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# The Miniaturist

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 A Novel

*The Miniaturist*

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## ERICK BLAKE

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*A Novel* Ecco  
 The powerful, moving and suspenseful novel from the million-copy bestselling author of *The Miniaturist* and *The Muse*.  
*Amity & Sorrow* Picador  
 Set in seventeenth century Amsterdam, a city ruled by glittering wealth and oppressive religion. A masterful debut steeped in atmosphere and shimmering with mystery, in the tradition of Emma Donoghue, Sarah Waters, and Sarah Dunant. "There is nothing hidden that will not be revealed . . ." On a brisk autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman arrives in Amsterdam to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt. But her new home, while splendid, is not

welcoming. Johannes is kind yet distant, always locked in his study or at his warehouse office leaving Nella alone with his sister, the sharp-tongued and forbidding Marin. But Nella's world changes when Johannes presents her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized replica of their home. To furnish her gift, Nella engages the services of a miniaturist—an elusive and enigmatic artist whose tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in eerie and unexpected ways . . . Johannes' gift helps Nella to pierce the closed world of the Brandt household. But as she uncovers its unusual secrets, she begins to understand and fear the escalating dangers that await them all. In this repressively pious society where gold is worshipped second only to God, to be different is a threat to the moral fabric of society, and not even a man as rich as Johannes is safe. Only one person seems

to see the fate that awaits them. Is the miniaturist the key to their salvation . . . or the architect of their destruction' Enchanting, beautiful, and exquisitely suspenseful, *The Miniaturist* is a magnificent story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, appearance and truth.

*A God in Ruins* Hachette UK  
 One of BuzzFeed's 24 Best Fiction Books of 2015 "As Simon, a lonely research librarian, searches frantically for the key to a curse that might be killing the women in his family, he learns strange and fascinating secrets about their past. A tale full of magic and family mystery, *The Book of Speculation* will keep you up all night reading."—Isaac Fitzgerald, BuzzFeed  
 Simon Watson, a young librarian, lives alone in a house that is slowly crumbling toward the Long Island Sound. His parents are long dead. His mother, a circus mermaid who made her living by holding

her breath, drowned in the very water his house overlooks. His younger sister, Enola, ran off six years ago and now reads tarot cards for a traveling carnival. One June day, an old book arrives on Simon's doorstep, sent by an antiquarian bookseller who purchased it on speculation. Fragile and water damaged, the book is a log from the owner of a traveling carnival in the 1700s, who reports strange and magical things, including the drowning death of a circus mermaid. Since then, generations of "mermaids" in Simon's family have drowned--always on July 24, which is only weeks away. As his friend Alice looks on with alarm, Simon becomes increasingly worried about his sister. Could there be a curse on Simon's family? What does it have to do with the book, and can he get to the heart of the mystery in time to save Enola? In the tradition of Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants*, Erin Morgenstern's *The Night Circus*, and Elizabeth Kostova's *The Historian*, *The Book of Speculation*--with two-color illustrations by the author--is Erika Swyler's moving debut novel about the power of books, family, and magic.

**The Muse** Read Books Ltd

The two essays in this classic work by sociologist Erving Goffman deal with the calculative, gamelike aspects of human interaction. Goffman examines the strategy of words and deeds; he uses the term "strategic interaction" to describe gamelike events in which an individual's situation is fully dependent on the move of one's opponent and in which both players know this and have the wit to use this awareness for advantage. Goffman aims to show that strategic interaction can be isolated analytically from the general study of communication and face-to-face interaction. The first essay addresses expression games, in which a participant spars to discover the value of information given openly or unwittingly by another. The author uses vivid examples from espionage literature and high-level political intrigue to show how people mislead one another in the information game. Both observer and observed create evidence that is false and uncover evidence that is real. In "Strategic Interaction," the book's second essay, action is the central concern, and expression games are secondary. Goffman makes clear that often, when it seems that an opponent sets off a course of action through verbal communication, he really has a finger on your trigger, your chips on the table, or your check in his bank. Communication may reinforce conduct, but in the end, action speaks louder. Those who gamble with their wits, and

those who study those who do, will find this analysis important and stimulating.

