

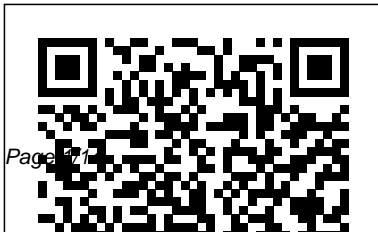
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# The Amber Keeper Freda Lightfoot

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Where the Sky Begins  
Magna Large Print Books



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Long considered the dean of author's subjects and modern Philippine literature, N. V. M. Gonzalez has influenced an entire generation of young Philippine writers and has also acquired a devoted international readership. His books, however, are not widely available in this country. *The Bread of Salt and Other Stories* provides a retrospective selection of sixteen of his short stories (all originally written in English), arranged in order of their writing, from the early 1950s to the present day. This is a powerful collection, both for the unity and universality of the

distinctive character of his prose style. As Gonzalez remarks in his Preface: "In tone and subject matter, [these stories] might suggest coming full circle - in the learning of one's craft, in finding a language and, finally, in discovering a country of one's own." Gonzalez has traveled widely and has taught the writer's craft in various countries. Nonetheless, his primary metaphor is his colonial island homeland, and his stories are peopled with the farmers and fishermen, the

schoolteachers and small-town merchants, "the underclass who constitute the majority in all societies." He portrays, in the men, women, and children of the peasantry, an ordinary and enduring people who live lives of stark dignity against a backdrop of forgotten and unknown gods. A broad humanity suggests itself: "This feeling of having emerged out of a void, or something close to it, is not uncommon, and we face our respective futures predisposed, by an innocence, to prayer and hope." Colonization,

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Gonzalez feels, has created in Filipinos "a truly submerged people." The stories in *The Bread of Salt* explore this rich vein at several levels, from the river-crossed wilderness of the kaingin farmers, stoic in the hard face of nature; to the commercial centers of the town dwellers, cut off from the mythic animism of the land; to the America of the contemporary sojourner, exiled from the old ways without the guidance of new traditions. Gonzalez writes: "It was in America that I began to recognize my involvement in the process of becoming

a new person . . . of trying to shed my skin as a colonial." Gonzalez's social commentary is implicit throughout his stories. His message is humane, moral, tellingly accurate, and gently ironic; he is neither sentimental nor doctrinaire. His narratives are presented without intrusive explanation, invoking instead the reader's own powers of contemplation and discovery. His strong prose style, spare yet lyrical suggests the cadences of Philippine oral narrative traditions. Each of these sixteen tales is a small masterpiece. The

language and its imagery, the characters and their aspirations, all connect powerfully with the reader and serve to illuminate the dreams of exiles and colonials, suggesting what it was like, as a Filipino, to witness the endless interacting of cultures.

### **The Bobbin Girls**

HarperCollins UK

What lengths will a mother go to in order to protect her son? The first in the historical Poor House Lane sagas The slums of Poor House Lane are no place to bring up a child, and Kate

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O'Connor struggles to make ends meet when her beloved husband is killed, leaving her a single mother with a baby to support on the meagre hand-outs she gleans from charity. So when the childless Tysons, owners of Kendal's shoe factory, offer to adopt her son, Callum, and employ Kate as his nanny, she seizes the chance to ensure he has a better life. To be so close to her son, yet no longer be his mother, is bittersweet. But Kate is not prepared for the jealousy the new arrangement provokes in

Eliot Tyson's brother, Charles, who sees Callum as a direct threat to his inheritance... The first heart-rending instalment of *The Poor House Lane Sagas* are perfect for fans of *Rosie Goodwin* and *Dilly Court* [What Your Birthday Reveals About You](#) Lake Union Publishing In 1470, a reluctant Lady Anne Neville is betrothed by her father, the politically ambitious Earl of Warwick, to Edward, Prince of Wales. A gentle yet

fiercely intelligent woman, Anne has already given her heart to the prince's younger brother, Richard, Duke of Gloucester. Unable to oppose her father's will, she finds herself in line for the throne of England—an obligation that she does not want. Yet fate intervenes when Edward is killed at the Battle of Tewkesbury. Anne suddenly finds

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herself free to marry the man she loves—and return. The ceremony is held at Westminster Abbey, and the duke and duchess make a happy home at Middleham Castle, where both spent much of their childhood. Their life is idyllic, until the reigning king dies and a whirlwind of dynastic maneuvering leads to his children being declared illegitimate. Richard inherits the throne as King Richard III, and Anne is crowned queen consort, a destiny she thought she had successfully avoided. Her husband's reign lasts two years, two months, and two days—and in that short time Anne witnesses the true toll that wearing the crown takes on Richard, the last king from the House of York.

