

Classics For Pleasure Michael Dirda

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Ecstasies Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Acclaimed translator Dick Davis breathes new life into the timeless works of three masters of 14th-century Persian literature Together, Hafez, a giant of world literature; Jahan Malek Khatun, an eloquent princess; and Obayd-e Zakani, a dissolute satirist, represent one of the most remarkable literary flowerings of any era. All three lived in the famed city of Shiraz, a provincial capital of south-central Iran, and all three drew support from arts-loving rulers during a time better known for its violence than its creative brilliance. Here Dick Davis, an award-winning poet widely considered “our finest translator of Persian poetry” (The Times Literary Supplement), presents a diverse selection of some of the best poems by these world-renowned authors and shows us the spiritual and secular aspects of love, in varieties embracing every aspect of the human heart. “Davis [is] widely acknowledged as the leading translator of Persian literature in our time...Faces of Love has made the Persian originals into real and moving English poems.” —Michael Dirda, The Washington Post For more than sixty-five years, Penguin has been the leading publisher of classic literature in the English-speaking world. With more than 1,500 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.

Why Read the Classics? Penguin

A one-of-a-kind exploration of the 19th century that ties the time period to our own through essays on a variety of topics in music, film, literature, and art. In *Gaslight*, Joachim Kalka delves into the mythos of the nineteenth century, exploring our fascination with its “auratic gaslight,” its mingling of romanticism and modernity, enlightenment and darkness. Here we find the roots of our contemporary preoccupations: gender roles and sexuality, terrorism and technology, mad scientists and serial killers, kitsch and commodification. Mustering a wealth of cultural references, Kalka draws illuminating connections between Balzac and Billy Wilder, Mickey Mouse and the arms race, the cake fights of Laurel and Hardy and Madame Bovary’s wedding cake. He brings the nineteenth century to life with all its contradictions, aspirations, and absurdities, inviting us to reexamine that era and our own, and the stories we tell ourselves about history.

The Bad Side of Books Santa Fe Writer's Project

"Tomalin's *The Young H.G. Wells* is hard to beat, being friendly, astute and a pleasure to read." —Michael Dirda, Washington Post "Claire Tomalin's short, engaging biography *The Young H.G. Wells* is a welcome addition to the conversation. . . Her book makes a strong case for Wells's enduring importance." —Heller McAlpin, The Wall Street Journal From acclaimed literary biographer Claire Tomalin, a complex and fascinating exploration of the early life of the influential writer and public figure H. G. Wells How did the first forty years of H. G. Wells's life shape the father of science fiction? From his impoverished childhood in a working-class English family and determination to educate himself at any cost to his complicated marriages, love affair with socialism, and the serious ill health that dominated his twenties and thirties, H. G. Wells's extraordinary early life would set him on a path to become one of the world's most influential writers. The sudden success of *The Time Machine* and *The War of the Worlds* transformed his life and catapulted him to international fame; he became the writer who most inspired Orwell and countless others and predicted men walking on the moon seventy years before it happened. In this remarkable, empathetic biography, Claire Tomalin paints a fascinating portrait of a man like no other, driven by curiosity and desiring reform, a socialist and a futurist whose new and imaginative worlds continue to inspire today.

Faces of Love Random House Trade Paperbacks

What Should I Read Next? taps seventy University of Virginia professors in an array of fields for suggestions on how to satisfy this nagging intellectual curiosity. Each contributor recommends five titles that speak to their area of inquiry, providing both a general introduction and commentary on each selection. --from publisher description.

Coming of Age in the Heartland New York Review of Books

The *Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare and Race* shows teachers and students how and why Shakespeare and race are inseparable. Moving well beyond *Othello*, the collection invites the reader to understand racialized discourses, rhetoric, and performances in all of Shakespeare's plays, including the comedies and histories. Race is presented through an intersectional approach with chapters that focus on the concepts of sexuality, lineage, nationality, and globalization. The collection helps students to grapple with the unique role performance plays in constructions of race by Shakespeare (and in Shakespearean performances), considering both historical and contemporary actors and directors. The *Cambridge Companion to Shakespeare and Race* will be the first book that truly frames Shakespeare studies and early modern race studies for a non-specialist, student audience.

On Conan Doyle New York Review of Books

Now in print for almost 40 years, *The New Lifetime Reading Plan* provides readers with brief, informative, and entertaining introductions to more than 130 classics of world literature. From Homer to Hawthorne, Plato to Pascal, and Shakespeare to Solzhenitsyn, the great writers of Western civilization can be found in its pages. In addition, this new edition offers a much broader representation of women authors, such as Charlotte Bronte, Emily Dickinson, and Edith Wharton, as well as non-Western writers such as Confucius, Sun-Tzu, Chinua Achebe, Mishima Yukio, and many others. This fourth edition also features a simpler format that arranges the works chronologically in five sections (The Ancient World; 300-1600; 1600-1800; 1800-1900; and The 20th Century), making them easier to look up than ever before. It deserves a place in the libraries of all lovers of

literature.

