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Jenny Padovani

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USA and Canada

Trafalgar Square Publishing

T +1 800 888 4741

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For all other sales territories, point of sale and marketing materials

Gary Wigglesworth

Publishing Sales and

Marketing Manager

gary.wigglesworth@bl.uk

For publicity

Thomas Irvine

thomas.irvine@bl.uk

For editorial and rights enquiries

publishing_editorial@bl.uk

For translation rights enquiries

Ros Edwards

ros@efla.co.uk

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BRITISH LIBRARY

British Library Publishing

January– June 2023



Animals

The Book of the British Library Exhibition

Edited by Malini Roy, Cam Sharp Jones & Cheryl Tipp



Final cover TBC
Hardback £35
ISBN 978 0 7123 5433 2
352 pages, 264 x 206 mm
200+ colour illustrations
Publishing April 2023

Malini Roy is Head of Visual Arts, Asian and African Collections, **Cam Sharp Jones** is Curator of Visual Arts, Asian and African Collections, and **Cheryl Tipp** is Curator of Wildlife and Environmental Sounds at the British Library.

Artworks, manuscripts, printed works and wildlife sound recordings come together in this major compendium of the greatest and strangest representations of animals on record.

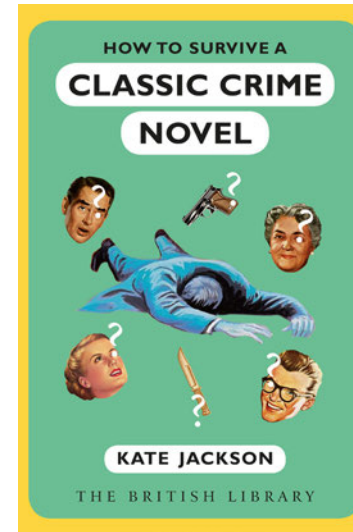
Eighty detailed case studies highlight celebrated works, including John James Audubon's *The Birds of America*, Matthew Paris's *Liber additamentorum*, Maria Sibylla Merian's *Metamorphosis* (1705), Mark Catesby's *The Natural History of Carolina, Florida and the Bahama Islands*, as well as letters from Charles Darwin, the *Baburnama*, translated by Mīrzā 'Abd al-Rahīm Khān, Japanese printed works by Hirase Yoichirō (1914–1915), Arabic hippiatric texts and the work of contemporary artists including Levon Biss and Jethro Buck.

Rich, newly photographed, illustrations bring these works to life, while interactive QR technology will allow readers to listen to recordings of the sound exhibits as they read. Expertly edited, this powerful collection of objects prompt us to consider the increasing importance of technology and data to our understanding of humanity's impact on the world's faunal inhabitants.



How to Survive a Classic Crime Novel

Kate Jackson



Final cover TBC
Paperback with flaps £12.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5438 7
192 pages, 190 x 130 mm
30 mono illustrations
Publishing June 2023

Kate Jackson reviews classic crime fiction on her blog, crossexaminingcrime.com. She has published two collections of puzzles with the British Library; *The Pocket Detective* (2018) and *The Pocket Detective 2* (2019).

What would you do if you found yourself in the world of the classic crime novel? How would you avoid being framed for murder – or evade an untimely demise? Let classic crime expert Kate Jackson give you the tools to survive the golden age murder mystery.

From dinner parties to detective interrogations, you'll need to know how to keep your wits about you in a world of red herrings, hidden identities and one too many suspicious butlers...

Complete with original illustrations by Joanna Lisowiec, this insightful parody of the genre takes survival tips from an international cast of crime-writers; Craig Rice (USA), Ngaio Marsh (New Zealand), Augusto de Angelis (Italy), Sheila Pim (Ireland), Sébastien Japrisot (France), and Maria Lang (Sweden), as well as a whole host of British Library Crime Classics authors, of course.

The fyrst pistle off

S. Jhon the Apostle.

The fyrst Chapter.



That which was fro
the begynnyng declare we
vnto you / which we have herde
which we have sene with oure
eyes / which we have loked apō
ād oure hondes have handled /
of the worde of lyfe. For the lyfe
apered / and we have sene / and
beare witnes / and shewe vnto
you that eternall lyfe / which w

as with the father / ād apared vnto vs. That wh
ich we have sene and herde declare we vnto you
that ye maye have fellishippe with vs / and that
oure fellishippe maye be with the father / ād his
sōne Jesus Christ. And this write we vnto you /
that youre ioye maye be full.

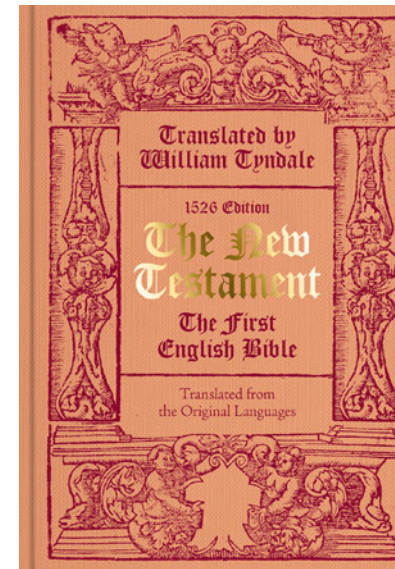
And this is the tydyngⁱ which we have herde
of hī / ād declare vnto you / that god is lyght / ād
ī hī is no darknes at all. yf we saye that we have
fellishippe with hym / ād yet walke in darknes /
we lye / and do not the truth: but ād yf we walke ī
lyght even as he is in lyght / thē have we fellish
ippe with hym / ād the bloud of Christ his sonne
clenseth vs from all synne.

If we shall saye that we have no synne / we des
ceave oure selves / and trueth is not in vs. yf we
knowledge oure synnes / he is faythfull ād iust /

Tyndale's The New Testament, 1526

The First English Bible

Translated from the original languages by William Tyndale



Final cover TBC
Hardback £20
ISBN 978 0 7123 5448 6
578 pages, 165 x 115 mm
500+ colour illustrations
Publishing March 2023

William Tyndale (c.1494–1536) was an English scholar, linguist and prominent figure in the Protestant Reformation. He was arrested in Antwerp in 1531 on a charge of spreading seditious ideas in England. He was imprisoned, convicted of heresy and strangled (as a mark of his status as a scholastic), before his body was burned.

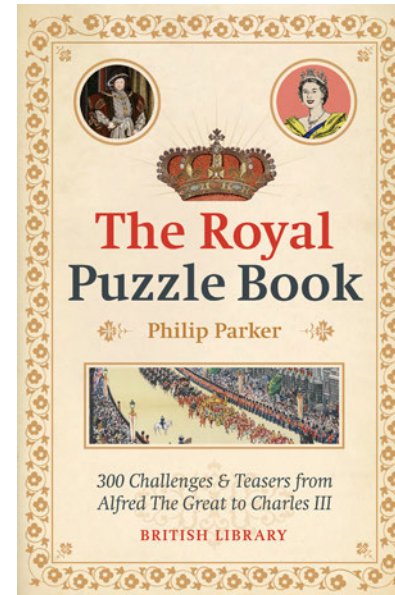
William Tyndale famously declared, 'The boy that driveth the plough shall know more of the scripture than [an educated man]'. Though forbidden by the Church to translate the New Testament into English, Tyndale's determination resulted in its finally being printed in Germany in 1526. Smuggled into English ports in bales of cloth, the book was a monumental success. The direct, common language of many of its verses has resonated down the centuries and, in time, contributed significantly to the text of the King James Version.

This complete, carefully reproduced facsimile edition, created from one of only two complete copies of the 1526 edition held in the British Library, presents one of the most important books in English history in full colour and to the exact original specifications. Professor David Daniel, former Chairman of the Tyndale Society and Tyndale biographer, has provided a detailed introduction.

The Royal Puzzle Book

300 Challenges and Teasers from Alfred the Great to Charles III

Philip Parker



Final cover TBC

Flexibound £14.99

ISBN 978 0 7123 5443 1

160 pages, 216 x 143 mm

100+ colour illustrations

Publishing May 2023

Philip Parker is a writer, consultant and publisher specialising in cartography as well as ancient and medieval history. He studied history at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and is the author of *The British History Puzzle Book* (2021), as well as the *History of Britain in Maps* (2016) and the *DK Eyewitness Companion Guide to World History* (2010). As a publisher he ran *The Times* books.

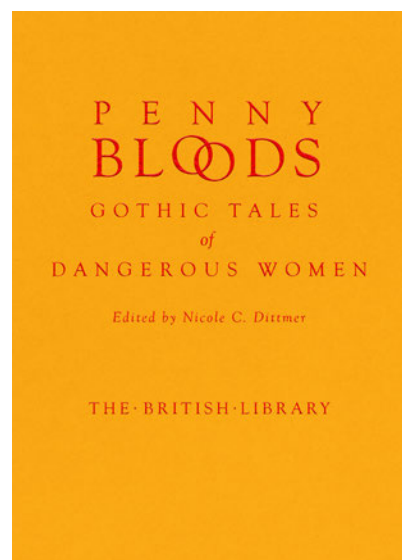
As we prepare for a coronation, now is a good time to test your knowledge of constitutional history by attempting to answer 300 questions across 30 categories, ranging from the early kings and queens of England and Scotland, through to today's royal family. Each section has 10 brain teasers, conundrums and anagrams on a particular subject, such as dynasties, religion or exile, combining illustrated and written questions, and finishing with a bonus 'Genius' question.

An end section provides all the answers in comprehensive detail, so by the last page, you are fully prepared for the Carolean era. What do you already know – how much more can you learn? And just who is the longest-reigning English king?

Penny Bloods

Gothic Tales of Dangerous Women

Edited by Nicole C Dittmer



Final cover TBC
Hardback £14.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5418 9
288 pages, 210 x 149 mm
Publishing May 2023

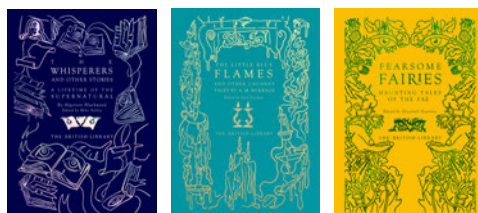
Nicole C Dittmer is a Lecturer of Gothic Studies at The College of New Jersey, whose forthcoming books include the monograph *Monstrous Women and Eco-feminism in the Victorian Gothic, 1837–1871* (2022) and the co-edited collection *Penny Dreadfuls and the Gothic; or, Investigations of Pernicious Tales of Terror* (2023).

Her cheeks were pale, and her eyes had the wild and stolid glare which Rodolph had observed when she awakened from the slumber of the grave; she quitted the castle, and after gazing around her, as if uncertain which way to go, she proceeded towards the village.

In the mid 1800s, the inexpensive publications known as penny bloods were all the rage in Britain. Spinning tales of high Gothic drama, violence and monstrosity, this literary phenomenon was significant for its depictions of dangerous and transgressive women which inspired such milestone Gothic works as Sheridan Le Fanu's *Carmilla*.

