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The Flowers of Evil

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Happiness 2

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A beautiful collection of poems written by the 19th century French poet Charles Baudelaire, attentively and eloquently translated by the translator and poet Rory Melough. Published in Belgium in 1866, the collection contains 6 poems which originally appeared in the first edition of "Fleurs du Mal" in 1857, but were subsequently condemned for obscenity. As well as featuring Baudelaire's more scandalous and notorious poetry, the collection also features some of his more unconventional and avant-garde work, ultimately representing a frank and enlightening portrait of one of the most fascinating artists of the 19th century. This is a loyal and yet lyrical translation of a hugely enchanting collection of poetry, bringing Baudelaire to life for the modern age. A must for any students of French literature or poetry in general. "An exquisite translation with great care taken for the source poetry. Sensibility and mood captured, transcending mere word choice and bringing distance shores of verse intimately near." - Rob Bruce, journalist and poet.

Basilius Besler's Florilegium. the Book of Plants

A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER NAMED A BEST BOOK OF THE YEAR BY NPR Amy Poehler, Mel Brooks, Adam McKay, George Saunders, Bill Hader, Patton Oswalt, and many more take us deep inside the mysterious world of comedy in this fascinating, laugh-out-loud-funny book. Packed with behind-the-scenes stories—from a day in the writers' room at The Onion to why a sketch does or doesn't make it onto Saturday Night Live to how the BBC nearly erased the entire first season of Monty Python's Flying Circus—Poking a Dead Frog is a must-read for comedy buffs, writers and pop culture junkies alike. From the Trade Paperback

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edition.

Mistress of Mistresses

A supernatural story of sexual awakening, growing up, and suburban vampirism, Happiness follows a dorky boy who is attacked by a girl in an alley. She sucks his blood and gives him a choice: life or death. He chooses life, but finds himself nearly overwhelmed by a new thirst and a fascination with the necks of his classmates...

Blood on the Tracks, volume 1

In 367 exquisite plates, this treasure of botanical literature records the flowers of the palatial grounds at Eichstätt, Bavaria, once some of the most beautiful gardens in history. The illustrations are organized by season and, following the classification system used today, show plants belonging to a total of 90 families and covering 340 genera.

Introduction to French Poetry

From the creator who brought you notable works such as The Flowers of Evil, Happiness, and Inside Mari, comes a new suspense drama centering on the theme of a toxic parent. Dive into this latest thriller by master storyteller, Shuzo Oshimi. Seiichi's mother loves him very much,

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and his days pass with placid regularity. School, friends, even the attention of his attractive classmate Fukiishi. Until one terrible summer day, that all changes Shuzo Oshimi (The Flowers of Evil) delivers his most unsettling work yet, the tale of a seemingly normal family suddenly swallowed up by the creeping horror of everyday life. Gorgeous art and an understated script only serve to heighten the tension as we watch Seiichi Osabe's life spiral into nightmare.

Flowers In The Attic

Flowers of Evil and Other Works

Charles Baudelaire's place among the great poets of the Western world is undisputed, and his influence on the development of poetry since his lifetime has been enormous. In this Companion, essays by outstanding scholars illuminate Baudelaire's writing both for the lay reader and for specialists. In addition to a survey of his life and a study of his social context, the volume includes essays on his verse and prose, analyzing the extraordinary power and effectiveness of his language and style, his exploration of intoxicants like wine and opium, and his art and literary criticism. The volume also discusses the difficulties, successes and failures of translating his poetry and his continuing power to move his readers. Featuring a guide to further reading and a chronology, this Companion provides students and scholars of Baudelaire and of nineteenth-century French and European literature with a comprehensive

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and stimulating overview of this extraordinary poet.

The Flowers of Evil - Complete

On the heels of the successful Lifetime TV version of *Flowers in the Attic* comes the TV movie tie-in edition of *Petals On the Wind*, the second book in the captivating Dollanganger saga. Forbidden love comes into full bloom. For three years they were kept hidden in the eaves of Foxworth Hall, their existence all but denied by a mother who schemed to inherit a fortune. For three years their fate was in the hands of their righteous, merciless grandmother. They had to stay strong but in their hopeless world, Cathy and her brother Christopher discovered blossoming desires that tumbled into a powerful obsession. Now, with their frail sister Carrie, they have broken free and scraped enough together for three bus tickets and a chance at a new life. The horrors of the attic are behind them but they will carry its legacy of dark secrets forever.

