

Bringing Home The Birkin

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Deluxe - Dana Thomas 2007-08-16

“With *Deluxe: How Luxury Lost Its Luster*, [Dana] Thomas—who has been the cultural and fashion writer for *Newsweek* in Paris for 12 years—has written a crisp, witty social history that’s as entertaining as it is informative.” —*New York Times* From the author of *Fashionopolis: The Price of Fast Fashion and the Future of Clothes* Once luxury was available only to the rarefied and aristocratic world of old money and royalty. It offered a history of tradition, superior quality, and a pampered buying experience. Today, however, luxury is simply a product packaged and sold by multibillion-dollar global corporations focused on growth, visibility, brand awareness, advertising, and, above all, profits. Award-winning journalist Dana Thomas digs deep into the dark side of the luxury industry to uncover all the secrets that Prada, Gucci, and Burberry don’t want us to know. *Deluxe* is an uncompromising look behind the glossy façade that will enthrall anyone interested in fashion, finance, or culture.

J M Barrie and the Lost Boys - Andrew Birkin 2003-07-11

This literary biography is “a story of obsession and the search for pure childhood . . . Moving, charming, a revelation” (*Los Angeles Times*). J. M. Barrie, Victorian novelist, playwright, and author of *Peter Pan*, or *The Boy Who Wouldn’t Grow Up*, led a life almost as interesting as his famous creation. Childless in his marriage, Barrie grew close to the five young boys of the Davies family, ultimately becoming their guardian and surrogate father when they were orphaned. Andrew Birkin draws extensively on a vast range of material by and about Barrie, including notebooks, memoirs, and hours of recorded interviews with the family and their circle, to describe Barrie’s life, the tragedies that shaped him, and the wonderful world of imagination he created for the boys. Updated with a new preface and including photos and illustrations, this “absolutely gripping” read reveals the dramatic story behind one of the classics of children’s literature (*Evening Standard*). “A psychological thriller . . . One of the year’s most complex and absorbing biographies.” —*Time* “[A] fascinating story.” —*The Washington Post*

Archive Photography Language Administhrb - BIRKIN 2021-01-12

This alternative study of archive and photography sits firmly against the backdrop of the traditional archive. Although many types of image assemblages feature—public and private, formal and informal, physical and

digital—they are all considered in relation to the highly regulated systems that operate within the institutional milieu. Cataloguing is presented as a radical form of knowledge production, and the catalogue as a critical tool for mapping image time. The unfamiliar and overlooked language of image description is considered as having a life, a worth and an aesthetic value of its own. Functioning at the intersection of text and image, this book combines media culture and techniques of the archive, as well as contemporary discourse on art and conceptual writing. There is a media-archaeological debate throughout as to how physical archive systems and material technologies connect with different archival models, including social media spaces and other image networks.

The Sum of Small Things - Elizabeth Currid-Halkett 2017-05-15

How the leisure class has been replaced by a new elite, and how their consumer habits affect us all In today’s world, the leisure class has been replaced by a new elite. Highly educated and defined by cultural capital rather than income bracket, these individuals earnestly buy organic, carry NPR tote bags, and breast-feed their babies. They care about discreet, inconspicuous consumption—like eating free-range chicken and heirloom tomatoes, wearing organic cotton shirts and TOMS shoes, and listening to the *Serial* podcast. They use their purchasing power to hire nannies and housekeepers, to cultivate their children’s growth, and to practice yoga and Pilates. In *The Sum of Small Things*, Elizabeth Currid-Halkett dubs this segment of society “the aspirational class” and discusses how, through deft decisions about education, health, parenting, and retirement, the aspirational class reproduces wealth and upward mobility, deepening the ever-wider class divide. Exploring the rise of the aspirational class, Currid-Halkett considers how much has changed since the 1899 publication of Thorstein Veblen’s *Theory of the Leisure Class*. In that inflammatory classic, which coined the phrase “conspicuous consumption,” Veblen described upper-class frivolities: men who used walking sticks for show, and women who bought silver flatware despite the effectiveness of cheaper aluminum utensils. Now, Currid-Halkett argues, the power of material goods as symbols of social position has diminished due to their accessibility. As a result, the aspirational class has altered its consumer habits away from overt materialism to more subtle expenditures that reveal status and knowledge. And these transformations influence

how we all make choices. With a rich narrative and extensive interviews and research, *The Sum of Small Things* illustrates how cultural capital leads to lifestyle shifts and what this forecasts, not just for the aspirational class but for everyone.

Country Matters - Michael Korda 2009-03-17

"Dreaming of moving to the country? First, read Michael Korda's engaging memoir. City types will find laughter, profit, and fair warning in *Country Matters*." —Washington Post With his inimitable sense of humor and storytelling talent, New York Times bestselling author Michael Korda brings us this charming, hilarious, self-deprecating memoir of a city couple's new life in the country. At once entertaining, canny, and moving, *Country Matters* does for Dutchess County, New York, what *Under the Tuscan Sun* did for Tuscany. This witty memoir, replete with Korda's own line drawings, reads like a novel, as it chronicles the author's transformation from city slicker to full-time country gentleman, complete with tractors, horses, and a leaking roof. When he decides to take up residence in an eighteenth-century farmhouse in Dutchess County, ninety miles north of New York City, Korda discovers what country life is really like: Owning pigs, more than owning horses, even more than owning the actual house, firmly anchored the Kordas as residents in the eyes of their Pleasant Valley neighbors. You may own your land, but without concertina barbed wire, or the 82nd Airborne on patrol, it's impossible to keep people off it! It's possible to line up major household repairs over a tuna melt sandwich. The locals are not particularly quick to accept these outsiders, and the couple's earliest interactions with their new neighbors provide constant entertainment, particularly when the Kordas discover that hunting season is a year-round event—right on their own land! From their closest neighbors, mostly dairy farmers, to their unforgettable caretaker Harold Roe—whose motto regarding the local flora is "Whack it all back!"—the residents of Pleasant Valley eventually come to realize that the Kordas are more than mere weekenders. Sure to have readers in stitches, this is a book that has universal appeal for all who have ever dreamed of owning that perfect little place to escape to up in the country, or, more boldly, have done it.