**The Miniaturist** Stone Bridge Press

In *The Sumptuous Court Of The Emperor Akbar, In 16Th Century India, A Group Of Artists Begins The Painstaking Task Of Chronicling The Emperor'S Life. Bihzad Is The Son Of The Chief Artist And As Such, He Is Groomed To Follow In His Father'S Footsteps. A Child Prodigy, Bihzad Is Shielded From Life As He Grows Up In The Stunning Fortress Town Of Agra. But As Word Of His Talent Spreads, Rumours About The Wild, Passionate Nature Of His Secret Drawings Bring His Enemies Out Into The Open. When The Young Artist Breaches The Rules Of The Court, They Will Use His Art To Destroy Him.*

**Family Crests of Japan** Picador

With her mother dead of the plague, and her beloved brother newly married, Cornelia must manage her father's household, though he teeters on the brink of madness. She knows that among Amsterdam's elite circles, people are gossiping about her father's fading artistic genius--and about her, too. Yet there are two young men who seem unfazed by the slander- and very much intrigued by Cornelia. Set within the vibrant community of the 17th century Dutch Masters, *I Am Rembrandt's Daughter* is a moving coming of age story filled with family drama and a love triangle that would make Jane Austen proud.

*The Painters of the Miniaturist Tendency* Bloomsbury Publishing USA

"There is nothing hidden that will not be revealed . . ." On an autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman knocks at the door of a grand house in the wealthiest quarter of Amsterdam. She has come from the country to begin a new life as the wife of the illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt, but instead she is met by his sharp-tongued sister, Marin. Only later does Johannes appear and present her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized replica of their home. It is to be furnished by an elusive miniaturist, whose tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in unexpected ways . . . Nella is at first mystified by the closed world of the Brandt household, but as she uncovers its secrets she realizes the escalating dangers that await them all. Does the miniaturist hold their fate in her hands? And will she be the key to their salvation or the architect of their downfall? Beautiful, intoxicating and filled with heart-pounding suspense, *The Miniaturist* is a magnificent story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, appearance and truth.

*Medusa* Hachette UK

The Sunday Times Number One Bestseller and Richard and Judy Book Club selection. Seductive, exhilarating and suspenseful, *The Muse* is an unforgettable novel about aspiration and identity, love and obsession, authenticity and deception - a masterpiece from Jessie Burton, the million-copy bestselling author of *The Miniaturist*. A picture hides a thousand words . . . On a hot July day in 1967, Odelle Bastien climbs the stone steps of the Skelton gallery in London, knowing that her life is about to change forever. Having struggled to find her place in the city since she arrived from Trinidad five years ago, she has been offered a job as a typist under the tutelage of the glamorous and enigmatic Marjorie Quick. But though Quick takes Odelle into her confidence, and unlocks a potential she didn't know she had, she remains a mystery - no more so than when a lost masterpiece with a secret history is delivered to the gallery. The truth about the painting lies in 1936 and a large house in rural Spain, where Olive Schloss, the daughter of a renowned art dealer, is harbouring ambitions of her own. Into this fragile paradise come artist and revolutionary Isaac Robles and his half-sister Teresa, who immediately insinuate themselves into the Schloss family, with explosive and devastating consequences . . . 'Those who loved *The Miniaturist* will find here all the cliffhangers, twists and heart-stopping revelations they expected, and in two evocative settings . . . as a study of female creativity, it triumphs' - Daily Telegraph *Stories* St. Martin's Press

A historical examination of tension and conflict on the Texas-Mexico border, told from the Mexican perspective, that's especially relevant today.

