

## My Grandmothers Tale Victorian Erotic Classics

The diary of Edith Lorrimer, England 1871 I was shown the laundry - a vast noisy sunless room full of steam and the sharp smell of soapsuds. I counted seven women slaving over the large tubs where the clothes are washed, their reddened faces shiny with sweat even in this weather...Condensation ran down the windows and pooled on the floor. Heavy wooden racks are pulled up and down from the high ceiling and the sheets and clothes are draped over them and hoisted up to the ceiling from where they drip on the unfortunates toiling beneath. No doubt Rosie takes her turn in here. Just to think of it filled my eyes with tears. What a terrible existence. Edith Lorrimer is the sheltered daughter of a wealthy widow who is on the Board of Governors at a workhouse for the destitute. Whilst visiting the workhouse, Edith meets with Rosie Chubb, a troubled orphan who is a liar, quick-tempered and always in trouble...

Two sisters. One brutal murder. A quest for vengeance that will unleash Hell itself . . . A new series from the #1 New York Times bestselling author of Stalking Jack the Ripper. Emilia and her twin sister Vittoria are streghe - witches who live secretly among humans, avoiding notice and persecution. One night, Vittoria misses dinner service at the family's renowned Sicilian restaurant. Emilia soon finds the body of her beloved twin . . . desecrated beyond belief. Devastated, Emilia sets out to find her sister's killer and to seek vengeance at any cost-even if it means using dark magic that's been long forbidden. Then Emilia meets Wrath, one of the Wicked-princes of Hell she has been warned against in tales since she was a child. Wrath claims to be on Emilia's side, tasked by his master with solving the series of women's murders on the island. But when it comes to the Wicked, nothing is as it seems . . .

James Whitcox, a widowed barrister who has never known passion, joins a secret society called the Men and Women's Club, founded to discuss sexual relationships, where he meets outspoken Frances Hart who makes all of his wildest fantasies become a sensual reality. Original.

Lewd, bawdy, and sensual, this cult classic is a collection of Victorian erotica that circulated in an underground magazine known as The Pearl from July 1879 to December 1880. Now dusted off and totally uncensored, the journal of voluptuous reading that titillated the eminent Victorians is reprinted in its entirety. The 18 issues of The Pearl are packed with short stories, naughty poems, ballads of sexual adventure, letters, limericks, jokes, gossip, and six serialized novels including "La Rose d'Amour," filled with inventive and exotic lovemaking scenes; "My Grandmother's Tale," with graphic descriptions of initiations into pleasure; "Miss Coote's Confession," a tale demonstrating the Victorian interest in flagellation; and "Young Beginners," a collection of exuberant sexual adventures. Scatological and scandalous, The Pearl is definitely not for the straitlaced or pure of mind.

"Faringdon House in Oxfordshire was the home of Lord Berners, composer, writer, painter, friend of Stravinsky and Gertrude Stein, a man renowned for his eccentricity - masks, practical jokes, a flock of multi-coloured doves - and his homosexuality. Before the war he made Faringdon an aesthete's paradise, where exquisite food was served to many of the great minds, beauties and wits of the day. Since the early thirties his companion there was Robert Heber-Percy, twenty-eight years his junior, wildly physical, unscholarly, a hothead who rode naked through the grounds, loved cocktails and nightclubs, and was known to all as the Mad Boy. If the two men made an unlikely couple, at a time when homosexuality was illegal, the addition to the household in 1942 of a pregnant Jennifer Fry, a high society girl known to be 'fast', as Robert's wife was simply astounding. After Victoria was born the marriage soon foundered (Jennifer later married Alan Ross). Berners died in 1950, leaving Robert in charge of Faringdon, aided by a ferocious Austrian housekeeper who strove to keep the same culinary standards in a more austere age. This was the world Sofka Zinovieff, Victoria's daughter, a typical child of the sixties, first encountered at the age of seventeen. Eight years later, to her astonishment, Robert told her he was leaving her Faringdon House. Her book about Faringdon and its people is marvellously witty and full of insight, bringing to life a vanished world and the almost fantastical people who lived in it."

Celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the enduring gothic masterpiece Flowers in the Attic—the unforgettable forbidden love story that earned V.C. Andrews a fiercely devoted fan base and became an international cult classic. At the top of the stairs there are four secrets hidden—blond, innocent, and fighting for their lives... They were a perfect and beautiful family—until a heartbreaking tragedy shattered their happiness. Now, for the sake of an inheritance that will ensure their future, the children must be hidden away out of sight, as if they never existed. They are kept in the attic of their grandmother's labyrinthine mansion, isolated and alone. As the visits from their seemingly unconcerned mother slowly dwindle, the four children grow ever closer and depend upon one another to survive both this cramped world and their cruel grandmother. A suspenseful and thrilling tale of family, greed, murder, and forbidden love, Flowers in the Attic is the unputdownable first novel of the epic Dollanganger family saga. The Dollanganger series includes: Flowers in the Attic, Petals in the Wind, If There Be Thorns, Seeds of Yesterday, Garden of Shadows, Beneath the Attic, and Out of the Attic. May's Tale recounts the sexual coming-of-age of our curious young protagonist as she is tutored in the physical arts of love by all the libidiously willed individual's about her. At the hands of her school tutor, her groundsman's son Robert, and a mysterious sapphist called Kate who grew up on a West Indian plantation, May will learn all manner of forbidden deeds and to give over every part of herself to the pursuit of the wildest of orgiastic heights. With gamahuching, tribadism amongst both sexes alike, and Kate's tale of interracial indiscretions adding a piquancy to the proceedings, this gem of Victorian erotica will be sure to shock and titillate as it did over a century ago. Originally appearing as My Grandmother's Tale in the notorious periodical, The Pearl, published by William Lazenby between 1879 and 1880, the work presented herein with all seven unexpurgated chapters shall make a fine addition to any collection of the once suppressed.

My Grandmother's TaleCreatespace Independent Publishing Platform

A Victorian tale in which Tom, a sooty little chimney sweep with a great longing to be clean, is stolen by fairies and turned into a water-baby.

A stunning, multigenerational story about two teenagers: Victoria, who joins the circus in 1965, and her granddaughter, Callie, who leaves the circus fifty years later. Perfect for fans of *This is Us*. In 1965 seventeen-year-old Victoria, having just escaped an unstable home, flees to the ultimate place for dreamers and runaways--the circus. Specifically, the VanDrexel Family Circus where, among the lion tamers, roustabouts, and trapeze artists, Victoria hopes to start a better life. Fifty years later, Victoria's sixteen-year-old granddaughter Callie is thriving. A gifted and focused tightrope walker with dreams of being a VanDrexel high wire legend just like her grandmother, Callie can't imagine herself anywhere but the circus. But when Callie's mother accepts her dream job at an animal sanctuary in Florida just months after Victoria's death, Callie is forced to leave her lifelong home behind. Feeling unmoored and out of her element, Callie pores over memorabilia from her family's days on the road, including a box that belonged to Victoria when she was Callie's age. In the box, Callie finds notes that Victoria wrote to herself with tips and tricks for navigating her new world. Inspired by this piece of her grandmother's life, Callie decides to use Victoria's circus prowess to navigate the uncharted waters of public high school. Across generations, Victoria and Callie embrace the challenges of starting over, letting go, and finding new families in unexpected places.

This is a piece of Victorian Erotica, anonymously published in 1880. This is erotica for open minded adults only.

It was a fine morning in May, and the dull, little frequented High Street of the small country town called Rutshole seemed absolutely cheerful, as if inspired by the exhilarating atmosphere. So at least thought Mr. Bonham, a portly widower of fifty or thereabouts, as having left his carriage at the inn, he proceeded down High Street leisurely, but with the usual solemnity on his countenance, (which he considered dignified and respectable) much lightened by the cheering weather. He stopped at the door of a small shop, on which was inscribed, 'Trabb, Hosier and Glover'. Here he entered. Now that capital woman of business, the widow Trabb, was engaged in suiting a stiff-necked old maid with a pair of mittens; but even if she had not been so occupied, we very much doubt if she would herself have attended to a gentleman customer. The worthy woman knew that there are other means of making a shop attractive besides the excellence and cheapness of the wares therein sold: and she had enlisted in her services a pretty girl of sixteen, whose remarkable grace and modesty had already attracted numerous young squires, young farmers, and officers from the neighbouring garrison town, as real or pretended customers, to the manifest advantage of Mrs. Trabb's till.