Primates of Park Avenue - Wednesday Martin 2016-05-31

"Like an urban Dian Fossey, Wednesday Martin decodes the primate social behaviors of Upper East Side mothers in a brilliantly original and witty memoir about her adventures assimilating into that most secretive and elite tribe. After marrying a man from the Upper East Side and moving to the neighborhood, Wednesday Martin struggled to fit in. Drawing on her background in anthropology and primatology, she tried looking at her new world through that lens, and suddenly things fell into place. She understood the other mothers' snobbiness at school drop-off when she compared them to olive baboons. Her obsessional quest for a Hermes Birkin handbag made sense when she realized other females wielded them to establish dominance in their troop. And so she analyzed tribal

migration patterns; display rituals; physical adornment, mutilation, and mating practices; extra-pair copulation; and more. Her conclusions are smart, thought-provoking, and hilariously unexpected. Every city has its Upper East Side, and in Wednesday's memoir, readers everywhere will recognize the strange cultural codes of powerful social hierarchies and the compelling desire to climb them. They will also see that Upper East Side mothers want the same things for their children that all mothers want—safety, happiness, and success—and not even sky-high penthouses and chauffeured SUVs can protect this ecologically released tribe from the universal experiences of anxiety and loss. When Wednesday's life turns upside down, she learns how deep the bonds of female friendship really are. Intelligent, funny, and heartfelt, *Primates of Park Avenue* lifts a veil on a secret, elite world within a world—the exotic, fascinating, and strangely familiar culture of privileged Manhattan motherhood"—

Pattern Recognition - William Gibson 2004-06-24

Pattern Recognition - a pulsating techno-thriller by William Gibson, bestselling author of *Neuromancer* Cayce Pollard has been flown to London. She's a 'coolhunter' - her services for hire to global corporations desperate for certainty in a capricious and uncertain world. Now she's been offered a special project: track down the makers of the addictive online film that's lighting up the 'net. Hunting the source will take her to Tokyo and Moscow and put her in the sights of Japanese computer crazies and Russian Mafia men. She's up against those who want to control the film, to own it - who figure breaking the law is just another business strategy. The kind of people who relish turning the hunter into the hunted . . . William Gibson is a prophet and a satirist, a black comedian and an outstanding architect of cool. Readers of Neal Stephenson, Ray Bradbury and Iain M. Banks will love this book. *Pattern Recognition* is the first novel in the Blue Ant trilogy - read *Spook Country* and *Zero History* for more. 'A big novel, full of bold ideas . . . races along like an expert thriller' GQ 'Dangerously hip. Its dialogue and characterization will amaze you. A wonderfully detailed, reckless journey of espionage and lies' USA Today 'A compelling, humane story with a sympathetic heroine searching for meaning and consolation in a post-everything world' Daily Telegraph *Idoru* is a gripping techno-thriller by William Gibson, bestselling author of *Neuromancer* 'Fast, witty and cleverly politicized' Guardian

Handbags: A Love Story - Monica Botkier 2017-11-14

In this sumptuous full-color compendium, award-winning designer Monica Botkier celebrates seventy of the most coveted bags of the past seventy-five years, from Chanel, Dior, Gucci, Hermès, Yves Saint Laurent, Louis Vuitton, and other international couture houses, as well as top bag designers such as Anya Hindmarch and Nancy Gonzalez. Exquisitely crafted luxury handbags are an obsession. The look, the feel of soft leather, that new bag smell that induces a swoon—a gorgeous handbag does more than complete a look, it telegraphs taste and chic, and it inspires envy, whether it's an Hermès Birkin, a quilted Chanel Boy bag

with its signature gold chain, or a Céline Mini Luggage Tote. Award-winning handbag designer Monica Botkier pays homage to these gorgeous objects of desire and the top couture houses and artists that have designed and produced them from the end of World War II to today. *Handbags: A Love Story* showcases the creations of designers such as Azzedine Alaïa, Balenciaga, Bottega Veneta, Céline, Chanel, Chloé, Christian Dior, Mark Cross, Fendi, Salvatore Ferragamo, Givenchy, Goyard, Gucci, Hermès, Anya Hindmarch, Judith Leiber, Olympia Le-Tan, Loewe, Mansur Gavriel, Stella McCartney, Alexander McQueen, Miu Miu, Moschino, Mulberry, Prada, Yves Saint Laurent, Valentino, Roger Vivier, Louis Vuitton, and more. This magnificent, eye-catching anthology tells the story of seventy bags in 200 stunning photographs and vintage and contemporary advertisements and illustrations, as well as quotes, anecdotes, and interviews with designers, stylists, and editors. Each entry offers a concise yet in-depth look at a specific bag and its history—from a celebrity muse, such as Jane Birkin, to collaborations such as the graffiti-splattered bags Marc Jacobs and Stephen Sprouse created for Louis Vuitton. An informative, entertaining exploration of how "It Bags" have influenced fashion, culture, and feminine identity, *Handbags: A Love Story* touches on a wide-range of subjects, such as how a bag is constructed and handbags on the silver screen. With an elegant full-color silkscreened cloth case and a thick acetate four-color jacket; two long, wide satin markers, and two-color endpapers, this gorgeous tribute is an essential accessory for handbag fanatics, fashion lovers, and pop culture enthusiasts.

