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ENGLISH LITERATURE

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UPCOMING

Barcelona Dreaming

A Novel by Rupert Thomson ISBN: 9781635420425

Set in Barcelona in the years leading up to the financial crash of 2008, these poignant interlinked stories follow ordinary people whose lives will be changed forever.

Publication Date: 6/1/2021

ENGLISH TITLES

Never Anyone but You

A Novel by Rupert Thomson ISBN: 9781635420012

Named a Best Book of the Year by The Guardian, The Observer, and Sydney Morning Herald.

A literary tour de force that traces the real-life love affair of two extraordinary women, recreating the surrealist movement in Paris and the horrors of the world wars with a singular incandescence and intimacy.

"Gorgeous and heart-rending." - The Observer, Best Books of the Year

"There's so much sheer moxie, prismatic identity, pleasure and danger in these lives...the scenes are tense, particular and embodied...wonderfully peculiar." —*New York Times Book Review*

Katherine Carlyle

A Novel by Rupert Thomson ISBN: 9781590517383

Written in the beautifully spare, lucid, and cinematic prose Thomson is known for, and powered by his natural gift for storytelling, *Katherine Carlyle* is Rupert Thomson's breakthrough novel.

"Katherine Carlyle is a masterpiece."—Philip Pullman, best-selling author of the His Dark Materials trilogy

"[T]his road trip through a snow dome of mesmeric hallucinations is Thomson at his best."—Richard Flanagan, author of *The Narrow Road to the Deep North*, winner of the 2015 Man Booker Prize

Secrecy A Novel by Rupert Thomson ISBN: 9781590516850

In this highly charged novel, Thomson brings Florence to life in all its vibrant sensuality, while remaining entirely contemporary in his exploration of the tensions between love and solitude, beauty and decay.

"Thomson paints a suspenseful picture of the moody, factional world of Florentine politics and draws parallels with the inner life of an artist whose work imitates darkness and decay." — *The New Yorker*

NVK A Novel by Rupert Thomson writing as Temple Drake ISBN: 9781590519356

HER SECRET MUST BE KEPT FOR ALL ETERNITY.

Set in the otherworldly megalopolis that is today's Shanghai, Temple Drake's suspenseful first novel blends the gothic, the erotic, and the supernatural as it charts an intense and dangerous affair.

"Finely calibrated...for all its mythological opulence, the tale's central ambiguity—the question of who is preying on whom—seems urgently modern."—*The Guardian*

Prague Spring

A Novel by Simon Mawer ISBN: 9781590519660

New York Times bestselling author of *The Glass Room* Simon Mawer returns to Czechoslovakia, this time during the turbulent 1960s, with a suspenseful story that mixes sex, politics, and betrayal.

"Masterly and chilling...as good as anything Simon Mawer has written; which means it is very good indeed."—*The Scotsman*

Trapeze A Novel by Simon Mawer ISBN: 9781590515273

A fascinating blend of fact and fiction, *Trapeze* is both an old-fashioned adventure story and a modern exploration of a young woman's growth into adulthood. There is violence, and there is love. There is death and betrayal, deception and revelation. But above all there is Marian Sutro, an ordinary young woman who, like her real-life counterparts in the SOE, did the most extraordinary things at a time when the ordinary was not enough.

"The book is full of the fascinating minutiae of espionage—aircraft drops, code-cracking, double agents, scrambled radio messages. There's a romance, too, though Mawer isn't one to dwell on his characters' inner lives, and Marian, who is 'trained to keep secrets,' remains frustratingly unknowable. Still, Mawer exhibits a great feeling for suspense, and produces memorable episodes in dark alleyways, deserted cafes, and shadowy corners of Père Lachaise"—*The New Yorker*

Tightrope A Novel by Simon Mawer ISBN: 9781590517239

From the author of the best-selling and Booker Prize-shortlisted *The Glass Room* and *Trapeze* an historical thriller that brings back Marian Sutro, ex-Special Operations agent, and traces her romantic and political exploits in post-World War II London, where the Cold War is about to reshape old loyalties.

