

## The Ravens Head A Gothic Tale For Winter Nights

In one of those rare books that allows us to see the world not as we've never seen it before, but as we see it daily without knowing, Victoria Nelson illuminates the deep but hidden attraction the supernatural still holds for a secular mainstream culture that forced the transcendental underground and firmly displaced wonder and awe with the forces of reason, materialism, and science. In a backward look at an era now drawing to a close, *The Secret Life of Puppets* describes a curious reversal in the roles of art and religion: where art and literature once took their content from religion, we came increasingly to seek religion, covertly, through art and entertainment. In a tour of Western culture that is at once exhilarating and alarming, Nelson shows us the distorted forms in which the spiritual resurfaced in high art but also, strikingly, in the mass culture of puppets, horror-fantasy literature, and cyborgs: from the works of Kleist, Poe, Musil, and Lovecraft to Philip K. Dick and virtual reality simulations. At the end of the millennium, discarding a convention of the demonized grotesque that endured three hundred years, a Demiurgic consciousness shaped in Late Antiquity is emerging anew to re-divinize the human as artists like Lars von Trier and Will Self reinvent Expressionism in forms familiar to our pre-Reformation ancestors. Here as never before, we see how pervasively but unwittingly, consuming art forms of the fantastic, we allow ourselves to believe.

*The Rural Gothic in American Popular Culture* argues that complex and often negative initial responses of early European settlers continue to influence American horror and gothic narratives to this day. The book undertakes a detailed analysis of key literary and filmic texts situated within consideration of specific contexts.

Musaicum Books presents to you this unique collection, designed and formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. *Frankenstein* *The Orphan of the Rhine* *Nightmare Abbey* *The Tell-Tale Heart* *The Fall of the House of Usher* *The Cask of Amontillado* *The Masque of the Red Death* *The Castle of Otranto* *Vathek* *The Castle of Wolfenbach* *Caleb Williams* *The Mysteries of Udolpho* *The Italian* *The Monk* *Wieland* *Northanger Abbey* *The Black Cat* *The Murders in the Rue Morgue* *The Vampyre* *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* *Melmoth the Wanderer* *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner* *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame* *The Phantom Ship* *St. John's Eve* *Viy* *The Mysterious Portrait* *Jane Eyre* *Wuthering Heights* *Sweeney Todd, the Demon Barber of Fleet Street* *The House of the Seven Gables* *Rappaccini's Daughter* *The Birth Mark* *The Lifted Veil* *The Woman in White* *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde* *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* *Carmilla* *Uncle Silas* *The Hound of the Baskervilles* *The Picture of Dorian Gray* *The Horla* *The Forsaken Inn* *The Great God Pan* *Lilith* *The Lost Stradivarius* *The Island of Doctor Moreau* *The Beetle* *The Turn of the Screw* *Dracula* *The Jewel of Seven Stars (Original 1903 Edition)* *The Monkey's Paw* *The Necromancers* *The Phantom of the Opera* *Clarimonde* *The Mummy's Foot* *The House on the Borderland* *The Boats of the Glen Carrig* *Wolverden Tower*

An exquisitely illustrated journey through the complex and crucial relationship between humans and birds. *Avian Illuminations* examines the many roles birds have played in human society, from food, messengers, deities, and pets, to omens, muses, timekeepers, custodians, hunting companions, decorative motifs, and, most importantly, embodiments of our aspirations. Boria Sax narrates the history of our relationships with a host of bird species, including crows, owls, parrots, falcons, eagles, nightingales, hummingbirds, and many more. Along the way, Sax describes how birds' nesting has symbolized human romance, how their flight has inspired inventors throughout history, and he concludes by showing that the interconnections between birds and humans are so manifold that a world without birds would effectively mean an end to human culture itself. Beautifully illustrated, *Avian Illuminations* is a superb overview of humanity's long and rich association with our avian companions.