A Month in the Country - J.L. Carr 2012-08-29

In J. L. Carr's deeply charged poetic novel, Tom Birkin, a veteran of the Great War and a broken marriage, arrives in the remote Yorkshire village of Oxgodby where he is to restore a recently discovered medieval mural in the local church. Living in the bell tower, surrounded by the resplendent countryside of high summer, and laboring each day to uncover an anonymous painter's depiction of the apocalypse, Birkin finds that he himself has been restored to a new, and hopeful, attachment to life. But summer ends, and with the work done, Birkin must leave. Now, long after, as he reflects on the passage of time and the power of art, he finds in his memories some consolation for all that has been lost.

Writing Places - William Zinsser 2009-05-19

"William Zinsser turns his zest, warmth and curiosity—his sharp but forgiving eye—on his own story. The result is lively, funny and moving, especially for anyone who cares about art and the business of writing well." —Evan Thomas, *Newsweek* In *Writing Places*, William Zinsser—the author of *On Writing Well*, the bestseller that has inspired two generations of writers, journalists, and students—recalls the many colorful and instructive places where he has worked and taught. Gay Talese, author of *A Writer's Life*, calls *Writing Places*, "Wonderful," while the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* praises this unique memoir for possessing "all the qualities

that Zinsser believes matter most in good writing—clarity, brevity, simplicity and humanity."

Something from Tiffany's - Melissa Hill 2022-10-04

Now a Hello Sunshine/Prime feature film, from international bestselling author Melissa Hill comes an adorable holiday romance about taking chances, falling in love, and trusting destiny. New York City at Christmas and a visit to Tiffany's is a recipe to sweep a girl off her feet. Unless fate has other plans . . . When Ethan Greene lost his wife, he never thought he would be able to replace her, until one woman stepped in and showed him how to be happy again. Now, on a romantic Christmas trip to New York City, he has a plan to show Vanessa just how important she is to him and maybe even to give his daughter, Daisy, a complete family again. He's going to propose with a perfect ring from Tiffany's. Gary Knowles and his girlfriend, Rachel, are on the trip of a lifetime in New York at the most magical time of year. The only thing missing is Gary's gift for Rachel, since as usual, he's left his shopping far too late. On a last-minute Christmas Eve visit to Tiffany's, he quickly picks out a charm bracelet for her and heads back to their hotel. But, in a moment, one small mistake changes everything...

My Mess Is a Bit of a Life - Georgia Pritchett 2022-02-08

"Georgia Pritchett is a singularly hilarious person. Her book is a delightful and perfect reflection of her. Its tenderness sneaks up on you and really packs a punch. What a magnificent read!"—Julia Louis Dreyfus Jenny Lawson meets Nora Ephron in this joyful memoir-in-vignettes on living—and thriving—with anxiety from a multiple Emmy Award-winning comedy writer whose credits include *Succession* and *Veep*. When Georgia Pritchett found herself lost for words—a bit of a predicament for a comedy writer—she turned to a therapist, who suggested she try writing down some of the things that worried her. But instead of a grocery list of concerns, Georgia wrote this book. A natural born worrywart, Georgia's life has been defined by her quirky anxiety. During childhood, she was agitated about the monsters under her bed (Were they comfy enough?). Going into labor, she fretted about making a fuss ("Sorry to interrupt, but the baby is coming out of my body," I said politely). Winning a prestigious award, she agonized over receiving free gifts after the ceremony (It was an excruciating experience. Mortifying). Soul-baring yet lighthearted, poignant yet written with a healthy dose of self-deprecation, *My Mess Is a Bit of a Life* is a tour through the carnival funhouse of Georgia's life, from her anxiety-ridden early childhood where disaster loomed around every corner (When I was little I used to think that sheep were clouds that had fallen to earth. On cloudy days I used to worry that I would be squashed by a sheep), through the challenges of breaking into an industry dominated by male writers, to the exquisite terror (and incomparable joy) of raising children. Delightfully offbeat, painfully honest, full of surprising wonders, and delivering plenty of hilarious, laugh-out-loud moments, *My Mess Is a Bit of a Life* reveals a talented, vulnerable, and strong woman in all her

wisecracking weirdness, and makes us love it—and her—too.

Surviving a Shark Attack (On Land) - Dr. Laura Schlessinger 2011-01-18

With her trademark no-nonsense approach, New York Times bestselling author Dr. Laura Schlessinger gives her readers the emotional defenses they need to overcome the worst life will throw at them, whether it's a cheating spouse, a lying sibling, or a ruthless colleague. Author and renowned radio host Dr. Laura has helped countless men and women become better husbands, wives, parents, and people. She's helped them cope with grief; shown them how to handle adversity; and set them on the path to understanding and living happy, well-adjusted lives. In *Surviving a Shark Attack (on Land)* she turns to an emotionally explosive subject that has touched all our lives: betrayal and the desire for revenge. And for the first time, she shares her own personal experiences with betrayal, humiliation, and pain, connecting with her readers as never before and putting this important subject into context. In this powerful and thought-provoking book, Dr. Laura offers readers the perceptive, common-sense insight they need to live healthier, better lives.