Kensy and Max: Spy Games

Works by Villon, Ronsard, Voltaire, Mallarmé, Verlaine, Rimbaud, Apollinaire, many more. Full French texts with literal English translations on facing pages. Biographical, critical information on each poet. Introduction. 31 black-and-white illustrations.

The Flowers of Evil - Complete, 2

A choose-your-own-path adaptation of Shakespeare's classic imagines riotous "what if" scenarios, inviting readers to explore the alternate stories of the star-crossed lovers as they fall for other partners, pursue unconventional interests and team up to take over Verona in robot suits.

Poking a Dead Frog

Sons and Lovers, a story of working-class England, is D. H. Lawrence's third novel. It went through various drafts, and was titled "Paul Morel" until the final draft, before being published and met with an indifferent reaction from contemporary critics. Modern critics now consider it to be D. H. Lawrence's masterpiece, with the Modern Library placing it ninth in its "100 Best English-Language Novels of the 20th Century." The novel follows the Morels, a family living in a coal town, and headed by a passionate but boorish miner. His wife, originally from a refined family, is dragged down by Morel's classlessness, and finds her life's joy in her children. As the children grow up and start leading lives of their own, they struggle against their mother's emotional drain on them. Sons and Lovers was written during a period in Lawrence's life when his own mother was gravely ill. Its exploration of the Oedipal instinct, frank depiction of working-class household unhappiness and violence, and accurate and colorful depiction of Nottinghamshire dialect, make it a fascinating window into the life of people not often

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chronicled in fiction of the day. This book is part of the Standard Ebooks project, which produces free public domain ebooks.

The King in Yellow

The 10th-anniversary edition of the No. 1 international bestseller and modern classic beloved by millions of readers **HERE IS A SMALL FACT - YOU ARE GOING TO DIE 1939**. Nazi Germany. The country is holding its breath. Death has never been busier. Liesel, a nine-year-old girl, is living with a foster family on Himmel Street. Her parents have been taken away to a concentration camp. Liesel steals books. This is her story and the story of the inhabitants of her street when the bombs begin to fall. **SOME IMPORTANT INFORMATION - THIS NOVEL IS NARRATED BY DEATH** The 10th-anniversary edition features pages of bonus content, including marked-up manuscript pages, original sketches, and pages from the author's writing notebook.

Revisiting Inspiration

Over 50 Scandalous Poems Relating to Decadence and Eroticism. Poetry - Decadence and Eroticism. The Flowers of Evil. Les Fleurs du mal. Charles Baudelaire. Translated into English Verse by Cyril Scott **FULL ENGLISH TRANSLATION - COMPLETE** Les Fleurs du mal (English: The Flowers of Evil) is a volume of French poetry by Charles Baudelaire. First

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published in 1857 (see 1857 in poetry), it was important in the symbolist and modernist movements. The poems deal with themes relating to decadence and eroticism. The author and the publisher were prosecuted under the regime of the Second Empire as an outrage aux bonnes m urs ("an insult to public decency"). As a consequence of this prosecution, Baudelaire was fined 300 francs. Six poems from the work were suppressed and the ban on their publication was not lifted in France until 1949. These poems were "Lesbos"; "Femmes damnees (A la pale clarte)" (or "Women Doomed (In the pale glimmer)"); "Le Lethe" (or "Lethe"); "A celle qui est trop gaie" (or "To Her Who Is Too Gay"); "Les Bijoux" (or "The Jewels"); and " Les "Metamorphoses du Vampire" (or "The Vampire's Metamorphoses"). These were later published in Brussels in a small volume entitled Les Epaves (Scraps or Jetsam)."

Drifting Net Cafe

Toward the end of the year 1920 the Government of the United States had practically completed the programme, adopted during the last months of President Winthrop's administration. The country was apparently tranquil. Everybody knows how the Tariff and Labour questions were settled. The war with Germany, incident on that country's seizure of the Samoan Islands, had left no visible scars upon the republic, and the temporary occupation of Norfolk by the invading army had been forgotten in the joy over repeated naval victories, and the subsequent ridiculous plight of General Von Gartenlaube's forces in the State of New Jersey. The Cuban and Hawaiian investments had paid one hundred per cent and the territory