Thomas E. Sniegowski has entranced audiences with his exploration of the Batman universe,

thrilled fans with his Buffy the Vampire Slayer comics, and uncovered the paranormal with his Hellboy spin-off series, B.R.P.D. Now, he introduces readers to a mesmerizing dark world filled with monsters, where humanity's only hope lies in the bravery of one woman... When the Throng came, the human race never stood a chance. The monsters were simply too strong, too numerous. It only took a few months for them to take over and leave the few poor souls who survived cowering in terror for years to come. But even the monsters fear something: the dark goddess known as the Raven's Child. Legend says that she alone is destined to destroy the Throng and free those under their cruel power. And whoever wields her name and image could become the bane of the Throng and an inspiration to humankind—even if she were only a young woman, like Carissa Devin, who has vowed to reclaim the world for the human race, no matter what the cost...

From the New York Times bestselling author of the Gabriel series comes a dark, sensual tale of romance in a city shrouded in mystery . . . Raven Wood spends her days at Florence's Uffizi gallery restoring Renaissance art. But an innocent walk home after an evening with friends changes her life forever. When she intervenes in the senseless beating of a homeless man, his attackers turn on her, dragging her into an alley. Raven is only semiconscious when their assault is interrupted by a cacophony of growls followed by her attackers' screams. Mercifully, she blacks out, but not before catching a glimpse of a shadowy figure who whispers to her . . . Cassita vulneratus. When Raven awakes, she is inexplicably changed. Upon returning to the Uffizi, no one recognizes her. More disturbingly, she discovers that she's been absent an entire week. With no recollection of her disappearance, Raven learns that her absence coincides with one of the largest robberies in Uffizi history—the theft of a set of priceless Botticelli illustrations. When the police identify her as their prime suspect, Raven is desperate to clear her name. She seeks out one of Florence's wealthiest and most elusive men in an attempt to uncover the truth. Their encounter leads Raven to a dark underworld whose inhabitants kill to keep their secrets . . .

Concealed and protected by the ruthless determination of its secretive owner, Ravens Deep is an ancient house that patiently waits to play out the next chapter of its chilling legacy. Madeline Shaw is drawn into the life of the mysterious Mr Chambers. After a romantic, but seemingly supernatural encounter raises suspicion; she is driven to unlock secrets that have remained hidden for centuries. Consequently Madeline abandons the life she knows and commits herself to an uncertain and dangerous future. This gothic love story weaves a psychological thread between good and evil to become hauntingly memorable and completely seductive.

In this "miraculous and thrilling" (Diane Setterfield, #1 New York Times bestselling author) mystery for fans of *The Essex Serpent* and *The Book of Speculation*, Victorian London comes to life as an intrepid female sleuth wades through a murky world of collectors and criminals to recover a remarkable child. Bridie Devine—flame-haired, pipe-smoking detective extraordinaire—is confronted with the most baffling puzzle yet: the kidnapping of Christabel Berwick, secret daughter of Sir Edmund Athelstan Berwick, and a peculiar child whose reputed supernatural powers have captured the unwanted attention of collectors in this age of discovery. Winding her way through the sooty streets of Victorian London, Bridie won't rest until she finds the young girl, even if it means unearthing secrets about her past that she'd rather keep buried. Luckily, her search is aided by an enchanting cast of characters, including a seven-foot-tall housemaid; a melancholic, tattoo-covered ghost; and an avuncular apothecary. But secrets abound in this foggy underworld where nothing is quite what it seems. Blending darkness and light, *Things in Jars* is a stunning, "richly woven tapestry of fantasy, folklore, and history" (Booklist, starred review) that explores what it means to be human in inhumane times.

The first behind-the-scenes account of life with the legendary ravens at the world's eeriest monument The ravens at the Tower of London are of mighty importance: rumor

has it that if a raven from the Tower should ever leave, the city will fall. The title of Ravenmaster, therefore, is a serious title indeed, and after decades of serving the Queen, Yeoman Warder Christopher Skaife took on the added responsibility of caring for the infamous ravens. In *The Ravenmaster*, he lets us in on his life as he feeds his birds raw meat and biscuits soaked in blood, buys their food at Smithfield Market, and ensures that these unusual, misunderstood, and utterly brilliant corvids are healthy, happy, and ready to captivate the four million tourists who flock to the Tower every year. A rewarding, intimate, and inspiring partnership has developed between the ravens and their charismatic and charming human, the Ravenmaster, who shares the folklore, history, and superstitions surrounding the ravens and the Tower. Shining a light on the behavior of the birds, their pecking order and social structure, and the tricks they play on us, Skaife shows who the Tower's true guardians really are—and the result is a compelling and irreverent narrative that will surprise and enchant.