19th Century erotica. While mild compared to today's erotic pornography, it still holds a lustful attraction for the curious erotica seeker. Footnotes for archaic words added by TGS Publishing

Once Upon a Time ... A haughty princess paraded in front of her people but ended up showing off far more than her leadership skills. A modern-day Cinderella went to the ball in a pair of black patent-leather stiletto heels guaranteed to bring the foot-worshipping prince to his knees. The seven dwarves proved that what they lacked in size they more than made up for in numbers. And Goldie learned that nothing is too hot when it comes to finding out which of the three "bare" bachelors is neither too big nor too small, but just right. In *The Empress's New Lingerie* your favorite childhood fairy tales have taken a decidedly adult turn. So dim the lights, get cozy, and lose yourself in sexy bedtime stories with a naughty twist. . . . Pleasant dreams.

Beautiful, voluptuous and supposedly innocent, K'Tai is also too headstrong for her own good. Obligated to flee her village in a hurry in order to avoid the application of a switch to her curvaceous bottom, she finds herself in a far worse situation, at the mercy of lascivious slavers, cruel priests and sadistic nuns, each determined to inflict, ever more severe punishments and indignities upon her. Part of the *Scarlet Gothic* series. Other titles include *Whipping Girl* and *Sin's Apprentice*.

A group of teenage boys take turns assessing each other's changing bodies before a Friday night disco... A grieving woman strikes up an unlikely friendship with a fellow traveller on a night train to Kiev... An unusually well-informed naturalist is eyed with suspicion by his comrades on a forest exhibition with a higher purpose... The stories shortlisted for the 2021 BBC National Short Story Award with Cambridge University take place in liminal spaces – their characters find themselves in transit, travelling along flight paths, train lines and roads, or in moments where new opportunities or directions suddenly seem possible. From the reflections of a new mother flying home after a funeral, to an ailing son's reluctance to return to the village of his childhood, these stories celebrate small kindnesses in times of turbulence, and demonstrate a connection between one another that we might sometimes take for granted. The BBC NSSA is one of the most prestigious prizes for a single short story, with the winning author receiving £15,000, and four further shortlisted authors £600 each. James Runcie is joined on the judging panel by a group of acclaimed writers and critics including: Booker Prize shortlisted novelist Fiona Mozley; award winning writer, poet and winner of the Desmond Elliott Prize, Derek Owusu; multi-award winning Irish novelist and short story writer, Donal Ryan; and returning judge, Di Speirs, Books Editor at BBC Radio.

I don't know what I'm doing here. Well, I do really ... I have been sent here to learn to talk again. Sent here because my mother can't stand my silent presence at home. Sent here because of my face...' She watches; she dreams. She sees more than they realise. She has worries and fears, hopes and desires. She is troubled; she is angry. Above all, she is lonely. She may be someone you know. She may be you. In John Marsden's acclaimed debut novel, she tells her story, with humour and insight, with sensitivity and strength, with painful honesty. You will never forget her. When it was originally published, *SO MUCH TO TELL YOU* won a Children's Book Council Book of the Year Award, a Victorian Premier's Award and a Christopher Medal (USA), as well as being selected by the American Library Association as a Best Book for Young Adults.

