

Sordid: A Novel

Jan believed she was 'in love'. She accepted a proposal of marriage, and then sent money to a professional scammer. Jan is one of the rare few survivors of a romance scam who has the courage to speak up, and she does - loudly, eloquently and frequently telling the whole sordid story. You might think it can't happen to you, but can you be sure?

"It is the Georgian heritage that most strongly defines Ireland's capital city. ... Phenomenal population growth was forced on a place where local government, the workshops and the streets themselves had changed little since medieval times. In the course of the century the number of Dubliners trebled and the city was quite unprepared for the urgent challenge of feeding and housing so many people. In addition, Dublin's role as the bastion of an English colony was transformed into that of the Irish capital. This book explains how Dublin's adjustment to the new reality gave rise to widespread civil unrest and how the official reaction to the turmoil took on aspects of a crusade. Most of these responses failed and, in reality, there were periods when the city was running out of control."-

Founded by a small band of religious freedom seekers in 1639, Newport, Rhode Island, subsequently became a bustling colonial seaport teeming with artists, sailors, prosperous merchants and, perhaps most distinctively, the ultra-rich families of the Gilded Age. Clinging to the lavish coattails of these newly minted millionaires and robber barons was a stream of con artists and hangers-on who attempted to leech off their well-to-do neighbors. From the Vanderbilts to the Dukes, the Astors to the Kennedys, the City by the Sea has served as a sanctuary for the elite, and a hotbed of corruption.

Local historian Larry Stanford pulls back the curtain on over 350 years of history, uncovering the real stories behind many of Newport's most enduring mysteries, controversial characters and scintillating scandals. Best Book of Fall (Esquire) and a Most Anticipated Book of 2021 (Lit Hub) What Has Happened to Fiction in the Age of Platform Capitalism? Since it was first launched in 1994, Amazon has changed the world of literature. The "Everything Store" has not just transformed how we buy books; it has affected what we buy, and even what we read. In Everything and Less, acclaimed critic Mark McGurl explores this new world where writing is no longer categorized as high or lowbrow, literature or popular fiction. Charting a course spanning from Henry James to E. L. James, McGurl shows that contemporary writing has less to do with writing per se than with the manner of its distribution. This consumerist logic!ll you like this, you might also like...lhas reorganized the fiction universe so that literary prize-winners sit alongside fantasy, romance, fan fiction, and the infinite list of hybrid genres and self-published works. This is an innovation to be cautiously celebrated. Amazon's platform is not just a retail juggernaut but an aesthetic experiment driven by an unseen algorithm rivaling in the depths of its effects any major cultural shift in history.

Here all fiction is genre fiction, and the niches range from the categories of crime and science fiction to the more refined interests of Adult Baby Diaper Lover erotica. Everything and Less is a hilarious and insightful map of both the commanding heights and sordid depths of fiction, past and present, that opens up an arresting conversation about why it is we read and write fiction in the first place.

The Whole Sordid Story

Lady Caroline Lamb

Sordid Story

The Bone Readers

Shortlisted for the Booker Prize 2021 and the Women's Prize for Fiction 2021

The Preacher and the Prelate

A Whole Bag of Crazy

It took me years to find the courage to speak to Luka. He seemed exactly like me. Intelligent. Focused. Serious. But he's not the man I imagined. His reality is cruel and dark. He traps me in his web, his power twisting tighter the more I struggle, until it's hopeless. I can't break free. As he drags me unwillingly into his filthy world, I can't ignore the terrifying idea circling my mind. What if I belong here with him?

'A masterpiece' Guardian 'I really admire and love this book' Sally Rooney 'An intellectual and emotional rollercoaster' Daily Mail 'I can't remember the last time I laughed so much reading a book' David Sedaris 'It moved me to tears' Elizabeth Day **THE ONLY BOOK SHORTLISTED FOR BOTH THE BOOKER PRIZE AND THE WOMEN'S PRIZE FOR FICTION 2021** _____ This is a story about a life lived in two halves. It's about what happens when real life collides with the increasing absurdity of a world accessed through a screen. It's about living in world that contains both an abundance of proof that there is goodness, empathy, and justice in the universe, and a deluge of evidence to the contrary. It's a meditation on love, language and human connection from one of the most original voices of our time.