**Greek Gems and Finger Rings**

HarperCollins UK

On a brisk autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman arrives in Amsterdam to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt. But her new home, while splendid, is not welcoming. Johannes is kind yet distant, always locked in his study or at his warehouse office--leaving Nella alone with his sister, the sharp-tongued and forbidding Marin. But Nella's life changes when Johannes presents her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized replica of their home. To furnish her gift, Nella engages the services of a miniaturist--an elusive and enigmatic artist whose tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in eerie and unexpected ways... Johannes's gift helps Nella pierce the closed world of the Brandt household. But as she uncovers its unusual secrets,

she begins to understand—and fear—the escalating dangers that await them all. In this repressively pious society where gold is worshipped second only to God, to be different is a threat to the moral fabric of society, and not even a man as rich as Johannes is safe. Only one person seems to see the fate that awaits them. Is the miniaturist the key to their salvation...or the architect of their destruction? Enchanting, beautifully written, and exquisitely suspenseful, *The Miniaturist* is a magnificent story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, appearance and truth.

The Muse Pan Macmillan  
NOW A MAJOR BBC DRAMA  
phenomenal no. 1 bestseller "Fabulously gripping" Observer  
On an autumn day in 1686, eighteen-year-old Nella Oortman knocks at the door of a grand house in the wealthiest quarter of Amsterdam. She has come from the country to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt, but instead she is met by his sharp-tongued sister, Marin. Only later does Johannes appear and present her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized replica of their home. It is to be furnished by an elusive miniaturist, whose tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in unexpected ways . . . Nella is at first mystified by the closed world of the Brandt household, but as she uncovers its secrets she realizes the escalating dangers that await them all. Does the miniaturist hold their fate in her hands? And will she be the key to their salvation or the architect of their downfall? Beautiful, intoxicating and filled with heart-pounding suspense, Jessie Burton's magnificent debut novel *The Miniaturist* is a story of love and obsession, betrayal and retribution, appearance and truth. MORE PRAISE FOR THE MINIATURIST "The next big thing ... Incredibly well-written, beautifully plotted ... If you tore through Donna Tartt's *The Goldfinch*, you'll love it." Evening Standard "Utterly transporting" Hannah Kent "Mesmerising and suspenseful . . . Unmissable" Psychologies "Ripples with undercurrents, secrets, hidden histories and inexplicable mysteries . . . Tantalising, beautifully poised, exquisitely detailed" Sunday Express

The Miniaturist Harper Collins  
Find the beauty and meaning of over 850 family crests found in Japanese tradition  
*Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* Little, Brown  
*The Miniaturist* Pan Macmillan  
**Man and Wife** Faber & Faber  
This early work by Wilkie Collins was originally published in 1870. Born in

Marylebone, London in 1824, Collins' family enrolled him at the Maida Hill Academy in 1835, but then took him to France and Italy with them between 1836 and 1838. Returning to England, Collins attended Cole's boarding school, and completed his education in 1841, after which he was apprenticed to the tea merchants Antrobus & Co. in the Strand. In 1846, Collins became a law student at Lincoln's Inn, and was called to the bar in 1851, although he never practiced. It was in 1848, a year after the death of his father, that he published his first book, *The Memoirs of the Life of William Collins, Esq., R.A.*, to good reviews. The 1860s saw Collins' creative high-point, and it was during this decade that he achieved fame and critical acclaim, with his four major novels, *The Woman in White* (1860), *No Name* (1862), *Armada* (1866) and *The Moonstone* (1868). *The Moonstone*, meanwhile is seen by many as the first true detective novel - T. S. Eliot called it "the first, the longest, and the best of modern English detective novels...in a genre invented by Collins and not by Poe." Many of the earliest books, particularly those dating back to the 1900's and before, are now extremely scarce and increasingly expensive. We are republishing these classic works in affordable, high quality, modern editions. Texas Pan Macmillan  
Amsterdam 1654: a dangerous secret threatens to destroy a young widow's new life.