Collecting ten tales from classic – and truly obscure – penny publications and featuring newly edited text and insights from Dr Dittmer's research, this new volume revives a company of witches, femme fatales, vampire mistresses and deadly criminals to enthral a new generation of readers.

Also available in this series



The Philosophy of Cocktails

Jane Peyton



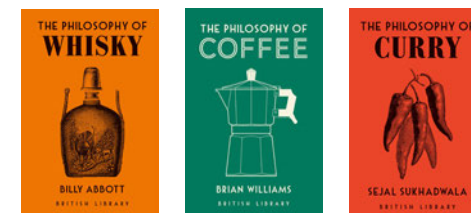
Final cover TBC
Hardback £10
ISBN 978 0 7123 5453 0
112 pages, 200 x 130 mm
30+ mono illustrations
Publishing June 2023

Jane Peyton is an award-winning writer and alcoholic drinks expert. She is the UK's first accredited Pommelier (cider sommelier) and Principal of the School of Booze. Jane is also the author of a number of books including two previous books in this series: *The Philosophy of Gin* (May 2020) and *The Philosophy of Beer* (2021).

An early description of a cocktail as 'a mix of alcoholic drinks with flavouring ingredients' does nothing to convey the alchemy and speak-easy glamour of these elaborate drinks. The cocktail's humble beginnings as a medicinal tonic through the inclusion of botanicals into distilled spirits such as gin and whiskey, accelerates with the ingenuity of bartenders who created the 'classics' – the Martini, Manhattan and Old Fashioned – in the nineteenth-century, and in the decadence of the Jazz Age and Roaring Twenties.

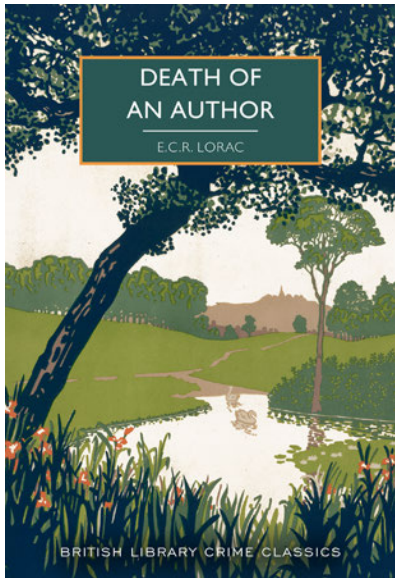
This book explores the journey that cocktails have made, via China and the Middle East, the Americas and the UK, to arrive at the bespoke menus of today's stylish clubs and bars, complete with descriptions of the myriad ingredients, glassware and paraphernalia that the mixologist has at their disposal.

Also available in this series



Death of an Author

E C R Lorac



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5467 7
288 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing January 2023

E C R Lorac was a penname of Edith Caroline Rivett (1894–1958), who also wrote as Carol Carnac. She was a prolific author of Golden Age mysteries publishing over 60 novels throughout the 1930s, 40s and 50s. She was also a member of the famous Detection Club. Her books include *Crossed Skis*, *Post After Post-Mortem* and *Murder by Matchlight*, all available as British Library Crime Classics.

'I hate murders and I hate murderers, but I must admit that the discovery of a bearded corpse would give a fillip to my jaded mind.'

Vivian Lestrangle – celebrated author of the popular mystery novel *The Charterhouse Case* and total recluse – has apparently dropped off the face of the Earth. Reported missing by his secretary Eleanor, whom Inspector Bond suspects to be the author herself, it appears that crime and murder is afoot when Lestrangle's housekeeper is also found to have disappeared.

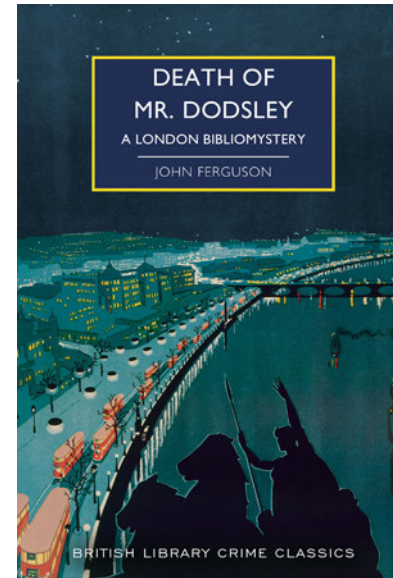
Bond and Warner of Scotland Yard set to work to investigate a murder with no body and a potentially fictional victim, as E C R Lorac spins a twisting tale full of wry humour and red herrings, poking some fun at her contemporary reviewers who long suspected the Lorac pseudonym to belong to a man (since a woman could apparently not have written mysteries the way that she did).

Incredibly rare today, this mystery returns to print for the first time since 1935.

Death of Mr Dodsley

A London Bibliomystery

John Ferguson



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5472 1
256 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing February 2023

John Ferguson (1871–1952) began pursuing a successful literary career in his forties. His ministry in the Episcopalian church took him around the country helping him vary the backgrounds of his books, and he was recognised by critic Douglas Thomson in later years as 'one of the most delightful stylists in the genre'.

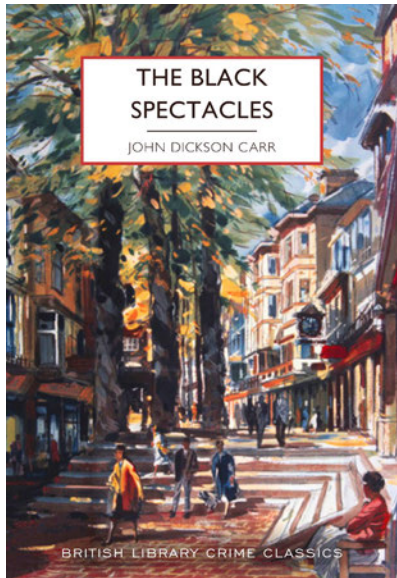
'A bookshop is a first-rate place for unobtrusive observation,' he continued. 'One can remain in it an indefinite time, dipping into one book after another, all over the place.'

Mr Richard Dodsley, owner of a fine second-hand bookshop on Charing Cross Road, has been found murdered in the cold hours of the morning. Shot in his own office, few clues remain besides three cigarette ends, two spent matches and a few books on the shelves which have been rearranged.

In an investigation spanning the second-hand bookshops of London and the Houses of Parliament (since an MP's new crime novel *Death at the Desk* appears to have some bearing on the case), Ferguson's series sleuth MacNab is at hand to assist Scotland Yard in an atmospheric and ingenious fair-play bibliomystery.

The Black Spectacles

John Dickson Carr



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5482 0
224 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing March 2023

John Dickson Carr (1906–1977) was a hugely popular and prolific author of crime fiction, regarded as one of the finest writers of ‘Golden Age’ mysteries. Though born in Pennsylvania, USA, Carr developed a distinctly ‘British’ style to his mystery writing from his time living in England and became one of only two Americans ever admitted to the Detection Club.

A sinister case of deadly poisoned chocolates from Sodbury Cross’s high street shop haunts the group of friends and relatives assembled at Bellegarde, among the orchards of ‘peach-fancier’ Marcus Chesney. To prove a point about how the sweets could have been poisoned under the nose of the shopkeeper, Chesney stages an elaborate memory game to test whether any of his guests can see beyond their ‘black spectacles’; that is, to see the truth without assumptions as witnesses.

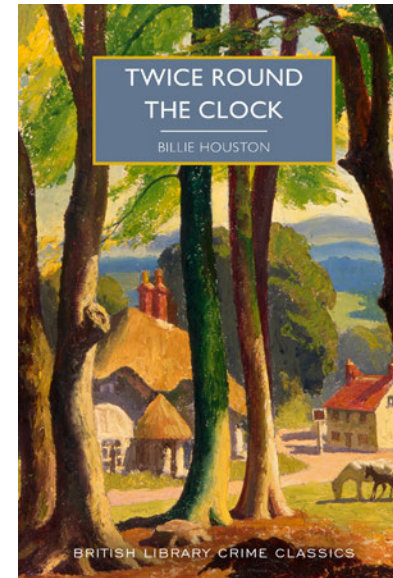
During the test – which is also being filmed – Chesney is murdered by his accomplice, dressed head to toe in an ‘invisible man’ disguise. The keen wits of Dr Gideon Fell are called for to crack this brazen and bizarre murder committed in full view of an audience.

Also known by its US title *The Problem of the Green Capsule*, this classic novel is widely regarded as one of John Dickson Carr’s masterpieces and remains among the greatest impossible crime mysteries of all time.

Here is Mr Dickson Carr in his most ingenious, learned and readable form.
Times Literary Supplement

Twice Round the Clock

Billie Houston



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5403 5
224 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing April 2023

Billie Houston (1906–1972) was the pen name of Glasgow-born writer and entertainer Sarah McMahon Gribbin. A big name in the 1920s, making up half of the Scottish dance act: the Houston Sisters, she was a big fan of crime novels and took a shot at writing one herself, purportedly in spare moments in the dressing rooms and backstage areas of her shows.

‘It is past the half-hour. My time is coming nearer with every tick of the clock.’

Horace Manning, scientist, recluse and ‘closed book’ even to his friends is found dead in his study at 4am, following a dinner in honour of his daughter Helen’s engagement. An ivory-handled carving knife rests between his shoulder blades as the houseguests gather about to witness the awful crime. The telephone line has been sabotaged; a calculated murder has been committed.

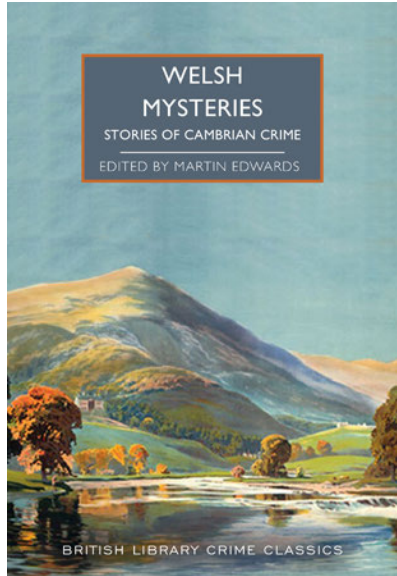
Rewinding twelve hours, the events of the afternoon and evening unfold, along with a multitude of motives from a closed cast of suspects and clues until the narrative reaches 4am again – then races on to its riveting conclusion at 4pm (twice round the clock).

First published in 1935, this is a lively and unpretentious mystery thriller and a true lost gem of the Golden Age of crime writing.

Welsh Mysteries

Stories of Cambrian Crime

Edited by Martin Edwards



Final title TBC
Paperback £10.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5408 0
272 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing May 2023

Martin Edwards is series consultant for the British Library Crime Classics series. In 2020 he was awarded the Diamond Dagger Award by the CWA for continued dedication and contribution to crime writing. *The Golden Age of Murder*, his study of the Detection Club, won the Edgar, Agatha, H R F Keating and Macavity awards. His history of the mystery genre, *The Story of Classic Crime in 100 Books*, was published by the British Library in 2017.

