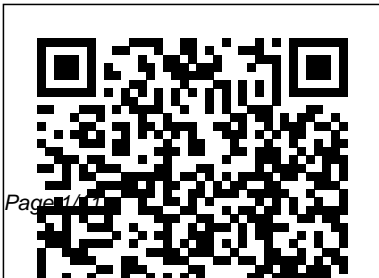


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# The Thought Gang Tibor Fischer

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I Like Being Killed Open Road + Grove/Atlantic  
Set in post-war Hungary between 1944 and 1956, the story follows the lives of two young men and in particular their careers in a travelling basketball team. They spend most of their time in the avoidance of work and army service and in the pursuit of sex.

Modern Ranch Living Hachette UK

The Black radical recounts his life among hoboes during the Depression, his duty in World War II, his insurrectionary acts, and the formation of his goal of a communist-style revolution of non-white peoples

**Untold Story** Vintage

This fascinating book is the first volume in a projected cultural history of the United States, from the earliest English settlements to our own

time. It is a history of American folkways as they have changed through time, and it argues a thesis about the importance for the United States of having been British in its cultural origins. While most people in the United States today have no British ancestors, they have assimilated regional cultures which were created by British colonists, even while preserving ethnic identities at the same time. In this sense, nearly all Americans are "Albion's Seed," no matter what their ethnicity may be. The concluding section of this remarkable book explores the

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ways that regional cultures have continued to dominate national politics from 1789 to 1988, and still help to shape attitudes toward education, government, gender, and violence, on which differences between American regions are greater than between European nations.

*The Collector* Collector A&C Black

An antique bowl that comes into the possession of a lovelorn London art appraiser is no ordinary piece of clay; it is a ceramic sage, an urn of uncommon erudition that has witnessed all of history's major convulsions. Through its mantel-eye view, the pottery narrates the hilarious events which unfold in this brilliant comic romp.

*The Master and Margarita* Oxford University Press

In his first book of short stories, Tibor

Fischer examines the lives of loners and failures. With both wit and sobriety, he depicts the trials of a Web site salesman who cannot connect with others, an artist whose career is going nowhere, a failed cowboy, a has-been solicitor, and a stand-up comedienne who has fallen from grace. Laced with exuberant narrative and matchless comic invention, *I Like Being Killed* reveals the struggle of intelligence to make sense of our modern world.

*Who Killed Roger Ackroyd?* Macmillan  
Using the credit card and identity of a handcuffs salesman, professional failure Tyndale Corbett arrives in Miami for a law-enforcement conference to discover the joys of luxury hotels and

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above all the delight of being someone else, someone successful. Feeling his previous lack of success might be due to insufficient ambition, Tyndale decides on a new money-making scheme. He will up the ante substantially, exponentially, and pretend to be someone really important and successful: God. His mission to convince the citizenry of Miami that he is, despite appearances, the Supreme Being results in him taking over the Church of the Heavily Armed Christ. His duties there involve him in forming a private army, hiring call girls, trafficking coke, issuing death threats, beating off church-jackers and sorting out (as almightily as possible) various problems his parishioners are having

with pets. All the while he is working on his grand project, the clincher miracle, dying and coming back to life...

### **Voyage to the End of the Room**

Hachette UK

A novel about a British philosopher who teams up with a one-armed French convict to rob banks, from Montpellier to Toulon. Tibor Fischer has also written *Under the Frog*, which was shortlisted for the Booker Prize.

*The Thought Gang* Global Insights Publications

"Lights Out in Wonderland has all the verbal wit and energy of Vernon God Little."—Financial Times Gabriel Brockwell—aesthete, philosopher, disaffected twenty-something decadent—is

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thinking terminal. He's decided to kill himself—but not immediately. His destination is Wonderland. The style of the journey is all that's to be decided. Traveling between London, Tokyo, and Berlin, Gabriel is in search of the bacchanal to obliterate all previous parties. His adventure takes in a spell in rehab, a near-death experience eating a poisonous Japanese delicacy, and finally an orgiastic feast in the bowels of Berlin's majestic Tempelhof Airport. Along the way, Gabriel falls apart, only to reemerge with a new outlook on the world and a mission to right his past wrongs. *Lights Out in Wonderland* is an allegorical banquet, a sly commentary on these End Times and the march toward banality, and a joyful expression of the human spirit.

