
Ballroom Novel Anna Hope

A Richard and Judy book club pick
 Beautiful Wild
 Brief Summaries of Books You Were Supposed to Read but Probably Didn't
 DC Comics novels - Harley Quinn: Mad Love
 The House at the Edge of the World
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 A Novel
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 History of a Pleasure Seeker

*Ballroom
 Novel Anna
 Hope*

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LI JAYLEN

A Richard and Judy

book club pick Grand
 Central Publishing
 Rose, a beautiful and

mysterious woman living at St. Elizabeth's home for unwed mother, has no intention of telling her mother or her husband about her pregnancy, until a healing spring near the home changes her mind.

Beautiful Wild

HarperCollins

On a remote island estate, Annaleigh Thaugas, the sixth-born of twelve sisters, enlists the aid of an alluring stranger to unravel the family curse before it claims her life in this twist on The Twelve Dancing Sisters.

Brief Summaries of Books

You Were Supposed to

Read but Probably Didn't

Gibbs Smith

The definitive story of Harley Quinn by her co-creator, Paul Dini, and Pat Cadigan, revealing the secrets of her history even as she seeks to kill Batman. When she was only seven years old, Harleen Quinzel witnessed her father being beaten up by thugs, and then arrested by the police. That night she ran away to the safest place she could think of: Coney Island amusement park. But there, pursued into the Funhouse by the men who brutalised her father, she beheld unimaginable horrors. Years later, Harleen has put her past behind her, and used her

intelligence and ambition to escape her childhood of poverty with a career in psychiatry. Assigned to her first position at Arkham Hospital, she will discover, deep in the asylum, something dangerous and alluring, something quite unlike anything else she has ever known before: The Joker. Because why would you settle for love, when you could have MAD LOVE? From the moment that Harleen finds a rose on her desk, to the moment she dons her harlequin hat, this is the definitive story that chronicles the obsession, the burning desire, the manic laughter, and the birth of one of the most controversial and popular comic book supervillains ever created: Harley Quinn. Copyright © 2017 DC Comics. BATMAN, THE JOKER, HARLEY QUINN, SUICIDE SQUAD and all related characters and elements © & TM DC Comics and Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. DC Comics novels - Harley Quinn: Mad Love MIRA London, 1815 Olivia Wilde has resigned herself to never finding a love match. Her father has insisted she marry a man with a title, if only to increase his own standing and reputation in society.

But the men her father deems acceptable are, at best, boring and uninspiring, and at worse, are as brutish as her father, and are only looking to increase their own diminishing coffers. With her future looking dismal, Olivia decides to enjoy the last few months of freedom with her childhood friends, including the handsome Emerson Latham. His devilish smile and flirtatious teasing stirs up feelings she knows she cannot entertain. Emerson is struggling to rise to his responsibilities after the death of his father. Though he might still be learning what he needs to do as the head of his household, one thing he knows for sure is that he wants Olivia Wilde to be his wife. Having grown up as childhood friends with Olivia, Emerson long ago had fallen in love with her quick wit, beauty, and passionate heart. However, without a title, he will never be permitted to court Olivia openly. But he has a plan that may give him a chance to court her in secret. As the season kicks off, Emerson proposes a bit of fun with a playful game of tag. Olivia's friends are delighted by the idea,

though Olivia is more wary. After all, the game must be played in secret and they must be discreet when tagging each other at dinners and balls and the theater. As the romance builds between Olivia and Emerson, so does the risk of being discovered. Not only are their reputations at stake, so is their safety if they are caught by Olivia's father, who has an explosive, and at times violent, temper. Can their love find a happily ever after before the game ends?

The House at the Edge of the World Penguin Group Australia

In this sharply observed novel set in and around London, three college friends, now in their thirties, must come to terms with the gap between the lives they imagined for themselves and reality in the face of marriage, fertility struggles, and loss. In her first year of motherhood after an unplanned pregnancy, Cate is constantly exhausted, spiraling into self-doubt and postpartum anxiety. Her husband Sam seems oblivious, but maybe she'd prefer he remain in the dark. How can she admit the unthinkable—that she

misses her freedom? In contrast, Hannah continues to endure round after round of unsuccessful IVF treatments. The process is taking its toll on her physically and emotionally—and, she worries, creating distance between her and her husband Nathan. She is godmother to Cate's son, but every time they get together, it's a trigger. Beautiful and unattached, Lissa is re-evaluating what it means to be an actress in her thirties. While she fiercely resists convention, she's also lonely. A chance encounter in the British Library with Nathan has her wondering if she missed her best chance at love when she introduced him to Hannah. As each woman longs for what the others seemingly possess, will their bonds of friendship sustain them in this liminal phase of their lives—or will their envy and desire tear them apart?