Sharp left by the school and down the lane to the gas works. The gasworks? I, a dentist, heading for the gasworks in a small Welsh market town? It was the furnace I wanted...

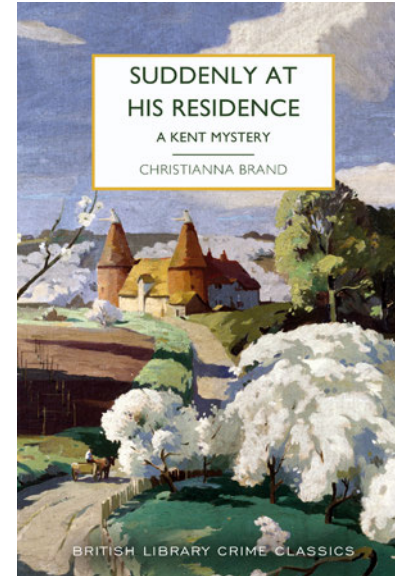
From the dramatic scenery of Snowdonia and the Gower to the stunning coastlines and hushed valleys, the landscapes of Wales have inspired many writers of Golden Age mystery stories – from within and without its borders.

Centred around a lost novella by Cledwyn Hughes, this new collection features the best stories from celebrated Welsh authors such as Mary Fitt and Ethel Lina White, as well as short mysteries inspired by or set in the cities and wilds of the country by both beloved Golden Age writers and authors from the 1960s and 70s who continued to push the boundaries of the genre.

Suddenly at His Residence

A Kent Mystery

Christianna Brand



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5423 3
224 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing June 2023

Christianna Brand was the pseudonym of Mary Christianna Milne (1907–1988), a British crime writer who was born in British Malaya. She is best known for her novels featuring series detective Inspector Cockrill, though she also wrote several acclaimed short story collections and the Nurse Matilda series of books for children. Her classic 1940s novels *Green for Danger* and *Death of Jezebel* were also published in this series in 2022.

Under the shadow of the ongoing blitz in London, the willful grandchildren of Sir Richard Marsh have descended upon Swanswater in Kent for a family gathering, and the finalising of the patriarch's will. Frustrated with the disrespectful behaviour of his heirs, Marsh seems to resolve to cut them all out of their inheritance and descends to his outhouse to make the final arrangements.

When he is discovered murdered by strychnine injection with multiple elements of the crime scene suggesting that nobody could have been near – or even to have approached the outhouse given its unspoilt gravel pathway – Brand's series sleuth Inspector Cockrill has his work cut out for him to find anything close to a plausible solution.

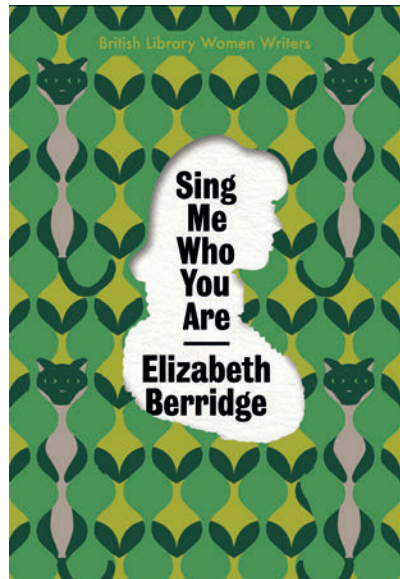
First published in 1947, this classic mystery boasts Brand's knack for memorable characters and misdirection, and concludes with one of the most stunning denouements in the genre.

[for backlist, see pages 34–52](#)

Sing Me Who You Are

British Library Women Writers 1960s

Elizabeth Berridge



Paperback with flaps £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5487 5
256 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing March 2023

Elizabeth Berridge (1919–2009) was a novelist, journalist and critic. Her 1964 novel, *Across the Common*, won Best Novel of the Year in the Yorkshire Post and was serialised by the BBC. Two earlier novels were also serialised. *Sing Me Who You Are* was first published in 1967.

Harriet Cooper bumps up a rutted lane in a Hillman crammed with everything she owns. She has come to claim her inheritance – a large green bus – left to her by her aunt, and moves in with two cats to live a frugal life, much to the chagrin of her cousin who has inherited the rest of the estate.

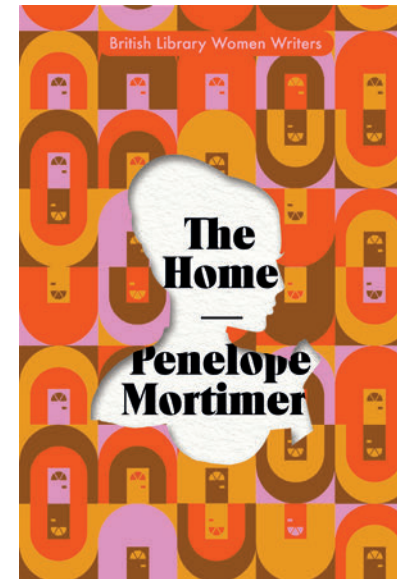
This is a timely reissue of a 1960s novel that deals with the lingering trauma of the Second World War and the dark secrets that families carry, as well as being an early advocate of environmental issues, which chime with such resonance fifty years later.

Skill, subtlety and stylistic assurance ... her moral comedy illumines life.
Daily Telegraph

The Home

British Library Women Writers 1970s

Penelope Mortimer



Paperback with flaps £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5492 9
256 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing March 2023

Penelope Mortimer (1918–1999) published her first novel in 1947. She was married twice; first to the Reuters journalist Charles Dimont, and later to the barrister and author, John Mortimer. Her best-known novel, the semi-autobiographical *The Pumpkin Eater*, was published in 1962 and made into a successful film starring Anne Bancroft.

A tragi-comedy published in 1971 that looks at the experience of a woman escaping a broken marriage and trying to make a new home for grown-up children who no longer need her. Dealing with themes of abandonment, loneliness, liberation and love, Eleanor's emotional journey is often raw and dark, but at times funny and uplifting as she grapples with her newfound singledom under the critical eyes of her mother and mother-in-law, and the selfish attitudes of various suitors.

Perfectly capturing the tone of the 70s, and the reality faced by so many women when forced to re-assess their roles as wife and mother.

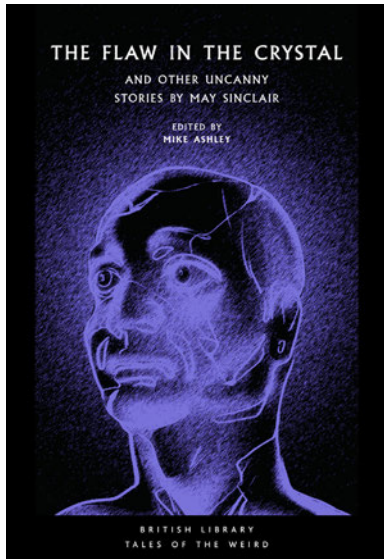
... marvellous skill – a writer who can knock spots off most of her contemporaries.
Guardian

[for backlist, see pages 30–33](#)

The Flaw in the Crystal

And Other Uncanny Stories by May Sinclair

Edited by Mike Ashley



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5477 6
336 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing February 2023

May Sinclair (1863–1946) was a penname for Mary Amelia St. Clair, an English suffragist known for her extensive publications. These written works ranged from novels and short stories, to poetry and political criticisms. Her limited work in supernatural fiction has been highly celebrated for its delicacy and precision, making her a must-read author.

At that moment, in a flash that came like a shifting of her eyes, the world she looked at suffered a change... It was the same world, flat field for flat field and hill for hill; but radiant, vibrant, and, as it were, infinitely transparent.

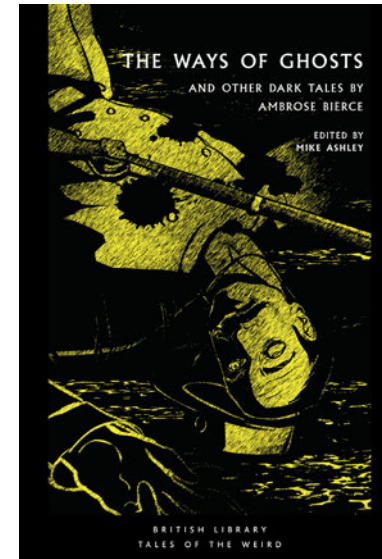
Tales of eternal damnation, love, sexuality, death and supernatural talents form the core of May Sinclair's essential and groundbreaking oeuvre. Literary and still thrilling today, her stories explore the strangeness at the heart of human experience and relationships, where the mundane and the everyday meets lurking, otherworldly weirdness.

Including the contents of the classic collections *Uncanny Stories* (1923) and *The Intercessor and Other Stories* (1931), this new volume also features two rare strange tales from a third, lesser-known book which explore further facets of Sinclair's fascination with the uncanny.

The Ways of Ghosts

And Other Dark Tales by Ambrose Bierce

Edited by Mike Ashley



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5497 4
336 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing April 2023

Ambrose Bierce (1842–1913?) was an American writer, critic and essayist, famous for works of satire and cynicism such as *The Devil's Dictionary*. He wrote over 200 short, fictive stories including a number of horror stories and weird tales. His stories remain fresh and unconventional when it comes to the unravelling of strange events.

Motionless now and in absolute silence, she awaited her doom, the moments growing to hours, to years, to ages; and still those devilish eyes maintained their watch.

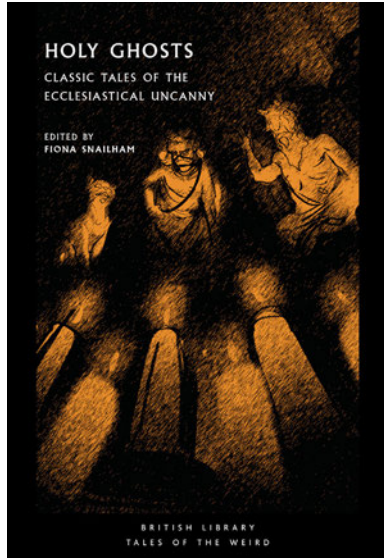
Seen by contemporaries as a natural successor to Edgar Allan Poe but with the added dimensions of a man who had witnessed true horror fighting in some of the bloodiest battles of the American Civil War, Ambrose Bierce was one of America's leading convention-defying writers, critics and essayists of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries – but still remains relatively unknown by many fans of the genre.

This new collection not only brings together some of Bierce's best and most unusual stories (such as 'An Occurrence at Owl Creek Bridge', 'The Moonlit Road' and 'The Death of Halpin Frayser') but also highlights those aspects of his life which saw him as a loner, someone who stepped aside from society and observed it as some other being. Even in death Bierce was unconventional, disappearing to join the Mexican Revolution, never to be seen again – a mystery editor Mike Ashley explores in a closing essay for the book.

Holy Ghosts

Classic Tales of the Ecclesiastical Uncanny

Edited by Fiona Snailham



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5413 4
320 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing May 2023

Fiona Snailham is an academic based at the University of Greenwich, whose research and published work explores nineteenth-century literature and culture, and the intersection between Christian theology and Victorian mediumship and spiritualism. She is also a contributor to *BBC History Extra* and *History Today*.

