

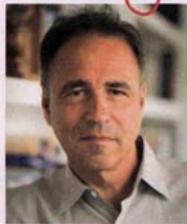
Bookshef

We bring you our favourite new hardbacks, paperbacks and e-books – from light-hearted fiction to literary gems

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ON MY BEDSIDE TABLE

Anthony Horowitz



After writing updated James Bond and Sherlock Holmes novels, Anthony Horowitz has moved into thrillers with the tense, exciting **THE WORD IS MURDER**.

◆ I'm currently revisiting the golden age of detective drama with **MURDER MUST ADVERTISE**. I'd forgotten how witty and waspish **DOROTHY L SAYERS** could be.

It's a story of death and blackmail, set in a London advertising agency and, as Sayers worked in advertising herself, her knowledge shines through.

◆ I'm about to read **THE TOKYO ZODIAC MURDERS**, which was recommended to me as a classic 'locked room' murder mystery. **SOJI SHIMADA**'s book is macabre, with a series of quite gruesome deaths and body parts scattered

over Japan – somehow with an occult connection. Shimada is apparently known as the God of Mystery. We'll see!

◆ The Suspicions Of Mr Whicher was **KATE SUMMERSCALE**'s extraordinary, true story

of a child murder that gripped England in 1860. Her new book, **THE WICKED BOY**, takes a similarly forensic approach to another murder, this time committed by a 13-year-old child. Is the boy mad or evil?

◆ **AMANDA CRAIG** is a social commentator and author with a sharp, satirical eye. Her new novel,

THE LIE OF THE LAND, is a tale of a divorcing couple who relocate to the Devonshire countryside.

◆ **THE CAINE MUTINY** is an epic story of a minesweeper during the Second World War and it deservedly won the Pulitzer Prize for **HERMAN WOUK**. I've read it many times and will do so again as I'm turning it into a TV series, hopefully giving it the treatment it deserves.



Good Housekeeping's **THREE HOT READS**



◆ The mind can play strange tricks when you're trying to block out the past and **RODDY DOYLE**'s book **SMILE** captures this beautifully and tragically. A recently divorced man runs into an old school friend who triggers memories – good and bad – of their Christian Brothers school.

◆ Nobody writes funny, real, vulnerable characters like **MARIAN KEYES**, and **THE BREAK** is classic Marian. Amy's loving-but-distant

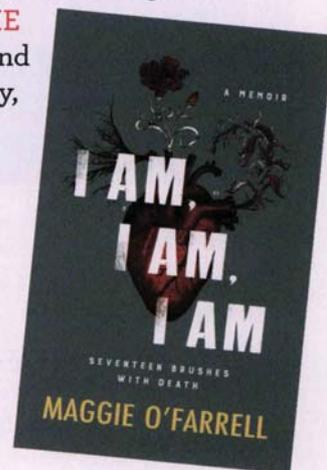
husband announces he's off backpacking for six months leaving her to pick up the pieces – and have some life-changing experiences of her own.

◆ A young Nancy Mitford solving mysteries in the 1920s – what could be more entertaining? **THE MITFORD MURDERS** is by **JESSICA FELLOWES**, author of the official Downton Abbey guides, so the upper class detail is spot on and the plot is tremendous fun.

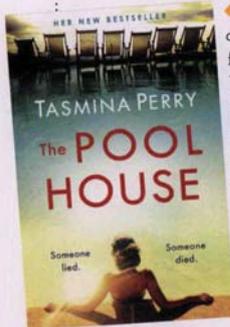
Book of the month

We tore through **I AM, I AM, I AM: SEVENTEEN BRUSHES WITH DEATH** in one sitting. It's novelist **MAGGIE O'FARRELL**'s remarkable and

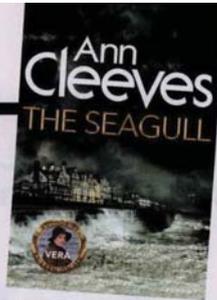
life-affirming autobiography, focusing on near-death experiences. Some are terrifying – what would you do if a stranger started following you on a remote mountain path? Others are heartbreaking or simply shocking reminders that one misstep can change a life for ever.