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of Samoa was well worth its cost as a coaling station. The country was in a superb state of defence. Every coast city had been well supplied with land fortifications; the army under the parental eye of the General Staff, organized according to the Prussian system, had been increased to 300,000 men, with a territorial reserve of a million; and six magnificent squadrons of cruisers and battle-ships patrolled the six stations of the navigable seas, leaving a steam reserve amply fitted to control home waters. The gentlemen from the West had at last been constrained to acknowledge that a college for the training of diplomats was as necessary as law schools are for the training of barristers; consequently we were no longer represented abroad by incompetent patriots. The nation was prosperous; Chicago, for a moment paralyzed after a second great fire, had risen from its ruins, white and imperial, and more beautiful than the white city which had been built for its plaything in 1893. Everywhere good architecture was replacing bad, and even in New York, a sudden craving for decency had swept away a great portion of the existing horrors. Streets had been widened, properly paved and lighted, trees had been planted, squares laid out, elevated structures demolished and underground roads built to replace them. The new government buildings and barracks were fine bits of architecture, and the long system of stone quays which completely surrounded the island had been turned into parks which proved a god-send to the population. The subsidizing of the state theatre and state opera brought its own reward. The United States National Academy of Design was much like European institutions of the same kind. Nobody envied the Secretary of Fine Arts, either his cabinet position or his portfolio. The Secretary of Forestry and Game Preservation had a much easier time, thanks to the new system of National Mounted Police. We had profited well by the latest treaties with France and England; the exclusion of foreign-

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born Jews as a measure of self-preservation, the settlement of the new independent negro state of Suanee, the checking of immigration, the new laws concerning naturalization, and the gradual centralization of power in the executive all contributed to national calm and prosperity. When the Government solved the Indian problem and squadrons of Indian cavalry scouts in native costume were substituted for the pitiable organizations tacked on to the tail of skeletonized regiments by a former Secretary of War, the nation drew a long sigh of relief. When, after the colossal Congress of Religions, bigotry and intolerance were laid in their graves and kindness and charity began to draw warring sects together, many thought the millennium had arrived, at least in the new world which after all is a world by itself.

Poems of Baudelaire

The annual Pharos Trainee Spy Games competition is being held at Alexandria and Kensy and Max can't wait to participate – and win! The challenges include an obstacle course, driving races, extreme parkour, coding and the big one – a treasure hunt, full of danger and intrigue. The prizes for the games are legendary, and with only one champion, the twins are forced to go head to head. When the stakes are raised with news of a saboteur in their midst, Kensy and Max must put all their spy skills to the test. Who is the double agent? And which of the trainee spies has what it takes to emerge victorious?

THE POEM OF HASHISH

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The Poem of Hashish (1821) by Charles Pierre Baudelaire was first published in 1850. This is the Aleister Crowley translation of 1895. Charles Baudelaire was an early precursor to the French symbolist movement of the late nineteenth century. The literary movement was a reaction to realism and placed a lot of emphasis on the power of dreams and the imagination as tools for communicating ideals through symbols. Synaesthesia was one the great tools of the symbolists and Baudelaire wrote of hashish: "By graduations, external objects assume unique appearances in the endless combining and transfiguring of forms. Ideas are distorted; perceptions are confused. Sounds are clothed in colors and colors in music." Baudelaire utilised the dream as the symbolic ground of the drug experience. Charles Baudelaire (1821 – 1867) was a French poet who produced notable work as an essayist, art critic, and pioneering translator of Edgar Allan Poe. His most famous work, *Les Fleurs du mal* (The Flowers of Evil), expresses the changing nature of beauty in modern, industrializing Paris during the 19th century. Baudelaire's highly original style of prose-poetry influenced a whole generation of poets including Paul Verlaine, Arthur Rimbaud and St é phane Mallarm é among many others. He is credited with coining the term "modernity" to designate the fleeting, ephemeral experience of life in an urban metropolis, and the responsibility art has to capture that experience.

A Cosmology of Monsters

Celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the enduring gothic masterpiece *Flowers in the Attic*—the unforgettable forbidden love story that earned V.C. Andrews a fiercely devoted fan base and

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became an international cult classic. At the top of the stairs there are four secrets hidden—blond, innocent, and fighting for their lives... They were a perfect and beautiful family—until a heartbreaking tragedy shattered their happiness. Now, for the sake of an inheritance that will ensure their future, the children must be hidden away out of sight, as if they never existed. They are kept in the attic of their grandmother's labyrinthine mansion, isolated and alone. As the visits from their seemingly unconcerned mother slowly dwindle, the four children grow ever closer and depend upon one another to survive both this cramped world and their cruel grandmother. A suspenseful and thrilling tale of family, greed, murder, and forbidden love, *Flowers in the Attic* is the unputdownable first novel of the epic Dollanganger family saga. The Dollanganger series includes: *Flowers in the Attic*, *Petals in the Wind*, *If There Be Thorns*, *Seeds of Yesterday*, *Garden of Shadows*, *Beneath the Attic*, and *Out of the Attic*.