A couple witnesses a ghostly procession from centuries past; a tourist confesses her sins to a priest long since dead; cursed statues torment a sinning Archdeacon.

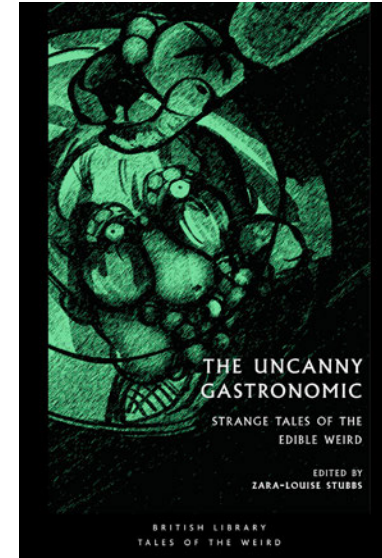
Churches, monasteries and convents have long been associated with sanctuary: sacred spaces should offer protection from evil in all its forms. This new anthology raises questions about the protection offered by faith, bringing together a collection of tales in which holy places are filled with horror; where stone effigies come to life and believers are tormented by terrifying apparitions.

In a host of uncanny stories published between 1855 and 1935, *Holy Ghosts* uncovers sacrilegious spectres and the ecclesiastically eerie. Reincarnating forgotten authors, from Mrs Henry Wood to Ada Buisson, Robert Hichens to M R James; Amelia B Edwards to Vernon Lee, the anthology exhumes stories buried deep in the British Library stacks.

The Uncanny Gastronomic

Strange Tales of the Edible Weird

Edited by Zara-Louise Stubbs



Paperback £9.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5428 8
288 pages, 190 x 130 mm
Publishing June 2023

Zara-Louise Stubbs is a freelance writer and PhD researcher in literature. Zara's current research explores food studies, mysticism, and gendered embodiment in contemporary writing. Zara is interested in all things surreal, subversive, and strange.

'Well,' he said, looking at the waiter and giving him a sly wink, 'all I can tell you is that I think it was pig's meat.'
'You mean you're not sure?'
'One can never be sure.'

A man is tortured by the lurking fear that he lives among a society of cannibals. Visitors to the hottest restaurant in town discover the arcane origins of its sublime soup. A groom's obsession with the teeth of his betrothed prompts a sickening end to a Gothic romance.

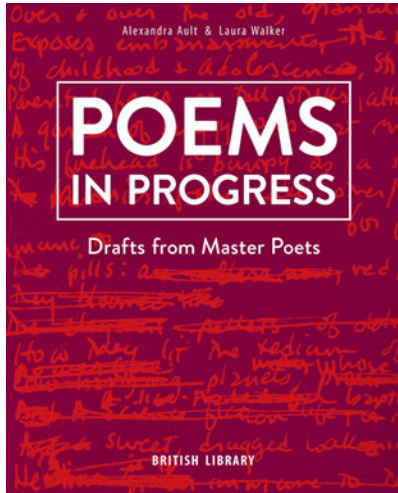
The significance of food and eating in storytelling traditions dates back to fairy tales, folklore and beyond, with the capacity for the edible to transform or to cause otherworldly effects sometimes inspiring wonder, but often touching on a deep-rooted fear. Exploring themes of body horror, consumption and myriad forms of strange eating, this new collection includes a feast of bitesize tales from masters of the macabre such as Shirley Jackson and Roald Dahl – alongside lesser-known oddities from the British Library's collections – to digest the significance of the uncanny gastronomic.

[for backlist, see pages 53–59](#)

Poems in Progress

Drafts from Master Poets

Alexandra Ault and Laura Walker



Hardback £30
ISBN 978 0 7123 5466 0
288 pages, 250 x 200 mm
100+ colour illustrations
Published September 2022

Alexandra Ault is Lead Curator of Modern Archives and Manuscripts 1601–1850, and **Laura Walker** is Lead Curator of Modern Archives and Manuscripts 1850–1950 at the British Library.

Ask two poets what their first drafts look like, and you'll get wildly different answers. From typed pages with delicate annotation to hasty scribbles in a dog-eared notebook, drafts can tell us so much more about poems – and their poets – than their final, published versions.

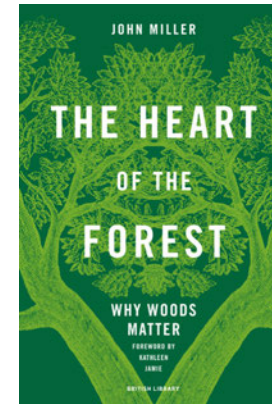
Diverse themes including love, inequality, and the natural world bring together some of the most culturally significant and emotionally affecting poems in the British Library's collections and beyond. These carefully selected drafts are written on materials ranging from school exercise books to mulberry bark to Holloway prison toilet paper. They include not only English and American poetry, but also drafts in Amharic, Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Japanese, Persian, Thai and Sanskrit.

Expert commentary explains the provenance of the manuscripts, as well as the secrets they reveal about the writing process. Previously unpublished early drafts by practising poets including Benjamin Zephaniah, Simon Armitage, Pascale Petit and Hollie McNish are accompanied by new reflections from the poets themselves on their inspiration and craft.

The Heart of the Forest

Why Woods Matter

John Miller, foreword by Kathleen Jamie



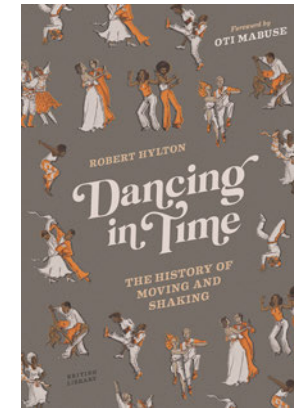
Looking at threats to forest life across the globe, John Miller explores why woods matter to us through sections on Refuge, Sacredness, Horror and Hope. To understand the ways in which we connect with the woods he makes fascinating links between emotion and genre.

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288 pages, 234 x 156 mm
Published August 2022

Dancing in Time

The History of Moving and Shaking

Robert Hylton, foreword by Oti Mabuse

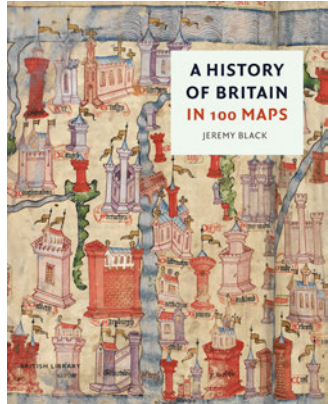


Dance is at the heart of diverse cultures around the globe but behind the glitzy performances are amazing and unpredictable histories: the shocking debut of the waltz in eighteenth-century Vienna; the power of African-American influence on the jive and Lindy hop; and the early foundations of hip-hop in funk and disco styles. Focusing on key dance steps and styles, Robert Hylton shines a light on how each of them shook up society and gave ordinary people the freedom of self-expression.

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A History of Britain in 100 Maps

Jeremy Black

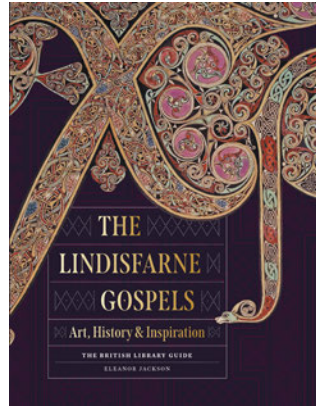


In *A History of Britain in 100 Maps* Jeremy Black tells a new story of the British Isles through acknowledged treasures and previously undiscovered and unpublished items. Presenting in detail 100 important maps Black explores major themes in British history, from settlement, environmental change, state formation and ecclesiastical development to industrialisation, urbanisation, and modern socio-political developments.

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272 pages, 280 x 220 mm
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The Lindisfarne Gospels

Art, History & Inspiration
Eleanor Jackson

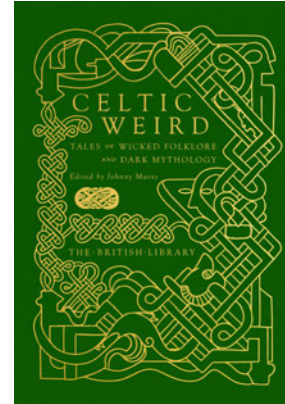


The Lindisfarne Gospels is one of the British Library's greatest treasures. It was hand-written and decorated over 1,300 years ago by a single supremely gifted scribe-artist. This brand-new, accessible guide provides a detailed introduction and commentary to a pinnacle of book design.

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96 pages, 246 x 189 mm
Published September 2022

Celtic Weird

Tales of Wicked Folklore
and Dark Mythology
Edited by Johnny Mains

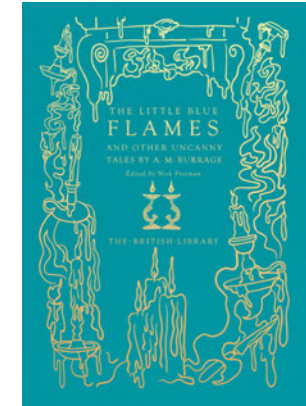


Unearthing an array of uneasy stories with folklore from Wales, Scotland, Ireland, Cornwall, Brittany and the Isle of Man at their heart, this collection resonates with our fascination for the traditions and fears of the people that came before. Including three weird yarns translated from Gaelic, this is a treasury of the strange and bizarre in twenty-one thrilling short stories.

Hardback £14.99
ISBN 978 0 7123 5432 5
336 pages, 210 x 149 mm
Published November 2022

The Little Blue Flames

And Other Uncanny Tales by
A M Burrage
Edited by Nick Freeman



The supernatural tales of A M Burrage were recognised as some of the most imaginative and cleverly told ghost stories in the English language, and yet today his name haunts the fringes of the genre. This collection of fifteen tales is another step towards restoring his name to a rightful place in the halls of strange fiction.

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256 pages, 210 x 149 mm
Published September 2022

The Book Lover's Joke Book

Alex Johnson



There are themed joke books on everything from cats to lawyers, but surprisingly few have a literary theme. *The Book Lover's Joke Book* includes a huge range of comic material concentrating exclusively on the themes of books, reading, libraries, bookshops, and the literary life.

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Published October 2022

A Children's Literary Treasury

Edited by Anna James



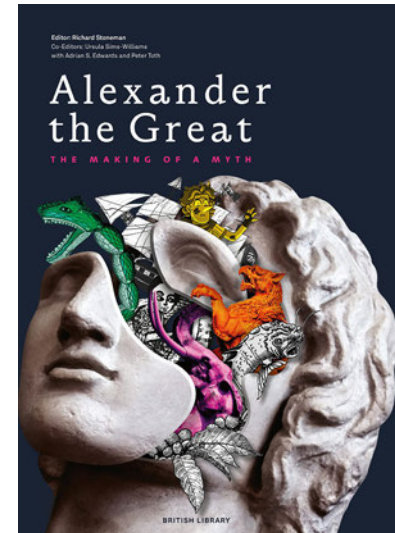
Great stories ignite a child's imagination and can fill a childhood with unforgettable characters, wondrous places and superb illustrations. They also allow young readers to explore, and to understand, their different feelings and experiences. Anna James delves deep into the British Library collections to present stories for comfort, inspiration and adventure as well as touching tales to make you laugh or sometimes cry.

