
Alan Bennett The Uncommon Reader

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LAUREN JAZLYN

Pugwall St Martin's Press
Hailed by the New York Times as coming "closer than anyone to writing The Great American Novel," Lore Segal stuns with this passionate love story of a refugee from Hitler's Europe and a witty, hard-drinking black intellectual For Ilka Weissnix, everything is new. Having recently arrived in the United States, she is determined to escape the immigrant communities of New York and boards a train headed west to discover "the real America." She finds Carter Bayoux "sitting on a stool in a bar in the desert,

across from the railroad." Older, portly, experienced, and black, Carter is magnetic. To Ilka, he exemplifies the values and cultures of a changing America. In order to understand her new country and her new love, Ilka throws herself into Carter's dizzying world, nurses him through his bouts of depression and his alcoholism, and becomes fascinated by stories of his amorous past. But Carter's ghosts are ever present, and soon Ilka finds herself torn between saving him and saving her own future. With a foreword by Stanley Crouch, Her First American is the poignant story of an immigrant experience in a country of endless possibilities and

of a rich and breathtaking love that is doomed from the start.

The Seduction of Water

Faber & Faber

Till death Jana Webster and Michael Haynes were in love. They were destined to be together forever. Do But Jana's destiny was fatally flawed. And now she's in Dead School, where Mars Dreamcote lurks in the back of the classroom, with his beguiling blue eyes, mysterious smile, and irresistibly warm touch. Us Michael and Jana were incomplete without each other. There was no room for Mars in Jana's life—or death—story. Jana was sure Michael would rush to her side soon. Part But things aren't going

according to Jana's plan. So Jana decides to do whatever it takes to make her dreams come true—no matter what rules she has to break. [Calgary Through the Eyes of Writers](#) Farrar, Straus and Giroux

The childhood memoir of one of Britain's best-loved writers.

Untold Stories Profile Books

International bestselling author Paullina Simons delivers a riveting novel about a young woman whose search for her missing friend turns into a life-shattering odyssey. The truth will change her forever. Living in bustling New York City, Lily Quinn has plenty of distractions and is struggling to finish college as well as pay her rent. But that all pales in comparison when Amy, her best friend and roommate, disappears without a trace. Spencer O'Malley, a cynical NYPD detective assigned to Amy's case, immediately captures Lily's attention. Though he is wary and wrestling with his own demons, he, too, is irresistibly drawn to Lily. But fate has more in store for Lily than she ever expected. As she looks deeper into the mystery surrounding Amy's disappearance, Lily finds

answers she never imagined she'd find—answers that challenge everything she knows about her own life. Lily's search puts her on a collision course with tragedy and love, and gives her a glimpse into the abyss that swallowed her friend . . . until she faces a final confrontation with her own life-changing destiny. "Part mystery, part romance, part family drama . . . in other words, the perfect book."—Daily Mail

How Novels Work Faber & Faber

A literary journey around Calgary as seen through the eyes of writers, from its frontier beginnings to today's contemporary city. Shaun Hunter tours readers and urban explorers through a place that has captivated writers since 1792. She has selected excerpts from over 150 novels, stories, poems and essays that sing the city's human and natural terrain, plumb its past, and question its prevailing mythologies. Writers take us beyond the city's familiar stereotypes of cowboys and oil barons and reveal Calgary's multiple worlds and its interiors. They explore the city's perpetual motion of extreme, unpredictable

weather and a boom-and-bust economy. Through writers' eyes, we travel into the inner sanctums of the oil patch, and see the layers of the world-famous Calgary Stampede. Coming-of-age stories show the way this place shapes identity; poems and prose tease meaning and metaphor from a city perched on the dynamic edge of prairie and foothills. Alongside each excerpt, Hunter presents delightful and informative connections between place and story. A timeline anchors the passages and marks significant moments in its literary history. Maps and an index invite readers to find their own trails through a complex and storied city.

The Knife Man Crown
Aisling is twenty-eight and she's a complete ... Aisling. She lives at home in Ballygobard (or Ballygobackwards, as some gas tickets call it) with her parents and commutes to her good job at PensionsPlus in Dublin. Aisling goes out every Saturday night with her best friend Majella, who is a bit of a hames (she's lost two phones already this year – Aisling has never lost a phone). They love hoofing into the Coors Light if they're

'Out', or the vodka and Diet Cokes if they're 'Out Out'. Aisling spends two nights a week at her boyfriend John's. He's from down home and was kiss number seventeen at her twenty-first. But Aisling wants more. She wants the ring on her finger. She wants the hen with the willy straws. She wants out of her parents' house, although she'd miss Mammy turning on the electric blanket like clockwork and Daddy taking her car 'out for a spin' and bringing it back full of petrol. When a week in Tenerife with John doesn't end with the expected engagement, Aisling calls a halt to things and soon she has surprised herself and everyone else by agreeing to move into a three-bed in Portobello with stylish Sadhbh from HR and her friend, the mysterious Elaine. Newly single and relocated to the big city, life is about to change utterly for this wonderful, strong, surprising and funny girl, who just happens to be a complete Aisling.