When Captain Devereaux, a British Army officer, is posted to Hindustan, he leaves behind his wife and young child. This parting does not leave him lonely for long, however, and he quickly begins a sexual relationship with Lizzie Wilson, the wife of another British officer. But when Captain Devereaux meets Colonel Selwyn, his wife, and three young daughters Amy, Mabel and Fanny, he becomes entranced by the girls—Fanny in particular—and soon begins schooling all three of the Colonel's daughters in the ways of erotic love—a lesson they are more than happy to learn. Purportedly autobiographical, *Venus in India* (or *Love Adventures in Hindustan*) was written under the pseudonym Charles Devereaux. The author's real identity has never been confirmed. HarperPerennial Classics brings great works of literature to life in

digital format, upholding the highest standards in ebook production and celebrating reading in all its forms. Look for more titles in the HarperPerennial Classics collection to build your digital library.

Following an indiscretion with a maid, exuberant Julian Robinson is sent to his family's country estate to be educated by a beautiful and bewitching French governess, Mademoiselle de Chambonnard, who subjects him to a rigorous disciplinary regime of birching and cross-dressing. Complete in three volumes, *Gynecocracy* is an influential masterpiece of Victorian clandestine erotica, first published in 1893. It is significant for the novelty of its focus on the subjection of a young man to women through enforced cross-dressing. This Birchgrove Press edition includes the excerpt from *Don Juan*, which modern reprints often omit, and a number of chapter head decorations from a nineteenth-century edition. The authorship of *Gynecocracy* is usually attributed to an English lawyer, Stanislas Matthew de Rhodès (1857-1932), who is also credited with writing *The Yellow Room* (1891) and *The Petticoat Dominant* (1898), which are also available from Birchgrove Press. "The kind of book for which the word "rollicking" was invented."—New York Times Book Review An Indie Bestseller One of Bustle's Best New Books Out June 2021 A Popsugar Best Summer Read of 2021 A prim and proper lady thief must save her aunt from a crazed pirate and his dangerously charming henchman in this fantastical historical romance. Cecilia Bassingwaite is the ideal Victorian lady. She's also a thief. Like the other members of the Wisteria Society crime sorority, she flies around England drinking tea, blackmailing friends, and acquiring treasure by interesting means. Sure, she has a dark and traumatic past and an overbearing aunt, but all things considered, it's a pleasant existence. Until the men show up. Ned Lightbourne is a sometimes assassin who is smitten with Cecilia from the moment they meet. Unfortunately, that happens to be while he's under direct orders to kill her. His employer, Captain Morvath, who possesses a gothic abbey bristling with cannons and an unbridled hate for the world, intends to rid England of all its presumptuous women, starting with the Wisteria Society. Ned has plans of his own. But both men have made one grave mistake. Never underestimate a woman. When Morvath imperils the Wisteria Society, Cecilia is forced to team up with her handsome would-be assassin to save the women who raised her--hopefully proving, once and for all, that she's as much of a scoundrel as the rest of them.

A dark, twisty thriller about a centuries-old, ivy-covered boarding school haunted by its history of witchcraft and two girls dangerously close to digging up the past. The dangerous romance and atmospheric setting makes it a perfect read for fans of dark academia. The history of Dalloway School lives in the bones it was built on. Five violent deaths in the first ten years of its existence. Sometimes you can still smell the blood on the air. It wasn't until Felicity enrolled that she fell in love with the dark. And now she's back to finish her senior year after the tragic death of her girlfriend. She even has her old room in Godwin House, the exclusive dormitory rumored to be haunted by the spirits of the five Dalloway students who died there—girls some say were witches. It's Ellis Haley's first year at Dalloway. A prodigy novelist at seventeen, Ellis is eccentric and brilliant, and Felicity can't shake the pull she feels to her. So when Ellis asks for help researching the Dalloway Five for her second book, Felicity can't say no. Dalloway's occult lore is everywhere, and the new girl won't let Felicity forget it. But when the past begins to invade on the present, Felicity needs to decide where she stands. The soil under her feet is bloody with Dalloway's history. But so is the present. Is it Dalloway—or is it her?