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Published October 2022

Alexander the Great

The Making of a Myth

Edited by Richard Stoneman



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Paperback £30
ISBN 978 0 7123 5447 9
304 pages, 280 x 220 mm
100+ colour illustrations
Published October 2022

Richard Stoneman is the author of many scholarly and trade works in the field of Greek history. Formerly Consultant to the Everyman Library on Classics, he is globally acknowledged as the foremost expert on the myths of Alexander.

Accompanying the first ever exhibition on the storytelling around Alexander the Great, King of Macedon, this book charts the evolution of a legend that continues to captivate audiences today.

Alexander the Great acceded to the throne at the age of 20, as king of the ancient Greek kingdom of Macedon. By his death in 323 BC, he had created one of the largest empires in the world – but myth proved more powerful than historical truth, and Alexander's life remains lost in legend.

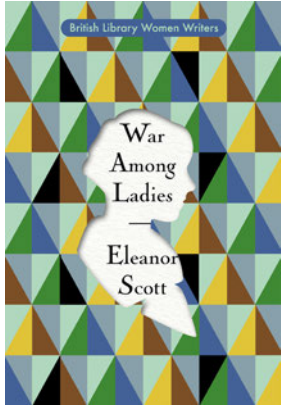
These stories permeate western and eastern cultures and religions, and have endured for more than 2,000 years. Even now, Alexander continues to appeal to new generations and his image persists today in film, theatre, literature and even video games.

This book explores the stories that began shortly after Alexander's mysterious death, and that by the Middle Ages had developed into a narrative of Alexander as the all-conquering hero who fought mythical beasts and explored the unknown using submarines and flying chariots. These incredible legends are brought to life here with exquisite illustrations in books and manuscripts from around the globe.

War Among Ladies

British Library Women Writers 1920s

Eleanor Scott



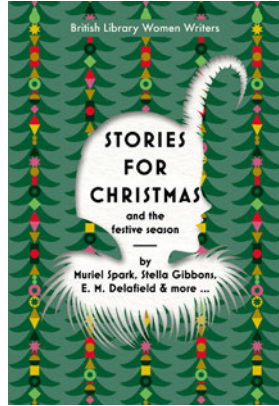
The staffroom at Besley High School for girls simmers with hushed resentments. In a graduation system whereby the failure in one subject means that a pupil fails overall, the shortcomings of just one teacher threatens them all. Viola Kennedy, a newly arrived young teacher full of optimism and ideas, gets caught up in the politics and scheming. This is a quietly devastating novel about the realities of life for single working women in the 1920s and the systems that failed them.

Paperback with flaps £9.99
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288 pages, 190 x 130 mm

Stories for Christmas

And the Festive Season

Muriel Spark, Stella Gibbons, E M Delafield and more



This new collection explores the joy and exhaustion, preparations and surprises of this time of year from a female perspective. In keeping with the spirit of the series, the stories have been picked from different decades of the twentieth century and penned by familiar as well as forgotten authors writing for both books and popular magazines. The selection includes the festive run-up as well as post-Christmas traditions and winter holidays.

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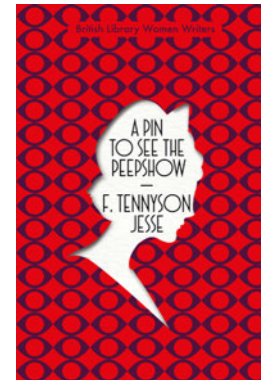


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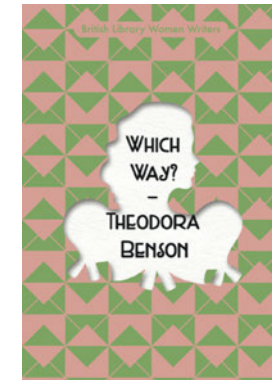


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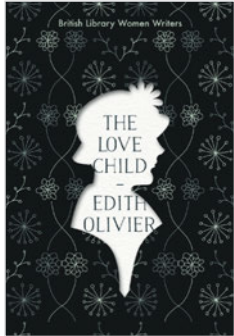
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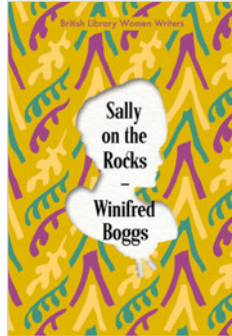
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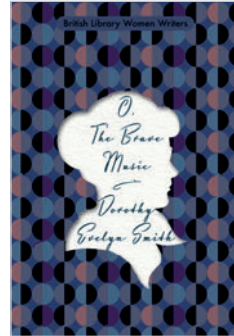
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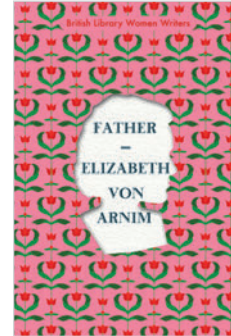
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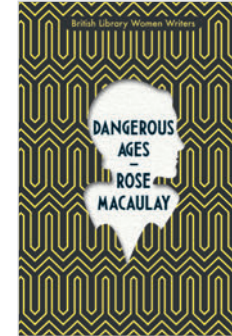
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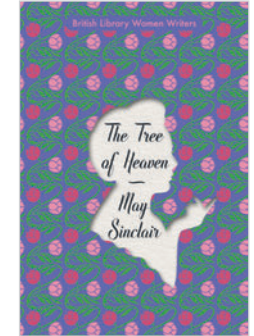
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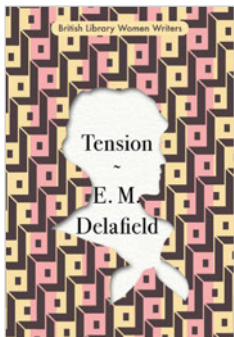
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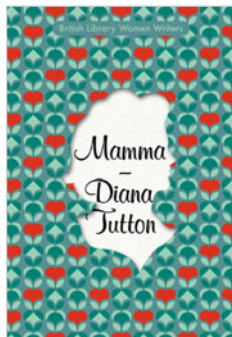
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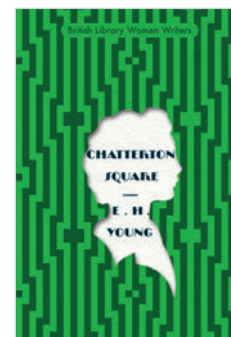
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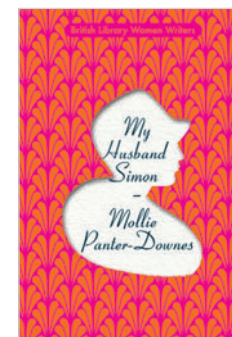
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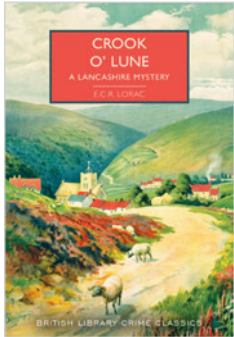
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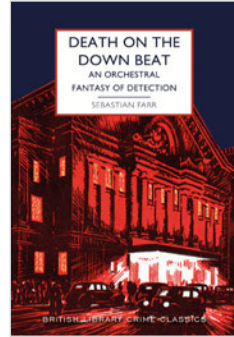
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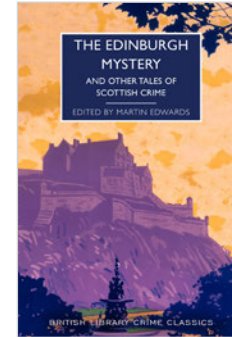
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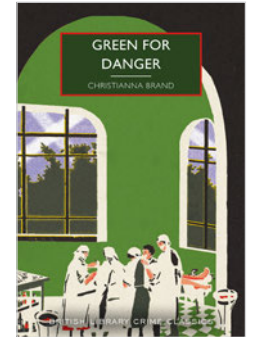
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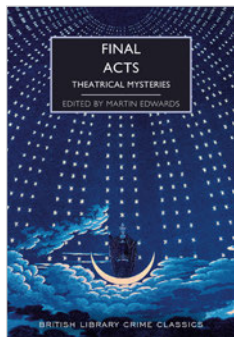
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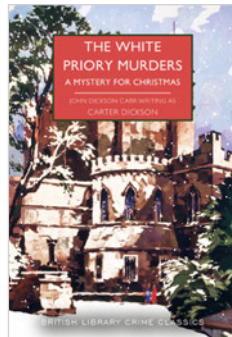
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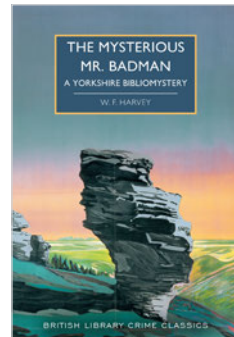
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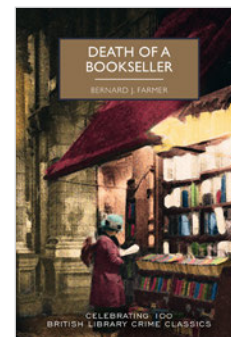
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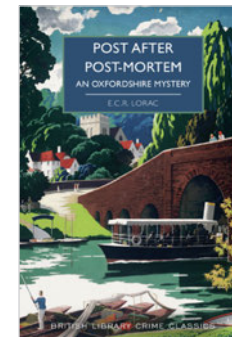
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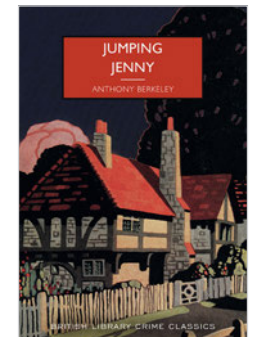
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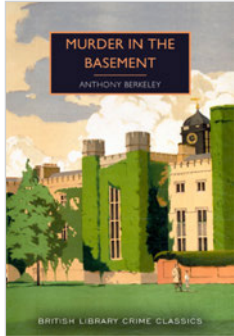
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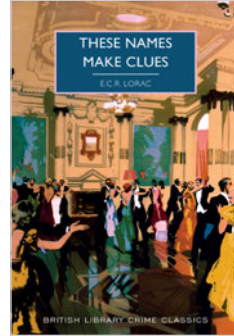
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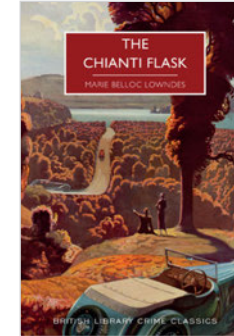
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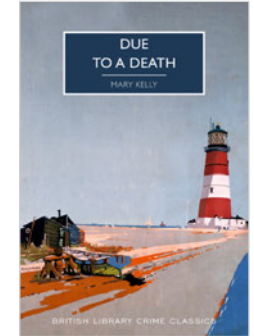
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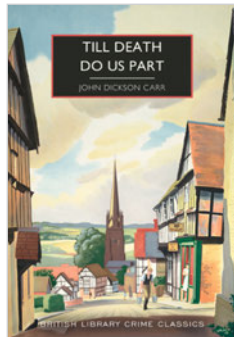
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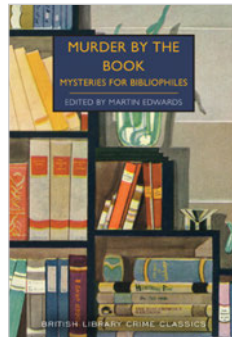
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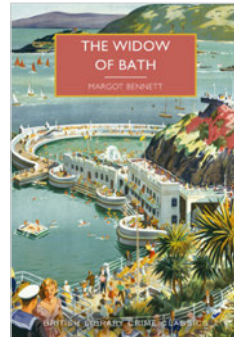
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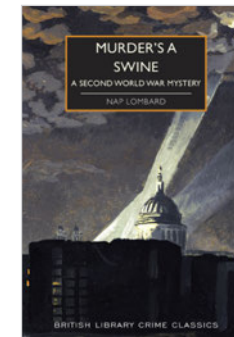
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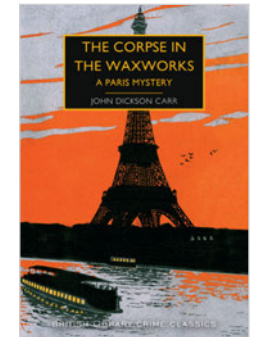
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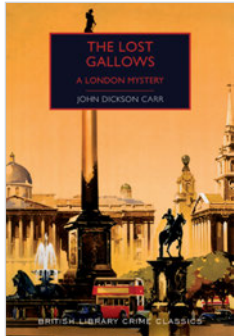
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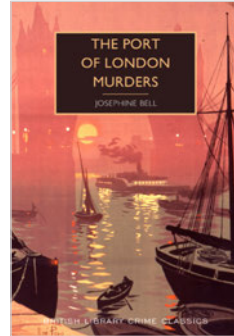
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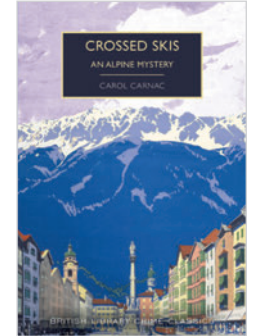


