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# The Cowards Tale A Novel Vanessa Gebbie

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Cowards Bend the Knee Bloomsbury  
Publishing USA

A BBC TWO BETWEEN THE COVERS  
BOOK CLUB PICK After a car accident

Jarred discovers he 'll never walk again. Confined to a ' giant roller-skate ', he finds himself with neither money nor job, a shoplifting habit, an addiction to painkillers and strangers treating him like he 's an idiot. Worse still, he 's forced to live back home with his estranged father. Trying to piece himself together, Jarred comes to realise that things don 't have to stay broken after all. The Coward is about hurt and forgiveness, how the world treats disabled people, and how we write and rewrite the stories we tell ourselves about our lives – and try to find a happy ending.

**Coward. A Novel** Penguin

A powerful novel of the

infamous Western outlaw and his killer: "The best blend of fiction and history I've read in a long while" (John Irving). By age thirty-four, Jesse James was already one of the most notorious and admired men in America. Bank robber, train bandit, gang leader, killer, and beloved son of Missouri— James's many epithets live on in newspapers and novels alike. As his celebrity was reaching its apex, James met Robert Ford, the brother of a James gang member—an awkward, antihero-worshipping twenty-year-old with stars in his eyes. The young man's fascination with the

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legend borders on jealous obsession: While Ford wants to ride alongside James as his most trusted confidant, sharing his spotlight is not enough. As a bond forms between the two men, Ford realizes that the only way he'll ever be as powerful as his idol is to become him; he must kill James and take his mantle. In the striking novel that inspired the film of the same name starring Brad Pitt and Casey Affleck, bestselling author Ron Hansen retells a classic Wild West story that has long captured the nation's imagination, and breathes new life into the final days and

ignoble death of an iconic American man.

### **Briefs Encountered** Harper Collins

When a killing drought threatens the existence of the tribe, a courageous little Comanche girl sacrifices her most beloved possession--and the Great Spirit's answer results not only in much needed rain but a very special gift in return. "An ideal complement to Native American and Texas studies..."**Booklist**

Shrapnel Author House

The epic story of war and medicine from the award-winning author of North Woods and The Piano Tuner is "a dream of a novel...part mystery, part war story, part romance" (Anthony Doerr, author of All the Light We Cannot See). Vienna, 1914. Lucius is a twenty-two-year-old medical student when World War I explodes across Europe.

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Enraptured by romantic tales of battlefield surgery, he enlists, expecting a position at a well-organized field hospital. But when he arrives, at a commandeered church tucked away high in a remote valley of the Carpathian Mountains, he finds a freezing outpost ravaged by typhus. The other doctors have fled, and only a single, mysterious nurse named Sister Margarete remains. But Lucius has never lifted a surgeon's scalpel. And as the war rages across the winter landscape, he finds himself falling in love with the woman from whom he must learn a brutal, makeshift medicine. Then one day, an unconscious soldier is brought in from the snow, his uniform stuffed with strange drawings. He seems beyond rescue, until Lucius makes a fateful decision that will change the lives of doctor, patient, and nurse forever. From the gilded ballrooms of Imperial Vienna to the frozen forests of the Eastern Front; from hardscrabble operating rooms to battlefields thundering with Cossack cavalry, *The Winter Soldier* is the story of war and medicine, of family, of finding love in the sweeping tides of history, and finally, of the mistakes we make, and the precious opportunities to atone. "The Winter Soldier brims with improbable narrative pleasures... These pages crackle with excitement... A spectacular success." —Anthony Marra, *New York Times Book Review*

**Meanwhile Back at the Ranch Dalkey Archive Press**

Ernest is a twelve-year-old boy growing up on Earth in the Twenty-Second Century, an Earth that exists free of poverty, bigotry, famine, or war. The citizens of Earth live in peace, traveling the cosmos as readily as they once navigated country highways; but Ernest is separated from his family on one such trip and finds himself on a planet eerily similar to Earth's past, with the

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exception of its red- and blue-skinned inhabitants. Ernest befriends a red boy named Dat, and he is forced to live in a world of racial tension and division the likes of which he has never known. Ernest operates as both an observer and a participant in the struggles around him, all while facing the challenges of growing up. Ernest and his friend Dat face bullies and a sense of isolation. They learn of tragedy and friendship, and they are thrown into a powerful legal battle that continues to shape their understanding of existence and their places in it. Ernest's experiences leave him torn between his desire to return to his family and his idyllic life and the kinship he has formed with his adopted

family, especially as they struggle through a glaringly unjust world. Ultimately, Ernest begins to question what is really right, and if his own world is as perfect as it seems.