### **Don't Read This Book If You're Stupid**

Grove/Atlantic, Inc.

A dazzling collection of short fiction, containing stories published in *New Writing* and the *Times Literary Supplement*, as well as several new stories. The Novella 'I Like being Killed' takes the lid off the comedy scene in London, investigates where jokes come from and how you can make people laugh with only one toothpick and a foreskin. Other stories visit Brixton prison and German bookshops, contemplate the tanning of Russian bottoms on the Côte d'Azur, offer advice on driving during Romanian revolutions, explain what to do with fifty uselessnesses, give tips on successful and painless serial killing and demonstrate conclusively that no-one should live in South London. Praise for

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Don't Read This Book If You're Stupid: 'One of the funniest literary intellects' Steven Poole, *The Guardian* 'A stylish, slickly readable, frequently schoolboyish, now and then absurd comic bagatelle which also manages, somehow or other, to be worldly wise, subversive, and not a little creepy' Henry Hitchings, *Independent* 'Tibor Fischer is the Ali G of literature..... Perhaps the best tribute to Fischer is that he is one of the handful of authors of whom one asks in hopeful anticipation what he or she is going to do next' George Walden, *New Statesman*

Black Fire Random House  
This volume offers introductions to the work of fifteen avant-garde American women filmmakers.

*The Book of Daniel* Macmillan  
The weather is hotter than hell in Tucson, Arizona, and weird things are afoot in the crumbling desert community of Rancho Sin Vacas. Sixteen-year-old Kendra hones her muscles and grapples with bad grammar, occasionally worrying about her brother, Thomas, who spends all day watching wrestling on TV. Their neighbour Merv is stuck in a rut, still living at home at thirty and looking after his troubled mother. When the strung-out teenager from over the road, Kendra's sometime-boyfriend, goes missing it affects them all in different and surprising ways. And although Kendra is apparently unconcerned, claiming that he's just run away, she can't shake the feeling that something strange is in the air this summer.

*Marabou Stork Nightmares* Simon and Schuster  
Presents a tale of a precarious friendship

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between an illegal Nigerian refugee and a recent widow from suburban London, a story told from the alternating and disparate perspectives of both women.

*The Withering World* Duke University Press  
Satan comes to Soviet Moscow in this critically acclaimed translation of one of the most important and best-loved modern classics in world literature. *The Master and Margarita* has been captivating readers around the world ever since its first publication in 1967. Written during Stalin's time in power but suppressed in the Soviet Union for decades, Bulgakov's masterpiece is an ironic parable on power and its corruption, on good and evil, and on human frailty and the strength of love. In *The Master and Margarita*, the Devil himself pays a visit to Soviet Moscow. Accompanied by a retinue that includes the fast-talking, vodka-drinking, giant tomcat Behemoth, he sets about creating a whirlwind of chaos that soon involves the

beautiful Margarita and her beloved, a distraught writer known only as the Master, and even Jesus Christ and Pontius Pilate. *The Master and Margarita* combines fable, fantasy, political satire, and slapstick comedy to create a wildly entertaining and unforgettable tale that is commonly considered the greatest novel to come out of the Soviet Union. It appears in this edition in a translation by Mirra Ginsburg that was judged "brilliant" by Publishers Weekly. Praise for *The Master and Margarita* "A wild surrealistic romp. . . . Brilliantly flamboyant and outrageous." —Joyce Carol Oates, *The Detroit News* "Fine, funny, imaginative. . . . The *Master and Margarita* stands squarely in the great Gogolesque tradition of satiric narrative." —Saul Maloff, *Newsweek* "A rich, funny, moving and bitter novel. . . . Vast and boisterous entertainment." —*The New York Times* "The book is by turns hilarious, mysterious, contemplative and poignant. . . . A

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great work.” —Chicago Tribune “Funny, devilish, brilliant satire. . . . It’s literature of the highest order and . . . it will deliver a full measure of enjoyment and enlightenment.”

—Publishers Weekly

*Women's Experimental Cinema* Little, Brown

An antique bowl that comes into the possession of a lovelorn London art appraiser is no ordinary piece of clay; it is a ceramic sage, an urn of uncommon erudition that has witnessed all of history's major convulsions. Through its mantel-eye view, the pottery narrates the hilarious events which unfold in this brilliant comic romp.

