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# A Fairly Honourable Defeat Iris Murdoch

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**The Philosopher's Pupil** Simon and Schuster

Provides a representative selection of literary criticism available on the work of the British author.

The Unicorn Anchor

Conradi assesses the intellectual and cultural legacy of the celebrated philosopher and writer. In addition to details of her personal life, he details her philosophical works and 26 novels. 50 photos.

Jackson's Dilemma W. W. Norton & Company  
An exploration of love and its excesses, missteps, and modest triumphs, from the Booker Prize-winning author of *The Sea*, *The Sea* In a dark comedy of errors, Iris Murdoch portrays the mischief wrought by Julius, a cynical intellectual who decides to demonstrate through a Machiavellian experiment how easily loving couples, caring friends, and devoted siblings can betray their loyalties. As puppet master, Julius

artfully plays on the human tendency to embrace drama and intrigue and to prefer the distraction of confrontations to the difficult effort of communicating openly and honestly. For more than seventy years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,700 titles, Penguin Classics represents a global bookshelf of the best works throughout history and across genres and disciplines. Readers trust the series to provide authoritative texts enhanced by introductions and notes by distinguished scholars and contemporary authors, as well as up-to-date translations by award-winning translators.

Metaphysical Animals Facts On File

Published to coincide with his major biography of Iris Murdoch, Peter Conradi's acclaimed critical appreciation of her work is reissued in a fully revised and updated edition, with a foreword by John Bayley.

A Word Child Penguin

The sea: turbulent and leaden, transparent and opaque, magician and mother... When Charles Arrowby, over sixty, a demi god of the theatre- director, playwright and actor - retires from his glittering London world in order to 'abjure magic and become a hermit', it is to the sea that he turns. He hopes at least to escape from 'the woman' - but unexpectedly meets one whom he loved long ago. His Buddhist cousin, James, also arrives. He is menaced by a monster from the deep. Charles finds his 'solitude'

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peopled by the drama of his own fantasies and obsessions.

Novel Shakespeares Penguin

A scintillating novel of fate, accidents, and moral dilemmas Set in the time of the Vietnam War, this story concerns the plight of a young American, happily installed in a perfect job in England, engaged to a wonderful girl, who is suddenly drafted to a war he disapproves of. What is duty here, what is self-interest, what is cowardice? Austin Gibson Grey, the accidental man of the title, is accident-prone, also prone to bring disaster to his friend sand relations. He blames fate. But are we not all accidental, one of his victims asks. Fate and accidents make deep moral dilemmas for the characters in the long and complex tale.

Author and Character as Moral

Pilgrim Open Road Media

Guilt, secrets, and lies haunt two men whose lives are bound by a long-ago tragedy in this “ riveting ” novel by the author of *The Sea*, *The Sea* (Los Angeles Times). Twenty years ago, Hilary Burde ’ s story was one of remarkable success and enviable courage. Having brought himself out of a troubled childhood with only his intellect and wit, he was one of the most promising scholars at Oxford, a student with a rare talent for linguistics and an unquenchable drive. Until the accident. Now, forty-one and a decidedly ordinary failure, Hilary finds his quietly angry routine shattered when his old professor reappears in his life—a man whose own demons are tied to Hilary ’ s and the tragedy from years ago. As the two men begin to circle each other once again, digging up old

wrongs and seeking forgiveness for long-buried ills, they find themselves on a path that will either grant them both redemption or destroy them both forever. Haunting and emotional, *A Word Child* is an intimate look at the madness of regret by the Man Booker Prize – winning author of *Under the Net* and *A Severed Head*.

Fairly Honourable Defeat Open Road Media

A sparkingly profound novel about the conflict between love and loyalty The quiet life of schoolmaster Bill Mor and his wife Nan is disturbed when a young woman, Rain Carter, arrives at the school to paint the portrait of the headmaster. Mor, hoping to enter politics, becomes aware of new desires. A complex battle develops, involving love, guilt, magic, art, and political ambition. Mor ’ s teenage children and their mother fight discreetly and ruthlessly against the invader. The Head, himself disenchanted, advises Mor to seize the girl and run. The final decision rests with Rain. Can a “ great love ” be purchased at too high a price?

