

JOHN SANDOE (BOOKS) LTD



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NEW YEAR 2024

For January, February and March.
Price and availability correct at time of printing.

BIOGRAPHY & MEMOIR

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Patrick Olivelle He ruled an area of the Indian subcontinent greater than anyone until the British 2000 years later; famously he renounced war for Buddhism and promoted religious toleration throughout his multi-ethnic empire. £20

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Sandy Nairne & Peter R. Williams The embodiment of *mens sana in corpore sano* rowed across the Channel, swam the Niagara basin twice and became an MP. He and his wife were intimate with the 'Souls'. £25

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Maurice Samuels Besides telling the dismal, astounding story of one of the world's most notorious miscarriages of justice, this new account seeks out the life of the young French officer before he was consumed by his role in national history, arguing that Dreyfus demonstrated a new model of Jewish identity. £16.99

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Ranulph Fiennes Wind, snow, ice, heat... a memoir published on the author's eightieth birthday. £25

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Georgi Gospodinov A short but perfectly formed memoir by the acclaimed Bulgarian author who won last year's International Booker Prize with *Time Shelter*. £14.99

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Ramachandra Guha The 40-year relationship between the prodigious writer and scholar (biographer of Gandhi, amongst other things, and a JS customer) and his original editor at Oxford University Press. £25

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Ruby Lal How the daughter of Babur, first Mughal Emperor, wrangled her way out of the harem (for a while) to travel around India, to Persia and beyond. Based on her own account. £22

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Paula Byrne A rich study of the gulf between Hardy's fictional women, with whom he seems to have empathised, and the real women around him... who needed a certain hardness (?) in their troubled relationships with him. £25

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Sheila Heti Ten years – or snatches of them – are freed from the constraints of time by submission to alpha-omega. A wonderfully liberating approach to memoir. pbk £10.99

JOURNEY FROM THE NORTH

Storm Jameson Originally published in 2 vols (1969 & 1970), this is a hugely welcome reissue of the amazing, rich memoir by the prolific novelist, journalist and political activist, friend of H.G. Wells and Rose Macaulay. She died in 1986, aged 95. £25

LOVE FROM VENICE: A GOLDEN SUMMER ON THE GRAND CANAL

Gill Johnson The author went to Venice in 1957, aged 25, to have fun for a season among the rich and glam. Written with 67 years' hindsight, this memoir is a vivid evocation of a vanished era. £25

THE COLLECTED LETTERS OF JANE MORRIS

Edited by Jan Marsb & Frank C. Sharp Nearly 600 letters from the pre-Raphaelite model who became the wife of William Morris and the lover of Dante Gabriel Rossetti. An impeccably researched, annotated and edited work, this first appeared in 2012 in hardback but has for many years been unavailable. pbk £36.99

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Viet Thanh Nguyen A many-layered memoir from the Pulitzer-winning author of *The Sympathizer*: the American dream, the Vietnam War, the life of the refugee, adoption, violence, identity. £22

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Ramie Targoff Anne Clifford's diaries, Mary Sidney's translations, Aemilia Lanyer's poems, Elizabeth Cary's playwriting: out of these a fine scholar of Renaissance literature constructs an illuminating group biography of four quietly radical women. £25

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Charles Spencer An accomplished historian mines his childhood experience of the cruelty of the boarding school he was sent to aged eight. £25

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Anne Somerset By looking at the relationships Queen Victoria had with her ten Prime Ministers, AS shows us her changing – and often surprising – involvement in affairs of state. £30

HISTORY

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Gary J. Bass The Nuremberg Trials had their counterpart in Japan. This is a thorough investigation of that process, and its significance to what happened afterwards in Asia. £30

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Jonathan Clements From the home of the indigenous Formosans to a European trading post, from a Japanese colony to the last bastion of the Republic of China. Essential reading for anyone who wants to understand this small island state about which pivots so much in contemporary Asian geopolitics – and beyond. £22

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Josephine Quinn Contacts and connections as the drivers of cultural change: the West was built on far more than the values of ancient Greece and Rome, as per the Victorian paradigm. Erudite and compelling. £30

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Daniel Schulman Joseph Seligman arrived in the US with \$100 sewn into the lining of his clothes; the Lehman brothers followed; then Marcus Goldman and the ‘forty-eighters’ fleeing European anti-semitism. A riveting account. £30