It's 1895, and after the death of her mother, 16-year-old Gemma Doyle is shipped off from the life she knows in India to Spence, a proper boarding school in England. Lonely, guilt-ridden, and prone to visions of the future that have an uncomfortable habit of coming true, Gemma's reception there is a chilly one. To make things worse, she's being followed by a mysterious young Indian man, a man sent to watch her. But why? What is her destiny? And what will her entanglement with Spence's most powerful girls - and their foray into the spiritual world - lead to? A young man dresses up as a woman and enters a convent in this classic, sexy, and funny novel about some very sinful and naughty nuns. Before internet porn, before porn videos, before porn movies, people lust for raunchy, X-rated entertainment read pornographic books and magazines. Victorian and Edwardian England had its own adult entertainment industry - countless erotic novels were put out by shady publishers, some books were printed by the authors themselves, and most of the writers were anonymous. Many of these 19th century books are surprisingly kinky, and some of them may be quite offensive to modern day readers - in more ways than one. First published in 1866, "The Nunnery Tales" is one of the very first nunsploitation novels. Its anonymous author is unknown, but this may be a translation of a novel first published in French.

Jane of Lantern Hill Lucy Maud Montgomery Jane of Lantern Hill is a novel by Canadian author L. M. Montgomery. The book was adapted into a 1990 telefilm, *Lantern Hill*, by Sullivan Films, the producer of the highly popular *Anne of Green Gables* television miniseries and the television series *Road to Avonlea*. Montgomery began formulating an idea on May 11, 1936, began writing on August 21, and wrote the last chapter on February 3, 1937. She finished typing up the manuscript on February 25, as she could not hire a typist to do it for her. This novel was dedicated to "JL", her companion cat. The novel was written at Montgomery's house, "Journey's End"; the environment influenced Montgomery's writing to create a

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY HELEN SIMPSON From familiar fairy tales and legends â€" Red Riding Hood, Bluebeard, Puss in Boots, Beauty and the Beast, vampires and werewolves â€" Angela Carter has created an absorbing collection of dark, sensual, fantastic stories.

Locus Elm Press is proud to present William Lazenby's genre defining Victorian erotic periodical *The Pearl*. From the same infamous publisher that also gave us *The Boudoir* and *The Oyster* this licentious "Journal of Facetiæ and Voluptuous Reading" contains the classically debauched tales of 'Lady Pokingham' and 'Miss Coote's Confession' and 'My Grandmother's Tale', and 'La Rose D'amour' interspersed with bawdy tales of utmost lasciviousness and songs and poems equally graphic. Volumes IX to XII, anonymously written during 1879 and 1880 and considerately presented hear-in as originally published with a fully searchable index, is a sound source of titillation. With tales including lesbian tribadism, gamahuching, group menages, the finest lashings of BDSM tossed in for good pleasure, and ALL manner of front and rear deed and device in between this collection will be sure to pique the interest of those a fan of the genre. Crack it open... it's very hot inside. Volumes 1 to 4, Volumes 5 to 8, Volumes 13 to 16, and Volumes 17 to 18 (plus the Christmas Special) are also coming very soon to Locus Elm Press.

A brilliant and glittering jewel of a novel. I was wholly swept away by this story.--Allison Pataki, New York Times bestselling author of *The Queen's Secret* "A tale of daring and determination, set against the glamorous heights, and the harsh restrictions of aristocratic society in the middle years of the British nineteenth century.--Sir Julian Fellowes, creator of *Downton Abbey* From one of the most famous former members of the British royal family, Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York --a mesmerizing novel of a young noblewoman's coming-of-age that richly details both high society and low in Victorian England. Queen Victoria's close friend, the Scottish Duke of Buccleuch, Lady Margaret Montagu Scott is expected to make an advantageous marriage. But Margaret is an impulsive and outspoken girl in a repressive society where women are, quite literally, caged in corsets and required to conform. When Lady Margaret's parents arrange a society marriage for her, she tries to reconcile herself to the match. But shortly before her betrothal is announced, Margaret flees, leaving her parents to explain her sudden absence to an opulent ballroom stuffed with two hundred distinguished guests. Banished from polite society, Margaret throws herself into charitable work and finds strength in a circle of female friends like herself--women intent on breaking the mold, including Queen Victoria's daughter Princess Louise. Margaret resolves to follow her heart--a journey of self-discovery that will take her to Ireland, America, and then

back to Britain where she finds the life she was always meant to lead. A bold and thoughtful story about a rebellious woman finding herself and her voice in an age of astounding technological change and great social unrest, *Her Heart for a Compass* is a delicious costume drama rich in atmosphere, history, and color.

