A Long Way From Verona Jane Gardam

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1001 Children's Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up Abacus An Italian travelogue describes the trains that traverse the country, from the architecture of old train stations to the new high-speed railways, and portrays the author's memorable encounters along the way.

The Stories W. W. Norton & Company Ross Lake was a small and quiet town, the kind where everyone knows each other. When Sara

Jensen, a twenty-two-year-old graduate of the police academy, took a position with the Ross Lake Police Department, she never expected to see any action. Then one day, a couple of hikers come across a woman's body in the woods. Sara and her veteran partner, Harold Dunn, are thrown into a world of secrets and horror as they investigate her murder. Dunn and Jensen aren't the only ones who want a confession, though. A malevolent spirit is also seeking revenge and clings to the world of the living through the people it knew in life, but the police can't prosecute the dead, so Dunn and Jensen must stop the spirit to save their suspect. **Verona Comics Granta Publications** " A guirky coming-of-age story . . . Female

century 's best—and most peculiar—writers " (Kirkus Reviews). Originally published in 1977, Jane Gardams Bilgewater is an affectionate and complex rendering-in-miniature of the discomforts of growing up and first love seen through the eyes of inimitable Marigold Green, an awkward, eccentric, highly intelligent girl. The Evening Standard described Bilgewater as "one of the funniest, most entertaining, most unusual stories about young love. " Motherless and sixteen, Marigold is the headmaster 's daughter at a private backwater all-boys school. To make matters worse, Marigold pines for head boy Jack Rose, reckons with the beautiful and domineering Grace, and yanks herself headlong out of her interior world and into the seething cauldron of adolescence. With everything happening all at once, Marigold faces the greatest of teenage crucibles. A smart and painterly romp in the rich tradition of The Hollow Land and A Long Way from Verona, Gardam 's elegant,

adolescence as imagined by one of the 20th

evocative prose, possessed of sharp irony and easy Reunion', the stories in this collection mix surrealism makes Bilgewater a book for readers of all ages. "This is no ordinary bildungsroman." —New Pages "A striking story."—Times Literary Supplement

Going Into A Dark House Grove Press It is a wet day in Dorset, and walking to a luncheon party is Sir Edward Feathers QC, followed by two elderly friends: his scruffy neighbour and sparring partner, Veneering, and Fiscal-Smith, the meanest lawyer ever to make a fortune at the Bar. Fans of Jane Gardam's bestselling novel, OLD FILTH, will be delighted to encounter Filth, now almost ninety, making his immaculate way to Privilege Hill, named perhaps for the Prive-Lieges who arrived with the Normans, but more probably for the village privies. Ranging from a Victorian mansion converted into a home for unmarried mothers to a wartime hospital in the middle of the Blitz, from ghost stories to brilliant observations of love and loneliness in their various manifestations - including, in 'Pangbourne', a woman who falls in love with a gorilla - to reflections on the haphazard nature of intellect and memories in 'The Last

Jane Gardam's trademark sardonic wit with a delicate tenderness and a touch of the surreal.

Black Faces, White Faces Createspace **Independent Publishing Platform** Throughout her career, prize-winning novelist Jane Gardam has been writing glorious short stories, each one hallmarked with all the originality, poignancy, wry comedy and narrative brilliance of her longer fiction. Passion and longing, metamorphosis and enchantment are Gardam's themes, and like a magician she plucks them from the quietest of corners: from Wimbledon gardens and cold churches, from London buses and industrial backstreets. A mother watching her children on the beach dreams of a long-lost lover, an abandoned army wife sees a ghost at a moorland gate, a translator adrift in Geneva is haunted by the unspeakable manifestation of her own fears, and a colonial servant wreaks a delicious revenge on her monstrous masters. Gardam's cast is wide and wonderful, saints and mystics, trollops and curmudgeons, yearning mothers and lost children, beloved figures such as Old Filth and less familiar - but equally unforgettable - characters like Signor Settimo, the sad-eyed provincial photographer marooned in Shipley or Florrie Ironside, the ferocious matron he seduces. With a mischievous ear for dialogue, a glittering eye for detail and a capacious understanding of the vagaries of the human heart,

Jane Gardam's stories will captivate, sadden and delight.

Larp - the Battle for Verona Abacus Software A winner of the Whitbread Award for Best Novel of the Year, a haunting novel traces the sometimes hilarious descent into madness and eventual restoration of a smart, imaginative English woman isolated in her well-to-do home who writes letters to a neighbor she barely knows.

Last Friends Little Brown GBR

A couple begins an intense affair, only to be separated abruptly-and perhaps irrevocably-in this surprising, suspenseful love story Zeke is twenty-nine, a man who looks like a Raphael angel and who earns his living as a painter and carpenter in London. He reads the world a little differently from most people and has trouble with such ordinary activities as lying, deciphering expressions, recognizing faces. Verona is thirty-seven, confident, hottempered, a modestly successful radio show host, unmarried, and seven months pregnant. When the two meet in a house that Zeke is renovating, they fall in love, only to be separated less than twenty-four hours later when Verona leaves abruptly, without explanation, for Boston. Both Zeke and Verona, it turns out, have complications in their lives, though not of a romantic kind. Verona's involve her brother, Henry, who is tied up in shady financial dealings. Zeke's

father has had a heart attack and his mother is threatening to run away with her lover, all of which puts pressure on Zeke to take over the family grocery business. And yet he finds himself following Verona to Boston. As he pursues her, and she pursues Henry, both are forced to ask the perplexing question: Can we ever know another person? Deftly plotted and filled with unexpected twists, Livesey's Banishing Verona marks the arrival of another lyrical and wise novel from a writer whose work "radiates with compassion and intelligence and always, deliciously, mystery" (Alice Sebold).