The Wiley Blackwell Companion to Contemporary British and Irish Literature

Rocky Mountain Books Incorporated

"If you love to read ... you

know that some books affect you so profoundly they forever change the way you think about the world. Some books, on the other hand, disappoint you so much you want to throw them against the wall ... In [this book], librarian Annie Spence has crafted love letters and breakup notes to the iconic and eclectic books she has encountered over the years. From breaking up with *The Giving Tree* (a dysfunctional relationship book if ever there was one), to her love letter to *The Time Traveler's Wife* (a novel less about time travel and more about the life of a marriage, with all of its ups and downs), Spence will make you think of old favorites in a new way"--Dust jacket flap.

[The Uncommon Reader](#)
Ballantine Books

Obliged to borrow a book when her corgis stray into a mobile library, the Queen discovers a passion for reading, setting the palace upon its head and causing the royal head of Great Britain to question her role in the monarchy.

Smut Macmillan

Film tie in edition of Alan Bennett's classic memoir. For fifteen years, the recalcitrant Miss Shepherd lived in her

broken-down van on Alan Bennett's driveway in Camden. Deeply eccentric and stubborn to her bones, Miss Shepherd was not an easy tenant. Bennett, despite inviting her in the first place, was a reluctant landlord, never under the illusion that his impulse was purely charitable. This account of those years was first published in 1989 in the *London Review of Books*. The play premiered in 1999, directed by Nicholas Hytner and starring Dame Maggie Smith, who reprise those roles in this new film adaptation. Shot on location at Bennett's house, Alex Jennings plays the author, alongside household names including James Corden, Frances de la Tour, Jim Broadbent and Dominic Cooper.

The Clothes They Stood Up In Ballantine Books

Like everything Bennett does, these stories are playful, witty and painfully observant of ordinary people's foibles. They all have brilliant twists, are immensely entertaining and highly moral. And all are modern classics. *The Laying on of Hands* The painfully observant account of a memorial service for a masseur to the famous. *The Clothes They Stood Up In* The

comic tale of an elderly couple's trials after their flat is stripped completely bare. *Father! Father!* *Burning Bright* The savage satire on the family of a dying man who rules over them from his hospital bed. *The Lady in the Van* The true story of the eccentric old woman who is invited to live in a homeowner's front garden. She stays there, in her van, for fifteen years. The home is Alan Bennett's. It became a West End hit and a major film, starring Maggie Smith.

Dead Rules Simon and Schuster

One of BuzzFeed's "Books Coming Out This Summer That You Need to Seriously Read" * One of Bustle's "New Romance Novels to Make Your Spring Reading Even Dreamier Than You Imagined" A charming romantic comedy about three sisters who are struggling to keep the family wedding planning business afloat—all the while trying to write their own happily-ever-afters in the process. All's fair in love and business. The de la Rosa family and their wedding planning business have been creating happily ever afters in the Washington, DC area for years, making

even the most difficult bride's day a fairytale. But when their parents announce their retirement, the sisters—Marisol, Janelyn, and Pearl—are determined to take over the business themselves. But the sisters quickly discover that the wedding business isn't all rings and roses. There are brides whose moods can change at the drop of a hat; grooms who want to control every part of the process; and couples who argue until their big day. As emotions run high, the de la Rosa sisters quickly realize one thing: even when disaster strikes—whether it's a wardrobe malfunction or a snowmageddon in the middle of a spring wedding—they'll always have each other. Perfect for fans of the witty and engaging novels of Amy E. Reichert and Susan Mallery, *The Key to Happily Ever After* is a fresh romantic comedy that celebrates the crucial and profound power of sisterhood.

The Uncommon Reader
Picador

Never has contemporary fiction been more widely discussed and passionately analysed; recent years have seen a huge growth in the

number of reading groups and in the interest of a non-academic readership in the discussion of how novels work. Drawing on his weekly Guardian column, 'Elements of Fiction', John Mullan examines novels mostly of the last ten years, many of which have become firm favourites with reading groups. He reveals the rich resources of novelistic technique, setting recent fiction alongside classics of the past. Nick Hornby's adoption of a female narrator is compared to Daniel Defoe's; Ian McEwan's use of weather is set against Austen's and Hardy's; Carole Shield's chapter divisions are likened to Fanny Burney's. Each section shows how some basic element of fiction is used. Some topics (like plot, dialogue, or location) will appear familiar to most novel readers; others (metanarrative, prolepsis, amplification) will open readers' eyes to new ways of understanding and appreciating the writer's craft. *How Novels Work* explains how the pleasures of novel reading often come from the formal ingenuity of the novelist. It is an entertaining and stimulating exploration of