Among the first "Journals of Voluptuous Reading" to be spawned by the Victorians, this novel shows them as vastly different from their public image--beneath the facade of respectability and sexual repression there existed the strongest urge for sexual experimentation and enjoyment. First published in London in July 1879, it provided unrestrained erotica for every taste.

The Cambridge Companion to Erotic Literature offers an introduction to key debates in the study of erotic literature from antiquity to the present. It addresses one of the longest standing controversies in literary history: the boundary between acceptable and unacceptable treatments of human sexuality. Whether scurrilous Roman satire, irreverent Restoration drama, or bold Modernist novel, erotic literature pushes the boundaries of the acceptable and challenges the conventions of more mainstream literatures. In fifteen chapters that range from ancient Greece and Rome to twentieth-century American, English, French, and Dutch literature, experts in the field confront a variety of related topics, such as the definition and scope of erotic literature, the nature of textual pleasure, historical shifts in the understanding of the normal and the perverse, the relationship between gender and genre, sexual violence, homosexuality, sadomasochism, necrophilia, satire, pornography, etc. Students new to the scholarship are provided with a clear and useful introduction; those already familiar with the field are given an exciting glimpse into the most recent work.

The bestselling author of *The Beauty Myth*, *Vagina* and *The End of America* chronicles the struggles and eventual triumph of John Addington Symonds, a Victorian-era poet, biographer, and critic who penned what became a foundational text on our modern understanding of human sexual orientation and LGBTQ+ legal rights. In *Outrages*, Naomi Wolf chronicles the struggles and eventual triumph of John Addington Symonds, a Victorian-era poet, biographer, and critic who penned what became a foundational text on our modern understanding of human sexual orientation and LGBTQ+ legal rights, despite writing at a time when anything interpreted as homoerotic could be used as evidence in trials leading to harsh sentences under British law. Wolf's book is extremely relevant today for what it has to say about the vital importance of freedom of speech and the courageous roles of publishers and booksellers in an era of growing calls for censorship and ever-escalating state violations of privacy. At a time when the American Library Association, the Guardian, and other observers document national and global efforts from censoring LGBTQ+ voices in libraries to using anti-trans and homophobic sentiments cynically to win elections, the story of how such hateful efforts evolved from the past, to reach down to us now, is more important than ever. Drawing on the work of a range of scholars of censorship and of LGBTQ+ legal history, Wolf depicts how state censorship, and state prosecution of same-sex sexuality, played out--decades before the infamous trial of Oscar Wilde--shadowing the lives of people who risked in ever-changing, targeted ways scrutiny by the criminal justice system. She shows how legal persecutions of writers, and of men who loved men affected Symonds and his contemporaries, all the while, Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass* was illicitly crossing the Atlantic and finding its way into the hands of readers who reveled in the American poet's celebration of freedom, democracy, and unfettered love. Inspired by Whitman, Symonds kept trying, stubbornly, to find a way to express his message--that love and sex between men were not 'morbid' and deviant, but natural and even ennobling. He wrote a strikingly honest secret memoir written in code to embed hidden messages--which he embargoed for a generation after his death - and wrote the essay *A Problem in Modern Ethics* that was secretly shared in his lifetime and is now rightfully understood as one of the first gay rights manifestos in the English language. Equal parts insightful historical critique and page-turning literary detective story, Wolf's *Outrages* is above all an uplifting testament to the triumph of romantic love.

The steamy tale of Astrid, a young woman who is trained to become a dominatrix. Her sexual encounters with both men and women are many. She is cruel, she is feared, she is hot - she is Astrid Cane. Before internet porn, before porn videos, before porn movies, people lusting for raunchy, X-rated entertainment read pornographic books and magazines. Victorian England had its own adult entertainment industry - countless erotic novels were put out by shady publishers, some books were printed by the authors themselves, and most of the writers were anonymous. Many of these 19th century books are surprisingly kinky, and some of them may be quite offensive to modern day readers - in more ways than one. The anonymously written "*Astrid Cane*," first published in 1891, is a great example of vintage sadomasochistic erotica. The author is still unknown.