Lady Selene is the heir to the Great House of Ravenwood and the secret family gift of dreamwalking. As a dreamwalker, she can enter a person's dreams and manipulate their greatest fears or desires. For the last hundred years, the Ravenwood women have used their gift of dreaming for hire to gather information or to assassinate. As she discovers her family's dark secret, Selene is torn between upholding her family's legacy--a legacy that supports her people--or seeking the true reason behind her family's gift. Her dilemma comes to a head when she is tasked with assassinating the one man who can bring peace to the nations, but who will also bring about the downfall of her own house. One path holds glory and power, and will solidify her position as Lady of Ravenwood. The other path holds shame and execution. Which will she choose? And is she willing to pay the price for the path chosen?

Young raven Alaan is training to be a healer, and he goes to the great battle of his age. After the battle, the ravens are determined that there should be no more wars, but how do they achieve this? Helped by crows and swallows, a small group of birds fly over the Great Seas to find out what happens there. The ravens at home wait anxiously. When the travellers return, a whole new life opens up for the young ravens, and for older ravens too. The Ravens at the Tower of London are restless, and two of them determine to escape. Will they succeed?

Sacred cows, wily serpents, fearsome lions, elegant swans, busy bees, and sly foxes--all are caricatures of the creatures themselves, yet they reflect not only how different cultures see the natural world around them but also how such cultures make use of their native animals. In this fun and thought-provoking book, historian and animal enthusiast Boria Sax argues for a classification of animals that goes beyond the biological to encompass a more meaningful distinction: tradition. From ants and elephants to tigers and tortoises, *The Mythical Zoo* weaves together a crosscultural tapestry encompassing mythology, history, art, science, philosophy, and literature. The result is a beautifully illustrated, masterfully composed love letter to the animal kingdom.

Loner Vivi Deveraux is thrilled to join Westerly College's Kappas, who are secretly witches, until she meets perfect, polished Scarlett Winter, who will stop at nothing to be the sorority's next president.

In the primary arc, a rich young woman is abused, humiliated and abandoned by her new husband, Jacob Fuller, whom she married against the wishes of her father. The

young Fuller resents her father's rejection and dismissal of him as a ne'er-do-well and resolves to exact his revenge by mistreating his new bride.

The Raven's Head by Karen Maitland, author of the bestselling and much-loved Company of Liars, will delight fans of Game of Thrones or Deborah Harkness seeking a new, dark fix. 'An atmospheric and dark story' The Times Never trust your secrets to a Raven when you are not its true master... 1224. Langley Manor, Norfolk. Lord Sylvain has been practising alchemy in hiding for years and now only the Apothecary's niece can help him with final preparations to forge the Philosopher's Stone. Alchemy calls for symbols - and victims - and when a man in possession of an intricately carved raven's head arrives at the Manor in a clumsy attempt at blackmail, Sylvain has both symbol and victim within easy reach. But the White Canons in nearby Langley Abbey are concealing a crucial, missing ingredient... Regulus, a small boy with a large destiny. Iceland, AD 935: A young man is destined to be a warrior, how much longer can he fight his fate?