Bringing Home the Birkin - Michael Tonello 2008-07-08

An insider's hilarious, whirlwind account of his years spent globe-trotting in search of the holy grail of handbags: the Birkin For more than twenty years, the Hermès Birkin bag has been the iconic symbol of fashion, luxury, and wealth. Though the bag is often seen dangling from the arms of celebrities, there is a fabled waiting list of more than two years to buy one from Hermès, and the average fashionista has a better chance of climbing Mount Everest in Prada pumps than of possessing one of these coveted carryalls. Unless, of course, she happens to know Michael Tonello . . . Michael's newfound career started with an impulsive move to Barcelona, a vanished job assignment, no work visa, and an Hermès scarf sold on eBay to generate some quick cash. But soon the resourceful Michael discovered the truth about the waiting list and figured out the secret to getting Hermès to part with one of these precious bags. Millions of dollars worth of Birkins later, Michael had become one of eBay's most successful entrepreneurs—and a Robin Hood to thousands of desperate rich women. With down-to-earth wit, Michael chronicles the unusual ventures that took him to nearly every continent, from eBay to Paris auction house and into the lives of celebrities and poseurs. Flirting with danger, Michael recounts the heady rush of hand delivering his first big score to famed songwriter Carole Bayer Sager in Paris; how he had to hire thugs to rescue a bag that one of his "shoppers" held for ransom; and the story of the Oscar-worthy performances that allowed him to snag "reserved" bags from other, less dogged Birkin seekers. Whether he's relating his wining and dining, buying and selling, dodging and weaving, laughing and crying, or schmoozing and stammering, Michael is a master raconteur who weaves together tales of hunting Birkins in the world's most posh locales, memories of meals that would make any gastronome salivate, anecdotes of obsessed collectors with insatiable desires, and

sweetly intimate stories about his family, friends, and finding true love. The result is a memoir that is distinctive, fun, page-turning, and as addictive as its namesake.

The Seventeen Traditions - Ralph Nader 2012-10-02

"In these pages, I have tried to capture some of my family's traditions as I recall them today. . . . Such family traditions challenge the notion that the fads, technologies, how-to manuals, and addictions of modern life have somehow taken the place of the time-tested wisdom fashioned in the crucibles of earlier generations." So writes Ralph Nader in the opening of this delightful and surprising book. Known for his lifetime of activism, Nader looks back in these page to his serene and enriching childhood in small-town Connecticut to reconnect with seventeen key traditions—from listening to learning, patriotism to argument, work to simple enjoyment—that he absorbed from his parents, his siblings, and his community. Warmly human, rich with sensory memories and lasting wisdom, it offers a modern-day parable of how we grow from children into responsible adults—a reminder of how family and friends can teach us how to live in a civil society. The Tradition of Listening The Tradition of Charity The Tradition of Civics The Tradition of Work The Tradition of Patriotism The Tradition of Simple Enjoyment

A Question of Freedom - Dwayne Betts 2009-08-06

A unique prison narrative that testifies to the power of books to transform a young man's life At the age of sixteen, R. Dwayne Betts—a good student from a lower- middle-class family—carjacked a man with a friend. He had never held a gun before, but within a matter of minutes he had committed six felonies. In Virginia, carjacking is a "certifiable" offense, meaning that Betts would be treated as an adult under state law. A bright young kid, he served his nine-year sentence as part of the adult population in some of the worst prisons in the state. *A Question of Freedom* chronicles Betts's years in prison, reflecting back on his crime and looking ahead to how his experiences and the books he discovered while incarcerated would define him. Utterly alone, Betts confronts profound questions about violence, freedom, crime, race, and the justice system. Confined by cinder-block walls and barbed wire, he discovers the power of language through books, poetry, and his own pen. Above all, *A Question of Freedom* is about a quest for identity—one that guarantees Betts's survival in a hostile environment and that incorporates an understanding of how his own past led to the moment of his crime.

The Secret of Chanel No. 5 - Tilar J. Mazzeo 2011-09-06

With its rich golden hue, art deco–inspired bottle, and timeless, musky scent, Chanel No. 5 is the world's bestselling perfume and arguably the most coveted luxury product of the twentieth century. In *The Secret of Chanel No. 5*, Tilar J. Mazzeo offers a fascinating account of No. 5's creation, its rise to iconic status, and the legacy of its extraordinary success. Mazzeo delves deeply into the life of Coco Chanel, the brilliant, controversial, and steel-willed businesswoman at the heart of the

fragrance. She walks the rose plantations and jasmine fields where the perfume's life begins, and travels to 31 Rue Cambon, the center of the Chanel empire. A blend of evocative history and thoughtful research, here is a glittering account of where art and sensuality mingle with dazzling entrepreneurship and desire: Chanel No. 5.

Honeymoon with My Brother - Franz Wisner 2007-04-01

This is the true story of Franz Wisner, a man who thought he had it all- a high profile career and the fiancée of his dreams- when suddenly, his life turned upside down. Just days before they were to be married, his fiancée called off the wedding. Luckily, his large support network of family and friends wouldn't let him succumb to his misery. They decided Franz should have a wedding and a honeymoon anyway- there just wouldn't be a bride at the ceremony, and Franz' travel companion would be his brother, Kurt. During the "honeymoon," Franz reconnected with his brother and began to look at his life with newfound perspective. The brothers decided to leave their old lives behind them. They quit their jobs, sold all their possessions, and traveled around the world, visiting fifty-three countries for the next two years. In *Honeymoon With My Brother*, Franz recounts this remarkable journey, during which he turned his heartbreak into an opportunity to learn about himself, the world, and the brother he hardly knew.