"The characters in Simon Mawer's latest spy thriller, *Tightrope*, set in the gray, exhausted, murky days of post-World War II England, spend a lot of time in tense encounters that pivot on the issue of who knows what, and who's telling the truth about it...[Mawer] brings a fine sense of story, an intriguing plot and a lovely way with a sentence...*Tightrope* is full of satisfying twists, and we can't help cheering for its tough, resourceful heroine..."—*The New York Times* *The Glass Room A Novel* by Simon Mawer ISBN: 9781590513965

A 2009 Best Book by The Economist, The Daily Telegraph, Financial Times, London Evening Standard, The Observer, and Slate.com

A New York Times Book Review Editors' Choice

"A stirring new novel that almost won this year's Booker Prize....*The Glass Room* works so effectively because Mawer embeds...provocative aesthetic and moral issues in a war-torn adventure story that's eerily erotic and tremendously exciting....[a] gorgeous novel."–*The Washington Post*

"[A] stirring historical novel."-The New Yorker

"An old-fashioned, beautifully constructed novel of history, passion and ideas."-The Seattle Times

A Very English Scandal

Sex, Lies and a Murder Plot at the Heart of Establishment

by John Preston

ISBN: 9781590519486

Now a major TV drama series starring Hugh Grant and Ben Whishaw, a behind-the-scenes look at the desperate, scandalous private life of a British MP and champion manipulator, and the history-making trial that exposed his dirty secrets.

"Preston has written this page-turner like a political thriller, with urgent dialogue, well-staged scenes, escalating tension and plenty of cliffhangers."—*New York Times Book Review*

The Dig A Novel

by John Preston ISBN: 9781590517802

A succinct and witty literary venture that tells the strange story of a priceless treasure discovered in East Anglia on the eve of World War II.

"Shimmers with longing and regret ... Preston writes with economical grace ... He has written a kind of universal chamber piece, small in detail, beautifully made and liable to linger on in the heart and the mind. It is something utterly unfamiliar, and quite wonderful." —*New York Times Book Review*

The Songs A Novel by Charles Elton ISBN: 9781590517994

The Songs tells the extraordinary story of Iz Herzl, famed political activist and protest singer, who has always told his children that it is the future not the past they should concentrate on. Now, at eighty, he is an almost forgotten figure, estranged from everyone who has ever loved him.

"The Songs is an intimate look at the familial effects of fame and a smart, music-centric story that calls to mind Jennifer Egan's *A Visit from the Goon Squad." —Booklist*

Mr. Toppit A Novel by Charles Elton ISBN: 9781590513903

Spanning several decades, from the heyday of the postwar British film industry to today's cutthroat world of show business in Los Angeles, *Mr. Toppit* is a riveting debut novel that captures an extraordinary family and their tragic brush with fame to wonderfully funny and painful effect.

"Brutally comic... a strong debut, darkly funny and richly told, with often surprisingly penetrative emotional moments."—*Associated Press*

"Told in several voices and all of them are high-pitched, *Mr. Toppit* is a high-jinks combination of Harry Potter, Lemony Snicket, Madeline, *The Secret Garden, The Simpsons* and *Arrested Development.*"—Los Angeles Times

The Honeymoon

A Novel by Dinitia Smith ISBN: 9781590518885

Based on the life of George Eliot, famed author of *Middlemarch*, this captivating account of Eliot's passions and tribulations explores the nature of love in its many guises.

"Smith's portrait of Eliot's honeymoon with Cross ... plausibly brings to life a puzzling period of her life. With the historical record lacking or shrouded, it is the perfect example of when fictional storytelling about an eminent person is warranted." —*The Washington Post*

Where Women Are Kings A Novel

by Christie Watson

ISBN: 9781590517093

From the award-winning author of *Tiny Sunbirds, Far Away*, the story of a young boy who believes two things: that his Nigerian birth mother loves him like the world has never known love, and that he is a wizard.