Master storyteller Stephen King presents the classic "wondrously frightening" (Publishers Weekly) #1 New York Times bestseller about a writer's horrific and haunting pseudonym. "I'm back...I'm back from the dead and you don't seem glad to see me at all, you ungrateful son of a bitch." After thirteen years of international bestseller stardom with his works of violent crime fiction, author George Stark is officially declared dead—revealed by a national magazine to have been killed at the hands of the man who created him: the once well-regarded but now obscure writer Thad Beaumont. Thad's even gone so far as to stage a mock burial of his wildly successful pseudonym, complete with tombstone and the epitaph "Not a Very Nice Guy." Although on the surface, it seems that Thad can finally concentrate on his own novels, there's a certain unease at the prospect of leaving George Stark behind. But that's nothing compared to the horror about to descend upon Thad's new life. There are the vicious, out-of-control nightmares, for starters. And how is he able to explain the fact that everyone connected to George Stark's untimely demise is now meeting a brutal end of their own in a pattern of homicidal savagery...and why each blood-soaked crime scene has Thad's fingerprints all over it? Thad Beaumont may have once believed that George Stark was running out of things to say, but he's going to find out just how wrong he is...

Neo-Gothic fiction inspired by the imagination of Edgar Allan Poe. Compiled by multi-award winning editors, Nancy Kilpatrick and Caro Soles, nEvermore! Tales of Murder, Mystery and the Macabre presents a tantalizing selection of imaginative stories by New York Times bestselling and prize-winning authors Margaret Atwood; David Morrell; Kelley Armstrong; Richard Christian Matheson; Tanith Lee; William F. Nolan; Nancy Holder; Christopher Rice; Chelsea Quinn Yarbro; Michael Jecks; Lisa Morton; J. Madison Davis; Barbara Fradkin, and many others. This anthology consists of 21 original tales that blend supernatural and mystery elements in unique reimaginings of Edgar Allan Poe's exquisite stories.nEvermore! Tales of Murder, Mystery and the Macabre is an homage to the great American writer, the incomparable Edgar Allan Poe, and a must-have

for every fan of his work.

'A fascinating portrait of the women who helped make a dynasty' The Times

'Bewitching' Woman & Home 'Evocative' Woman's Weekly

John Morgan and his wife can barely contain their excitement upon arriving as new teachers in a Yupik Inuit village on the windswept Alaskan tundra. Lured north in search of adventure, the idealistic couple hope to immerse themselves in the ancient Arctic culture. Their move proves disastrous when a deadly epidemic strikes and the isolated community descends into total chaos. When outside help fails to arrive, John's only hope lies in escaping the snowcovered tundra and the hunger of the other survivors. His thousand-mile trek across the Alaskan wilderness grows more improbable when he encounters a blind Inuit girl and an elderly woman. The two need his protection from those who would harm them, and he needs their knowledge of the terrain and their companionship to survive. The harsh journey and constant danger push him beyond his limits as he discovers a new sense of hope and the possibility of loving again. "If you're not scared, be scared: Don Rearden's *The Raven's Gift* will propel you pell-mell into a terrifying future of plague on the Alaskan tundra—all too real if you've talked with elders who survived 1917—all too frightening if you have sense to know this future can start five minutes from now." —Seth Kantner author of *Ordinary Wolves* "The Raven's Gift has a winning plot, characters we've never met before, and intriguing details of a world most of us will never venture to -- creating a read that opens our eyes and finds the fault lines of a heart in one breathless sitting." — Jodi Picoult, New York Times Bestselling Author "Rearden's fresh, new voice is a kaleidoscope of cultural collision and the astonishing landscape of the heart." — Ron Spatz, Editor. *Alaska Quarterly Review* "A many layered Alaskan intrigue which is gritty and engaging and an absolutely good read . . . all in a world, that Alaskan world -- which I could believe." — Ron Carlson, author *The Speed of Light*, *Five Skies*, *News of the World* "Don Rearden's writing is captivating and new. This is a writer who has many books in him. I predict he will be widely read, well respected, and greatly admired." — Jo-Ann Mapson, author of bestselling novels *Bad Girl Creek*, *The Wilder Sisters*, and *Hank & Chloe*, author of bestselling novels *Bad Girl Creek*, *The Wilder Sisters*, and *Hank & Chloe* "Take a remote Alaskan village, add a dedicated teacher, toss in a plague. *The Raven's Gift* is a page turner with a message: We Alaskans are lost if we cannot find our own way." — Bill Streever, author of *Cold: Adventures in the World's Frozen Places* "In *The Raven's Gift*, Don Rearden has created a kind of allegory for a people and place at risk, a generous and honest portrait of Yup'ik communities. His Alaska is one you won't yet have seen." — David Vann, author of bestselling novels *Legend of a Suicide* and *A Mile Down*.