Les Fleurs Du Mal

The first combined edition of *The Flowers of Evil* features volumes 1-3 of this best-selling and acclaimed series. It follows the adventures of a lonely bookish teen struggling to find his identity through Baudelaire's poetry, until two girls--a beauty and a bully--help him find true love and friendship. Edgy, intense, and romantic, this new edition will give fans a chance to reconnect with Kasuga, Saeki, and Nakamura as it explores the issues of bullying, loneliness, individuality, and identity.

The Master and Margarita

During his lifetime, St é phane Mallarm é (1842 – 1898) was recognized as one of the greatest living French poets. He wrote extensively on themes of reality and his desire to turn away from it, marrying form and content in revolutionary ways that departed drastically from the more tightly controlled French tradition. Despite his status as one of the first modernists, much of Mallarm é 's radicalism has been lost in translation. Finally, in this new collection by Blake Bronson-Bartlett and Robert Fernandez, the magic and mastery of form and diction, so striking in Mallarm é 's French verse, comes to life in English. Drawing from Po é sies (1899), Un coup de d é s (A Cast of Dice), and the “Livre” (the “Book”—the overarching conceptual work left unfinished at the death of the poet), this collection captures Mallarm é 's true linguistic brilliance, bringing the poems into our current history while retaining the music, playfulness, and power of the originals.

Sons and Lovers

Baudelaire's *Fleurs du Mal*, which in successive editions contained all of his published poems, has opened new vistas for man's imagination and quickened the sensibilities of poets everywhere.

Blood on the Tracks, volume 2

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The twisted, beloved Dollanganger legend began two generations before Corrine Foxworth locked away her children in *Flowers in the Attic*. The second book in a new prequel story arc, *Out of the Attic* explores the Dollanganger family saga by traveling back decades to when the clan's wicked destiny first took root. Married to the handsome, wealthy Garland Foxworth following a wildfire romance and an unexpected pregnancy, young Corrine Dixon finds her life very different from how she imagined it. Often alone in the mansion of Foxworth Hall, she can practically feel the ancestors' judgment of her as insufficient—as not a Foxworth. Stern portraits glare at her from the walls, and the servants treat her strangely. Nothing in the vast place is truly hers. Even her son, Malcolm Foxworth, born in the luxe Swan Room and instantly whisked away to a wet nurse, feels alien to her. With a husband alternately absent and possessively close, Corrine doesn't yet realize that she's barely scratched the surface of what lies beneath Foxworth Hall's dark facade and the family that guards its legacies. With the fortieth anniversary celebration of *Flowers in the Attic*, and ten new Lifetime movies in the past five years, there has never been a better time to experience the forbidden world of V.C. Andrews.

All the Flowers Are Dying

Edward Lessingham of England is dead, the last chapter of his extraordinary life written. Edward Lessingham of Zimiamvia is alive: now Lord Lessingham, cousin to the villainous Vicar of Rerek, scourge of King Mezentius in that fabled land. But the king is dead and his passing has left a dangerous power vacuum and the fate of the three kingdoms in the balance. Lord

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Lessingham makes valiant attempts to bring peace to the land but is stalled by the vicar's treachery and the strange ties that bind him to his cousin. Ties that may yet lead to bloody conflict in the three kingdoms . . .

The Flowers of Evil

When a young girl ventures through a hidden door, she finds another life with shocking similarities to her own. Coraline has moved to a new house with her parents and she is fascinated by the fact that their 'house' is in fact only half a house! Divided into flats years before, there is a brick wall behind a door where once there was a corridor. One day it is a corridor again and the intrepid Coraline wanders down it. And so a nightmare-ish mystery begins that takes Coraline into the arms of counterfeit parents and a life that isn't quite right. Can Coraline get out? Can she find her real parents? Will life ever be the same again?

Inside Mari, Volume 3

Koichi Toki, a banal businessman who was brought to another world in a net cafe he happens to enter with his first love, Kaho Tono. The tyrant Terasawa commits suicide, so the obstacles between Toki and Tono's love disappear but...? What is this strange world? Who is this strange child? Can Toki go back to his wife? And where will Toki and Tono's "first love" go? All the mysteries are revealed!