**For All Our Tomorrows**

University of Washington Press  
Scotland, 1020 AD - King Malcolm II is fading fast. It is North vs South, for two families have a claim on the inheritance of his crown. Who will gain the Scottish throne? On the eve of her 16th birthday, a flushed and nervous Cora MacDuff waits to marry her sweetheart, Macbeth. But her dreams are about to be stolen from her as the night she was hoping for turns into a brutal slaughter. In order to reclaim the life she was promised, she will learn to use every weapon at her disposal - even her son.

**The Reluctant Queen Allison & Busby**

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The House by the Marsh lays bare the almost taboo subject of grief, love and hope for men and women in their later years. With humour and compassion the author peels back the defensive layers of apparent competence to reveal a vulnerable humanity, and shows the miraculous effect of Love in all her guises. The House by the Marsh Simon and Schuster Where there 's a rulebook, there 's a rebel... Ruby McBride has always been on the wrong side of authority. The grand opening of the

Manchester Ship Canal is set to be a day of unfettered festivity for Ruby and her younger sister and brother. Even Queen Victoria will be in attendance. But the glories of the ceremony fade into insignificance when their dying mother delivers them to the imposing oak doors of Ignatius House. Abandoned in the not-so-tender care of the nuns, the siblings are soon separated. So when the Board of Guardians force Ruby into a marriage that sends her to a new home upon the Salford waterways, she makes only one vow: to reunite her family whatever the cost. This is an enthralling story of romance

and rebellion perfect for fans of Rosie Goodwin and Dilly Court. Praise for Ruby McBride ' An inspiring novel about accepting change and bravely facing the future ' Bangor Chronicle ' Compelling and heart-wrenching ' Hull Daily Mail ' The kind of character-driven saga that delights the Catherine Cookson and Josephine Cox audience ' Peterborough Evening Telegraph ' This book deals with gritty, real-life situations and shows how the heroine 's strength of character triumphs through adversity ' 5\* Reader review [Polly's War Springer](#)

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Als een 94-jarige vrouw naar een verzorgingshuis gaat, moeten haar boeken, papieren en foto's worden opgeruimd. Dat brengt allerlei herinneringen boven.

Lavender Keeper, The Random House Australia

"Capturing one librarian's breathtaking fictional journey is a riveting way to showcase and honor the risky work of these real librarians, and the text communicates a deep reverence for their mission-and their tremendous fortitude.

Illustrations depict a pale, red-haired librarian, nearly always smiling despite the obstacles that nature puts in her path. Light

and shadow are used effectively to convey Mother Earth's shifting moods... Educational and inspiring." -Kirkus Reviews  
Books By Horseback is a breathtaking adventure of a heroic Pack Horse Librarian who braves the harsh terrain of rural Kentucky to bring books to children who need them. Deep into Appalachia, during the Great Depression food, education, and opportunities were scarce. Kentucky had fallen behind its neighboring states in electricity and highways, and the folks who lived in the craggy, mountainous region were struggling to survive. But

courageous librarians were up to the challenge! Edith, a young Pack Horse Librarian, and her faithful horse Dan, adventure through rough terrain and a pending storm in order to deliver books to kids who desperately need them in this richly illustrated tale. Edith, like all Pack Horse Librarians, heroically risked their own safety to serve the most vulnerable members of their community. Librarians like Edith helped an entire generation learn to read and gain lifesaving knowledge in a critical time in history.

Love, Theodosia Macmillan  
The Amber KeeperLake

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Union Press

American Kennel Club Stud  
Book Register Picador

The second thrilling instalment of The Poor House Lane sagas Kate finds herself back in Poor House Lane with some heartrending decisions to be made, not least how to find her missing son.

Somehow she must also make a living for herself and help the women being abused by the hated Swainson. But nothing is straightforward, and her sister-in-law Lucy isn't done with her yet... The second emotional instalment

of the Poor House Lane Sagas is perfect for fans of Rosie Goodwin and Val Wood Painter of Silence Canelo

Two years have passed since Livia and her sisters suffered at the hands of their brutal father and all seems well in the Lake District: Livia is set to marry Jack Flint while her sisters are content at Todd Farm. Yet Livia dreams of running the neglected drapery business, that her father left her. But is she prepared to jeopardise the love she shares with Jack to achieve her wish? Standing in her way is wealthy, determined Matthew Grayson, his infuriating stubbornness clashes

with Livia's tenacity. As her problems with Jack worsen, Livia finds it increasingly difficult to resist his charms.