4 THRILLERS WE LOVE



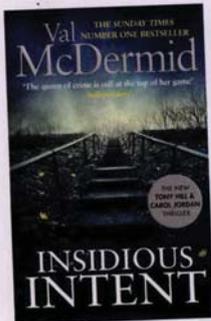
◆ Fans of curmudgeonly cop Vera Stanhope, prepare for a treat as **THE SEAGULL** by **ANN CLEEVES** sees her following a cold case that might just have involved her late father.



◆ Well-drawn characters and a twisty plot make **TASMINA PERRY**'s page-turner **THE POOL HOUSE** a must-read. A woman accepts a summer house-share in a glamorous Hamptons mansion, then discovers that her predecessor died there.

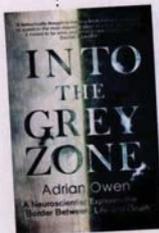


◆ One thing we've learnt from thrillers: danger lies in school reunions. In **THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY** by **ANNABEL KANTARIA**, first love is rekindled years later – but one partner has a sinister motive.

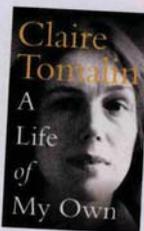


◆ A serial killer is picking up his victims at weddings in **VAL MCDERMID**'s new thriller, **INSIDIOUS INTENT**. He covers his tracks so carefully that it seems there is no stopping him. With pressure mounting on them, how far will Carol Jordan and Tony Hill go to stop the deaths?

BEST NON-FICTION

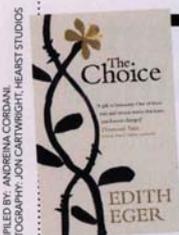


◆ In 2006, **DR ADRIAN OWEN** made a medical discovery: that there was a state of consciousness between living and death. His book, **INTO THE GREY ZONE**, weaves a fascinating tale using medical data, heart-wrenching case studies and his own personal experiences.



◆ As the author of more than a dozen biographies, **CLAIRE TOMALIN** knows a thing or two about telling life stories. Now she turns the spotlight on herself in **A LIFE OF MY OWN**, a highly readable memoir of her eventful life.

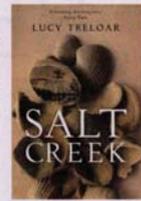
Everyone's talking about...



Part self-help book, part memoir, **THE CHOICE** is written by **EDITH EGER**, a psychologist and Holocaust survivor. Her ordeal, combined with her training, make her argument – that happiness is a choice we can make – compelling and irresistible. A genuine, honest-to-goodness life-changer.

ONES TO WATCH

◆ Already making waves in Australia, **SALT CREEK** by **LUCY TRELOAR** is a historical novel in its grittiest, most real form. A young girl travels to a stark, inhospitable corner of South Australia, where she and her family struggle to survive. Beautifully written.



◆ Fans of Cloud Atlas and Never Let Me Go will love **THE HISTORY OF BEES**, which tells the story of three generations of beekeepers, past, present and future. A strong literary debut for **MAJA LUNDE**.

Also out THIS MONTH



◆ Guaranteed to kick-start book club debates, **KEEP YOU SAFE** by **MELISSA HILL** tells the story of one parent who can't vaccinate her child and another who won't. When both girls get measles, where does the blame lie?

◆ Two best friends from childhood are forced on to different paths in **THE BURNING GIRL**. But **CLAIRE**



MESSUD's moving writing makes it so much deeper, and gets us to think about growing up, friendship and how girls are treated by society.



◆ Want some light relief? Then pick up **THE WORST CASE SCENARIO COOKERY CLUB** by

CHRISSIE MANBY and watch three hapless chefs bond over their culinary catastrophes.

◆ In post-war London, a man dies suddenly leaving a room full of beautiful suits – and a secret that will warp his wife's memories of him for ever. **THE WARDROBE MISTRESS** is **PATRICK MCGRATH**'s portrait of a strong woman, written in a distinctive voice. □