An Open Book The Floating Press

Filling an important gap in the literary world, *The Richard Peabody Reader* is a wide-ranging selection of this great writer's poetry and prose. As a publisher, Peabody's steadfast dedication to that which is new, challenging, innovative, and dynamic has won him a wide reputation among writers whose work he has championed. This volume demonstrates those same values, embodied in nearly four decades of fiercely smart, sophisticated, and often very funny writing. From his first collection of poems, *I'm in Love with the Morton Salt Girl*, to his most recent collection of short stories, *Blue Suburban Skies*, Peabody has established and developed a thoroughly unique voice, both warm and piercing, to deliver content that ranges from the hilarious, as in the short story "Flea Wars," to the bittersweet, as in the poem "The Other Man is Always French," to the elegiac, as in the poem in "Civil War Pieta," to the absurd, as in the rollicking farce of the short story, "Bad Day at Ikea." Peabody's aesthetic is all-embracing—strands of punk, beat, experimental, feminist, and political protest literary influences blend with the purely romantic to create a body of work that is both profound and pleasing.

Classics for Pleasure Penguin

You could describe D.H. Lawrence as the great multi-instrumentalist among the great writers of the twentieth century. He was a brilliant, endlessly controversial novelist who transformed, for better and for worse, the way we write about sex and emotions; he was a wonderful poet; he was an essayist of burning curiosity, expansive lyricism, odd humor, and radical intelligence, equaled, perhaps, only by Virginia Woolf. Here Geoff Dyer, one of the finest essayists of our day, draws on the whole range of Lawrence's published essays to reintroduce him to a new generation of readers for whom the essay has become an important genre. We get Lawrence the book reviewer, writing about *Death in Venice* and welcoming Ernest Hemingway; Lawrence the travel writer, in Mexico and New Mexico and Italy; Lawrence the memoirist, depicting his strange sometime-friend Maurice Magnus; Lawrence the restless inquirer into the possibilities of the novel, writing about the novel and morality and addressing the question of why the novel matters; and, finally, the Lawrence who meditates on birdsong or the death of a porcupine in the Rocky Mountains. Dyer's selection of Lawrence's essays is a wonderful introduction to a fundamental, dazzling writer.

The Memoirs of a Midget (World's Classics Series) Random House

In the 1920s, the young J. R. Ackerley spent several months in India as the personal secretary to the maharajah of a small Indian principality. In his journals, Ackerley recorded the Maharajah's fantastically eccentric habits and riddling conversations, and the odd shambling day-to-day life of his court. *Hindoo Holiday* is an intimate and very funny account of an exceedingly strange place, and one of the masterpieces of twentieth-century travel literature.

Flash for Freedom!; Flashman in the Great Game Penguin

A posthumously published collection of thirty-six essays offering Italo Calvino's invigorating and illuminating analysis of his most treasured literary classics.

Selected Essays of D.H. Lawrence Penguin Mass Market

Winner of the Christian Gauss Award for excellence in literary scholarship from the Phi Beta Kappa Society Having excavated the world's earliest novels in his previous book, literary historian Steven Moore explores in this sequel the remarkable flowering of the novel between the years 1600 and 1800—from *Don Quixote* to America's first big novel, an homage to Cervantes entitled *Modern Chivalry*. This is the period of such classic novels as *Tom Jones*, *Candide*, and *Dangerous Liaisons*, but beyond the dozen or so recognized classics there are hundreds of other interesting novels that appeared then, known only to specialists: Spanish picaresques, French heroic romances, massive Chinese novels, Japanese graphic novels, eccentric English novels, and the earliest American novels. These minor novels are not only interesting in their own right, but also provide the context needed to appreciate why the major novels were major breakthroughs. The novel experienced an explosive growth spurt during these centuries as novelists experimented with different forms and genres: epistolary novels, romances, Gothic thrillers, novels in verse, parodies, science fiction, episodic road trips, and family sagas, along with quirky, unclassifiable experiments in fiction that resemble contemporary, avant-garde works. As in his previous volume, Moore privileges the innovators and outriders, those who kept the novel novel. In the most comprehensive history of this period ever written, Moore examines over 400 novels from around the world in a lively style that is as entertaining as it is informative. Though written for a general audience, *The Novel, An Alternative History* also provides the scholarly apparatus required by the serious student of the period. This sequel, like its predecessor, is a “zestfully encyclopedic, avidly opinionated, and dazzlingly fresh history of the most 'elastic' of literary forms” (Booklist).

The Lifetime Reading Plan Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

This eBook has been formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. *Memoirs of a Midget* is a surrealistic novel and told in the first person by Miss M., who is playfully referred to as "Midgetina" by her faithless friend, Fanny. Hers is the story of a person who, though at home in nature and literature, is physically, spiritually, and intellectually out of place in the world. Notwithstanding her stature Miss M.'s intellect is large and her perceptions preternaturally sharp. Most of the book's narrative covers the events of the twelve-month period between Miss M.'s twentieth and twenty-first years as she attempts to make her way in the world alone after the death of her parents. The book was published to high praise in 1921 and in that year received the James Tait Black Memorial Prize for fiction. Rebecca West later included *Memoirs of a Midget* on a list of the "best imaginative productions of the last decade in England".