The Brill Handbook of Spiritualism and Channeling marks the first extensive collection on these two interrelated movements and examines themes such as gender, race, performance, and technology in each instance.

When lovely young orphans Caroline and Freda arrive to the mansion belonging to their new ward, the wonderfully depraved Lord Roxboro, they don't know what to expect. They enter a world of orgiastic pleasures, where the maids and stablemen join the sexual activities. Before internet porn, before porn videos, before porn movies, people lusting for raunchy, X-rated entertainment read pornographic books and magazines. Victorian and Edwardian England had its own adult entertainment industry - countless erotic novels were put out by shady publishers, some books were printed by the authors themselves, and most of the writers were anonymous. Many of these 19th century books are surprisingly kinky, and some of them may be quite offensive to modern day readers - in more ways than one. Sir Walter Bone is a pseudonym, the author of this massive epos, first published in 1898, is unknown. This tome contains all six volumes of "*The Loves of Lord Roxboro*." This is raunchy, decadent Victorian erotica at its best.

A newly translated collection of subversive French fairy tales by writers from the Belle Époque. The wolf is tricked by Red Riding Hood into strangling her grandmother and is subsequently arrested. Sleeping Beauty and Cinderella do not live happily ever after. And the fairies are saucy, angry, and capricious. *Fairy Tales for the Disillusioned* collects thirty-six tales, most newly translated, by writers associated with the decadent literary movement that flourished in late nineteenth-century France. These enchanting yet troubling stories reflect the concerns and fascinations of a time of great political, social, and cultural change. Recasting well-known favorites from classic French fairy tales, as well as Arthurian legends and English and German tales, these decadent fairy tales feature perverse settings and disillusioned perspectives, underlining such themes as the decline of civilization, the degeneration of magic and the unreal, gender confusion, and the incursion of the industrial. Complete with an informative introduction, biographical notes for each author, and explanatory notes throughout, these subversive tales will entertain and startle even the most disenchanting readers.

The original version of this classic and scandalous work of Victorian erotica, originally published in London in 1898. Includes *Forbidden Fruit* - a luscious and exciting story and *More forbidden fruit* or *Master Percy's progress in and beyond the domestic circle*. Very much the "*50 Shades of Grey*" of its era, *Forbidden Fruit* probes beneath the respectable surface of Victorian society

to reveal a seamy underside rarely seen in the literature of its day. More than a century after its publication, Forbidden Fruit continues to attract controversy and excitement in equal measure.

In this internationally bestselling novel, the author of The Swan Thieves has 'refashioned the vampire myth into a compelling...late-night page-turner' - San Francisco Chronicle Late one night, exploring her father's library, a young woman finds an ancient book and a cache of yellowing letters addressed ominously to 'My dear and unfortunate successor'. Her discovery plunges her into a world she never dreamed of - a labyrinth where the secrets of her father's past and her mother's mysterious fate connect to an evil hidden in the depths of history. In those few quiet moments, she unwittingly assumes a quest she will discover is her birthright - a hunt for the truth about Vlad the Impaler, the medieval ruler whose barbarous reign formed the basis of the Dracula myth.

Deciphering obscure signs and hidden texts, reading codes worked into the fabric of medieval monastic traditions, and evading terrifying adversaries, one woman comes ever closer to the secret of her own past and a confrontation with the very definition of evil. Elizabeth Kostova's debut novel is an adventure of monumental proportions - a captivating tale that blends fact and fantasy, history and the present with an assurance that is almost unbearably suspenseful - and utterly unforgettable. 'Quite extraordinary...Kostova is a natural storyteller....She has refashioned the vampire myth into a compelling contemporary novel, a late-night page-turner' - San Francisco Chronicle 'Filled with fascinating details of archaic vampire lore, the splendours of the Ottoman Empire and the beauty of the Romanian countryside' - Times Literary Supplement

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