La Vita Nuova

Love Poems

Dante Alighieri

Dante Alighieri’s book of poetry and prose about love.

La Vita Nuova (The New Life) is Dante’s first major work. Set in thirteenth century Florence, Dante describes his love for Beatrice through poems, sonnets and prose.

Part of the Macmillan Collector’s Library; a series of stunning, clothbound, pocket sized classics with gold foiled edges and ribbon markers. These beautiful books make perfect gifts or a treat for any book lover. This edition is the English translation by Dante Gabriel Rossetti which was first published in The Early Italian Poets in 1861 and then reissued in 1874 by Dante and his Circle. It was met with great acclaim acknowledging Rossetti’s skill as a meticulous and poetic translator.

From the first time the poet sets eyes on Beatrice, he says ‘love quite governed my soul’ and his devotion to her knows no end. By recalling each meeting with Beatrice, including a rejection by her, this short book is at once a heartfelt account of youthful love and a religious allegory. La Vita Nuova serves as an important precursor to Dante’s masterpiece, The Divine Comedy.

Dante Alighieri was an Italian poet born in Florence in the thirteenth century. His major work, The Divine Comedy, is considered to be the greatest literary work in the Italian language. It describes his journey through Hell, Purgatory and Paradise guided by Virgil and then Beatrice. He was the first writer to eschew Latin and he wrote in modern Italian and in Tuscan dialect. His influence on Italian writers as well as European literature and art is immeasurable.
The Great Gatsby

F. Scott Fitzgerald

A gorgeous clothbound edition of F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel of the Jazz Age, with an afterword by David Stuart Davies.

In *The Great Gatsby* F. Scott Fitzgerald captures the flamboyance, the carelessness and the cruelty of the wealthy during America's Jazz Age.

Part of the Macmillan Collector's Library; a series of stunning, clothbound, pocket sized classics with gold foiled edges and ribbon markers. These beautiful books make perfect gifts or a treat for any book lover. This beautiful Macmillan Collector's Library edition features an afterword by David Stuart Davies.

*The Great Gatsby* lives mysteriously in a luxurious Long Island mansion, playing lavish host to hundreds of people. And yet no one seems to know him or how he became so rich. He is rumoured to be everything from a German spy to a war hero. People clamour for invitations to his wild parties. But Jay Gatsby doesn't heed them. He cares for one person alone - Daisy Buchanan, the woman he has waited for all his life. Little does he know that his infatuation will lead to tragedy and end in murder.

F. Scott Fitzgerald (1896-1940) was born into a well-to-do Catholic family living in St Paul, Minnesota. At Princeton University he decided to become a writer, leaving without graduating in 1917 to join the army when America entered the First World War. Believing he would be killed at the front, he hurriedly wrote the novel that would become *This Side of Paradise*, but in the end was not sent to Europe. The novel was published in 1920 to great critical acclaim. He married Zelda Sayre a week after...
**Wedding Readings and Poems**

A gorgeous compilation of writing on love and marriage that makes the perfect wedding gift, party favour or speech giving tool.

Bound in gorgeous blue cloth, *Wedding Readings and Poems* makes the perfect gift to celebrate an engagement, to thank bridesmaids and to share happy memories with wedding guests.

Part of the Macmillan Collector’s Library; a series of stunning, clothbound, pocket sized classics with gold foiled edges and ribbon markers. These beautiful books make perfect gifts or a treat for any book lover. This edition is edited by Becky Brown.

This beautiful anthology is filled with readings to light up every kind of wedding ceremony. There are poems about falling in love, joyful prose celebrating marriage and wise words about commitment from some of our greatest writers and poets. It’s a book brimming with inspiration that solves the dilemma of choosing what to read at weddings and marriage celebrations.

Becky Brown is a literary agent and editor who goes to at least ten weddings a year. She lives between London and Glasgow.
Pygmalion & Other Plays

George Bernard Shaw

Three of George Bernard Shaw’s most famous plays with a preface by Oscar winning actress Judy Dench.

George Bernard Shaw wrote more than sixty plays and this new volume brings three of his comedies together in one volume - each one is witty, entertaining and has embedded into it Shaw’s intense concerns about poverty, class and inequality.

Part of the Macmillan Collector’s Library; a series of stunning, clothbound, pocket sized classics with gold foiled edges and ribbon markers. These beautiful books make perfect gifts or a treat for any book lover. This edition has a preface by Oscar winning actress Judy Dench.

Pygmalion was first performed in 1914 and was an instant hit. It tells the story of Eliza Dolittle, a cockney flower girl who, as an experiment, is given elocution lessons by Professor Henry Higgins to see if he can pass her off as a lady. In Major Barbara, idealistic Barbara is a Major in the Salvation Army whilst her father Andrew Undershaft is a millionaire armaments manufacturer. A battle rages between the two of them as they fight over the question; does salvation come through faith or finance? Androcles and the Lion is a comedy about a gentle Christian who pulls a thorn from a lion’s paw. When the Romans try to feed him to the lions, his kindness is repaid.

George Bernard Shaw was born in Dublin in 1856 and moved to London in 1876. He initially wrote novels then went on to achieve fame through his career as a journalist, critic and public speaker. A committed and active socialist, he was one of the leaders of the Fabian Society. He was a prolific and much lauded playwright and was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature. He died in 1950.
Green Shades
An Anthology of Plants, Gardens and Gardeners

Elizabeth Jane Howard

A delightful companion for all those with a love for gardens and for the very best garden writing.

Acclaimed author Elizabeth Jane Howard said she would certainly have been a gardener had she not become a writer first. In *Green Shades: An Anthology of Plants, Gardens and Gardeners*, first published in 1991, she brings together a diverse and fascinating selection of gardening writing spanning the centuries, the seasons and the species.

Part of the Macmillan Collector’s Library; a series of stunning, pocket sized classics with ribbon markers. These beautiful books make perfect gifts or a treat for any book lover.

The contents are eclectic and wide ranging, practical as well as lyrical - she pays homage to the great English landscape artists of the eighteenth century and to the great women gardeners such as Vita Sackville West. There’s advice from Pliny on how walnuts can be used to dye hair and Joseph Addison encourages blackbirds to gorge on his cherry trees. Linking the numerous extracts is Elizabeth Jane Howard’s perceptive and highly personal commentary which skilfully leads the reader from one subject to the next.

The late Elizabeth Jane Howard was the author of fifteen highly acclaimed novels. The Cazalet Chronicles - *The Light Years, Marking Time, Confusion, Casting Off* and *All Change* - have become established as modern classics and have been adapted for a major BBC television series and for BBC Radio 4. In 2002 Macmillan published Elizabeth Jane Howard's autobiography, *Slipstream*. In that same year she was awarded a CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List. She died, aged ninety, at home in Suffolk on...
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