_____ 'An utterly distinctive mixture of depth, dazzling linguistic richness, anarchic wit and raw emotional candour' Rowan Williams **A 2021 Book of the Year: Sunday Times, Guardian, Daily Mail, Telegraph, Evening Standard, The Times, New Statesman, Red, Observer, Independent, Daily Telegraph**

Sordid Holiday: How My Stalker Almost Stole Christmas This is the second installment to Sordid Details: Unprofessional Pursuit Scarlet Walsh finds herself in trouble again while attempting to enjoy the holidays with her new boyfriend and hero, Rusty Blake. After a scandalous end to Scarlet's murder trial, her stalker, the sexy prosecuting attorney Bruce Fowler, continues his pursuit of her into the pristine ski village of Winter's Keep. Scarlet and Rusty are both caught off guard by the depths of Bruce's obsessive and destructive behavior. Will Rusty play the hero again, or will Scarlet find herself backed against a mirror? The action gets hot enough to melt the snow in this holiday-themed erotic thriller!

The incredible "glowing" history of the "Devil's element "phosphorus Discovered by alchemists, prescribed by apothecaries, exploited by ninth-century industrialists, and abused by twentieth-century combatants, the chemical element phosphorus has fascinated us for more than three centuries. It may even be the cause of will-o'-the wisps and spontaneous human combustion! Now John Emsley has written an enthralling account of this eerily luminescent element. Shining with wonderful nuggets—from murders-by-phosphorus to a match factory strike; from the firebombing of Hamburg to the deadly compounds derived from phosphorus today—The 13th Element weaves together a rich tableau of brilliant and oddball characters, social upheavals, and bizarre events.

A History of Money and Power at the Vatican

Everything and Less

The Inside Story of a Sordid Career

The 13th Element

A Play in One Act

Growing Up, Coming Out, and Finding My Place (A Transgender Memoir)

Sordid Stories from the City by the Sea

A black comedy about white trash! The author of Daddy's Dyni' (Who's Got the Will?) brings you a comedy that was nominated for over thirty awards during its long run in Los Angeles. When Peggy, a good Christian woman, hits her head on the sink and bleeds to death after tripping over her lover's wooden legs in a motel room, chaos erupts in Winters, Texas.

Revealing a history of mysterious deaths, shady characters, and moral and political tensions, exposes the inner workings of the Catholic Church to trace how the Vatican evolved from an institution of faith into an extremely wealthy corporate power--Publisher's description

This is the extraordinary story of an audacious fight for souls on famine-ravaged Achill Island in the nineteenth century. Religious ferment swept Ireland in the early 1800s and evangelical Protestant clergyman Edward Nangle set out to lift the destitute people of Achill out of degradation and idolatry through his Achill Mission Colony. The fury of the island elements, the devastation of famine, and Nangle 's own volatile temperament all threatened the project 's survival. In the years of the Great Famine the ugly charge of 'souperism' - offering food and material benefits in return for religious conversion, tainted the Achill Mission 's work. John MacHale, powerful Archbishop of Tuam, spearheaded the Catholic Church 's fightback against Nangle 's Protestant colony, with the two clergymen unleashing fierce passions while spewing vitriol and polemic from pen and pulpit. Did Edward Nangle and the Achill Mission Colony save hundreds from certain death, or did they shamefully exploit a vulnerable people for religious conversion? This dramatic tale of the Achill Mission Colony exposes the fault-lines of religion, society and politics in nineteenth century Ireland, and continues to excite controversy and division to this day.