THE GENIUS OF THEIR AGE: IBN SINA, BIRUNI, AND THE LOST ENLIGHTENMENT

S. Frederick Starr The C10th synthesis of Greek thought in Central Asi. Starr’s magnificent book is a cultural and intellectual history of the Islamic Enlightenment and its two chief proponents – Ibn Sina and Biruni. £22.99

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Frank Tallis Freud is the primary focus here, but we also encounter Klimt, Schiele, Herzl, Empress Sisi and many others in this fine account of the new understanding of the mind that arose from Vienna at this period. £25

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Richard Whatmore This rich historical analysis argues that the Enlightenment was a failure on its own terms. Terror, revolution, corruption, gross commercial excess and Empire prevailed instead of Reason. £30

CURRENT AFFAIRS

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Jana Schabich Borg, Walter Sinnott-Armstrong & Vincent Conitzer A philosopher and two scientists outline the moral quandaries AI poses and analyse how it might be harnessed for the greater good. £25

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Jonathan Haidt Or The Dangers of the Smart-Phone... but actually, Haidt's analysis is sound and helpful, rather than recklessly alarmist. £25

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Hannah Ritchie The hyperbole of its sub-title notwithstanding, this is a first-rate and extremely welcome book about the state of the globe, with as much well-founded hope as insight and data. £22

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Carrie Sun A dizzying memoir of life inside a top Wall Street firm, and the author's discovery that she needed to break out of the fast, super-rich lane. £20

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Linnea Axelsson, translated by Saskia Vogel A verse-novel about the experiences of the Sami in the C20th. £20

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Colin Barrett *Young Skins* and *Homesickness*, his collections of short stories, were brilliantly successful. Set over a weekend in County Mayo among a group of young, this is his first novel. £16.99

HER SIDE OF THE STORY

Alba de Céspedes, introduction by Elena Ferrante, translated by Jill Foulston Drawing on the author's own experiences of WW2, the novel's protagonist rebels against the pressures of family and politics in Fascist Italy. First published in 1949. By the author of *Forbidden Notebook*. £20

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Howard Jacobson Infidelity, desire, love in mid-life. £20

COUNT LUNA

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I WAS JACK MORTIMER

Alexander Lernet-Holenia, translated by Ignat Avsey Set in inter-war Vienna, this is a dark and satisfyingly convoluted tale of identity and murder. pbk £9.99

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Edouard Louis, translated by John Lambert The eradication of a previous self in spare, clear prose. By the author of *The End of Eddy* and other autobiographical novels. £18.99

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Hisham Matar Measured and sophisticated, this novel has as its central event the shootings outside the Libyan embassy in 1984, which alter forever the lives of three young Libyans. Themes of exile, reticence and action, roads taken and not taken, are exquisitely unfurled. Here is a fine sensibility at work. £16.99

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Sigrid Nunez A green macaw who likes murmuring to itself is one of a trio of characters caught up together in the pandemic; the others are a middle-aged professor and a young drop-out. A novel of unlikely companionship and connection in that curiously static time, with its focus on the present and the very ordinary. £16.99

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Rebecca K Reilly Antipodean take on *Franny & Zooey*. Very charming, very funny. £14.99

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Montserrat Roig, translated by Julia Sanches, introduction by Wendy Erskine An excellent Catalan novel from the 1970s, about flight and return, in which the Civil War still looms over the tail-end of Franco's era and modernity blooms. A marvellous evocation of Barcelona then. This is the novel's first publication in English. pbk £10.99

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HARD BY A GREAT FOREST

Leo Vardiasvili A man returns to Georgia after two decades in the UK and disappears; first one and then another of his sons sets off to find him, picking up clues scattered like breadcrumbs in a fairy tale. Electrifying, absurdist, funny, mournful – a very beguiling debut. £16.99

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Carol Adlam A brilliant graphic reimagining of a C19th Russian crime novel with a woman journalist-thief-liar-magician as its sleuth. The author is an accomplished academic and illustrator. £20

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Anne Carson Much-anticipated new collection about, according to Her Greatness, ‘different things, like Joseph Conrad, Guantanamo, Flaubert, snow... forensics, encounters with lovers, the word “idea”, the feet of Jesus, and Russian thugs.’ pbk £14.99