From a Tiny Corner in the House of Fiction Penguin

An English-language debut that reveals and subverts contemporary conceptions of normative sexuality, capitalist culture, and environmental degradation. Winner, Prix du Livre Inter, 2019 Shortlisted for the Prix Femina, Prix Medecis, Prix de Flore Longlisted for the Prix France-Culture, Prix Wepler Farah moves into Liberty House—an arcadia, a community in harmony with

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nature—at the tender age of six, with where egalitarian views officially hold sway. The first thorough leader, Arcady, preaches equality, non-violence, anti-speciesism, free love, and uninhibited desire for all, regardless of gender, age, looks, or ability. At fifteen, Farah learns she is intersex, and begins to go beyond the confines of gender, as she explores the arc of her own desires. What, Farah asks, is a man or a woman? What does it mean to be part of a community? What is utopia when there are refugees nearby seeking shelter who cannot enter? Emmanuelle Bayamack-Tam delivers a magisterial novel, both a celebration and a critique of innocence in the contemporary world.

#### Author and Character as Moral Pilgrim

W. W. Norton & Company Iris Murdoch was one of the best-known philosophers and novelists of the post-war period. In this book, Sabina Lovibond explores the tangled issue of Murdoch's stance towards gender and feminism, drawing upon the evidence of her fiction, philosophy, and other public statements. As well as analysing Murdoch's own attitudes, Iris Murdoch, Gender and Philosophy is also a critical enquiry into the way we picture intellectual, and especially philosophical, activity. Appealing to the idea of a 'social imaginary' within which Murdoch's work is located, Lovibond examines the sense of incongruity or dissonance that may still affect our image of a woman philosopher, even

exploration of Murdoch and gender, Iris Murdoch, Gender and Philosophy is a fresh contribution to debates in feminist philosophy and gender studies, and essential reading for anyone interested in Murdoch's literary and philosophical writing.

The Green Knight Taylor & Francis Bradley Pearson, an unsuccessful novelist in his late fifties, has finally left his dull office job as an Inspector of Taxes. Bradley hopes to retire to the country, but predatory friends and relations dash his hopes of a peaceful retirement. He is tormented by his melancholic sister, who has decided to come live with him; his ex-wife, who has infuriating hopes of redeeming the past; her delinquent brother, who wants money and emotional confrontations; and Bradley's friend and rival, Arnold Baffin, a younger, deplorably more successful author of commercial fiction. The ever-mounting action includes marital cross-purposes, seduction, suicide, abduction, romantic idylls, murder, and due process of law. Bradley tries to escape from it all but fails, leading to a violent climax and a coda that casts shifting perspectives on all that has preceded.

Iris Princeton University Press  
A NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW  
BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR • A vibrant portrait of four college friends—Iris Murdoch, Philippa Foot, Elizabeth Anscombe, and Mary Midgley—who formed a new philosophical tradition while Oxford's men were away fighting World War II. The history of European philosophy is

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usually constructed from the work of men. In *Metaphysical Animals*, a pioneering group biography, Clare Mac Cumhaill and Rachael Wiseman offer a compelling alternative. In the mid-twentieth century Elizabeth Anscombe, Mary Midgley, Philippa Foot, and Iris Murdoch were philosophy students at Oxford when most male undergraduates and many tutors were conscripted away to fight in the Second World War. Together, these young women, all friends, developed a philosophy that could respond to the war's darkest revelations. Neither the great Enlightenment thinkers of the past, the logical innovators of the early twentieth century, or the new Existentialist philosophy trickling across the Channel, could make sense of this new human reality of limitless depravity and destructive power, the women felt. Their answer was to bring philosophy back to life. We are metaphysical animals, they realized, creatures that can question their very being. Who am I? What is freedom? What is human goodness? The answers we give, they believed, shape what we will become. Written with expertise and flair, *Metaphysical Animals* is a lively portrait of women who shared ideas, but also apartments, clothes and even lovers. Mac Cumhaill and Wiseman show how from the disorder and despair of the war, four brilliant friends created a way of ethical thinking that is there for us today.

An Unofficial Rose Random House

For the first time, novelist Iris Murdoch's life in her own words, from girlhood to her last years Iris Murdoch was an acclaimed novelist and groundbreaking philosopher whose life reflected her unconventional beliefs

and values. But what has been missing from biographical accounts has been Murdoch's own voice—her life in her own words. *Living on Paper*—the first major collection of Murdoch's most compelling and interesting personal letters—gives, for the first time, a rounded self-portrait of one of the twentieth century's greatest writers and thinkers. With more than 760 letters, fewer than forty of which have been published before, the book provides a unique chronicle of Murdoch's life from her days as a schoolgirl to her last years. The result is the most important book about Murdoch in more than a decade. The letters show a great mind at work—struggling with philosophical problems, trying to bring a difficult novel together, exploring spirituality, and responding pointedly to world events. They also reveal her personal life, the subject of much speculation, in all its complexity, especially in letters to lovers or close friends, such as the writers Brigid Brophy, Elias Canetti, and Raymond Queneau, philosophers Michael Oakeshott and Philippa Foot, and mathematician Georg Kreisel. We witness Murdoch's emotional hunger, her tendency to live on the edge of what was socially acceptable, and her irreverence and sharp sense of humor. We also learn how her private life fed into the plots and characters of her novels, despite her claims that they were not drawn from reality. Direct and intimate, these letters bring us closer than ever before to Iris Murdoch as a person, making for an extraordinary reading experience.