'Purgatory is rarely this much fun.' - Financial Times From The Modern Master of Noir comes a novel about the malevolent monarch of the 1950s Hollywood underground - a tale of pervasive paranoia teeming with communist conspiracies, FBI finks, celebrity smut films and strange bedfellows. Freddy Otash is the man in the know and the man to know in '50s LA. He operates with two simple rules - he'll do anything but commit murder and he'll never work with the commies. Freddy is an ex-L.A. cop on the skids. He snuffed a cop killer in cold blood - and it got to him bad. So Chief William H. Parker canned him. Now he's a sleazoid private eye, a shakedown artist, a pimp - and, most notably, the head strengarm goon for Confidential magazine. Confidential presaged the idiot internet - and delivered the dirt, the dish, the insidious ink and the scurrilous skank on the feckless foibles of misanthropic movie stars, sex-soiled socialites and potzo politicians. Freaky Freddy outs them all! In Widespread Panic, we traverse the depths of '50s LA. and dig on the inner workings of Confidential. You'll go to Burt Lancaster's lushly appointed torture den, you'll groove overhyped legend James Dean as Freddy's chief stooge; you'll be there for Freddy's ring-ding rendezvous with Liz Taylor; you'll be front and centre as Freddy anoints himself the Tattle Tyrant Who Held Hollywood Hostage.

A Comedy in Four Chapters

The Hollywood Book of Death

The Secret, Sexy, Sometimes Sordid World of Fashion Photographers

Focus

Sordid Lives

Sordid Holiday

Sordid Details

An exploration of Lord Byron's most infamous lover identifies the childhood traumas that prompted her sexual recklessness, drug abuse, and mental instability; discussing her roles as a loving mother to a disabled son, literary friendships with fellow writers, and relationships with husband William Lam and publisher John Murray. 15,000 first printing.

'Sordid Truths' chronicles the author's ascent from being just another broke college boy to becoming an internationally renowned adult-film superstar.

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER • The knockdown, drag-out, untold story of the other scandal that rocked Nixon's White House, and reset the rules for crooked presidents to come—​with new reporting that expands on Rachel Maddow's Peabody Award–nominated podcast "Both a thriller and a history book, Bag Man is a triumph of storytelling."—​Preet Bharara, New York Times bestselling author of Doing Justice and host of the podcast Stay Tuned with Preet Is it possible for a sitting vice president to direct a vast criminal enterprise within the halls of the White House? To have one of the most brazen corruption scandals in American history play out while nobody's paying attention? And for that scandal to be all but forgotten decades later? The year was 1973, and Spiro T. Agnew, the former governor of Maryland, was Richard Nixon's second-in-command. Long on firebrand rhetoric and short on political experience, Agnew had carried out a bribery and extortion ring in office for years, when—at the height of Watergate—​three young federal prosecutors discovered his crimes and launched a mission to take him down before it was too late, before Nixon's impending downfall elevated Agnew to the presidency. The self-described "counterpuncher" vice president did everything he could to bury their investigation: dismissing it as a "witch hunt," riling up his partisan base, making the press the enemy, and, with a crumbling circle of loyalists, scheming to obstruct justice in order to survive. In this blockbuster account, Rachel Maddow and Michael Yarvitz detail the investigation that exposed Agnew's crimes, the attempts at a cover-up—which involved future president George H. W. Bush—and the backroom bargain that forced Agnew's resignation but also spared him years in federal prison. Based on the award-winning hit podcast, Bag Man expands and deepens the story of Spiro Agnew's scandal and its lasting influence on our politics, our media, and our understanding of what it takes to confront a criminal in the White House.

Coming to prominence with the nineteenth-century novel, literary realism has most often been associated with the insistence that art cannot turn away from the more sordid and harsh aspects of human existence. However, because realism is unavoidably tied up with the gnarly concept of 'reality' and 'the real', it has been one of the most widely debated terms in the New Critical Idiom series. This volume offers a clear, reader-friendly guide to debates around realism, examining: "Ideas of realism in nineteenth-century French and British fiction "the twentieth-century formalist reaction against literature's status as "truth" "realism as a democratic tool, or utopian form. This volume is vital reading for any student of literature, in particular those working on the realist novel.