### **Pomp and Circumstance**

HarperCollins

Sam is not a coward; he is a perfect coward. He is depressed, lonely and all but set on living out his life in numb mediocrity. Lucy is a strange and powerful man with a bizarre and nefarious interest in Sammy. After a 'chance' meeting, Lucy gifts Sam with abilities far greater than anything his uncreative imagination could've ever dreamed of. For his part, Sam must learn to control this mysterious power

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by either rising above his weaknesses or these people is Janie Crowe, a physician giving in to them entirely.

How Green Was My Valley Harper  
Collins

Sweeping us from plague-ravaged Europe to the terrifying near future, acclaimed author Ann Benson brings two eras brilliantly to life. The Physician's Tale is a spellbinding saga of two healers separated by six centuries, both facing terror and trials, bound together by history, science, and destiny. In the near future, in the hills of the American Northeast, a group of men, women, and children band together for survival against nature and human enemies, huddling in the only corner of the world they know. Among

whose son is her greatest hope and deepest secret. Etched into Janie's memory is the ancient journal of a Jewish man of medicine—a man who fought for survival in his own age of plague. In Europe, in the age of the Black Death, Alejandro Canches must hide his identity—and break his oath as a physician for the sake of his and his loved ones' lives. As France and England are locked in war, and disease lays waste to both, Alejandro's daughter Kate is caught in the clutches of King Edward of England. Betrayed by a patient, hunted by the king, Alejandro makes a desperate journey to Windsor itself, where a clever scribe named

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Geoffrey Chaucer has hatched a fantastic plan for Kate's escape.... As the story of Alejandro and his family builds to a gripping climax, and as Janie's life is racked by trials and the dawning of a new age, *The Physician's Tale* brings together a rich cast of friends and lovers, traitors and healers. Unraveling mysteries of science, history, and the human heart, Ann Benson has created a stunning chronicle of courage in the face of darkness—in a work of vibrant storytelling and unrelenting suspense.

**The Vortex** Watkins Media Limited  
“This debut novel about an Irish expat millennial teaching English and finding romance in Hong Kong is half Sally

Rooney love triangle, half glitzy Crazy Rich Asians high living—and guaranteed to please.” —Vogue A RECOMMENDED BOOK FROM: The New York Times Book Review \* Vogue \* TIME \* Marie Claire \* Elle \* O, the Oprah Magazine \* The Washington Post \* Esquire \* Harper's Bazaar \* Bustle \* PopSugar \* Refinery 29 \* LitHub \* Debutiful An intimate, bracingly intelligent debut novel about a millennial Irish expat who becomes entangled in a love triangle with a male banker and a female lawyer Ava, newly arrived in Hong Kong from Dublin, spends her days teaching English to rich children. Julian is a banker. A banker who likes to spend money on Ava, to have sex and discuss fluctuating currencies with her. But when she asks whether he loves her, he cannot say more than "I like you a great

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deal." Enter Edith. A Hong Kong-born lawyer, striking and ambitious, Edith takes Ava to the theater and leaves her tulips in the hallway. Ava wants to be her—and wants her. And then Julian writes to tell Ava he is coming back to Hong Kong... Should Ava return to the easy compatibility of her life with Julian or take a leap into the unknown with Edith? Politically alert, heartbreakingly raw, and dryly funny, *Exciting Times* is thrillingly attuned to the great freedoms and greater uncertainties of modern love. In stylish, uncluttered prose, Naoise Dolan dissects the personal and financial transactions that make up a life—and announces herself as a singular new voice.