The Heart And The Fist - Eric Greitens 2011-03-18

THE HEART AND THE FIST shares one man's story of extraordinary leadership and service as both a humanitarian and a warrior. In a life lived at the raw edges of the human experience, Greitens has seen what can be accomplished when compassion and courage come together in meaningful service. As a Rhodes Scholar and Navy SEAL, Greitens worked alongside volunteers who taught art to street children in Bolivia and led US Marines who hunted terrorists in Iraq. He's learned from nuns who fed the destitute in one of Mother Teresa's homes for the dying in India, from aid workers who healed orphaned children in Rwanda, and from Navy SEALs who fought in Afghanistan. He excelled at the hardest military training in the world, and today he works with severely wounded and disabled veterans who are rebuilding their lives as community leaders at home. Greitens offers each of us a new way of thinking about living a meaningful life. We learn that to win any war, even those we wage against ourselves; to create and obtain lasting peace; to save a life; and even, simply to live with purpose requires us—every one of us—to be both good and strong.

Goodbye, Again - Jonny Sun 2021-04-20

Instant New York Times Bestseller "Truly, there's no shame in taking a break from books during the pandemic. But if you're feeling ready to reach out, try starting with *Goodbye, Again*. Take my word for it — let Jonny Sun into your life."---Janet W. Lee, NPR The wonderfully original author of *Everyone's a Liebn When Ur a Liebn Too* gives us a collection of touching and hilarious personal essays, stories, poems—accompanied by his trademark illustrations—covering topics such as mental health,

happiness, and what it means to belong. Jonny Sun is back with a collection of essays and other writings in his unique, funny, and heartfelt style. The pieces range from long meditations on topics like loneliness and being an outsider, to short humor pieces, conversations, and memorable one-liners. Jonny's honest writings about his struggles with feeling productive, as well as his difficulties with anxiety and depression will connect deeply with his fans as well as anyone attempting to create in our chaotic world. It also features a recipe for scrambled eggs that might make you cry.

Drinking and Dating - Brandi Glanville 2015-02-03

America's favorite hashtagger has gone through hell, but now she's back, hilariously sharing what she's learned—why a man would wear his hat during sex, why you should close your legs when you get out of a car, and why yes is the new no.

Bringing Home the Birkin - Michael Tonello 2008-07-08

An insider's hilarious, whirlwind account of his years spent globe-trotting in search of the holy grail of handbags: the Birkin For more than twenty years, the Hermès Birkin bag has been the iconic symbol of fashion, luxury, and wealth. Though the bag is often seen dangling from the arms of celebrities, there is a fabled waiting list of more than two years to buy one from Hermès, and the average fashionista has a better chance of climbing Mount Everest in Prada pumps than of possessing one of these coveted carryalls. Unless, of course, she happens to know Michael Tonello . . . Michael's newfound career started with an impulsive move to Barcelona, a vanished job assignment, no work visa, and an Hermès scarf sold on eBay to generate some quick cash. But soon the resourceful Michael discovered the truth about the waiting list and figured out the secret to getting Hermès to part with one of these precious bags. Millions of dollars worth of Birkins later, Michael had become one of eBay's most successful entrepreneurs—and a Robin Hood to thousands of desperate rich women. With down-to-earth wit, Michael chronicles the unusual ventures that took him to nearly every continent, from eBay to Paris auction house and into the lives of celebrities and poseurs. Flirting with danger, Michael recounts the heady rush of hand delivering his first big score to famed songwriter Carole Bayer Sager in Paris; how he had to hire thugs to rescue a bag that one of his "shoppers" held for ransom; and the story of the Oscar-worthy performances that allowed him to snag "reserved" bags from other, less dogged Birkin seekers. Whether he's relating his wining and dining, buying and selling, dodging and weaving, laughing and crying, or schmoozing and stammering, Michael is a master raconteur who weaves together tales of hunting Birkins in the world's most posh locales, memories of meals that would make any gastronome salivate, anecdotes of obsessed collectors with insatiable desires, and sweetly intimate stories about his family, friends, and finding true love. The result is a memoir that is distinctive, fun, page-turning, and as addictive as its namesake.

The Smell of Evil - Charles Birkin 2014

These thirteen stories reveals Sir Charles Birkin at his diabolical best. He induces chills by describing the sufferings of ordinary, decent people who encounter inexplicable cruelty and evil in their everyday lives.

Organize Your Home Office for Success - Lisa Kanarek 2011-09-01

Running a home office is nothing like running a corporate office, or, for that matter, like running a home. This step-by-step guide is filled with proven strategies for creating a functional, hard-working home office. In this newly update and expanded edition, you'll discover how to: Physically set up and organize your home office for maximum efficiency Buy the right equipment and products that save both time and money Set up a filing system that's tailor-made for you Manage paper and eliminate office clutter Balance home and office life when they're in the same place...and more.

Women in Love - D.H. Lawrence 2015-06-12

A Novel of Romance and Heartache for Fans of Downton Abbey

“Happiness was but the occasional episode in a general drama of pain.”