Reluctant Queen The Amber Keeper

They rowed hard, away from the battleships and the bombs. Water sprayed over them. The rowboat pitched one way and then the other. Then, before his eyes, the Arizona lifted up out of the water. That enormous battleship bounced up in the air like a rubber ball and split apart. Fire burst out of the ship. A geyser of water shot into the air and came crashing down. Adam was almost thrown out of the



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rowboat. He clung to the seat as it fleet at Pearl Harbor. Even as swung around. He saw blue skies and the glittering city. The boat swung back again, and he saw black clouds, and the Arizona, his father's ship, sinking beneath the water. -- from *A Boy at War* "He kept looking up, afraid the planes would come back. The sky was obscured by black smoke....It was all unreal: the battleships half sunk, the bullet holes in the boat, Davi and Martin in the water." December 7, 1941: On a quiet Sunday morning, while Adam and his friends are fishing near Honolulu, a surprise attack by Japanese bombers destroys the

Adam struggles to survive the sudden chaos all around him, and as his friends endure the brunt of the attack, a greater concern hangs over his head: Adam's father, a navy lieutenant, was stationed on the USS Arizona when the bombs fell. During the subsequent days Adam -- not yet a man, but no longer a boy -- is caught up in the war as he desperately tries to make sense of what happened to his friends and to find news of his father. Harry Mazer, whose autobiographical novel, *The Last Mission*, brought the European side of World War II to vivid life,

now turns to the Pacific theater and how the impact of war can alter young lives forever. *The Bread of Salt and Other Stories* Lake Union Press Cold. Ruthless. Deadly. The myth of Lady Macbeth looms large. But behind the villainous portrait stands a real woman. This is her story . . . Scotland, 1020 AD. King Malcolm II lies on his deathbed, and the most powerful families make a violent claim for the Scottish throne . . . On the eve of her sixteenth birthday, a flushed and nervous Cora MacDuff waits to marry her sweetheart, Macbeth. But her dreams are stolen from her, and the night she was hoping for turns into a brutal slaughter. In order to reclaim the life she was

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promised, Cora must learn to use every weapon at her disposal - even those she loves . . . The beginning of a brand new Historical fiction series by the bestselling author of the Queens of Conquest series, her new trilogy unearths the real women behind Shakespeare's most infamous queens . . . If you love Elizabeth Chadwick and Anne O'Brien you will adore Joanna Courtney What readers are saying about Joanna Courtney: 'I was hooked from the very first page and didn't want to put it down. Joanna Courtney is a new talent in the world of historical fiction and one that I would highly recommend. I look forward to reading more by this fantastic author' Bookbabblers 'A strong sense of atmosphere and

place and time. I really got into the story, in fact I was so gripped by it at one point that I missed my bus. It was a really good, exciting, read. I cannot wait to read the next two books.' Michelle Birkby, author of The House at Baker Street 'Amazing' (Miranda Dickinson) 'Courtney's novel breathes new life into this complex character,...A thrilling introduction to Courtney's new trilogy on Shakespearean queens.' - The Lady 'A glorious, rich, epic story of love, friendship and sacrifice which will sweep you up and transport you to another time. I absolutely loved this and can't wait for the next book in the series' (Rachael Lucas, author of Sealed With A Kiss and Coming Up Roses) 'An absorbing and

emotional debut novel' (Candis magazine) 'A thrilling and atmospheric read with strong female characters' (MyWeekly) 'A beautifully written multi layered tale with a tremendously authentic sense of place and time . . . an epic feel . . . highly recommended' (LizLovesBooks) 'The story reaches a heart-rending climax. A must read. I loved it' (Freda Lightfoot, author of The Amber Keeper) 'With lovely writing and a terrific sense of narrative drive, Joanna Courtney portrays an era of change through a story about a long forgotten Queen. In The Chosen Queen, Edyth is a heroine who inhabits a convincingly re-created historical world, peopled with personalities whose lives leap from