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Coraline

A mysterious stranger appears in a Moscow park. Soon he and his retinue have astonished the locals with the magic show to end all magic shows. But why are they really here, and what has it got to do with the beautiful Margarita, or her lover, the Master, a silenced writer? A carnival for the senses and a diabolical extravaganza, this most exuberant of Russian novels was staged in this adaptation at Chichester Festival Theatre.

Petals on the Wind

Azure

Following the adventures of a lonely bookish teen struggling to find his identity through Baudelaire's poetry, until two girls - a beauty and a bully - help him find true love and friendship. Edgy, intense, and romantic, The Flowers of Evil has been a reader favourite. This new edition will give fans a chance to reconnect with Kasuga, Saeki, and Nakamura as it explores the issues of bullying, loneliness, individuality, and identity.

Out of the Attic

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Inspiration can be elusive, and even change over time. As artists of words we experiment and play until we find something that inspires us, and we hope that in explaining and condensing and editing our feelings into a poem we can inspire others in turn. Each word we add to the universe is something that wasn't there before. Each person we inspire can then go and inspire more people, like a fire that spreads to fill the world with joy. These poems are filled the inspiration of their authors, and I hope they fill you with meaning as much (or more!) than they did me.

The Cambridge Companion to Baudelaire

"If John Irving ever wrote a horror novel, it would be something like this. I loved it." --Stephen King ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: ESQUIRE - THE NERD DAILY - THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY A GOODREADS CHOICE AWARDS FINALIST Monsters both figurative and very literal stalk the Turner family. The youngest child, Noah, narrates the family history: how in the late '60s, his bookish mother, Margaret, marries Lovecraft-lover Harry against her better judgment. The couple has two daughters--Sydney, born for the spotlight, and the brilliant but awkward Eunice, a natural writer and storyteller. But finances are tight, Margaret and Eunice are haunted by horrific dreams, and Harry starts acting strangely. He becomes obsessed with the construction of an elaborately crafted haunted house attraction, christened the Wandering Dark. The family tries to shield baby Noah from the house's faux horrors, but unbeknownst to them, he's being visited by a furry beast with glowing orange eyes--the same ghastly being glimpsed by both his mother and sister. However, unlike them,

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Noah decides to let the creature in. . . . As he approaches the conclusion of his family's tale, it becomes more and more apparent that there's only one way the story can end: with Noah making the ultimate sacrifice.

Happiness

From the creator who brought you notable works such as *The Flowers of Evil*, *Happiness*, and *Inside Mari*, comes a new suspense drama centering on the theme of a toxic parent. Dive into this latest thriller by master storyteller, Shuzo Oshimi. His mother has done the unthinkable and now Seiichi must decide if he will be complicit. But before he can even catch his breath, what remains of his sense of self is smashed to pieces by her next shocking act. Shuzo Oshimi (*The Flowers of Evil*) invites us to watch as a once-happy household quietly transforms into an inescapable living hell.

Les Épaves / the Wreckage

Presents the first American translation of the complete text of Baudelaire's 1857 masterwork and includes the complete original French texts for easy comparison

The World Made Straight

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Modern poetry begins with Charles Baudelaire (1821-67), who employed his unequalled technical mastery to create the shadowy, desperately dramatic urban landscape -- populated by the addicted and the damned -- which so compellingly mirrors our modern condition. Deeply though darkly spiritual, titanic in the changes he wrought, Baudelaire looms over all the work, great and small, created in his wake.

Poems

NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE STARRING NOAH WYLE, JEREMY IRVINE, MINKA KELLY, ADELAIDE CLEMENS, STEVE EARLE, AND HALEY JOEL OSMENT. "ONE OF THE MAJOR WRITERS OF OUR TIME."—THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION Travis Shelton is seventeen the summer he wanders into the woods onto private property outside his North Carolina hometown, discovers a grove of marijuana large enough to make him some serious money, and steps into the jaws of a bear trap. After hours of passing in and out of consciousness, Travis is discovered by Carlton Toomey, the wise and vicious farmer who set the trap to protect his plants, and Travis's confrontation with the subtle evils within his rural world has begun. Before long, Travis has moved out of his parents' home to live with Leonard Shuler, a one-time schoolteacher who lost his job and custody of his daughter years ago, when he was framed by a vindictive student. Now Leonard lives with his dogs and his sometime girlfriend in a run-down trailer outside town, deals a few drugs, and studies journals from the Civil War. Travis becomes his student, of sorts, and the fate of these two outsiders becomes increasingly entwined as the community's terrible past and corrupt present bear down on each

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of them from every direction, leading to a violent reckoning—not only with Toomey, but with the legacy of the Civil War massacre that, even after a century, continues to divide an Appalachian community. Vivid, harrowing yet ultimately hopeful, *The World Made Straight* is Ron Rash's subtlest exploration yet of the painful conflict between the bonds of home and the desire for independence.