The Stories of Jane Gardam Simon & Schuster A mysterious clergyman is dead. His Books For Young Readers daughter Athene is desolate. Through

1001 Children's Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up is the perfect introduction to the very best books of childhood: those books that have a special place in the heart of every reader. It introduces a wonderfully rich world of literature to parents and their children, offering both new titles and much-loved classics that many generations have read and enjoyed. From wordless picture books and books introducing the first words and sounds of the alphabet through to hard-hitting and edgy teenage fiction, the titles featured in this book reflect the wealth of reading opportunities for children. Browsing the titles

in 1001 Children's Books You Must Read
Before You Grow Up will take you on a
journey of discovery into fantasy, adventure,
history, contermporary life, and much more.
These books will enable you to travel to some
of the most famous imaginary worlds such as
Narnia, Middle Earth, and Hogwart's School.
And the route taken may be pretty strange, too.
You may fall down a rabbit hole, as Alice does
on her way to Wonderland, or go through the
back of a wardrobe to reach the snowy wastes
of Narnia.

Going Into a Dark House Bloomsbury Publishing USA

A mysterious clergyman is dead. His daughter Athene is desolate. Through a muddle and the vagueness of her family, Athene finds herself in the summer after her father's funeral marooned in a cottage with a painter, then in a hotel and finally in a school, empty apart from a schoolmaster. *Vroom with a View* Europa Editions A New York Times Notable Book of the Year: A deliciously entertaining account of expatriate life in a small village just outside Verona, Italy. Tim Parks is anything but a gentleman in Verona. So after ten years of living with his Italian wife, Rita, in a typical provincial Italian neighborhood, the novelist

found that he had inadvertently collected a gallery full of splendid characters. In this wittily observed account, Parks introduces readers to his home town, with a statue of the Virgin at one end of the street, a derelict bottle factory at the other, and a wealth of exotic flora and fauna in between. Via Colombare, the village's main street, offers an exemplary hodgepodge of all that is new and old in the bel paese, a point of collision between invading suburbia and diehard peasant tradition. It is a world of creeping vines, stuccoed walls, shotguns, security cameras, hypochondria, and expensive sports cars. More than a mere travelogue, Italian Neighbors is a vivid portrait of the real Italy and a compelling story of how even the most foreign people and places gradually assume the familiarity of home. "One of the most delightful travelogues imaginable. .. so vivid, so packed with delectable details." —Los Angeles Times Book Review **Bilgewater** Europa Editions "The satisfying conclusion to Gardam's Old Filth trilogy offers exquisite prose, wry humor, and keen insights into aging and death" (The New Yorker). While Old Filth introduced readers to Sir Edward Feathers, his dreadful childhood, and his decades-long marriage, The Man in the Wooden Hat was his wife Betty's

story. Last Friends is Terence Veneering's

establishment grandee. Filth's hated rival in court and in love is the son of a Russian acrobat the Old Filth trilogy (Bustle). Jane marooned in the English midlands and a local girl. He escapes the war and later emerges in the Far East as a man of panache and fame. The Bar treats his success with suspicion: Where did this handsome, brilliant Slav come from? This exquisite story of Veneering, Filth, and their circle tells a bittersweet tale of friendship and grace and of the disappointments and consolations of age. They are all, finally, each other's last friend as this magnificent series ends with the deep and abiding satisfaction that you at the beginning that I am not quite only great literature provides. "[Gardam's] prose sparkles with wit, compassion and humor. She keeps us entertained, and she keeps us guessing. Be thankful for her books. Be thankful for this trilogy, which is ultimately an elegy, created with deep affection."—The Washington Post "Restores us to an era rich in spectacle and bristling with insinuation and intrigue. Vivid, spacious, superbly witty, and refreshingly brisk . . . the story (and the author) will endure." —The Boston Globe "All three Gardam books are beautifully written but it's a pleasure to note that Last Friends is the most enjoyable, the funniest and the most touching." —National Post