that ingenuity. Addressed to anyone who is interested in the close reading of fiction, it makes visible techniques and effects we are often only half-aware of as we read. It shows that literary criticism is something that all fiction enthusiasts can do. Contemporary novels discussed include: Monica Ali's *Brick Lane*; Martin Amis's *Money*; Margaret Atwood's *The Blind Assassin*; A.S. Byatt's *Possession*; Jonathan Coe's *The Rotters' Club*; J.M. Coetzee's *Disgrace*; Michael Cunningham's *The Hours*; Don DeLillo's *Underworld*; Michel Faber's *The Crimson Petal and the White*; Ian Fleming's *From Russia with Love*; Jonathan Franzen's *The Corrections*; Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time*; Patricia Highsmith's *Ripley under Ground*; Alan Hollinghurst's *The Spell*; Nick Hornby's *How to Be Good*; Ian McEwan's *Atonement*; John le Carré's *The Constant Gardener*; Andrea Levy's *Small Island*; David Mitchell's *Cloud Atlas*; Andrew O'Hagan's *Personality*; Orhan Pamuk's *My Name Is Red*; Ann Patchett's *Bel Canto*; Ruth Rendell's *Adam and*

Eve and Pinch Me; Philip Roth's *The Human Stain*; Jonathan Safran Foer's *Everything Is Illuminated*; Carol Shields's *Unless*; Zadie Smith's *White Teeth*; Muriel Spark's *Aiding and Abetting*; Graham Swift's *Last Orders*; Donna Tartt's *The Secret History*; William Trevor's *The Hill Bachelors*; and Richard Yates's *Revolutionary Road*. *The Uncommon Reader* Picador Patrick Gale's perennially popular debut novel takes a wry and romantic look at love both in and out of the closet. At fifteen years and eleven months, violinist Seth Peake is a musical prodigy who's secretly attracted to men. Scheduled to begin music college in the fall, he is en route to Cornwall to spend the summer at the Trenellion Festival, a pacifist festival of art and music his family helped to found. There he falls head over heels for a gorgeous, unsuitable sculptor named Roland. Seth's older sister, Venetia, has a problem. Her period is five weeks late. But she's a virgin and no one has touched her sexually except her father, Huw—a secret she has told no one. Is the world about to bear witness to history's

second immaculate conception? Doing her best to hold the family together is mother and wife Evelyn, who prays for Venetia to find fulfillment, Seth to be spared from pride, and her problems with Huw magically to vanish. Inspector Maude Faithe—Mo to her friends—is a lesbian cop who fought for the right of policewomen to wear pants, given that they're doing a "man's job." She has risen through the ranks of London's Metropolitan Police and been promoted twice for bravery. She lives alone with her large cat and a secret tragedy—until she falls passionately in lust with a singer. As Mo and Hope become lovers, Mo's dogged pursuit of the person responsible for stealing and desecrating the predictions of a newspaper astrologer leads to a surprising culprit. A witty and wise novel about sexual equality and the thrills and perils of wish fulfillment, *The Aerodynamics of Pork* is an exhilarating ode to love that remains a cult favorite with Patrick Gale fans and readers of gay and lesbian fiction. *Four Stories* Farrar, Straus and Giroux FROM ONE OF BRITAIN'S

GREATEST LIVING WRITERS AND THE AUTHOR OF THE UNCOMMON READER, A FAMILY MEMOIR AND UNIQUE WORK OF ART—A LIFE LIKE OTHER IS ALAN BENNETT AT HIS BEST In this poignant memoir of his parents' marriage, Alan Bennett recalls the lost world of his childhood and the lives, loves, and deaths of his unforgettable aunts, Kathleen and Myra. First published in the acclaimed collection *Untold Stories*, this tender, intimate family portrait beautifully captures the Bennetts' hopes, disappointments, and yearning for a life like other people's. With the sudden descent of his mother into depression, and later dementia, Bennett uncovers a long-held family secret in this extraordinarily moving and at times irresistibly funny work of autobiography.