The Sea, the Sea Seven Stories Press

A charismatic businessman casts a

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dark spell over others in this psychologically suspenseful novel by the Man Booker Prize – winning author of *The Black Prince*. Mischa Fox 's name is known throughout London, though he himself is rarely seen. Enigmatic and desired, vicious yet sympathetic, he is a model of success, wealth, and charisma.

When Fox turns his entrepreneurial gaze on a small feminist magazine known as the *Artemis*, his intoxicating influence quickly begins to affect the lives of those involved with the paper: the fragile editor, Hunter; generous Rosa, who splits her time and affections between her brother and two other men; innocent Annette, whose journey from school to the real world ends up being more fraught than she could have foreseen; and their circle of friends and acquaintances, all of whom find themselves both drawn to and repulsed by Fox. Told with dark humor, keen wit, and intense insight into the seductive nature of power, *The Flight from the Enchanter* is an intricate and dazzling work of fiction from the author of *The Sea*, *The Sea and Under the Net*, “one of the most significant novelists of her generation” (*The Guardian*).

#### *The Sandcastle* Penguin

On the eve of their wedding, Edward Lannion and Marian Berran are led away onto dark and strange paths, while their friends and lovers are forced to make new and surprising choices. Watching over all of them is Jackson, a mysterious and charismatic manservant who, in

guiding all the young lovers into the light, has to make his own agonizing decisions.

*Living on Paper* Univ of South Carolina Press

A brilliant mythical drama about well-meaning people trapped in a war of spiritual forces Marian Taylor, who has come as a “companion” to a lovely woman in a remote castle, becomes aware that her employer is a prisoner, not only of her obsessions, but of an unforgiving husband. Hannah, the Unicorn, seemingly an image of persecuted virtue, fascinates those who surround her, some of whom plan to rescue her from her dream of redemptive suffering. But is she an innocent victim, a guilty woman, a mad woman, or a witch? Is her spiritual life really some evil enchantment? If she is forcibly liberated will she die? The ordinary, sensible people survive, and are never sure whether they have understood.

#### *AN Accidental Man* Penguin

This edge-of-your-seat memoir from former FBI agent Joe Navarro reveals the shocking, inside details of how he spearheaded a 1980s investigation into a colossal espionage breach that would have left the US defenseless in a Soviet attack.

*The Book and the Brotherhood* Penguin Iris Murdoch's debut—a comic novel about work and love, wealth and fame Jake Donaghue, garrulous artist, meets Hugo Bellfounder, silent philosopher. Jake, hack writer and sponger, now penniless flat-hunter, seeks out an old girlfriend, Anna Quentin, and her glamorous actress sister, Sadie. He resumes acquaintance with the formidable Hugo, whose ‘philosophy’ he once presumptuously dared to interpret. These meetings involve Jake and his eccentric servant-companion, Finn, in a series of adventures that include the

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kidnapping of a film-star dog and a political riot on a film set of ancient Rome. Jake, fascinated, longs to learn Hugo ' s secret. Perhaps Hugo ' s secret is Hugo himself? Admonished, enlightened, Jake hopes at last to become a real writer.

Iris Murdoch HarperCollins UK

I feel there are demons around.'

Everyone is thinking about Julius King.

For comfortable, long-married Hilda

and Rupert, he is a mystery. For

Morgan, Hilda's tormented sister, he is

an obsession. For Morgan's abandoned

husband, Tallis, he is the source of

ruin. For Simon and Axel, deeply in

love, he stirs up jealousy and unease.

What is Julius thinking about? He's

thinking about Hilda, Rupert, Morgan,

Tallis, Simon and Axel, and they will

not all survive his malevolent

attention. WITH AN INTRODUCTION

BY GARTH GREENWELL VINTAGE

CLASSICS MURDOCH: Funny,

subversive, fearless and fiercely

intelligent, Iris Murdoch was one of

the great writers of the twentieth

century. To celebrate her centenary

Vintage Classics presents special

editions of her greatest and most

timeless novels.

Under the Net Vintage Books USA

De opheldering van de sinistere

motieven voor een zelfmoord in

Londen vormen een duistere

achtergrond voor het zonnige beeld

van het leven en de liefdes van een

aantal mensen, die wonen op een

landgoed in Dorset.