The Ballroom Penguin You are invited to set sail on the maiden voyage of the SS Princess of the Pacific in this indulgent historical romance from Anna Godbersen, the New York Times bestselling author of *The Luxe* series. High society intrigue and

deliciously shocking scandals meet a gripping fight for survival in this sweeping romance, sure to thrill fans of Kiera Cass and Katie McGee. Vida Hazzard can see her future: aboard the heralded "Millionaire's Ship of the West," she'll charm the young scion Fitzhugh Farrar, resulting in a proposal of marriage. But Vida didn't plan on Fitz's best friend Sal, a rough-around-the-edges boy with a talent for getting under her skin. Nor did she anticipate a hurricane dashing their ship to pieces, along with her dreams. Stranded on an island with both Fitz and Sal, Vida is torn between the life she's always planned for, and a future she's never dared to want. As they desperately plot a course for home, Vida will discover just which boy can capture her wild heart—and where her future truly lies. Praise for *The Luxe* series: "Mystery, romance, jealousy, betrayal, humor, and gorgeous, historically accurate details. I couldn't put *The Luxe* down!" —Cecily von Ziegesar, author of the #1 New York Times bestselling *Gossip Girl* series [A Novel](#) Oliver-Heber books

Introduces different articles of clothing using characters, places, and events from Leo Tolstoy's "Anna Karenina."

The Siren of Sussex

Random House

The BallroomA

NovelRandom House

Milkman Harper Collins

An international bestseller! "The Hidden Child is a heart-wrenching depiction of a golden couple in the 1920s....

Shocking, emotive, and compelling, but ultimately a story of hope. I loved it."

-- Deborah Carr, USA

Today bestselling author Londoners Eleanor and Edward Hamilton have it all. But the 1929 financial crash is looming, and they're harboring a shameful secret. How far are they willing to go to protect their charmed life? Eleanor Hamilton is happily married and mother to a beautiful four-year-old girl, Mabel. Her husband, Edward, is a leading light in the burgeoning Eugenics movement, which is designing the very ideas that will soon be embraced by Hitler. But when Mabel develops debilitating epileptic seizures and Eleanor discovers Edward has been keeping secrets, Eleanor's world fractures. In order to save her

daughter, she takes matters into her own hands. Vividly rendered and deeply affecting, *The Hidden Child* is a sweeping story and a richly drawn portrait of a family torn apart by shame, deceit, and dangerous ideals.

The Patron Saint of Liars
Vintage

Anna Hope's brilliant debut unfolds over the course of five days, as three women must deal with the aftershocks of World War I and its impact on the men in their lives.

Wake: 1) Emerge or cause to emerge from sleep. 2) Ritual for the dead. 3) Consequence or aftermath. London, 1920.

The city prepares to observe the two-year anniversary of Armistice Day with the burial of the unknown soldier. Many are still haunted by the war: Hettie, a dance instructress, lives at home with her mother and her brother, who is mute after his return from combat. One night Hettie meets a wealthy, educated man and finds herself smitten with him. But there is something distracted about him, something she cannot reach. . . . Evelyn works at the Pensions Exchange, through which thousands of men have claimed benefits from

wounds or debilitating distress. Embittered by her own loss, she looks for solace in her adored brother, who has not been the same since he returned from the front. . . . Ada is beset by visions of her son on every street, convinced he is still alive. Helpless, her loving husband has withdrawn from her. Then one day a young man appears at her door, seemingly with notions to peddle, like hundreds of out-of-work veterans. But when he utters the name of her son, Ada is jolted to the core. The lives of these three women are braided together, their stories gathering tremendous power as the ties that bind them become clear, and the body of the unknown soldier moves closer and closer to its final resting place. Advance praise for *Wake* "Hope's unblinking prose is reminiscent of Vera Brittain's classic memoir *Testament of Youth* in its depiction of the social and emotional fallout, particularly on women, of the Great War. . . . Hope reaches beyond the higher echelons of society to women of different social classes, all linked by their reluctance to bid goodbye to the world the conflict has