**The Elements of a Home** Penguin Group USA  
"Told with brains and heart" —Michelle Gable, New York Times bestselling author of *A Paris Apartment* "Bristles with charm and curiosity" —Winston Groom, New York Times bestselling author of *Forrest Gump* "A wholly original and superbly crafted work of art, *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* is a masterpiece of the imagination." —Lori Nelson Spielman, New York Times bestselling author of *The Life List* and *Sweet Forgiveness* "Charlotte's Web for grown-ups who, like Weylyn Grey, have their own stories of being different, feared, brave, and loved." —Mo Daviau, author of *Every Anxious Wave* Ruth Emmie Lang teaches us how to find magic in the ordinary in her magical realism debut *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance*. Orphaned, raised by wolves, and the proud owner of a horned pig named Merlin, Weylyn Grey knew he wasn't like other people. But when he single-handedly stopped that tornado on a stormy Christmas day in Oklahoma, he realized just how different he actually was. As amazing as these powers may appear,

they tend to manifest themselves at inopportune times and places, jeopardizing not only his own life, but the life of Mary, the woman he loves. *Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance* tells the story of Weylyn Grey's life from the perspectives of the people who knew him, loved him, and even a few who thought he was just plain weird. Although he doesn't stay in any of their lives for long, he leaves each of them with a story to tell: great storms that evaporate into thin air; fireflies that make phosphorescent honey; a house filled with spider webs and the strange man who inhabits it. There is one story, however, that Weylyn wishes he could change: his own. But first he has to muster enough courage to knock on Mary's front door.

The Restless Girls Penguin  
A mother and her daughters drive for days without sleep until they crash their car in rural Oklahoma. The mother, Amaranth, is desperate to get away from someone she's convinced will follow them wherever they go—her husband. The girls, Amity and Sorrow, can't imagine what the world holds outside their father's polygamous compound. Rescue comes in the unlikely form of Bradley, a farmer grieving the loss of his wife. At first unwelcoming to these strange, prayerful women, Bradley's abiding tolerance gets the best of him, and they become a new kind of family. An unforgettable story of belief and redemption, *AMITY & SORROW* is about the influence of community and learning to stand on your own.

**Strategic Interaction** Macmillan  
A dazzling, lyrical YA retelling of Greek myth, from Jessie Burton, internationally bestselling author of *The Miniaturist* and *The Muse*. "A powerfully feminist, elegiac, and original twist on this old story." - Madeline Miller, bestselling author of *The Song of Achilles* If I told you that I'd killed a man with a glance, would you wait to hear the rest? The why, the how, what happened next? Exiled to a far-flung island by the whims of the gods, Medusa has little company except the snakes that adorn her head instead of hair. But when a charmed, beautiful boy called Perseus arrives on the island, her lonely existence is disrupted with the force of a supernova, unleashing desire, love, betrayal . . . and destiny itself. With stunning, full-color illustrations and a first person narrative illuminating the fierce, vulnerable, determined girl behind the myth, this astonishing retelling is perfect for readers of *Circe*, and brings the story of Medusa to life for a new generation.  
Girl with a Pearl Earring HarperCollins  
A collection of 16 poignant stories about

the rogue stresses that threaten the stability of modern women, *At the Gates of the Animal Kingdom* presents tales that are witty, absurd, and beautiful, about coming together, making do, and learning to live with the scars of life. "...One of the great delights of these stories is that they approach the usual cliches of real life and fiction at an unexpectedly oblique angle. And they do so with surprising emotional force".--*The Wall Street Journal*.  
[Curious Histories behind Everyday Household Objects, from Pillows to Forks](#)  
 Chronicle Books

In May 1914, Helene Noisette's father believes war is imminent. Convinced Germany will head straight for Paris, he sends his wife, daughter, mother and younger son to Beaufort, a small village in northern France. But when war erupts two months later, the German army invades neutral Belgium, sweeping south towards Paris. And by the end of September, Beaufort is less than twenty miles from the front. During the years that follow, with the rumbling of guns ever present in the distance, three generations of women

come together to cope with deprivation, fear and the dreadful impacts of war. In 1917, Helene falls in love with a young Canadian soldier wounded in the battle of Vimy Ridge. But war has a way of separating lovers and families, of twisting promises and dashing hopes, and of turning the naïve and innocent into the jaded and war-weary. As the months pass, Helene is forced to reconcile dreams for the future with harsh reality. *Lies Told in Silence* examines love and loss, duty and sacrifice, and the unexpected consequences of lies.

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