Seventeen-year-old Edgar Poe counts down the days until he can escape his foster family—the wealthy Allans of Richmond, Virginia. He hungers for his upcoming life as a student at the prestigious new university, almost as much as he longs to marry his beloved Elmira Royster. However, on the brink of his

departure, all his plans go awry when a macabre Muse named Lenore appears to him. Muses are frightful creatures that lead Artists down a path of ruin and disgrace, and no respectable person could possibly understand or accept them. But Lenore steps out of the shadows with one request: "Let them see me!"

The Gothic Reader brings together texts and images from the origins of Gothic art and writing up to the 20th century. It is the first publication to present the Gothic through both the visual arts and literature, helping to establish a new framework for its analysis and appreciation. Writers represented include Ann Radcliffe, Mary Shelley, and Horace Walpole; artists include William Blake, Henry Fuseli, and J.M.W. Turner. The anthology encompasses novels, essays and criticism, letters and memoirs, and pieces from contemporary newspapers and magazines, in an engaging, stimulating book for the general reader. The Gothic Reader brings together texts and images from the origins of Gothic art and writing up to the 20th century. It is the first publication to present the Gothic through both the visual arts and literature, helping to establish a new framework for its analysis and appreciation. Writers represented include Ann Radcliffe, Mary Shelley, and Horace Walpole; artists include William Blake, Henry Fuseli, and J.M.W. Turner. The anthology encompasses novels, essays and criticism, letters and memoirs, and pieces from contemporary newspapers and magazines, in an engaging, stimulating book for the general reader.

In *Making and Remaking Horror in the 1970s and 2000s* author David Roche takes up the assumption shared by many fans and scholars that original horror movies are more "disturbing," and thus better than the remakes. He assesses the qualities of movies, old and recast, according to criteria that include subtext, originality, and cohesion. With a methodology that combines a formalist and cultural studies approach, Roche sifts aspects of the American horror movie that have been widely addressed (class, the patriarchal family, gender, and the opposition between terror and horror) and those that have been somewhat neglected (race, the Gothic, style, and verisimilitude). Containing seventy-eight black and white illustrations, the book is grounded in a close comparative analysis of the politics and aesthetics of four of the most significant independent American horror movies of the 1970s—*The Texas Chain Saw Massacre*, *The Hills Have Eyes*, *Dawn of the Dead*, and *Halloween*—and their twenty-first-century remakes. To what extent can the politics of these films be described as "disturbing" inasmuch as they promote subversive subtexts that undermine essentialist perspectives? Do the politics of the film lie on the surface or are they wedded to the film's aesthetics? Early in the book, Roche explores historical contexts, aspects of identity (race, ethnicity, and class), and the structuring role played by the motif of the American nuclear family. He then asks to what extent these films disrupt genre expectations and attempt to provoke emotions of dread, terror, and horror through their representations of the monstrous and the formal strategies employed? In this inquiry, he examines definitions of the genre and its metafictional nature. Roche ends with a meditation on the extent to which the

technical limitations of the horror films of the 1970s actually contribute to this “disturbing” quality. Moving far beyond the genre itself, *Making and Remaking Horror* studies the redux as a form of adaptation and enables a more complete discussion of the evolution of horror in contemporary American cinema.

### The Raven's Head Headline Review

Two lost souls in quiet desperation rediscover lost love in a chance meeting, more than a childhood crush. Mind you, Jack risks it all to be with our young Raven, through twists and turns, trial and tribulation, oh, and a few misfits along the way. Our young lovers are determined to be together no matter their fate.