### The Coward House of Anansi

"So entertaining that it would be

dangerous to read it without laughing aloud." Los Angeles Times Book Review  
**The Engineer of Human Souls** Power Plant Contemporary

*Private Peaceful* relives the life of Private Tommo Peaceful, a young First World War soldier awaiting the firing squad at dawn. During the night he looks back at his short but joyful past growing up in rural Devon: his exciting first days at school; the accident in the forest that killed his father; his adventures with Molly, the love of his life; and the battles and injustices of war that brought him to the front line. Winner of the Blue Peter Book of the Year, *Private Peaceful* is by the third Children's Laureate, Michael Morpurgo, award-winning author of *War Horse*. His inspiration came from a visit to Ypres where he was shocked to discover how many young soldiers were court-martialled and shot for cowardice during the First World War. This edition also



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includes introductory essays by Michael Morpurgo, Associate Director of Private Peaceful production Mark Leipacher, as well as an essay from Simon Reade, adaptor & director of this stage adaptation of Private Peaceful.

**Words from a Glass Bubble** Little, Brown  
Cassandra Whitman seems like a normal girl on the outside. Sure she doesn't really have any friends, but she gets by--and she has Adam. But what happens when she doesn't have him anymore, and how far will she go to get him back?

Exciting Times DigiCat

The story of Kell Kressia continues in Book II of the gripping fantasy duology. Kell, two time saviour of the Five Kingdoms, is now the King of Algany. He has fame, power, respect, and has

never been more miserable... Bound, by duty and responsibility, Kell is King only in name. Trapped in a loveless marriage, he leaves affairs of state to his wife, Sigrid. When his old friend, Willow, turns up asking him to go on a journey to her homeland he can't wait to leave. The Malice, a malevolent poison that alters everything it infects, runs rampant across Willow's homeland. Desperate to find a cure her cousin, Ravvi, is willing to try a dark ritual which could damn her people forever. Journeying to a distant land, Kell and his companions must stop Ravvi before it's too late. While Kell is away Reverend Mother Britak's plans come to a head. Queen Sigrid must find a way to protect her family and her

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nation, but against such a ruthless opponent, something has to give...

Alan Cole Is Not a Coward Bloomsbury Press

The compelling companion to Daphne du Maurier's celebrated classic, *Rebecca*, Sally Beauman's *Rebecca's Tale* begins more than 20 years after the death of Rebecca de Winter, and 20 years since Manderley, the de Winter family estate, was destroyed by fire. But Rebecca's tale is just beginning...

*The Utterly Uninteresting and Unadventurous Tales of Fred, the Vampire Accountant* HarperCollins

"Imagine George Costanza from *Seinfeld* being sent off to cover the Iraq War . . . Hilarious." —Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times* Chris Ayres is a small-town boy, a hypochondriac, and a neat freak with an anxiety disorder. Not exactly the picture of a war correspondent. But when

his boss asks him if he would like to go to Iraq, he doesn't have the guts to say no. After signing a one million dollar life-insurance policy, studying a tutorial on repairing severed limbs, and spending twenty thousand dollars on camping gear (only to find out that his bright yellow tent makes him a sitting duck), Ayres is embedded with a battalion of gung ho Marines who either shun him or threaten him when he files an unfavorable story. As time goes on, though, he begins to understand them (and his inexplicably enthusiastic fellow war reporters) more and more: Each night of terrifying combat brings, in the morning, something more visceral than he has ever experienced—the thrill of having won a fight for survival. *War Reporting for Cowards* tells, with "self-

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deprecating wit”, the story of Iraq in a way that is extraordinarily honest and bitterly hilarious (The New Yorker).

“Heartbreakingly funny.” —Anthony

Swofford, author of Jarhead “Chris Ayres has invented a new genre: a rip-roaring tale of adventure and derring-don’t.” —Toby

Young, author of How to Lose Friends and Alienate People “Darkly entertaining.” —Los

Angeles Times “Ayres’s stories of life with Marines are gripping—in part because he’s the perfect neurotic foil.” —People

The One and Only Bob Grand Central Publishing

The Kingdom of Kofu is ruled by the brave king Rissho. Its people are courageous and skilled in war. With one exception.

Prince Kadis, the sixteen-year-old heir to the kingdom. He is not brave. He is not

courageous. He is not skilled in war. Kadis knows in his heart that he does not fit in.

That he is different. That he is a coward.

Until one day, a seemingly chance encounter changes his life completely.

Armed with the mystical sword of Kofu, the timid prince and his two young friends, embark on an epic trip to bring peace to the warring kingdoms of Kofu and Molonga.