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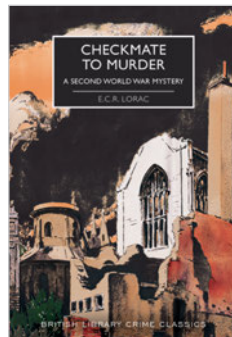
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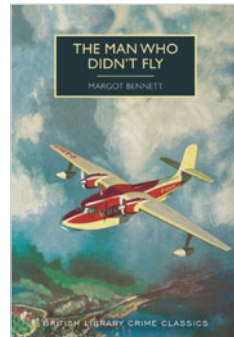
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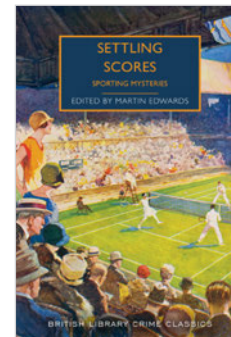


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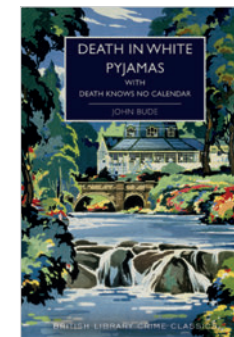


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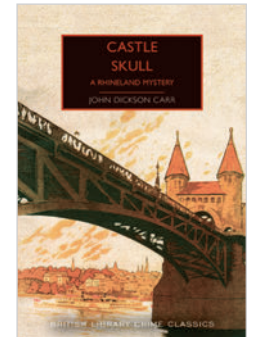


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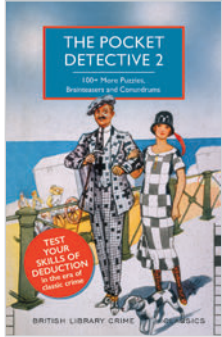
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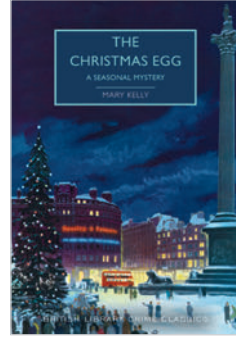
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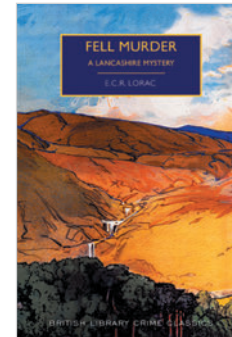
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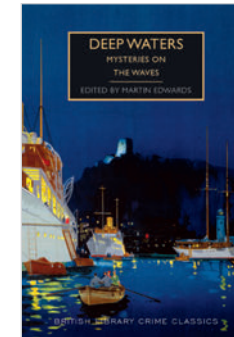
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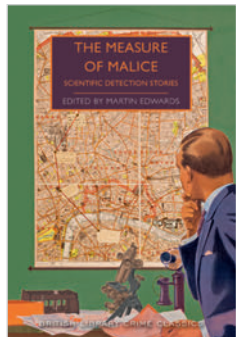
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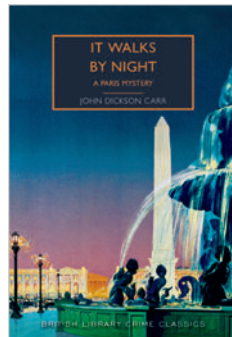
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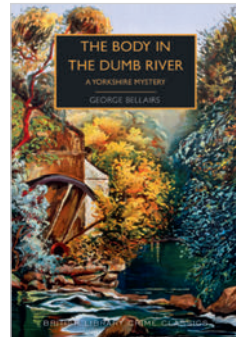
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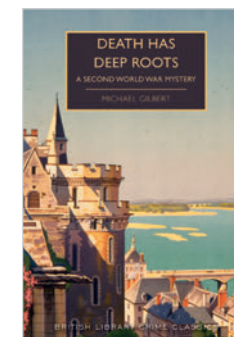
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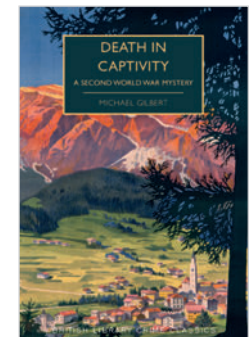
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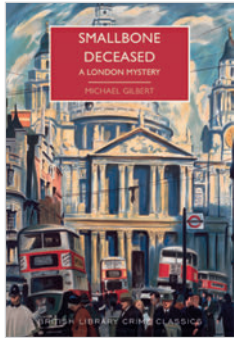
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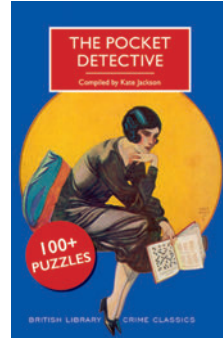
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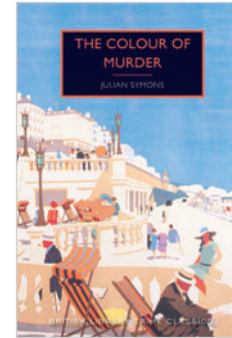
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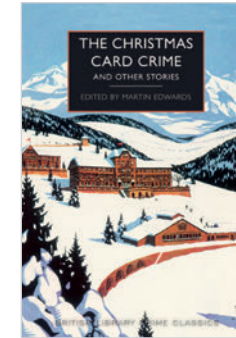
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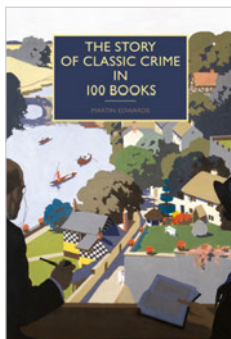
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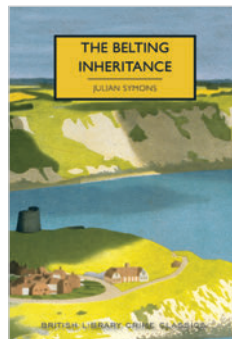
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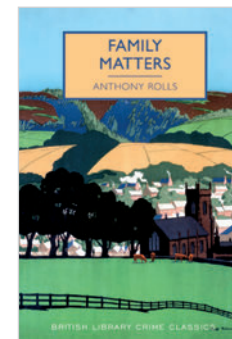
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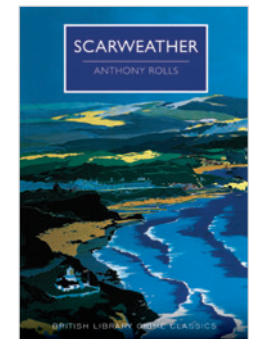
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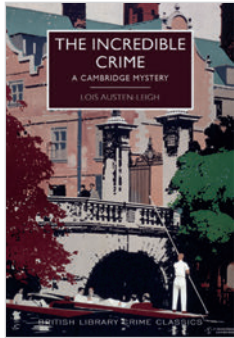
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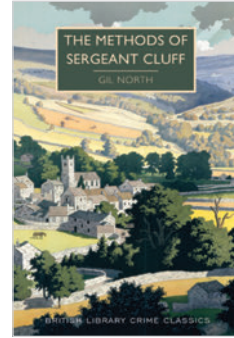
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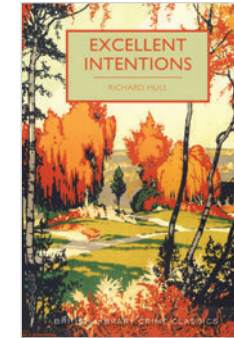
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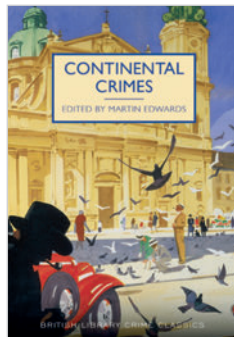
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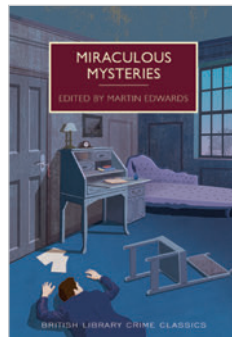
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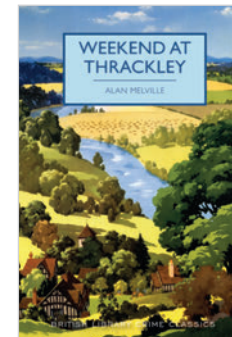
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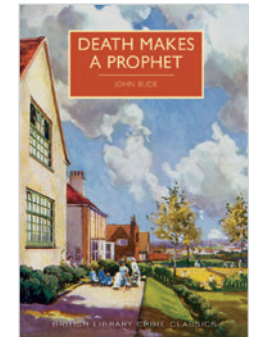
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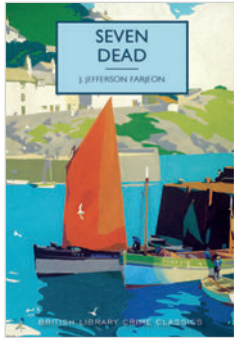
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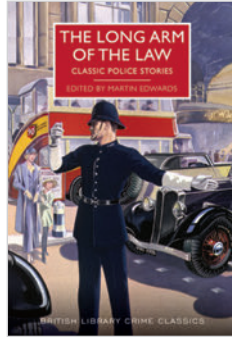