Best-selling author David Elliott examines the timeless themes of balance, transformation, and restoration in this evocative tale about a girl who will stop at nothing to reverse a curse that turned her seven brothers into ravens. And these are the sons Of good Jack and good Jane The eldest is Jack And the next one is Jack And the third one's called Jack And the fourth's known as Jack And the fifth says he's Jack And they call the sixth Jack But the seventh's not Jack The seventh is Robyn And this is his story When Robyn and his brothers are turned into ravens through the work of an unlucky curse, a sister is their only hope to become human again. Though she's never met her brothers, April will stop at nothing to restore their humanity. But what about Robyn, who always felt a greater affinity to the air than to the earth-bound lives of his family? David Elliott's latest novel in verse explores the unintended consequences of our actions, no matter our intentions, and is filled with powerful messages teased from a Grimms' fairy tale. Stunning black-and-white illustrations throughout by Rovina Cai.

"Sensual and witty... A delicious, dark Gothic treat!" - Eloisa James, New York Times bestselling author A darkly romantic gothic mystery with hidden motives and forbidden love from a New York Times and USA Today bestselling author: HIS TOUCH HOLDS HER CAPTIVE From the ravens circling its spires to the gargoyles adorning its roof, Blackberry Manor looms ominously over its rambling grounds. And behind its doors, amid the flickering shadows and secret passageways, danger lies in wait... TO HIS EVERY DARK DESIRE Evangeline Pemberton has been invited to a party at the sprawling estate of reclusive Gavin Lioncroft, who is rumored to have killed in cold blood. Initially, his towering presence and brusque manner instill fear... until his seductive attentions and unexpected vulnerability conquer her resistance. But when a guest is murdered, Evangeline is torn. Could the man to whom she is so powerfully drawn, also be a ruthless killer?

This is the first book on this fascinating subject since Albert Frey wrote *The Dated European Coinage Prior to 1501* in 1915. Levinson approaches the subject both differently and more thoroughly than Frey. The book focuses on the eight distinct regions in which coins were issued: Germany, Southern Netherlands, Northern Netherlands, Habsburg lands, Switzerland, Scandinavia, Italy, France and organizes the known pre-1501 Anno Domini dated coins chronologically within each region. For the first time, there is for each of the nearly 1200 coins listed (twice as many as in the Frey work), the full legends, descriptions, ruler names, references, weights and rarity. There are nearly 1000 photographs and line drawings, an extraordinary undertaking given the extreme rarity of the majority of the coins. The book is in four parts: the first is a lengthy history of early dated coinage, including discussions of the types, metallurgy, classifications, etc. The second part is the 173 page catalogue of coinage, divided into

the eight regions. The third part is a listing, again by region, of all the states issuing early dated coinage, with a history of each states coinage and a cross-reference to all the coins listed in the catalogue. The fourth part contains eight appendices with alphabetical listings, translations of legends, a photographic glossary of coin types, a listing of early dated coinage using Islamic script, and other useful information. Along with the book, at no additional charge, is a loose-leaf price guide.

Librarian Greer Hogan matches wits with a deviously clever killer in M.E. Hilliard's chilling series debut, ideal for fans of Louise Penny and Dorothy L. Sayers. Greer Hogan is a librarian and an avid reader of murder mysteries. She also has a habit of stumbling upon murdered bodies. The first was her husband's, and the tragic loss led Greer to leave New York behind for a new start in the Village of Raven Hill. But her new home becomes less idyllic when she discovers her best friend sprawled dead on the floor of the library. Was her friend's demise related to two other deaths that the police deemed accidental? Do the residents of this insular village hold dark secrets about another murder, decades ago? Does a serial killer haunt Raven Hill? As the body count rises, Greer's anxious musings take a darker turn when she uncovers unexpected and distressing information about her own husband's death...and the man who went to prison for his murder. She is racked with guilt at the possibility that her testimony may have helped to convict an innocent man. Though Greer admires the masters of deduction she reads about in books, she never expected to have to solve a mystery herself. Fortunately, she possesses a quick wit and a librarian's natural resourcefulness. But will that be enough to protect her from a brilliant, diabolical murderer? And even if Greer manages to catch the Raven Hill killer, will living with her conscience prove a fate worse than death?