Bushgate

The Bizarre. Often Sordid, Passings of More than 125 American Movie and TV Idols

The Sordid Tale of Murder, Fire, and Phosphorus

Animal

Sordid

Freddy Otash Confesses

Destroy

My entire life fell apart once. It took everything I had to pull it back together and drag myself out of the darkness. This stranger who bought my art was supposed to be my hero, but instead he's the villain. He threatens to destroy all I've worked for—my sculpture, my rebuilt reputation, my life. All I have is my art, and I'll do anything to save it from his predatory hands. Even if it means offering myself instead.

A dark erotic romance from a USA Today bestselling author

New York in the 1940s. In the expensive jewellery store, Tiffany's, Holly Golithly feels calm and safe. In her apartment every night is party night. Men come and go. But Holly is searching for her place in the world. Can any of these men offer her happiness?

After standing witness to a murder on the streets of the Caribbean island of Camello, young Michael 'Digger' Digson is recruited into a unique plain clothes homicide squad, an eclectic group of semi-official police officers, led by the enigmatic DS Chilman. Digger becomes enmeshed in Chilman's obsession with a cold case, the disappearance of a young man. But Digger has a murder to pursue too: that of his mother, killed by a renegade police squad when he was a boy. He has two weapons at his disposal his skill in forensics, and Chilman's latest recruit, the mysterious, observant Miss Stanklaus. Together, the two find themselves dragged into a world of dangerous secrets that demands every ounce of their courage to survive.

Romance Scam Survivor

God's Bankers

Realism

The Achill Mission Colony and the Battle for Souls in Famine Ireland

The Reef

The Forces That Shaped the City

Selling My Innocence for a Taste of Stardom

It was his lips. The way his stare sent shivers down my spine. The way his rough voice whispered my name. So I caved. I did what I knew I shouldn't. But as quickly as he's there, he's gone. Leaving me confused. Devastated. I hope I'll never see him again... Then I do. He's my new boss. And he has secrets.

SordidA NovelSordidNikki Sloane

An unflinching and endearing memoir from LGBTQ+ advocate Jackson Bird about how, through a childhood of gender mishaps and an awkward adolescence, he finally sorted things out and came out as a transgender man in his mid-twenties. When Jackson Bird was twenty-five, he came out as a transgender to his friends, family, and anyone in the world with an internet connection. Assigned female at birth and raised as a girl, he often wondered if he should have been born a boy. Jackson didn't share his thought with anyone because he didn't think he could share it with anyone. Growing up in Texas in the 1980s, he had no transgender role models. He barely remembers meeting anyone who was openly gay, let alone being taught that transgender people existed outside of punchlines. In this "soulful and heartfelt coming-of-age story" (Jamia Wilson, director and publisher of the Feminist Press), Jackson chronicles the ups and downs of growing up gender confused. Illuminated by journal entries spanning childhood to adolescence to today, he candidly recalls the challenges and loneliness he endured as he came to terms with both his gender and his bisexual identity. With warmth and wit, Jackson also recounts how he navigated the many obstacles and quirks of his transition—like figuring out how to have a chest binder delivered to his NYU dorm room and having an emotional breakdown at a Harry Potter fan convention. From his first shot of testosterone to his eventual top surgery, Jackson lets you in on every part of his journey—taking the time to explain trans terminology and little-known facts about gender and identity along the way. "A compassionate, tender-hearted, and accessible book for anyone who might need a hand to hold as they walk through their own transition or the transition of a loved one" (Austin Chant, author of Peter Darling), Sorted demonstrates the power and beauty in being yourself, even when you're not sure who "yourself" is.

"I am known as 42nd Street Pete, a character that I created as a living reminder of that lost decade, the '70s. I was one of a million nameless, faceless kids with no direction and no future. We all had the ugly specter of the Vietnam War hanging like a sword over our heads. We weren't college material; we were clerks, gas station attendants, custodians, the like. Pretty much cannon fodder for the front lines. Most of us knew that we stood a good chance of being drafted and coming back in a bag, so we lost ourselves in the explosion of drugs, alcohol, sex, violence, and music that were the '70s." Hustler, pot fiend, porn expert.Take a walk down a dark alley with 42nd Street Pete as he recounts his tales growing up on "The Deuce." Criminal activity, classic undesirable cinema, pot, booze, pros, cons. The '70s: uncut, uncensored. If you really remember the '70s, you were lucky to have survived them.