Up at the Villa Random House (UK)

turn. His beginnings were not those of the usual "Far more than just another coming-of-age story" from the award-winning author of Gardam's marvelous stories of young girls on the threshold of womanhood—God on the standards." —The Spectator "A brilliant, Rocks and Crusoe's Daughter—have delighted fans and critics alike. These "modern classics" are now joined by a novel that is equally fresh and genuine, comic and touching (The Independent). Jessica Vye introduces herself with an enigmatic pronouncement: "I ought to tell normal, having had a violent experience at the age of nine." A revered author has told Jessica that she is, beyond all doubt, a born writer. This proves an accurate prediction of Problemski Hotel (Aesthetica). Years ago, the future, one that indelibly colors her life at school and her perception of the world. Jessica has always known that her destiny would be shaped by her refusal to conform, her compulsion to tell the absolute truth, and her dedication to observing the strange wartime world that surrounds her. What she locals might have expected that the doesn't know, however, is that the experiences and ideas that set her apart will village, but Madame Verona had enough also lead her to a new and wholly unexpected life. Told with grace and

inimitable wit, A Long Way from Verona is a wise and vivid portrait of adolescent discovery and impending adulthood. "A book to be judged by the highest witty, and agonizingly true-to-life novel." —The Times Literary Supplement "A fiercely funny and personal book."—The Economist "The qualities for which Gardam is cherished (the quirkiness, the bright-eyed wonder at reality) are already apparent in this early work." —Kirkus Reviews **Bilgewater** Arcade Publishing "A timeless novel about love, loss and village life" from the award-winning Dutch author of The Misfortunates and Madame Verona and her husband built a home for themselves on a hill in a forest above a small village. There they lived in isolation, practicing their music, and chopping wood to see them through the cold winters. When Mr. Verona died, the legendary beauty would return to the wood to keep her warm during the years it

would take to make a cello—the instrument

her husband loved—and in the meantime sheWinner of the Whitbread Prize for Best Novel of the Milan to Palermo Anchor had her dogs for company. And then one cold February morning, when the last log has burned, Madame Verona sets off down the village path, with her cello and her memories, knowing that she will have no strength to climb the hill again. Poignant, precise and perfectly structured, this is a story of one woman's tender and enduring love—as a wife, and as a widow. "An intimate, unsentimental portrayal of European rural life . . . In Verhulst's landscape, nature is ruthless, amoral and never benign, and human memory a cruel mirage . . . His best sentences are gorgeously resonant."—The Herald "Aging, delusions have never been so persuasive . . . Very bereavement and death are somber themes. yet this novel's treatment of them is agreeably entertaining . . . this tale of enduring love is often preposterous, sometimes poignant and, above all, consistently charming."—The Independent Crusoe's Daughter Hachette UK First published in a collection of short stories called Missing the Midnight: Hauntings and Grotesques, this is a modern twist on the ancient fertility image of legend, church carvings and pub

The Flight of the Maidens Europa Editions

signs.

Year: "Gardam's portrait of an insanely imaginative woman in an elusive midlife crisis is impeccably drawn" (The Seattle Times). With prose that is vibrant and witty, The Queen of the Tambourine traces the emotional breakdown—and eventual restoration—of Eliza Peabody, a smart and look of cunning, the self-satisfied smile, the wildly imaginative woman who has become unbearably isolated in her prosperous London neighborhood. The letters Eliza writes to her neighbor, a woman whom she hardly knows, reveal her self-propelled descent into madness. Eliza must reach the depths of her downward spiral before she can once again find health and serenity. This story of a woman's confrontation with the realities of sanity will delight readers who enjoy the works of Anita Brookner, Sybille Bedford, Muriel Spark, and Sylvia Plath. "Excellently done . . . Manic moving when it is not being exceedingly funny." —Anita Brookner, award-winning author of The Debut "British author Gardam, who won the Whitbread Award for this jigsaw puzzle of a novel, keeps up the suspense to the end, writing like a sorceress in the meantime." —The Seattle Times "Brilliant." —The Sunday Times "An ingenious, funny, satirical, sad story . . . Vivid and poignant." —The Independent on Sunday "Wickedly comic . masterly and hugely enjoyable." —Daily Mail "Marvelously subtle and moving." —The Times (London)

Italian Ways: On and Off the Rails from

Molly Fielding's mother had been a terrible woman...' A terrible woman indeed. One need only to look at the old sepia photograph to see a vision of nastiness. The aura of hauteur as she watches the little Italian photographer go about his business. They say the camera never lies, but maybe this one did... 'Going into the Dark House', the title story of Jane Gardam's passionate new collection, brilliantly captures the subtly subversive qualities of her art. Quietly mesmeric and quite beautifully written, these ten stories are a delight.

My Fair Verona Hachette UK

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Italian Neighbors Delacorte Press
The marriage of Edward Feathers (Old Filth) and Betty as seen through the eyes of

Edwards friend and Betty's lover Terry

What Then, Raman? Abacus

Veneering

A collection of short stories. Sister Luke and Sister Reparatrice, out in the convent's Morris Traveller, have a bizarre adventure; Klaus, who is a stranger to passion, becomes emotional over the delicious food served at a special lunch; a remote Quaker meeting house provides a place of peace for the spirits of a troubled family. In the title story, Going into a dark house, nothing is what it seems, what appears sweet is bitingly hot, and all the reader's preconceptions are turned on their heads."--Publisher description.

Banishing Verona Europa Editions

Readers will fall for a side of Italy rarely seen with

the just-turned-forty Peter Moore rattling around the country on the back of an ageing Vespa scooter — like himself, a little rough around the edges, and a bit slow in the mornings perhaps, but basically still OK.