Will the young prince overcome his fears and will peace win against war? Will Prince Kadis discover that a sword doesn't make you brave, your heart does ...

*The Coward* New York Harper 1925.

A #1 New York Times bestseller and a #1 Indie bestseller! "Good dog Bob. Great to have a best friend."—Danny DeVito Return to the unforgettable world of the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling novel *The One and Only Ivan* in this incredible

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sequel, starring Ivan's friend Bob! Catch up with these beloved friends before you see the star-studded film adaptation of *The One and Only Ivan*, now available on Disney+! Bob sets out on a dangerous journey in search of his long-lost sister with the help of his two best friends, Ivan and Ruby. As a hurricane approaches and time is running out, Bob finds courage he never knew he had and learns the true meaning of friendship and family. Bob, Ivan, and Ruby have touched the hearts of millions of readers, and their story isn't over yet. Catch up with these beloved friends before the star-studded film adaptation of *The One and Only Ivan* hits theaters in August 2020! *One and Only Bob* is an instant #1 New York Times bestseller, embraced by new and old fans of Katherine Applegate's beloved *One and Only Ivan*. Great for summer reading or anytime! A Today show pick for "25 children's books your kids and teens won't be able to put

down this summer!" In the tradition of timeless stories like *Charlotte's Web* and *Stuart Little*, Katherine Applegate blends humor and poignancy to create an unforgettable story of friendship, family, and hope. *The One and Only Bob* features first-person narrative; author's use of literary devices (personification, imagery); and story elements (plot, character development, perspective). This acclaimed middle grade novel is an excellent choice for tween readers in grades 5 to 8, for independent reading, homeschooling, and sharing in the classroom.

### [Small Game Hunting at the Local Coward Gun Club](#) Vintage Canada

A mysterious portrait ignites an antiquarian bookseller's search for his lost love. Guaranteed to capture the hearts of everyone who truly loves books and literature - in particular the golden age of

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Shakespeare, Jonson and Marlowe - The Bookman's Tale is a sparkling novel and an engrossing exploration of one of literature's most tantalizing mysteries. After the death of his wife, Peter Byerly, a young antiquarian bookseller, relocates from the States to the English countryside, where he hopes to rediscover the joys of life through his passion for collecting and restoring rare books. But when he opens an eighteenth-century study on Shakespeare forgeries, he is shocked to find a Victorian portrait strikingly similar to his wife tumble out of its pages, and becomes obsessed with tracking down its origins. As he follows the trail back to the nineteenth century and then to Shakespeare's time, Peter learns the truth about his own past and unearths a book that might prove that Shakespeare

was indeed the author of all his plays.

*Broken* HarperCollins

This classic novel of courage and redemption introduces Jared Heath. Heath, a captain in the Union army, is stripped of rank and court-martialed for cowardice after refusing to march his men into a suicide mission. Yet he has a chance to regain his honor when he is charged with leading Company Q, a unit of misfit officers also disgraced and charged with cowardice. If Heath can make them an effective fighting force, there is a possibility that all of them will be redeemed and pardoned. Will this unit of outcasts prevail and succeed when given the opportunity to show their courage, or will they find defeat

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deep in Comanche country?

*The Coward's Tale* University of New Mexico Press

Author of such classic wartime novels as *Birdy* and *A Midnight Clear*, William Wharton was one of the most acclaimed writers of his generation. However, he was also a very private man—he wrote under a pseudonym and rarely gave interviews—so fans and critics could only speculate how much of his work was autobiographical and how much was fiction. Now, for the first time, we are able to read the author's own account of his experiences during World War II—events that went on to influence some of his greatest works. These are the tales that Wharton never wanted to tell his children. Together, they illuminate a deeply personal, transformative experience: of learning to kill, to "abandon my natural desire to live, survive, and to risk my life for reasons I often did not understand and

sometimes did not accept." Moving and insightful, *Shrapnel* is a powerful, timeless work from an acclaimed American master.

*War Reporting for Cowards* Methuen  
Drama

Noel Coward's house in Kent provides a refuge for him and his lover, Jack. But their romantic idyll is ended, first by the arrival of Noel's demanding relatives and then by a mysterious death. Many years later, film star and Coward fan Richard Stent buys the house from its current owner, but Richard has problems of his own."