SELECTED POEMS

Lavinia Greenlaw Draws on thirty years of published work. Perception is an enduring theme – what it means to observe oneself, one’s friends, lovers, surroundings, things that are felt but not seen. See also her new collection of essays, *The Vast Extent: On Seeing and Not Seeing Further*. pbk £14.99

RAPTURE’S ROAD

Seán Hewitt Hewitt is a skilled writer of the interior self; his memoir – *All Down Darkness Wide* – recalled an uneasy romance with a young Swedish man. This second poetry collection is a similar mixture of hauntings and ecstasies. pbk £12.99

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Tomasz Rozycki, translated by Mira Rosenthal Lieutenant Anielewicz is on an eccentric mission to lift 21st century humans out of their gloom. A shimmering, breathless collection published by Archipelago. pbk £14.99

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Dylan Thomas A nice selection from Pushkin Press. pbk £12.99

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Hanif Abdurraqib Abdurraqib’s meditation on Black music and performance, *A Little Devil in America*, was inspired. This new book, a literary memoir about basketball and what it takes to be successful, what it means to ‘make it’, is just as poetic and political. Thrilling, both at the level of the sentence and the collective: in cities, streets, concrete courts. £20

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Sarah Anderson Quietism perhaps, rather than the silence of things not being talked about: the art of listening, of stilling the interior babble. By the writer, painter and traveller who set up the Travel Bookshop many years ago. pbk £16.99

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Lavinia Greenlaw Essays, some illustrations, and an alluring index: in 'B' alone you'll find Charles Babbage, Pauline Baynes, burial chamber (neolithic), blue colour, brightness, Louise Bourgeois, boredom, bats and Bakunin... £20

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Alexandra Harris Harris' wondrously eclectic mind has previously produced *Weatherland* and *Romantic Moderns*. Here she weaves stories of the Sussex landscape of her youth, with threads of Blake, Milton, Constable and Ford Madox Ford as well as of those whose names are indecipherable. £25

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Joseph Hone Like a detective novel of the time, the story of two booksellers who uncovered the forgeries of a pompous bastion of the literary scene in 1930s' London. £22

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Adam Phillips Phillips dances from end to end of the see-saw of renunciation: he's always a joy to read. £18.99

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Caroline Potter The role of surrealism and the cultural milieu of Paris in the 1940s helped inspire Boulez's emotional and radical music. CP's last book – on Eric Satie – was excellent. £30

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Marilynne Robinson Yes, this is a book on how to read the first Book of the Bible – from one of the world's truly luminous novelists, the Calvinist author of *Gilead*, *Home*, *Lila* and *Jack*. £25

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Edward Said, edited by Wouter Capitain Perspicacious readings of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, Beethoven's *Fidelio*, Berlioz's *Les Troyens*, and Wagner's *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg*. pbk £16.99

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Fiona Stafford Stafford meanders through Britain, recounting her family history and examining those places where landscape meets literature to create a genius loci. £20

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Lyndsey Stonebridge From the emergence of tyranny to the malaise of ennui, LS surveys how Hannah Arendt's life and work can help us confront the perils of contemporary post-truth politics. £22

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Susan Tomes From Clara Schumann and Fanny Mendelssohn to Nina Simone. £25

ART

SARAH ARMSTRONG-JONES: GATHERING

Sarah Armstrong-Jones Catalogue of the recent exhibition of her ravishing pictures at the Redfern Gallery, where her work can be seen to shift from precise line drawing to abstraction and colour, culminating in large, gorgeous canvasses of the Sussex Downs. pbk £10

ANTONY GORMLEY: CRITICAL MASS

From the Musée Rodin in Paris, a comparative study of both sculptors and their shared concern for the human form. £40

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Edited by David Bindman & Esther Chadwick To accompany an exhibition at the Fitzwilliam; sets Blake in a European context. £35

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Rachel Silveri Dazzling catalogue of her paintings, as well as her furniture, tapestries, costumes, mosaics, books and interiors. £60

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Dorothy Price Accompanies an exhibition at the RA about competing representations of empire, featuring fifty artists from Turner and Reynolds to Frank Bowling, Lubaina Himid and Kara Walker. £25

TURNER'S LAST SKETCHBOOK

J. M. W. Turner, notes by Tracy Emin A facsimile of his last intact sketchbook, with an accompanying poem by Tracy Emin – whose hometown, Margate, Turner returned to throughout his life. £20

ANGELICA KAUFFMAN

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