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the page. Superb! (Carol McGrath, author of *The Daughters of Hastings* trilogy) An outstanding opening to this new series set to rival historical fiction heavyweights like Philippa Gregory and Susanna Dunn (Lisareadsbooks) *Peace In My Heart* Simon and Schuster  
A *Romeo & Juliet* tale for Hamilton! fans. In post-American Revolution New York City, Theodosia Burr, a scholar with the skills of a socialite, is all about charming the right people on behalf of her father—Senator Aaron Burr, who is determined to win the office of president in the pivotal election of 1800. Meanwhile, Philip Hamilton,

the rakish son of Alexander Hamilton, is all about being charming on behalf of his libido. When the two first meet, it seems the ongoing feud between their politically opposed fathers may be hereditary. But soon, Theodosia and Philip must choose between love and family, desire and loyalty, and preserving the legacy their flawed fathers fought for or creating their own. Love, Theodosia is a smart, funny, swoony take on a fiercely intelligent woman with feminist ideas ahead of her time who has long-deserved center stage. A refreshing spin on the Hamiltonian era and the

characters we have grown to know and love. It 's also a heartbreaking romance of two star-crossed lovers, an achingly bittersweet “ what if. ” Despite their fathers ' bitter rivalry, Theodosia and Philip are drawn to each other and, in what unrolls like a Jane Austen novel of manners, we find ourselves entangled in the world of Hamilton and Burr once again as these heirs of famous enemies are driven together despite every reason not to be.  
*The Woman from Heartbreak House* HarperCollins UK  
Sixteenth-century France.  
Gabrielle d'Esrees' one wish is

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to marry for love, but her mother sells her as a mistress to three different men before she catches the eye--and the heart--of Henry of Navarre, King of France. Henry promises to marry her, but Gabrielle's difficulties have just begun.

The Girl in the Mirror Severn House/ORIM

"Set against the backdrop of revolutionary Russia, *The Amber Keeper* is a sweeping tale of jealousy and revenge, reconciliation and forgiveness. English Lake District, 1960s: A young Abbie Myers returns home after learning of her

mother's death. Estranged from her turbulent family for many years, Abbie is heartbroken to hear that they blame her for the tragedy. Determined to uncover her mother's past, Abbie approaches her beloved grandmother, Millie, in search of answers. As the old woman recounts her own past, Abbie is transported back to the grandeur of the Russian Empire in 1911 with tales of her grandmother's life as a governess and the revolution that exploded around her. As Abbie struggles to reconcile with her family, and to support herself and her child, she realizes that those long-ago

events created aftershocks that threaten to upset the fragile peace she longs to create"--

The Girl From Poor House Lane  
Hachette UK

In 2008 Antigone Perifanis returns to her old family home in Athens after 60 years in exile. She has come to attend the funeral of her only son, Nikitas, who was born in prison, and whom she has not seen since she left him as a baby. At the same time, Nikitas' s English widow Maud — disturbed by her husband' s strange behaviour in the days before his death — starts to investigate his complicated past. She soon finds herself reigniting a bitter family feud, and discovers a heartbreaking story of a young mother caught up in the political

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tides of the Greek Civil War, forced to make a terrible decision that will blight not only her life but that of future generations...

### Polly's Pride Canelo

She must decide if her childhood sweetheart is worth the struggle... Alena Townsen is in love with Rob and wants to spend the rest of her life with him. But he is the only son of James Hollinthaite, a wealthy landowner who has his own ideas about Rob's future, and he forces the two to part. With no other option, Rob and Alena run away together and plan to start a

new life. Their dreams are shattered when they are discovered, and Rob is sent away by his father. Alena starts work at the local bobbin mill but life is hard and lonely for her, and her love for Rob is tested with the arrival of the mill's new foreman. Torn between two men, Alena must decide where her heart truly lies. A charming romantic saga packed full of love and conflicting loyalties, perfect for fans of Katie Flynn and Annie Clarke.

A Boy No More HarperCollins Publishers

What will life bring now The Great War is over? The third instalment of the Poor House Lane Sagas The Great War is over and Kate is ready to welcome back Eliot with open arms. But her husband is a changed man. Kate has become used to her independence, and Eliot's return creates tensions both at work and at home, particularly with Kate's son, Callum. It tears Kate apart to see such strife between the two men she loves most. And her sister-in-law seems determined to stir up the animosity in order to benefit her own son. But when tragedy strikes, Kate cannot imagine just how much trouble Lucy's ambition can cause... The third moving instalment of The Poor House Lane sagas is perfect for fans of Val Wood and Katie

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Flynn

Books by Horseback Crown

Captured by pirates in Jamaica and sold into slavery in New England, Resolute Talbot and her siblings are taught to spin and weave before Resolute finds herself alone in a harsh Lexington culture torn by a brewing Revolutionary War.  
50,000 first printing.