**Lemprière's Dictionary** Macmillan

The authoritative text on the libertarian political position In recent years,

libertarian impulses have increasingly influenced national and economic debates, from welfare reform to efforts to curtail affirmative action. Murray N. Rothbard's classic *The Ethics of Liberty* stands as one of the most rigorous and philosophically sophisticated expositions of the libertarian political position.

Rothbard's unique argument roots the case for freedom in the concept of natural rights and applies it to a host of practical problems. And while his conclusions are radical—that a social order that strictly adheres to the rights of private property must exclude the institutionalized violence inherent in the state—Rothbard's applications of libertarian principles prove surprisingly



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practical for a host of social dilemmas, solutions to which have eluded alternative traditions. The Ethics of Liberty authoritatively established the anarcho-capitalist economic system as the most viable and the only principled option for a social order based on freedom. This classic book's radical insights are sure to inspire a new generation of readers.

Voyage to the End of Room Proof W.

W. Norton & Company

Follows two young Hungarian basketball players from the last years of World War II through the anti-Soviet uprising of 1956

*The Weight of Things* W. W. Norton & Company

How modern philosophers use and perpetuate myths about prehistory  
The state of nature, the origin of property, the origin of government, the primordial nature of inequality and war why do political philosophers talk so much about the Stone Age? And are they talking about a Stone Age that really happened, or is it just a convenient thought experiment to illustrate their points?  
Karl Widerquist and Grant S. McCall take a philosophical look at the origin of civilisation, examining political theories to show how claims about prehistory are used. Drawing on the best available evidence from archaeology and anthropology, they show that much of what we think we know about human origins comes from philosophers' imagination, not scientific investigation.  
Key Features  
Shows how modern political theories employ ambiguous factual claims about prehistory  
Brings archaeological and anthropological evidence to bear on those

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claimsTells the story of human origins in a way that reveals many commonly held misconceptions

**The Conspirators' Hierarchy** Simon and Schuster

Fiendishly funny and dark, here is a Canterbury Tales for the millennium, a vision of the New Europe where the young and bright live ultra-hip lives of noisy desperation Tibor Fischer has been called "a Joseph Conrad with jokes" (The Sunday Times, London). Now he earns the title again with a story collection that ranges from the blackest, high-voltage humor to sober and moving pessimism about the sorry condition of humans at the new millennium. Here are those left behind by the vacuous nineties: a failed software designer who cannot connect with others, a failed artist, a failed cowboy, a failed solicitor-seducer, a bookseller primed for failure as he tries to read every book in the world, and a venomous

stand-up comedienne who has fallen from grace. From London to the French Riviera, from Hamburg to Romania, in the new Europe only the ruthless succeed: the weak are cowed by the strong, the rich fleece the poor, and the ugly is bested by the surgically enhanced. Reveling in the absurdities of his characters' predicament's, Fischer rescues them from a relentlessly dark fate. Laced with exuberant narrative and matchless comic invention, *I Like Being Killed* reveals the struggle of intelligence to make sense of our twenty-first century world. This book was also published under the title *Don't Read This Book If You're Stupid*. *How to Rule the World* Hachette UK This work argues for the existence of a committee of 300, an elite body which controls every aspect of politics, religion, commerce and industry, answerable to no one except itself. It maintains that the

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confusion of social and moral values in the free world has been deliberately created.

**The Collector Collector** Chatto & Windus London. A city robbing and killing people since 50BC. The Vizz: an industry in crisis. Baxter Stone, a film maker and television veteran, a lifelong Londoner (who thinks he sees better than others) is having problems in the postbrain, crumbling capital. Swindled by an insurance company, he's in debt; a Lamborghini is blocking his drive and MI6 is blocking his mobile reception. He hopes to turn it round and get the documentary series that will get him the Big Money. But what do you do if history is your sworn enemy and the whole world conspires against you? Is there any way, you could, for a moment, rule the world justly? Darkly comic, *How to Rule The World* follows Baxter's battle for truth, justice and classy colour grading as it takes him from the pass of Thermopylae, to the peacocking serial killers

of Medieval France, and the war in Syria. A trip from the Garden of Eden to Armageddon, plus reggae. Demonstrating Fischer's inimitable talent for eviscerating social satire, *How to Rule the World* is a magnificently funny read to stand alongside his best loved works, the Man Booker shortlisted *Under the Frog*, *The Thought Gang* and *Don't Read This Book If You're Stupid*, all of which Corsair will publish in e-book next year.