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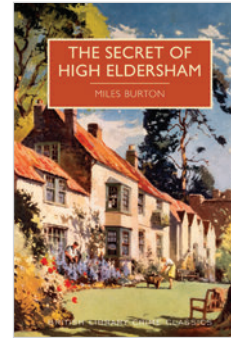
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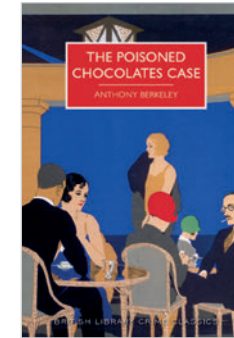
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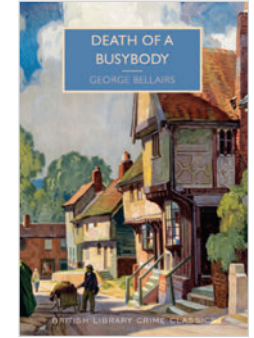
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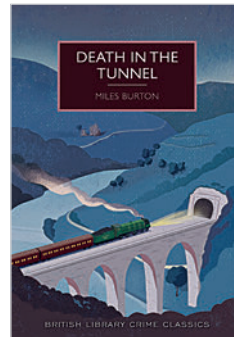
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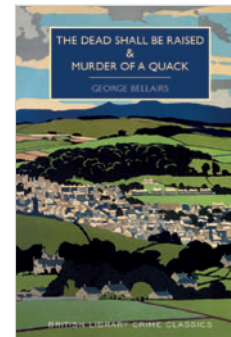
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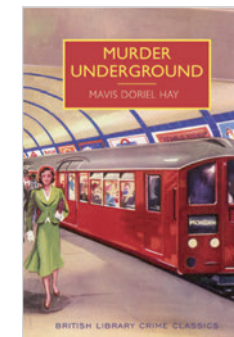
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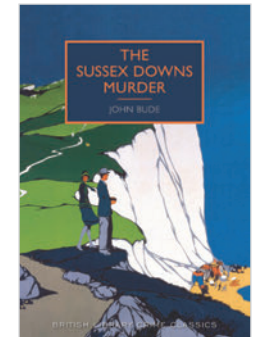
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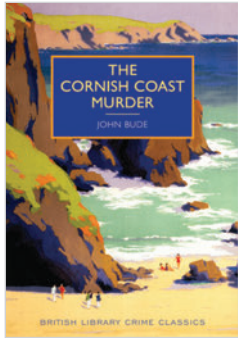
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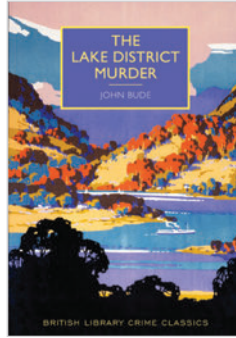
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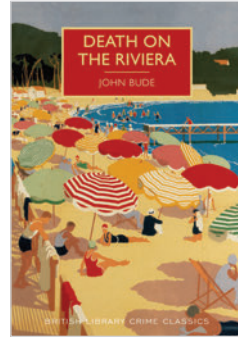
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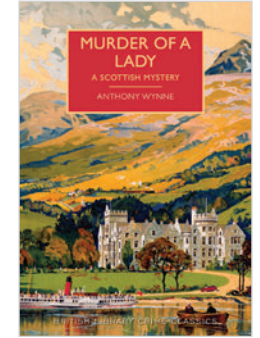


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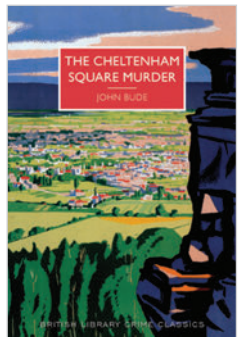
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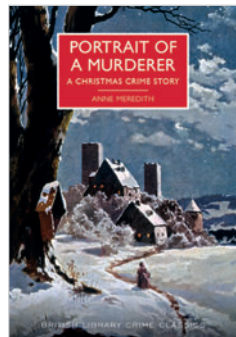


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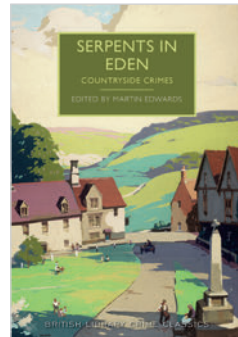


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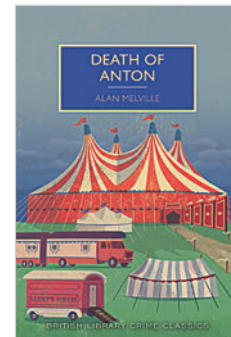
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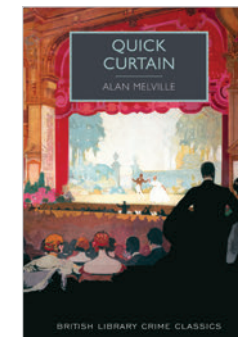
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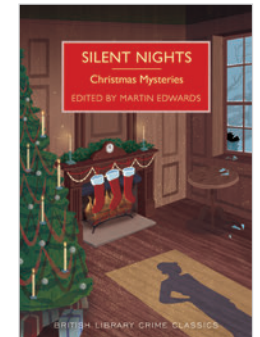


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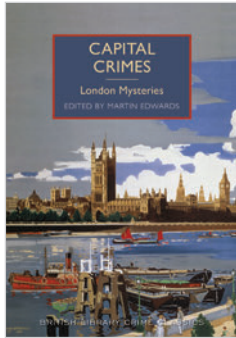


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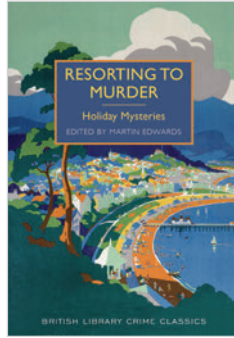


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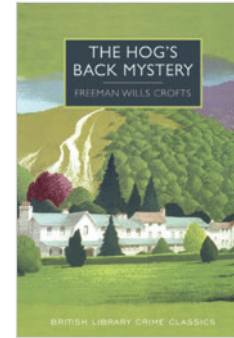
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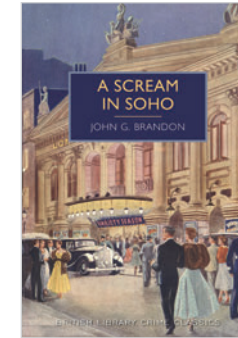
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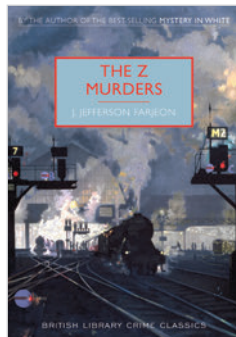
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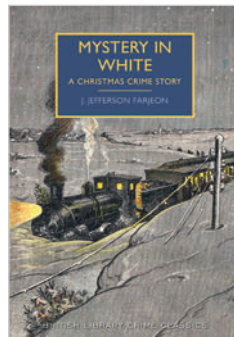


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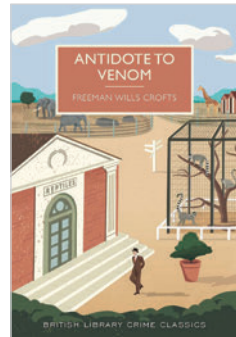
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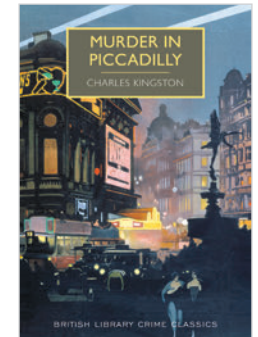
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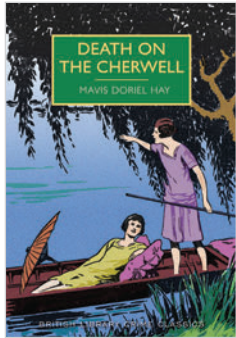
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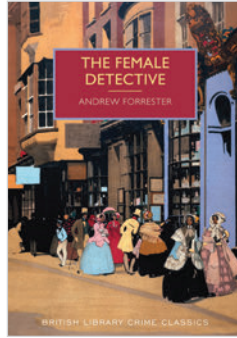
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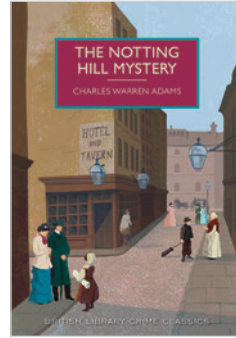
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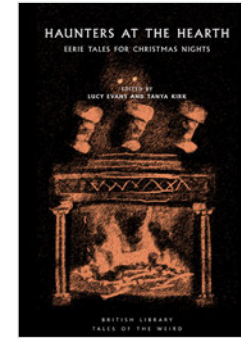
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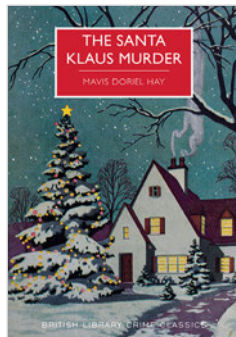
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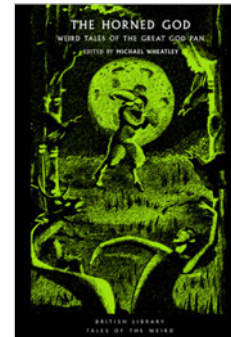


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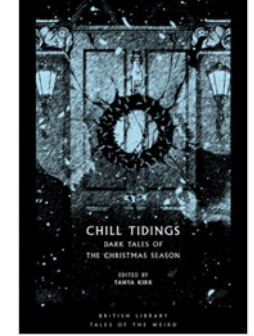


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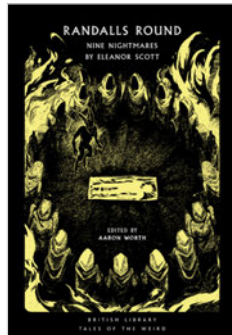