Lantern Slides from the Nineteenth Century Vintage

“Sherlock Holmes could glance at a bowler hat and tell that its owner's wife had ceased to love him. In this brilliant book about metaphor James Geary is no less astonishing, as he deciphers the subtle implications embedded in advertising slogans, familiar slang and government double-talk. . . . You'll scarf down every page of *I Is an Other* and then ask for more.” —Michael Dirda, Pulitzer Prize-winning critic and author of *Book by Book* and *Classics for Pleasure* For lovers of language and fans of *Blink* and *Freakonomics*, New York Times bestselling author James Geary offers this fascinating look at metaphors and their influence in every aspect of our lives, from art to medicine, psychology to the stock market.

To a Distant Island Vintage Canada

A showcase of one hundred of the world's most significant books offers the author's introductory essays on such writers as James Boswell, Colette, and Joseph Roth, and includes explorations of a range of genres and specific works.

The Green Man Random House

The memoirs of a Pulitzer Prize-winning literary journalist and critic discusses his childhood and education in small-town Ohio, his colorful family and friends, and his voracious appetite for reading. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

Modern Love Harper Collins

A collection of classic essays and reviews by a Pulitzer Prize-winning book critic for the Washington Post includes writings on the author's first experiences of Beckett and Faulkner in high school, a meeting of the P.G. Wodehouse Society, and a discovery of the Japanese epic *The Tale of Genji*. Reprint. 10,000 first printing.

How Two Prisoners of War Engineered the Most Remarkable Escape in History Everymans Library

Presents a critical analysis of the works of the British author, including his mysteries about Sherlock Holmes and his lesser-known short stories and novels.

Hafez and the Poets of Shiraz (Penguin Classics Deluxe Edition) Sourcebooks, Inc.

With *The Sportswriter*, in 1985, Richard Ford began a cycle of novels that ten years later — after Independence Day won both the Pulitzer Prize and the PEN/Faulkner Award — was hailed by *The Times of London* as “ an extraordinary epic [that] is nothing less than the story of the twentieth century itself. ” Frank Bascombe ’ s story resumes, in the fall of 2000, with the presidential election still hanging in the balance and Thanksgiving looming before him with all the perils of a post-nuclear family get-together. He ’ s now plying his trade as a realtor on the Jersey shore and contending with health, marital and familial issues that have his full attention: “ all the ways that life seems like life at age fifty-five strewn around me like poppies. ” Richard Ford ’ s first novel in over a decade: the funniest, most engaging (and explosive) book he ’ s written, and a major literary event.

How to be Well Read Classics for Pleasure

Stupid is the new smart—but it wasn ’ t always so Popular culture has divorced itself from the life of the mind. Who has time for great books or deep thought when there is Jersey Shore to watch, a txt 2 respond 2, and *World of Warcraft* to play? At the same time, those who pursue the life of the mind have insulated themselves from popular culture. Speaking in insider jargon and writing unread books, intellectuals have locked themselves away in a ghetto of their own creation. It wasn ’ t always so. *Blue Collar Intellectuals* vividly captures a time in the twentieth century when the everyman aspired to high culture and when intellectuals descended from the ivory tower to speak to the everyman. Author Daniel J. Flynn profiles thinkers from working-class backgrounds who played a prominent role in American life by addressing their intellectual work to a mass audience. *Blue Collar Intellectuals* shows us how much everyone—intellectual and everyman alike—has suffered from mass culture ’ s crowding out of higher things and the elite ’ s failure to engage the masses.

Books for Living Harvard University Press

From Pulitzer Prize-winning book critic Michael Dirda comes a collection of his most personal and engaging essays on the literary life—the perfect companion for any lover of books. Michael Dirda has been hailed as "the best-read person in America" (*The Paris Review*) and "the best book critic in America" (*The New York Observer*). In addition to the Pulitzer Prize he was awarded for his reviews in *The Washington Post*, he picked up an Edgar from the *Mystery Writers of America* for his most recent book, *On Conan Doyle*. Dirda's latest volume collects fifty of his witty and wide-ranging reflections on literary journalism, book collecting, and the writers he loves. Reaching from the classics to the post-moderns, his allusions dance from Samuel Johnson, Ralph Waldo Emerson and M. F. K. Fisher to Marilynne Robinson, Hunter S. Thompson, and David Foster Wallace. Dirda's topics are equally diverse: literary pets, the lost art of cursive writing, book inscriptions, the pleasures of science fiction conventions, author photographs, novelists in old age, Oberlin College, a year in Marseille, writer's block, and much more, not to overlook a few rants about Washington life and American culture. As admirers of his earlier books will expect, there are annotated lists galore—of perfect book titles, great adventure novels, favorite words, essential books about books, and beloved children's classics, as well as a revealing peek at the titles Michael keeps on his own nightstand. Funny and erudite, occasionally poignant or angry, *Browsings* is a celebration of the reading life, a fan's notes, and the perfect gift for any booklover.