I never thought I'd move to New York. I certainly never expected to live in a mansion, rent free, with five super hot roommates. But none of those things surprised me as much as discovering the truth about my destiny, the revelation of the ancient power flowing through my veins and how it changes my life. I am the Raven Queen. Come meet my guardians. This is the complete Raven Queen's Harem a reverse harem paranormal romance series! No wait! It's all here! Dive in today! Raven's Mark Ebony Rising Black Magic Obsidian Fire Onyx Eclipse Midnight's End

Meet the wonderfully weird Otherhand family and their faithful guardian, Edgar the raven, and discover the dark secrets of Castle Otherhand. Edgar is alarmed when he sees a nasty looking black tail slinking under the castle walls. But his warnings to the inhabitants of the castle go unheeded: Lord Valevine Otherhand is too busy trying to invent the unthinkable and discover the unknowable; his wife, Minty, is too absorbed in her latest obsession - baking; and ten-year-old Cudweed is running riot with his infernal pet monkey. Only Solstice, the black-haired, poetry-writing Otherhand daughter, seems to pay any attention. As the lower storeys of the castle begin mysteriously to flood, and kitchen maids continue to go missing, the family come ever closer to the owner of the black tail... Dedicated website on Raven Mysteries: [www.ravenmysteries.co.uk](http://www.ravenmysteries.co.uk)

The Raven's Head by Karen Maitland, author of the bestselling and much-loved Company of Liars, will delight fans of Kate Mosse or Deborah Harkness seeking a new, dark fix. 'A compelling blend of historical grit and supernatural twists' Daily Mail on The Falcons of Fire and Ice Vincent is an apprentice librarian who stumbles upon a secret powerful enough to destroy his master. With the foolish arrogance of youth, he attempts

blackmail but the attempt fails and Vincent finds himself on the run and in possession of an intricately carved silver raven's head. Any attempt to sell the head fails ... until Vincent tries to palm it off on the intimidating Lord Sylvain - unbeknown to Vincent, a powerful Alchemist with an all-consuming quest. Once more Vincent's life is in danger because Sylvain and his neighbours, the menacing White Canons, consider him a predestined sacrifice in their shocking experiment. Chilling and with compelling hints of the supernatural, *The Raven's Head* is a triumph for Karen Maitland, Queen of the Dark Ages.

Brigit returns to her city of birth in search of the only family she has, her grandmother. Of the few memories she has left, little remains in the almost abandoned city of Ballymote. Its streets, houses and forests conceal mysteries which seem to go back in times when, from legends rose something very real, something monstrous. Ancestral confrontations, bitter rivalries and an uncertain future, where Brigit must find all the replies, look into her nightmares and discover the truth in a dark world which is no longer hers and is revealed within the shadows when the ravens warn. "Raquel Villaamil is able to actualize the Irish mythological legends in *The Warning of the Ravens*. The formidable beings and races from the manuscripts of the XI century "The Book of Invasions" have their parallel among the characters of the XXI century which inhabit these pages. A novel of mystery, fantasy and action which secrets plunged into millenary legends and now approach its outcome, where love and its pursuit transversely crossed the argument in order to end in an unexpected conclusion." "A book with gothic tinges and a touch of romanticism which catches you from the first page for its originality, its good narration, because Brigit is a very peculiar heroine and the rhythm is frenetic from the beginning. The warning of the ravens is one of the best Spanish novels of fantasy which I have read recently. If you like this gender, don't miss out on it!"

When eight-year-old Virginia "Sissy" Clemm meets her handsome cousin, Eddy, she sees the perfect husband she's conjured up in childhood games. Thirteen years her elder, he's soft-spoken, brooding, and handsome. Eddy fails his way through West Point and the army yet each time he returns to Baltimore, their friendship grows. As Sissy trains for a musical career, her childhood crush turns to love. When she's thirteen, Eddy proposes. But as their happy life darkens, Sissy endures Poe's abrupt disappearances, self-destructive moods, and alcoholic binges. When she falls ill, his greatest fear— that he'll lose the woman he loves— drives him both madness, and to his greatest literary achievement. Part ghost story, part love story, this provocative novel explores the mysterious, shocking relationship between Edgar Allan Poe and young Sissy Clemm, his cousin, muse and great love. Lenore Hart, author of *Becky*, imagines the beating heart of the woman who inspired American literature's most demonized literary figure— and who ultimately destroyed him.

