance fighter in WW2 Budapest, a travel photographer in South America and an abusive patriarch in 70s New York - but Steven Faludi disappeared from his daughter's life decades ago. Then, at the age of 76, he came out as transgender and underwent sex reassignment surgery. Susan, a Pulitzer prize-winning journalist, was drawn back to Hungary and into her estranged father's life. The resulting memoir is a fascinating exploration of the complexities and contradictions of gender fluidity, Jewish identity and Hungarian history. pbk £9.99

MICHAEL KOHLHAAS

Heinrich Von Kleist, translated by Michael Hofmann This electric new translation of Kleist's novella of 1810 reminds us why it was so admired by writers such as Rilke and Kafka. MH brilliantly renders the austere yet wild narrative about a C16th horse dealer who, after his mares are stolen by a corrupt *Junker*, becomes the leader of a violent peasant rebellion in order to attain restitution. pbk £8.99

FORTY NAMES

Parvuna Fayyaz A first collection by an Afghan poet, born in Kabul in 1990 and now a don at Peterhouse, Cambridge. Highly literate yet drawing on the story-telling traditions of her youth, Fayyaz tells of the experiences of Afghan women. Published in July, ahead of the storm. pbk £10.99

THE WANDERING FALCON

Jamil Ahmad A collection of interconnected short stories by a former District Commissioner for Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province. Apparently inexorable consequences play out through multiple lives on both sides of the Afghan border: outstanding, unforgettable, and full of insight into the people of that region and the *pashtunwali* - the Pashtun code of conduct. pbk £8.99

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Michael Chabon It's 1939 and Josef Kavalier has just arrived in New York, smuggled out of Nazi-occupied Prague in the body of a Golem. In Brooklyn he meets his cousin Sammy Clayman and the two dive headlong into the burgeoning world of superhero comic books. Blending Americana with Jewish folklore, Chabon's novel is as wildly entertaining as it is deeply moving. pbk £9.99

RAZORBLADE TEARS

S. A. Cosby A no-holds-barred revenge thriller set in Virginia. Two anti-hero fathers try and make up for their poor parenthood and prejudices by avenging the murders of their two sons. Hold on to your seats. £18.99

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Sally Rooney A pair of achingly clever young women email each other about the state of the world. They are young, Irish, anxious and in love with unsuitable men. So far so Rooney. But this much-hyped third novel from the millennial *wunderkind* is cool, quiet, often even beautiful. £16.99

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Serhiy Plokhy In his memoirs, Gorbachev wrote that the explosion at Chernobyl's power plant was "perhaps the real cause of the collapse of the Soviet Union." Plokhy's diagnosis is meticulous and his minute-by-minute account of that horrifying night is told with a thriller writer's relish for chilling detail. pbk £9.99

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Sylvain Tesson Tesson practised living in extreme cold on the shores of Lake Baikal a few years ago, memorably and entrancingly recounted in *Consolations of the Forest*. Here he has renounced both solitude and a warm log cabin for three companions and icy hides on the Changthang plateau as they wait - and wait - and wait... The writing is wonderfully spare, the thought engaging. £14.99

LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHY

Saskia Boelsums Boelsums is an extraordinary visual artist and this is one of the most remarkable photographic books to have come our way. Tramping through any amount of Dutch rain, wind and weather - arduous *plein air* photography - and then working up her images digitally, she produces landscapes that are truly sublime. Sometimes reminiscent of Ruysdael or other Dutch masters, her painterly photographs of vast spaces, vast airs, are ravishingly beautiful. £50.00