□ Thomas Hardy, *The Mayor of Casterbridge* D.H. Lawrence's *Women in Love* tells the story of two sisters who pursue romantic relationships during the time of the first world war. *Women in Love* is a sequel to Lawrence's earlier novel, *The Rainbow*, and, like many of his novels, caused controversy due to its sexual subject matter. This Xist Classics edition has been professionally formatted for e-readers with a linked table of contents. This eBook also contains a bonus book club leadership guide and discussion questions. We hope you'll share this book with your friends, neighbors and colleagues and can't wait to hear what you have to say about it.

Population: 485 - Michael Perry 2009-10-13

“Part portrait of a place, part rescue manual, part rumination of life and death, *Population: 485* is a beautiful meditation on the things that matter.”

— Seattle Times Welcome to New Auburn, Wisconsin (population: 485) where the local vigilante is a farmer's wife armed with a pistol and a Bible, the most senior member of the volunteer fire department is a cross-eyed butcher with one kidney and two ex-wives (both of whom work at the only gas station in town), and the back roads are haunted by the ghosts of children and farmers. Michael Perry loves this place. He grew up here, and now—after a decade away—he has returned. Unable to polka or repair his own pickup, his farm-boy hands gone soft after years of writing, Perry figures the best way to regain his credibility is to join the volunteer fire department. Against a backdrop of fires and tangled wrecks, bar fights and smelt feeds, *Population: 485* is a comic and sometimes heartbreaking true tale leavened with quieter meditations on an overlooked America.

More Than Money - Neil Cavuto 2009-10-13

In this phenomenal New York Times bestseller, Neil Cavuto shares the inspirational stories of an array of personal heroes, many of whom motivated him to continue his career as he battled cancer and multiple

sclerosis. Joining the nascent Fox News Channel in 1996, Neil was set to establish himself as one of business journalism's most important players. Ten years after being diagnosed with cancer, however, Cavuto was dealt another body blow: He was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. As friends and strangers alike gathered to offer their support, he became attuned to the stories of others in the business world who also triumphed over serious setbacks of their own. *More Than Money* shares with us their personal stories, among them: Evelyn Lauder, the cosmetics executive who pioneered the pink ribbon campaign after her own battle with breast cancer Richard Branson, who overcame dyslexia and used his creativity and entrepreneurial spirit to build the Virgin empire Michael Wilson, a senior executive at the Royal Bank of Canada, who launched a public campaign to raise awareness of and money for treating depression after his son committed suicide Jon Huntsman, who survived two bouts with cancer to build one of the largest petrochemical companies in the world and found one of the most prominent cancer research centers Moving, sincere, and wise, *More Than Money* profiles individuals whose stories are a testament to courage, compassion, and dignity in the face of adversity.

Bringing Home the Birkin - Michael Tonello 2008-04-22

An insider's hilarious, whirlwind account of his years spent globe-trotting in search of the holy grail of handbags: the Birkin For more than twenty years, the Hermès Birkin bag has been the iconic symbol of fashion, luxury, and wealth. Though the bag is often seen dangling from the arms of celebrities, there is a fabled waiting list of more than two years to buy one from Hermès, and the average fashionista has a better chance of climbing Mount Everest in Prada pumps than of possessing one of these coveted carryalls. Unless, of course, she happens to know Michael Tonello . . . Michael's newfound career started with an impulsive move to Barcelona, a vanished job assignment, no work visa, and an Hermès scarf sold on eBay to generate some quick cash. But soon the resourceful Michael discovered the truth about the waiting list and figured out the secret to getting Hermès to part with one of these precious bags. Millions of dollars worth of Birkins later, Michael had become one of eBay's most successful entrepreneurs—and a Robin Hood to thousands of desperate rich women. With down-to-earth wit, Michael chronicles the unusual ventures that took him to nearly every continent, from eBay to Paris auction house and into the lives of celebrities and poseurs. Flirting with danger, Michael recounts the heady rush of hand delivering his first big score to famed songwriter Carole Bayer Sager in Paris; how he had to hire thugs to rescue a bag that one of his "shoppers" held for ransom; and the story of the Oscar-worthy performances that allowed him to snag "reserved" bags from other, less dogged Birkin seekers. Whether he's relating his wining and dining, buying and selling, dodging and weaving, laughing and crying, or schmoozing and stammering, Michael is a master raconteur who weaves together tales of hunting Birkins in the world's most posh locales, memories of meals that would make any gastronome

salivate, anecdotes of obsessed collectors with insatiable desires, and sweetly intimate stories about his family, friends, and finding true love. The result is a memoir that is distinctive, fun, page-turning, and as addictive as its namesake.

Hermes - Alice Charbin 2020-03-03

An elegant collection of Alice Charbin's whimsical illustrations from her 18-year collaboration with Hermès. For 18 years, illustrator Alice Charbin has been inviting people to escape to the whimsical world of Hermès, where the brand's iconic orange box frequently shapeshifts and appears in the most unlikely of places. *Hermès: Heavenly Days* brings together 300 of Charbin's best drawings from the collaboration in a beautiful package that's perfect for every bookshelf and coffee table. From Christmas in the North Pole to spring time in the streets of Paris, these winks from the house of Hermès will make readers of all ages smile and see life . . . in orange!

Bargain Fever - Mark Ellwood 2014-09-25

A spirited investigation into the phenomenon of bargain hunting and the competition between buyers and sellers traces the evolution of promotional pricing and sale discounts, exploring the impact of negotiable pricing on markets, the machinations of price consultants and the growing empowerment of consumers.