shattered.”—The New York Times Book Review “Wake is a tender and timely novel, full of compassion and quiet insight. The author gives us a moving and original glimpse into the haunted peace after the Great War, her characters drawn by the gravity of the unmarked, the unknown, and perhaps, finally, the un hoped for.”—Chris Cleave, author of Little Bee “Wake is a compelling and emotionally charged debut about the painful aftermath of war and the ways—small, brave, or commonplace—in which we keep ourselves going. It touches feelings we know, and settings—dance halls, war fronts, queues outside the grocer’s—that we don’t. I loved it.”—Rachel Joyce, author of The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry “Wake is powerful and humane, a novel that charms and beguiles. Anna Hope’s characters are so real, flawed, and searching, and her prose so natural, one almost forgets how very great a story she is telling.”—Sadie Jones, author of The Uninvited Guests “Using telling detail, Hope creates a vibrant physical and emotional landscape in

which her leading characters, and a sea of others, move irresistibly into the future, some having found resolution, others still in search. Fresh, confident, yet understated, Hope’s first work movingly revisits immense tragedy while also confirming her own highly promising ability.”—Kirkus Reviews *More or Less a Marchioness* Lyrical Press Winner of the Man Booker Prize “Everything about this novel rings true. . . . Original, funny, disarmingly oblique and unique.”—The Guardian In an unnamed city, middle sister stands out for the wrong reasons. She reads while walking, for one. And she has been taking French night classes downtown. So when a local paramilitary known as the milkman begins pursuing her, she suddenly becomes “interesting,” the last thing she ever wanted to be. Despite middle sister’s attempts to avoid him—and to keep her mother from finding out about her maybe-boyfriend—rumors spread and the threat of violence lingers. Milkman is a story of the way inaction can have enormous repercussions, in a time when the wrong flag,

wrong religion, or even a sunset can be subversive. Told with ferocious energy and sly, wicked humor, Milkman establishes Anna Burns as one of the most consequential voices of our day.

A Novel Random House Winner of two Prism Awards (Fantasy, Best of the Best) The sequel to *Blades of the Old Empire*. Kara has achieved something that no Majat has ever managed – freedom from the Guild! But the Black Diamond assassin Mai has been called back to face his punishment for sparing her life. Determined to join his fight or share his punishment, Kara finds herself falling for Mai. But is their relationship – and the force that makes their union all-powerful – a tool to defeat the overpowering forces of the Kaddim armies, or a distraction sure to cause the downfall of the Majat? File Under: Fantasy [Duty vs Honor | Forbidden | Unstoppable | Back in Black]

The White Rock Head of Zeus Ltd

From the acclaimed author of *The Drowning People* (“A literary sensation” —The New York Times Book Review) and *Natural Elements* (“A magnum opus” —The

New Yorker), an opulent, romantic coming-of-age drama set at the height of Europe's belle époque, written in the grand tradition with a lightness of touch that is wholly modern and original. The novel opens in Amsterdam at the turn of the last century. It moves to New York at the time of the 1907 financial crisis and proceeds onboard a luxury liner headed for Cape Town. It is about a young man—Piet Barol—with an instinctive appreciation for pleasure and a gift for finding it. Piet's father is an austere administrator at Holland's oldest university. His mother, a singing teacher, has died—but not before giving him a thorough grounding in the arts of charm. Piet applies for a job as tutor to the troubled son of Europe's leading hotelier: a child who refuses to leave his family's mansion on Amsterdam's grandest canal. As the young man enters this glittering world, he learns its secrets—and soon, quietly, steadily, finds his life transformed as he in turn transforms the lives of those around him. *History of a Pleasure Seeker* is a brilliantly written portrait of the senses, a novel about

pleasure and those who are in search of it; those who embrace it, luxuriate in it, need it; and those who deprive themselves of it as they do those they love. It is a book that will beguile and transport you—to another world, another time, another state of being.

The Hope Chest Harlequin
FROM THE BESTSELLING
AUTHOR OF EXPECTATION

I see you. Inside the cage you have been given. The cage you have made. The cages we have all made It's 2020 and an Englishwoman is journeying with her husband and young daughter to the white rock of San Blas off the coast of Mexico, to give thanks for the birth of their child, even as her faith in her marriage - and the future itself - is unravelling. It is 1969 and a singer, on the run from the law, from his rabid fans and from an America burning with the fever of the Vietnam War, washes up in a hotel at the edge of Mexico, hoping to lose - and maybe find - himself. In the first years of the Twentieth Century, a girl and her sister are torn from their homeland and taken by force to the coast. As their future is recast in the name of

progress and power, she turns to the stories of her people to keep them alive. And in 1775 a young Lieutenant of the Spanish line, preparing to set sail from the White Rock to continue the conquest of the Pacific coast, appears to lose his grip on reality, with far-reaching and fatal consequences ... The White Rock is a breathtaking novel of lives echoing through time, of the many forms of violence and love, and what happens when the stories we have lived by can no longer keep us safe.