"Watson paints a portrait of a world torn by issues of class, race, and belief...[T]he book becomes progressively more convincing, darker and unexpectedly comic as a lively cast of characters inject humor and a believable awkwardness into an often painful drama...[A] moving and complex picture. Watson is especially good at describing Elijah's pleasure in the odd beauties of nature, as well as the wants and needs of domestic life. Elijah is never more heartbreaking than when he's imagining all the people he loves brought together in one place."—New York Times Book Review

Tiny Sunbirds, Far Away A Novel

by Christie Watson

ISBN: 9781590514665

Tiny Sunbirds, Far Away is the witty and beautifully written story of one family's attempt to survive a new life they could never have imagined, struggling to find a deeper sense of identity along the way.

"A sure-footed debut narrated by 12-year-old Blessing, a girl growing up too fast in the troubled Niger Delta." — *People Magazine*

"[An] impressive debut...Watson's nuanced portrayal of daily life in Nigeria is peopled with flawed but tenacious characters who fight not only for survival but for dignity. Blessing is a wonderful narrator whose vivid impressions enliven Watson's sensual prose."—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review

If It Is Your Life Stories

by James Kelman ISBN: 9781590516225

A collection of short stories by the Booker Prize-winning Scottish master

"Kelman's language is immediately exciting; like a musician, he uses repetition and rhythm to build structures out of short flights and circular meanderings. The working-class Glaswegian author knows exactly how his words will scathe delicate skins; he has a fine sense of attack."—*The New Yorker*

Mo Said She Was Quirky A Novel

by James Kelman ISBN: 9781590516003

James Kelman, the Man Booker Prize—winning author of *How Late It Was, How Late*, tells the story of Helen–a sister, a mother, a daughter–a very ordinary young woman. Her boyfriend said she was quirky but she is much more than that. Trust, love, relationships; parents, children, lovers; death, wealth, home: these are the ordinary parts of the everyday that become extraordinary when you think of them as Helen does, each waking hour.

"A marvelous achievement, restrained and deeply moving."-Booklist

The Professor of Truth

A Novel by James Robertson ISBN: 9781590516324

A literary spellbinder about one man's desperate attempt to deal with grief by unmasking the terrorists responsible for the act that killed his wife and daughter

"Impressively blends the political with the personal, and a healthy dash of the metaphysical, as well. Robertson knows that it's often the pursuit of truth, regardless of the truth itself, by which we should measure the work of a man's life."—*Minneapolis Star Tribune*

The House of Special Purpose

A Novel by John Boyne, Author of *The Heart's Invisible Furies*

ISBN: 9781590515983

Part love story, part historical epic, part tragedy, a propulsive novel of the Russian Revolution and the fate of the Romanovs.

"John Boyne's novel is a tour de force, at once epic and intimate, and above all a marvelous read." —John Banville, author of *Ancient Light* and *The Sea*, winner of the Booker Prize

The Absolutist A Novel by John Boyne ISBN: 9781590515525

Winner of the Stonewall Book Award

A tale of passion, jealousy, heroism, and betrayal set in one of the most gruesome trenches of France during World War I, from the *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Heart's Invisible Furies*.

"A novel of immeasurable sadness, in a league with Graham Greene's *The End of the Affair. John* Boyne is very, very good at portraying the destructive power of a painfully kept secret. This is a forbidden love story—a gay love story—but one with a terrible twist."—John Irving, National Book Award-Winning Author of *The Cider House Rules*

«A moving and deeply felt tribute to a love that dared to speak its name once—or maybe twice—and then forever held its tongue. We suffer in silence, we love in silence, and we regret and learn to live our unlived lives in silence as well.»—André Aciman author of *Call Me by Your Name*