A Sordid Series Novella

Sorted

The Sordid Promise

Sordid Truths

House of Names

Book 1

Kurt Janisch is an ambitious, but frustrated country policeman. Things are not going right in his life - at least not fast enough. But a country policeman gets talking to a lot of people in the line of duty - particularly women. Lonely, middle-aged women, women with a bit of property perhaps... Matters go from bad to worse: for Kurt Janisch, for the women who fall for him. Someone sees too much, knows too much. Soon there's a body in a lake and a murderer to be caught. A thriller set amid the mountains and small towns of southern Austria, Greed is Elfriede Jelinek's most accessible novel since The Piano Teacher. But as always Jelinek gives the reader a lot more to think about: the ecological costs of affluence, the inescapable burden and inadequacy of our everyday words, the exploitative nature of relations between men and women, the impossibility of life without relationships. A meditative reflection on ageing, Greed is another chapter in Jelinek's chronicle of her love/hate relationship with Austria.

When Greg's wife returns to the small tourist town of her early adulthood, she begins to behave strangely: dressing down, wearing her hair in a bun, avoiding all the local businesses. His suspicions are fueled when he goes to the town watering hole himself and meets some of the town's denizens. When he explains what has brought him to Walla Beach, the characters in the bar seem to think his wife Beth is a woman named Liza - and Liza had quite a reputation. When a mysterious envelope - containing only a USB key and a dozen video files - arrives at their doorstep, Greg opens a Pandora's box: he has a cameraman's view into his wife's past, in all of its sordid details. It's a conundrum, because whoever left this footage left no explanation and no demand, leaving Greg to navigate the collision of the past and present, with the future on the line. This is a full-length, stand-alone novel, with plenty of details about a wild past, and a couple's journey into hotwifing in the present. Enjoy!

Discover the tantalizing details of Hollywood's famous and infamous fatalities The death of a celebrity is often as fascinating as--and sometimes more fascinating than--a star's actual life. From the grisly end of Sharon Tate at the hands of the Manson family and the mysterious demise of Bob Crane to the peaceful passings of Lucille Ball and George Burns, The Hollywood Book of Death is a captivating and appealingly packaged volume of more than 125 television and movie stars' final curtain calls. Arranged by manner of death, these well-researched accounts include details of celebrities' colorful lives and unusual deaths, their funerals, and the intriguing aftermath. With more than 100 rare photographs and a special "necrology" index of more than 6,000 stars and directors, along with a section revealing where Hollywood personalities are resting in eternal sleep, this enthralling reference promises to be on every film and television buff's "Top 10" gift list.

Vasilije Markovic is the prince of the Serbian mafia and one of the most powerful men in Chicago. His smile may be razor sharp, but he's crueller than the devil. I'm playing a dangerous game and betting my life I'm going to win. I pretend to be his pawn. I do as he says and move where he tells me, letting him think he's in control as I position myself for revenge. Every turn brings us closer. His grin doesn't seem as evil when we're alone. Behind closed doors, I welcome his unrelenting and vicious personality. He's confessed all his secrets, but I'm holding one back and it's a game changer. If I survive the board, this pawn turns into a queen. I become the most powerful player and send all the other pieces running. To get what I want, I must make sacrifices, but am I willing to draw the line at him?

Georgian Dublin

Wicked Newport

Bag Man

Nada

A Novel

His Fault Or Hers? A Sordid Story

Breakfast at Tiffany's

Fashion photographers sold not only clothes but ideals of beauty and visions of perfect lives. Gross provides a rollicking account of fashion photography's golden age—the wild genius, ego, passion, and antics of the men (and a few women) behind the camera, from the postwar covers of Vogue to the triumph of the digital image. He takes you behind the scene of revolutionary creative processes—and the private passions—of these visionary magicians.