The Handbag - Carmel Allen 2012

According to Carmel Allen, the beauty editor of *Vogue* magazine, the key to assessing a modern girl is the handbag. With over 150 colour photographs, this book offers a celebration of the handbag. An indispensable accessory as well as a key fashion statement, the handbag is portable boudoir, office, bank and emergency kit for women. With chapters on the history of the handbag, a Who's Who of style-shapers, a look at the contents women carry and an A-Z of international designers and brands, this book is suitable for handbag lovers. From the classics - the Chanel quilted bag, the Hermès Kelly, Gucci's bamboo-handled, snaffle designs, and Louis Vuitton's monogram, to artistic creations from Judith Leiber and Nathalie Hambro and celebrity favorites Marc Jacobs, Tory Burch, and Balenciaga, the A-Z section profiles the most coveted and iconic designs ever.

Beyond Katrina - Natasha Trethewey 2015-08-01

Beyond Katrina is poet Natasha Trethewey's very personal profile of her natal Mississippi Gulf Coast and of the people there whose lives were forever changed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Trethewey's attempt to understand and document the damage to Gulfport started as a series of lectures at the University of Virginia that were subsequently published as essays in the *Virginia Quarterly Review*. For *Beyond Katrina*, Trethewey expanded this work into a narrative that incorporates personal letters, poems, and photographs, offering a moving meditation on the love she holds for her childhood home. In this new edition, Trethewey looks back on the ten years that have passed since Katrina in a new epilogue,

outlining progress that has been made and the challenges that still exist.

Dad, How Do I? - Rob Kenney 2021-05-18

From the host of the YouTube channel that went viral—*Dad, How Do I?*—comes a book that's part memoir/part inspiration/part DIY. Rob Kenney's father left him and his seven siblings when he was fourteen years old, and the youngest had to fend for themselves. He wished that he had someone who could teach him the basics—how to tie a tie, jump-start a car, unclog a drain, use tools properly—as well as succeed in life. But he and his siblings had to figure these things out on their own. Now a father himself, Rob decided that he would help people out by providing how-to tips as well as advice—and even throw in some bad dad jokes. He started a YouTube channel for anyone looking for fatherly advice, and in the course of three months, gained a following of nearly 2.5 million subscribers, with millions of views for his how-to and inspirational videos. In this book, Rob shares his story of overcoming a difficult childhood with the strength of faith and family, and offers inspiration and hope. In addition, he provides 50 practical DIY instructions (30 of which will be unique to the book), illustrated with helpful line drawings.

The Medici Conspiracy - Peter Watson 2007-06-12

The story begins, as stories do in all good thrillers, with a botched robbery and a police chase. Eight Apuleian vases of the fourth century B.C. are discovered in the swimming pool of a German-based art smuggler. More valuable than the recovery of the vases, however, is the discovery of the smuggler's card index detailing his deals and dealers. It reveals the existence of a web of tombaroli—tomb raiders—who steal classical artifacts, and a network of dealers and smugglers who spirit them out of Italy and into the hands of wealthy collectors and museums. Peter Watson, a former investigative journalist for the *London Sunday Times* and author of two previous exposés of art world scandals, names the key figures in this network that has depleted Europe's classical artifacts. Among the loot are the irreplaceable and highly collectable vases of Euphronius, the equivalent in their field of the sculpture of Bernini or the painting of Michelangelo. The narrative leads to the doors of some major institutions: Sothebys, the Getty Museum in L.A., the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York among them. Filled with great characters and human drama, *The Medici Conspiracy* authoritatively exposes another shameful round in one of the oldest games in the world: theft, smuggling and duplicitous dealing, all in the name of art.

False Witness - Karin Slaughter 2021-07-20

INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "There's deception, sabotage, violence, family secrets . . . all the stuff you could want from a fictional page-turner."— *theSkimm* Recommended by Washington Post • *theSkimm* • GMA.com • Popsugar • Bustle • Atlanta Journal-Constitution • Augusta Chronicle • Sun-Sentinel • Mystery and Suspense Magazine • and more! He saw what you did. He knows who you are... From the New York Times bestselling author of *Pieces of Her* and *The Silent Wife*, an

electrifying standalone thriller. AN ORDINARY LIFE... Leigh Collier has worked hard to build what looks like a normal life. She's an up-and-coming defense attorney at a prestigious law firm in Atlanta, would do anything for her sixteen-year-old daughter Maddy, and is managing to successfully coparent through a pandemic after an amicable separation from her husband Walter. HIDES A DEVASTATING PAST... But Leigh's ordinary life masks a childhood no one should have to endure ... a childhood tarnished by secrets, broken by betrayal, and ultimately destroyed by a brutal act of violence. BUT NOW THE PAST IS CATCHING UP... On a Sunday night at her daughter's school play, she gets a call from one of the firm's partners who wants Leigh to come on board to defend a wealthy man accused of multiple counts of rape. Though wary of the case, it becomes apparent she doesn't have much choice if she wants to keep her job. They're scheduled to go to trial in one week. When she meets the accused face-to-face, she realizes that it's no coincidence that he's specifically asked for her to represent him. She knows him. And he knows her. More to the point, he may know what happened over twenty years ago, and why Leigh has spent two decades avoiding her past. AND TIME IS RUNNING OUT. Suddenly she has a lot more to lose than this case. The only person who can help is her younger, estranged sister Callie—the last person Leigh would ever want to drag into this after all they've been through. But with the life-shattering truth in danger of being revealed, she has no choice... "A high-stakes thriller . . . Her heroines are believable, flawed and courageous." –OYINKAN BRAITHWAITE

Confessions of an Economic Hit Man - John Perkins 2004-11-09

Perkins, a former chief economist at a Boston strategic-consulting firm, confesses he was an "economic hit man" for 10 years, helping U.S. intelligence agencies and multinationals cajole and blackmail foreign leaders into serving U.S. foreign policy and awarding lucrative contracts to American business.