PRAISE FOR
ANNA HOPE 'Profoundly intelligent and humane.'
Guardian 'Thoughtful, beautifully written, honest. A sensual book.'
Marian Keys on
Expectation
The Light of Paris
Graywolf Press

"I adored *The Light of Paris*. It's so lovely and big-hearted—it made me long for Paris."—Jojo Moyes, New York Times-bestselling author of *Me Before You* and *After You*
The miraculous novel from the New York Times-bestselling author of *The Weird Sisters*—a sensation beloved by critics and readers alike.

Madeleine is trapped—by her family's expectations, by her controlling husband, and by her own fears—in an unhappy marriage and a life she never wanted. From the outside, it looks like she has everything, but on the inside, she fears she has nothing that matters. In Madeleine's memories, her grandmother Margie is the kind of woman she should have been—elegant, reserved, perfect. But when Madeleine finds a diary detailing Margie's bold, romantic trip to Jazz Age Paris, she meets the grandmother she never knew: a dreamer who defied her strict, staid family and spent an exhilarating summer writing in cafés, living on her own, and falling for a charismatic artist. Despite her unhappiness, when Madeleine's marriage is threatened, she panics, escaping to her hometown and staying with her critical, disapproving mother. In that unlikely place, shaken by the revelation of a long-hidden family secret and inspired by her grandmother's bravery, Madeleine creates her own Parisian summer—reconnecting to her love of painting, cultivating a vibrant circle

of creative friends, and finding a kindred spirit in a down-to-earth chef who reminds her to feed both her body and her heart. Margie and Madeleine's stories intertwine to explore the joys and risks of living life on our own terms, of defying the rules that hold us back from our dreams, and of becoming the people we are meant to be.

The Strawberry Girl

Tyndale House Publishers, Inc.

It's rural England, just after the turn of the last century. Charlotte married Edward Shift after the sudden death of her first husband, Horace Torrington. They live at Sterne, the home they are in danger of losing due to a financial crisis, with Charlotte's 3 children: Emerald, Clovis and Smudge. On the day of Emerald's birthday party, a terrible train wreck occurs on a branch line and the stranded passengers seek refuge at Sterne. Among these passengers is Charlie Traversham-Beechers, a sketchy figure from Charlotte's past. This unusual guest list makes for an unforgettable birthday celebration for Emerald and an evening of the past literally coming back to haunt

Charlotte.

The Forgotten Kingdom

Atria Books

Half a million copies sold! The breakout novel from the New York Times bestselling author of *The Orphan Collector*, *What She Left Behind* weaves together riveting stories of past and present, exploring the strength of women in two different times as they face adversity in two very different ways. Go inside the horrifying walls of a 1920s New York asylum as a wrongly imprisoned woman fights for what is most important to her—and meet the young woman confronting the pain and mystery of her own family's mental illness two generations later. Ten years ago, Izzy Stone's mother fatally shot her father while he slept. Devastated by her mother's apparent insanity, Izzy, now seventeen, refuses to visit her in prison. But her new foster parents, employees at the local museum, have enlisted Izzy's help in cataloging items at a long-shuttered state asylum. There, amid piles of abandoned belongings, Izzy discovers a stack of unopened letters, a decades-old journal, and a window into her own past. Young flapper and

suffragette Clara Cartwright is caught between her overbearing parents and her desire to be a modern woman. Furious when she rejects an arranged marriage, instead finding love with an Italian Immigrant, Clara's father sends her to a genteel home for nervous invalids. But when his fortune is lost in the stock market crash of 1929, he can no longer afford her care—and Clara is committed to the public asylum. Even as Izzy deals with the challenges of yet another new beginning, Clara's story keeps drawing her into the past. If Clara was never really mentally ill, could something else explain her own mother's violent act? Piecing together Clara's fate compels Izzy to re-examine her own choices—with shocking and unexpected results. "Screams with authenticity, depth, and understanding." —The New York Journal of Books "A real page turner...will appeal to all readers of fiction." —The Historical Novels Review "Amazing...A great read!" —The San Francisco Book Review "Will both haunt and inspire you... a moving, and at times chilling story that totally