Amy is a successful businesswoman who has it all, the doting husband, the house, and high powered job. Secretly she craves more and under the guise of a girls holiday, she heads off to a secret location Manor where fantasies are made reality. When her path collides with the Lady Athena, she realises that she is getting in too deep. Will Amy's reckless behaviour destroy everything she holds dear?

Eighteen-year old orphan Andrea moves to battle-scarred Barcelona to take up a scholarship at the university. But staying with relatives in their crumbling apartment, her dreams of independence are dashed among the eccentric collection of misfits who surround her, not least her uncle Roman. As Andrea's university friend, the affluent, elegant Ena, enters into a strange relationship with Roman, Andrea can't help but wonder what future lies ahead for her in such a bizarre and disturbing world. Translated by Edith Grossman

'One of the great classics of contemporary European literature' Carlos Ruiz Zafon

Though best remembered for her novels The Age of Innocence and The House of Mirth, Edith Wharton's 1912 novel The Reef ranks among her most critically acclaimed works. The book offers a piercingly insightful look into a complicated family dynamic that stems from the intertwined relationships of several generations of star-crossed lovers.

The Parcel

No One Is Talking About This

Sordid Secrets By Kaz B

The Wild Crimes, Audacious Cover-Up, and Spectacular Downfall of a Brazen Crook in the White House

A Biography

Greed

Torrid

"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."--

***Warning: Contains graphic language, frequent graphic sex, violence, and very dark themes.When physical pain allows you to escape your reality; what do you when the pain is no longer strong enough to quiet the emotional ache?Diouana "Nikki" returned to her hometown six months ago to tend to her sick mother. She thought she'd left her "baggage" behind her on the opposite coast, only to find that it never left her side. As her self-destructive thoughts begin to consume her, her mother -- realizing Nikki's torment -- pushes Nikki to complete her last wishes.Eric Brenton, Nikki's new neighbor, lives in a dark, chaotic world that is easily hidden behind his model good looks and cocky demeanor. Unapologetic about his dirtier intentions, he sets his sights on Nikki with an offer to help her. But his help comes with very unorthodox conditions and a huge price.And Eric...comes with an extensive black box warning label.

A life told in one book. What am I writing for? Dear reader, I need to vent, the thoughts flow in a raw way, with no time for embellishments, and no filter for the sordid details. I need to warn you that my story will start innocently. However, do not fool yourself: it'll get worse every chapter, and so, there will be certainly many sordid details. I anticipate that: "In the controversial search for success, I draw my failure reaching for victories". Confusing, right? Accept to know me and you will understand!

A retelling of the Greek myth of Agamemnon, Clytemnestra, and their children: Iphigenia, Electra, and Orestes.

The Novel in the Age of Amazon

Widespread Panic

Sordid Tales of Hookers, Weed, and Grindhouse Movies

How My Stalker Almost Stole Christmas

A Sordid Past

'There is a term for me in almost every Indian language. I am reviled and revered, deemed to have been blessed, and cursed, with sacred powers.' In the swollen and crumbling red-light district of Kamathipura, at the heart of Bombay, Madhu is given a difficult and potentially lucrative task by her housemother — to prepare a newly arrived 'parcel' for its opening. Madhu's home is Hijra House, one of the last bastions in the land war slowly consuming the area, as property developers vie for land, desperate to make way for their empty grey monoliths. It is here that 'hijras' — eunuchs, people of the third sex, 'neither here nor there' — ply their trade. Now forty and with her looks and spirit waning, Madhu struggles with the task she has been given, confronted by memories of her past, of how she was rejected by her family — and by how she longs, secretly, to go back to them. Everything is dissolving within and around her. Then, as the land war comes to a head, and with her housemother coming under pressure by the hijra elders to sell their home, Madhu realises she must do something to save herself. The Parcel is the masterful new novel from acclaimed author Anosh Irani, and is a savage and beautifully rendered story about community, belonging, and the cheapness of human life.