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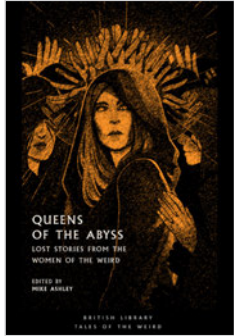
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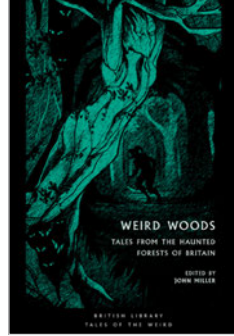
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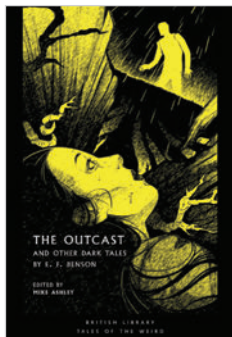
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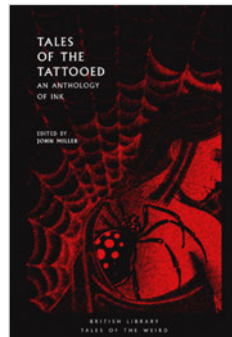
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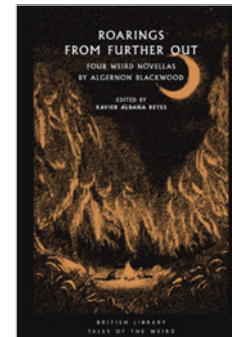
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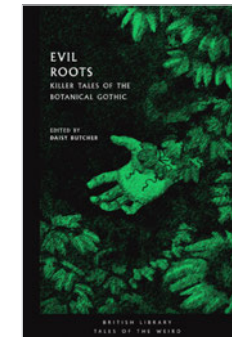
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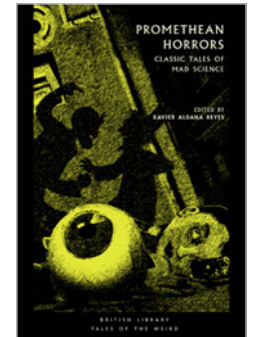
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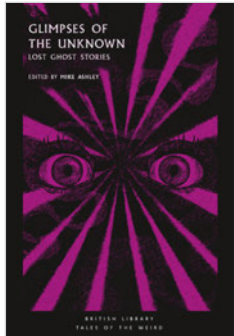
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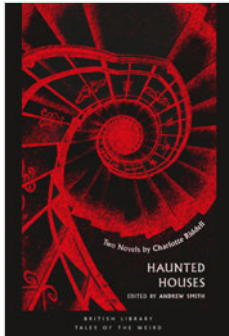
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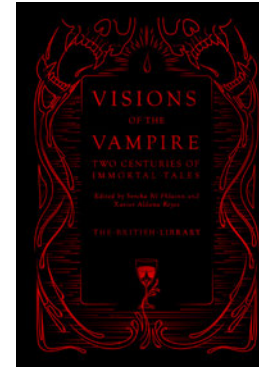
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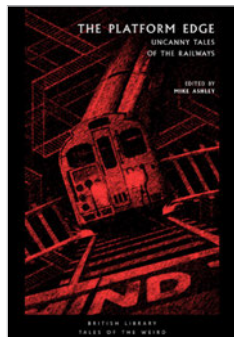
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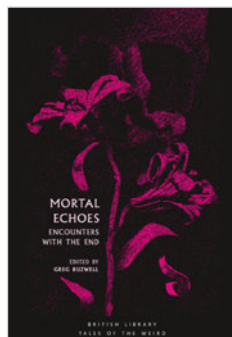
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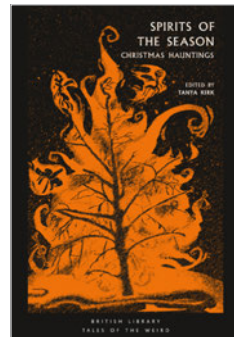
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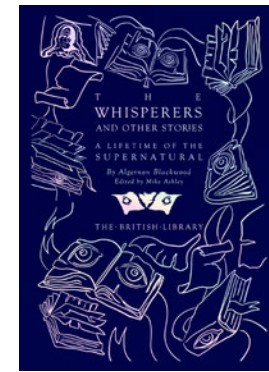
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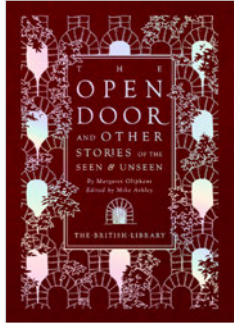
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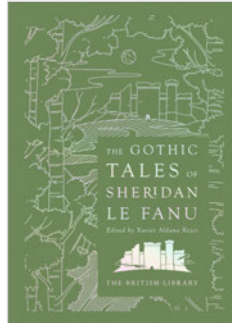
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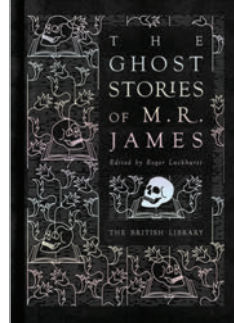
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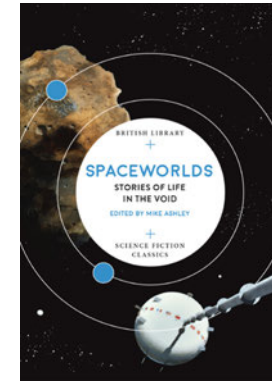


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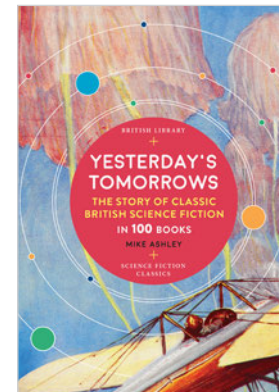


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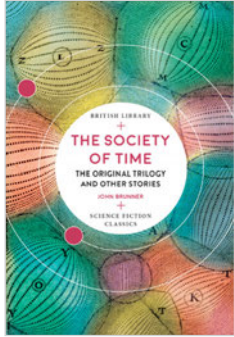
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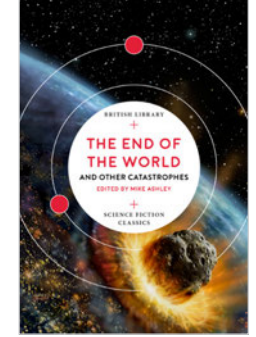


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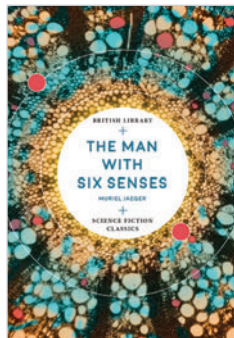
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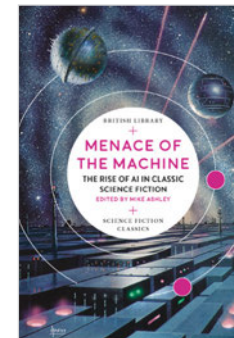


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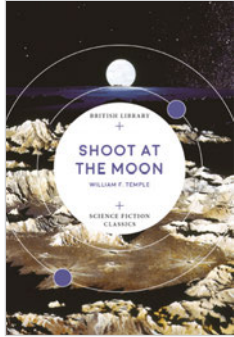
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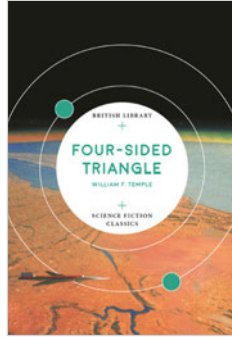
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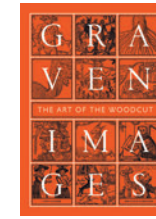


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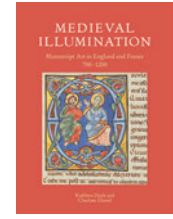
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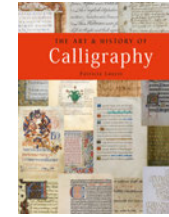
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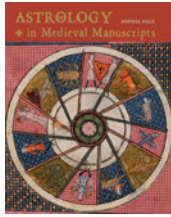
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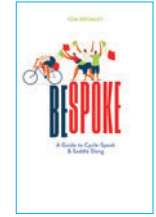
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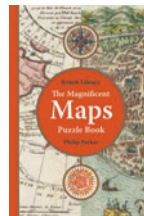
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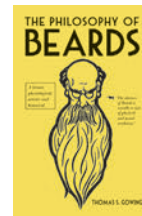
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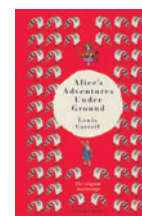
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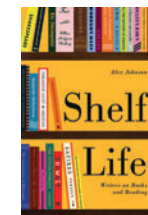
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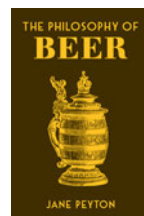
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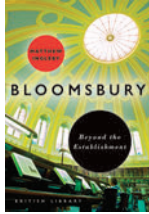


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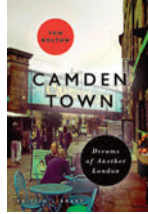
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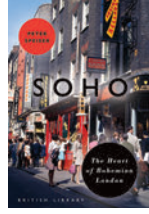
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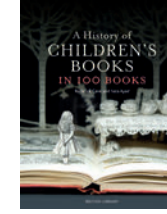
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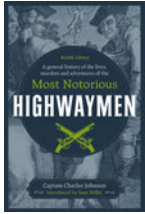
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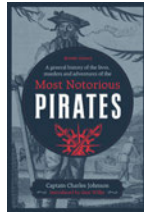
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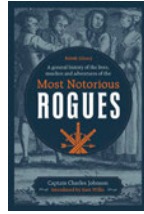
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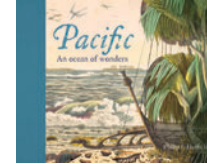
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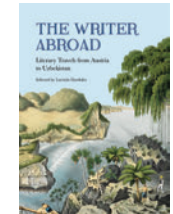
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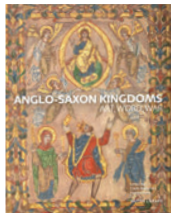
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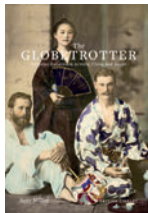
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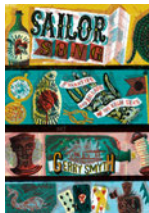
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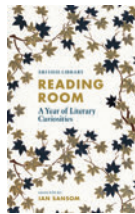
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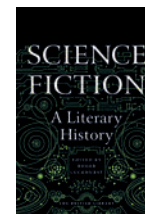
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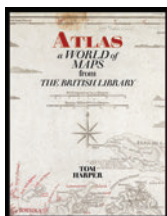


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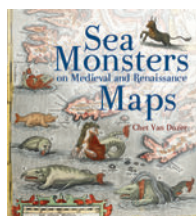
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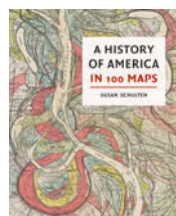
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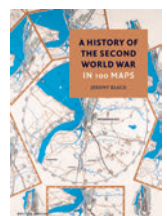
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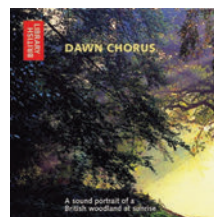


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