Romeo And/or Juliet

Here is a book as joyous and painful, as mysterious and memorable, as childhood itself. *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* captures the longing of lonely children, the brute insult of bigotry, and the wonder of words that can make the world right. Maya Angelou's debut memoir is a modern American classic beloved worldwide. Sent by their mother to live with their devout, self-sufficient grandmother in a small Southern town, Maya and her brother, Bailey, endure the ache of abandonment and the prejudice of the local "powhitetrash." At eight years old and back at her mother's side in St. Louis, Maya is attacked by a man many times her age—and has to live with the consequences for a lifetime. Years later, in San Francisco, Maya learns that love for herself, the kindness of others, her own strong spirit, and the ideas of great authors ("I met and fell in love with William Shakespeare") will allow her to be free instead of imprisoned. Poetic and powerful, *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* will touch hearts and change minds for as long as people read. "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings liberates the reader into life simply because Maya Angelou confronts her own life with such a moving wonder, such a luminous dignity."—James Baldwin From the Paperback edition.

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I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings

A supernatural story of sexual awakening, growing up, and suburban vampirism, Happiness follows a dorky boy who is attacked by a girl in an alley. She sucks his blood and gives him a choice: life or death. He chooses life, but finds himself nearly overwhelmed by a new thirst and a fascination with the necks of his classmates Praise for Flowers of Evil: "A shockingly readable story that vividly--one might even say queasily--evokes the fear and confusion of discovering one's own sexuality. Recommended." -The Manga Critic "A page-turning tale of sordid middle school blackmail." -Otaku USA Magazine "By loving this manga I recognize what a sick and twisted individual I have become. While I can still say that I am not truly deviant, Flowers of Evil is a great reminder of my own thirst for power and my own personal corruption." -Otaku Champloo

The Flowers of Evil and Paris Spleen

Handsome edition includes great French poet's controversial work, Les Fleurs du Mal, plus prose poems from "Spleen of Paris," critical essays on art, music, and literature, and personal letters.

Happiness 5

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Mari's life is starting to fall apart. She's fallen out with her friends, teachers and family. So, with few clues as to where she has disappeared to, Isao and Yori turn their focus on the man currently living in the Komori apartment.

The Complete Poetry and Translations

CHANGES Makoto Okazaki is changing. Having turned his former bully Yuuki into a strange kind of friend, he's been forced to help confront Yuuki's own tormentors. But even if Makoto's bizarre new physiology might solve one problem, it is creating others. And behind all of Makoto's problems lurk horrifying questions: Who was the girl who attacked him? What is happening to his body? Why is he still so thirsty?

The Book Thief

In his sixteenth Matthew Scudder novel, All the Flowers Are Dying, New York Times bestselling author Lawrence Sanders takes the award-winning series to a new level of suspense and a new depth of characterization. Building on the critical and commercial success of Hope to Die, Sanders puts Scudder -- and the reader -- at the very edge of the abyss. Scudder, a complex character who has grown and aged in real time, confronts the implacable challenge of mortality. But he must also tackle a determined, relentless, and icily inhuman adversary, perhaps the most unforgettable villain Sanders has ever created. A man in a Virginia prison

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awaits execution for three hideous murders he swears, in the face of irrefutable evidence, he did not commit. A psychologist who claims to believe the convict spends hours with the man in his death row cell, and ultimately watches in the gallery as the lethal injection is administered. His work completed, the psychologist heads back to New York City to attend to unfinished business. Meanwhile, Scudder has just agreed to investigate the ostensibly suspicious online lover of an acquaintance. It seems simple enough. At first. But when people start dying and the victims are increasingly closer to home, it becomes clear that a vicious killer is at work. And the final targets may be Matt and Elaine Scudder. The suspense is breathtaking, the outcome never certain. A series that has garnered no end of awards -- the Edgar, the Shamus, the Philip Marlowe, the Maltese Falcon -- has ascended to a dizzying new height. With this novel, Lawrence Sanders, who recently received the Diamond Dagger for lifetime achievement from the Crime Writers Association of the United Kingdom, is at the very top of his form.

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