The Dead Wife's Handbook John Wiley & Sons

In her most scandalously titillating novel since the #1 bestselling *Hollywood Wives*, internationally renowned author Jackie Collins once again takes her readers behind the scenes and into the bedrooms of Hollywood's

glamorous world of superstardom, where narcissism is a virtue, and fidelity means not sleeping with anyone less attractive than your spouse. WHEN HOLLYWOOD WIVES WANT MORE, IT'S TIME FOR HOLLYWOOD DIVORCES . . .the bestselling novel of lust, betrayal, and breakup in L.A., where fidelity means never sleeping with anyone less attractive than your spouse. Three glamorous women with ambitions fueling their inner fires— and agendas that may or may not include those they've vowed to love and honor. From the casting couch to superstardom, from the director's chair to worldwide acclaim, they go after what they want without guilt. Without regret. And never without scandal. Here are the relationship shockers that even the tabloids don't know: who's playing whom, who's getting dumped, and who's walking out the door. This is domestic drama like never before, as only the "EVER STYLIN'" (Publishers Weekly) Jackie Collins can tell it. [The Key to Happily Ever After](#) [Skyhorse](#) [The Clothes They Stood Up In](#) is Alan Bennett's

first story. Like Charles Dickens' novels which were first published in magazines, it originally appeared in the *London Review of Books* - which the author says 'seems to me (and not just because I occasionally contribute to it) the liveliest, most serious and also the most radical literary periodical we have'.

The Complete Talking Heads Picador

Rachel, Max, and their daughter Ellie had the perfect life—until the night Rachel's heart stopped beating. She was thirty-six. Just as her family can't forget her, Rachel can't quite let go of them either. Caught in a place between worlds, Rachel watches helplessly as she begins to fade from their lives. This fresh debut novel touches on the various stages of bereavement, from denial to acceptance. As Max and Ellie work through their grief, Rachel too struggles to come to terms with her death. And as her husband starts to date again, Rachel realizes that one day Max will find love, and that Ellie will have a new mother figure in her life. *The Dead Wife's Handbook* is a heartwarming and touching book, very

commercial in its approach and a compelling read. It will touch a wide readership, and is a perfect read for fans of the bestseller *The Lovely Bones*. Skyhorse Publishing, as well as our Arcade, Yucca, and Good Books imprints, are proud to publish a broad range of books for readers interested in fiction—novels, novellas, political and medical thrillers, comedy, satire, historical fiction, romance, erotic and love stories, mystery, classic literature, folklore and mythology, literary classics including Shakespeare, Dumas, Wilde, Cather, and much more. While not every title we publish becomes a New York Times bestseller or a national bestseller, we are committed to books on subjects that are sometimes overlooked and to authors whose work might not otherwise find a home.

The Eitingons Profile Books

From one of England's most celebrated writers, a funny and superbly observed novella about the Queen of England and the subversive power of reading. When her corgis stray into a mobile library parked near Buckingham Palace, the Queen feels

duty-bound to borrow a book. Discovering the joy of reading widely (from J. R. Ackerley, Jean Genet, and Ivy Compton-Burnett to the classics) and intelligently, she finds that her view of the world changes dramatically. Abetted in her newfound obsession by Norman, a young man from the royal kitchens, the Queen comes to question the prescribed order of the world and loses patience with the routines of her role as monarch. Her new passion for reading initially alarms the palace staff and soon leads to surprising and very funny consequences for the country at large. With the poignant and mischievous wit of *The History Boys*, England's best-loved author Alan Bennett revels in the power of literature to change even the most uncommon reader's life.

Father! Father!
Burning Bright Verso Books

Theebook edition of Alan Bennett's celebrated monologues. Alan Bennett's *Talking Heads* is pretty much the best thing ever.' David Sedaris. Alan Bennett sealed his reputation as the master of observation with *Talking Heads*, a series of twelve

groundbreaking monologues, originally filmed for BBC Television, starring Patricia Routledge, Thora Hird, Maggie Smith, Julie Walters, Stephanie Cole, Eileen Atkins, David Haig, Penelope Wilton and Alan Bennett himself. Uplifting, deeply moving, full of humanity and wit, they remain essential, glorious reading.

The Magician Faber & Faber

"Parnassus on Wheels" (1917) was Christopher Morley's first published novel. It tells the story of Roger Mifflin, who sells his travelling book business to 39-year-old Helen McGill. The latter is tired of taking care of her ailing older brother Andrew, a businessman, farmer, and author. The novel is told from the perspective of Mrs McGill and was in part inspired by David Grayson's novel "The Friendly Road." Morley wrote a sequel to this story called "The Haunted Bookshop." Christopher Morley (1890–1957) was an American author, poet and journalist from Pennsylvania. His father was a mathematics professor and his mother a violinist. The family moved to Baltimore, Maryland, in 1900 and he later studied modern

history at Oxford. After getting his degree, he moved back to America and married Helen Booth Fairchild, with whom he

had four children. Morley was a prolific writer and is remembered for novels such as "Parnassus on

Wheels" (1917), "The Haunted Bookshop" (1918), "Thunder on the Left" (1925), and "Kitty Foyle" (1939).