In this acclaimed, classic Gothic romance by bestselling author Dorothy Eden, a woman falls in love with the nobleman who rescues her from a life on the streets .

. . only to find herself in deadly danger at his haunted country estate Orphaned and cast adrift in the world, young sisters Bella and Lally McBride travel to London—only to fall victim to criminals who traffic in human flesh. Rescued by an aristocratic stranger, Bella soon finds herself mistress of a sprawling country estate plagued by the ghost of her new husband's dead first wife. With his first wife gone, Guy Raven needs an heir. And when scandal threatens to destroy his political ambitions, he finds the perfect solution. But marriage to the bold, outspoken Bella is not what he imagined. She arouses a passion that the grieving widower is determined to resist. But danger has followed Bella and Lally to Ravenscroft. As a cloud of revenge and murder descends upon his wife, Guy will risk everything to once again save the woman he swore never to love.

A wickedly funny collection of personal essays from popular NPR personality Sarah Vowell. Hailed by Newsweek as a "cranky stylist with talent to burn," Vowell has an irresistible voice -- caustic and sympathetic, insightful and double-edged -- that has attracted a loyal following for her magazine writing and radio monologues on This American Life. While tackling subjects such as identity, politics, religion, art, and history, these autobiographical tales are written with a biting humor, placing Vowell solidly in the tradition of Mark Twain and Dorothy Parker. Vowell searches the streets of Hoboken for traces of the town's favorite son, Frank Sinatra. She goes under cover of heavy makeup in an investigation of goth culture, blasts cannonballs into a hillside on a father-daughter outing, and maps her family's haunted history on a road trip down the Trail of Tears. Take the Cannoli is an eclectic tour of the New World, a collection of alternately hilarious and heartbreaking essays and autobiographical yarns.

Teen schoolgirl Anne unexpectedly inherits a mysterious locket and a crumbling English mansion estate from her long-lost aunt. She unearths the family secret that she's part of a magical legacy that gives her fantastic abilities, and she isn't the only girl whose family is involved. But not all the girls are so willing to use their new powers for good... From the writers of Albion and Wild Girl and the artist of Atomic Sheep comes this original graphic novel perfect for tween, teen, and adult fans of fantasy and superheroes alike!

In this extraordinary novel, Karen Maitland delivers a dazzling reinterpretation of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales—an ingenious alchemy of history, mystery, and powerful human drama. The year is 1348. The Black Plague grips the country. In a world ruled by faith and fear, nine desperate strangers, brought together by chance, attempt to outrun the certain death that is running inexorably toward them. Each member of this motley company has a story to tell. From Camelot, the relic-seller who will become the group's leader, to Cygnus, the one-armed storyteller . . . from the strange, silent child called Narigorm to a painter and his pregnant wife, each has a secret. None is what they seem. And one among them conceals the darkest secret of all—propelling these liars to a destiny they never saw coming. Magical, heart-quickenning, and raw, Company of Liars is a work of vaulting imagination from a powerful new voice in historical fiction. Praise for

Company of Liars “[Maitland] brings to life a medieval England of muddy streets and half-naked children fighting each other for pieces of dog dung to sell to the tanners, as sheep-stealers swing purple-faced from the gallows. . . . She neatly catches the spirit of primitive superstition that governed every aspect of 14th century life and then rolls on with it for her own story-telling ends. . . . Company of Liars is a richly evocative page-turner which brings to life a lost and terrible period of British history, with a disturbing final twist worthy of a master of the spine-tingler, such as Henry James.”—Daily Express (UK) “Transports readers back to the days of the Black Death . . . Paying homage to The Decameron and The Canterbury Tales, this is a gripping read. . . . As a reader you are taken as close to the plague as you would ever wish to go.”—Bookseller

[Copyright: cd3343f7f3a4bc871d75ddecf1dfc207](https://www.amazon.com/Company-Liars-Maitland/dp/0007112000)