Bébé Day by Day - Pamela Druckerman 2013-02-12

À la carte wisdom from the international bestseller *Bringing up Bébé* In BRINGING UP BÉBÉ, journalist and mother Pamela Druckerman investigated a society of good sleepers, gourmet eaters, and mostly calm parents. She set out to learn how the French achieve all this, while telling the story of her own young family in Paris. BÉBÉ DAY BY DAY distills the lessons of BRINGING UP BÉBÉ into an easy-to-read guide for parents and caregivers. How do you teach your child patience? How do you get him to like broccoli? How do you encourage your baby to sleep through the night? How can you have a child and still have a life? Alongside these time-tested lessons of French parenting are favorite recipes straight from the menus of the Parisian crèche and winsome drawings by acclaimed French illustrator Margaux Motin. Witty, pithy and brimming with common sense, BÉBÉ DAY BY DAY offers a mix of practical tips and guiding principles, to help parents find their own way.

Tell Me Lies - Carola Lovering 2018-06-12

Now an original series on Hulu! YOU NEVER FORGET YOUR WORST. "A twisted modern love story" (Parade), *Tell Me Lies* is a sexy, thrilling novel about that one person who still haunts you—the other one. The wrong one. The one you couldn't let go of. The one you'll never forget. Lucy Albright is far from her Long Island upbringing when she arrives on the campus of her small California college and happy to be hundreds of miles from her mother—whom she's never forgiven for an act of betrayal in her early teen years. Quickly grasping at her fresh start, Lucy embraces college life and all it has to offer. And then she meets Stephen DeMarco. Charming. Attractive. Complicated. Devastating. Confident and cocksure, Stephen sees something in Lucy that no one else has, and she's quickly seduced by this vision of herself, and the sense of possibility that his attention brings her. Meanwhile, Stephen is determined to forget an incident buried in his past that, if exposed, could ruin him, and his single-minded drive for success extends to winning, and keeping, Lucy's heart. Lucy knows there's something about Stephen that isn't to be trusted. Stephen knows Lucy can't tear herself away. And their addicting entanglement will have consequences they never could have imagined. Alternating between Lucy's and Stephen's voices, *Tell Me Lies* follows their connection through college and post-college life in New York City. "Readers will be enraptured" (Booklist) by the "unforgettable beauties in this very sexy story" (Kirkus Review). With the psychological insight and biting wit of *Luckiest Girl Alive*, and the yearning ambitions and desires of *Sweetbitter*, this keenly intelligent and supremely resonant novel chronicles the exhilaration and dilemmas of young adulthood and the difficulty of letting go—even when you know you should.

Retail Hell - Freeman Hall 2010-09-18

From Act I: "I think you left these behind," I said, handing them to her. This happens all the time when women try to return bags they've used. Tampons, lipstick, coins, Tic Tacs, and condoms are the top treasures found. "Greasy" let out a sigh as if I were the problem. "I really don't see what the problem is here. It's none of your business what I keep in my handbag." It is when my commission is at stake! I'm not your Designer Handbag Rental Service! My name is not BagBorrowOrSteal.com! This is a place Freeman Hall, a twenty-year veteran "on the floor," knows well. While delivering side-splitting stories alongside brutally cynical commentary, Freeman recounts his most shocking experiences in Retail Hell. From the time he was attacked by a customer's four-year-old, who grabbed onto his leg like a poodle and wouldn't let go, to the day he found the fitting room walls covered in s**t, Freeman has seen and heard (smelled and felt) it all! Horrifying and hilarious, this behind-the-scenes look at what really goes on at the Big Fancy Stores is rollicking, ready-to-wear wisdom for readers everywhere.

Don't Give Up, Don't Give In - Louis Zamperini 2014-11-18

New York Times bestseller More than 100,000 copies in print Completed just two days before Louis Zamperini's death at age ninety-seven, Don't

Give Up, Don't Give In shares a lifetime of wisdom, insight, and humor from "one of the most incredible American lives of the past century" (People). Zamperini's story has touched millions through Laura Hillenbrand's biography *Unbroken* and its blockbuster movie adaptation directed by Angelina Jolie. Now, in his own words, Zamperini reveals with warmth and great charm the essential values and lessons that sustained him throughout his remarkable journey. He was a youthful troublemaker from California who turned his life around to become a 1936 Olympian. Putting aside his track career, he volunteered for the army before Pearl Harbor and was thrust into World War II as a B-24 bombardier. While on a

rescue mission, his plane went down in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, where he survived against all odds, drifting two thousand miles in a small raft for forty-seven days. His struggle was only beginning: Zamperini was captured by the Japanese, and for more than two years he courageously endured torture and psychological abuse in a series of prisoner-of-war camps. He returned home to face more dark hours, but in 1949 Zamperini's life was transformed by a spiritual rebirth that would guide him through the next sixty-five years of his long and happy life. Louis Zamperini's *Don't Give Up, Don't Give In* is an extraordinary last testament that captures the wisdom of a life lived to the fullest.