endears you to her characters." —SpaWeek "A great coming-of-age story." —School Library Journal Abridged Classics Penguin UK From Lisa Taddeo, author of the #1 New York Times bestseller and global phenomenon *Three Women*, comes an "intoxicating" (Entertainment Weekly), "fearless" (Los Angeles Times), and "explosive" (People) novel about "what happens when women are pushed beyond the brink, and what comes after the reckoning" (Esquire). Joan has spent a lifetime enduring the cruelties of men. But when one of them commits a shocking act of violence in front of her, she flees New York City in search of Alice, the only person alive who can help her make sense of her past. In the sweltering hills above Los Angeles, Joan unravels the horrific event she witnessed as a child—that has haunted her every waking moment—while forging the power to finally strike back. *Animal* is a depiction of female rage at its rawest, and a visceral exploration of the fallout from a male-dominated society. Watkins Media Limited

Defeated by the Majat forces, Nimos and the other Kaddim Brothers retreat to their secret fortress in the southern mountains. Nimos knows that the Majat's victory is only temporary: during the flight, he managed to place a mark on Kara, one of the top-ranked Diamond Majat. His mind magic would now allow him to use this mark to confer her fighting skill to the Kaddim warriors and turn her loyalties to their side. The new Majat Guildmaster, Mai, is planning a march against the Kaddim. His key ally, Prince Kyth Dorn, is instrumental in these plans: Kyth's magic gift can protect the Majat against the Kaddim mind control powers. But Mai and Kyth are having trouble getting over their rivalry for Kara's affections - even after they realize that this rivalry is the least of their worries, at least for the moment. Something about Kara is not right...
File Under: Fantasy [Showdown! | Lost Princess | Shuffling the Ranks | Love (Really) Hurts]
A Novel Proper Romance Regency
A searing novel of forbidden love on the Yorkshire moors—"a British version of One

Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest" (The Times U.K.)—from the author of the critically acclaimed debut *Wake England*, 1911. At Sharston Asylum, men and women are separated by thick walls and barred windows. But on Friday nights, they are allowed to mingle in the asylum's magnificent ballroom. From its balconies and vaulted ceilings to its stained glass, the ballroom is a sanctuary. Onstage, the orchestra plays Strauss and Debussy while the patients twirl across the gleaming dance floor. Amid this heady ambience, John Mulligan and Ella Fay first meet. John is a sure-footed dancer with a clouded, secretive face; Ella is as skittish as a colt, with her knobby knees and flushed cheeks. Despite their grim circumstances, the unlikely pair strikes up a tenuous courtship. During the week, he writes letters smuggled to her in secret, unaware that Ella cannot read. She enlists a friend to read them aloud and gains resolve from the force of John's words, each sentence a stirring incantation. And, of course, there's always the promise of the ballroom.

Then one of them receives an unexpected opportunity to leave Sharston for good. As Anna Hope's powerful, bittersweet novel unfolds, John and Ella face an agonizing dilemma: whether to cling to familiar comforts or to confront a new world—living apart, yet forever changed. Praise for *The Ballroom* "The Ballroom successfully blends historical research with emotional intelligence to explore the tensions and trials of the human condition with grace and insight."—New York Times Book Review "Part historical novel and part romance, *The Ballroom* paints an incredibly rich portrait of the mentally stable forced to live in an asylum. [Anna] Hope transports readers inside the asylum, to feel the thick humidity of the stale summer air of the day room, and the gritty and brutal reality inside those walls."—Booklist "A compelling cast of emotionally resonant characters, as well as a bittersweet climax, render Hope's second novel a powerful, memorable experience."—Publishers Weekly "Hope's writing is

consistently beautiful. . . . Recommended for readers who enjoy historical fiction by Sarah Waters or Emma Donoghue."—Library Journal "A beautifully wrought novel, a tender, heartbreaking and insightful exploration of the longings that survive in the most inhospitable environments."—Sunday Express "The Ballroom has all the intensity and lyricism of [Anna] Hope's debut, *Wake*. At its heart is a tender and absorbing love story."—Daily Mail "Compelling and masterful . . . Anna Hope has proven once again that she is a luminary in historical fiction. . . . She delivers profound, poignant narratives that stir the emotions."—Yorkshire Post "As with Hope's highly acclaimed debut novel, *Wake*, the writing is elegant and insightful; she writes beautifully about human emotion, landscape and weather."—The Observer "A brilliantly moving meditation on what it means to be 'insane' in a cruel world . . . All the characters are vividly and sensitively drawn. . . . Deeply moving."—The Irish Times