Macmillan Collector’s Library
WINTER 2019
Malice Aforethought

Francis Iles

A dark and cynically comical psychological suspense novel with an afterword by Keating Award-winning writer, Barry Forshaw.

It was not until several weeks after he had decided to murder his wife that Dr Bickleigh took any active steps in the matter.

So begins the classic crime novel, Malice Aforethought. Dr Edmund Bickleigh and his insufferable wife Julia are hosting their annual tennis party where gossip rivals tennis as the most interesting sport. The seemingly genteel doctor is unable to tolerate his wife’s incessant henpecking any longer, distracted as he is by his young and attractive female guests. And as his passion for one in particular, the mysterious Gwynyfryd Rattery grows, so does his resolve to murder his wife . . .

Francis Iles’ classic crime novel is one of the earliest and finest examples of the inverted detective story – we know who committed the crime, the question is, will he get away with it? Set in stuffy 1930s England, and narrated by the devious Dr Bickleigh himself, Malice Aforethought is impeccably plotted and darkly comic.

Francis Iles was the pseudonym for Anthony Berkeley Cox (1893 - 1971). Born in Watford and educated at Oxford before serving in WWI, he went on to become a journalist for Punch and The Humorist magazines. He wrote his first novel in 1925 and enjoyed success with his many detective novels and short stories. In 1930 he co-founded the famous Detection Club with famous crime writers such as Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayers. He wrote three novels and book reviews as Francis Iles.
The Diary of a Nobody

George and Weedon Grossmith

A charming satire of middle-class suburbia by George and Weedon Grossmith, with original illustrations from the latter and an afterword by Paul Bailey.

The Diary of a Nobody is a comic masterpiece which has been hugely influential since its first publication in 1892. This edition features Weedon Grossmith’s original illustrations and an afterword by novelist Paul Bailey.

Proud to be ensconced with his wife Carrie in the desirable London suburb of Holloway, bank clerk Charles Pooter decides to keep a diary. From the frequent visits by his dear friends Mr Cummings and Mr Gowing to the ups and downs of his feckless son Lupin, the self-regarding Mr Pooter considers, mistakenly, that all aspects of his life are worthy of note. The result is a hilarious spoof and a perfectly pitched satire on late Victorian society.

George Grossmith enjoyed a successful career as an accomplished singer, comic actor and songwriter. His younger brother trained as an artist before turning his hand to acting and playwriting. The brothers shared a gift for comedy and they collaborated on a series of columns in Punch magazine featuring the diary of a pompous lower middle class bank clerk named Charles Pooter. The Diary of a Nobody went on to be published in book form in 1892.
Leaves of Grass

Selected Poems

Walt Whitman

A new selection of Walt Whitman’s groundbreaking poetry edited and introduced by Professor Bridget Bennett.

This new collection is taken from the final version, the Deathbed edition, and it includes his most famous poems such as ‘Song of Myself’ and ‘I Sing the Body Electric’. Edited and introduced by Professor Bridget Bennett.

Leaves of Grass is Walt Whitman’s glorious poetry collection which he revised and expanded throughout his lifetime. First published in 1855, it was groundbreaking in its subject matter and in its direct, unembellished style. Whitman wrote about the United States and its people, its revolutionary spirit and about democracy. He wrote openly about the body and about desire in a way that completely broke with convention, paving the way for a completely new kind of poetry.

Walt Whitman was born in Long Island on the 31st May 1819 to Walter Whitman, carpenter and farmer, and Louisa Van Velsor Whitman. Walt was one of eight siblings and was taken out of school at the age of eleven to start work, but he continued to read voraciously and visit museums. He worked first as a printer, then briefly as a teacher before settling on a career in journalism. He self-published the first version of Leaves of Grass, which consisted of only twelve poems, in 1855. By the time he di...
Selected Poems

John Keats

A new selection of poetry by one of the great Romantic poets edited and introduced by Dr Andrew Hodgson.

Designed to appeal to book lovers everywhere, the Macmillan Collector's Library is a series of beautiful gift editions of much loved classic titles. Macmillan Collector's Library are books to love and treasure.

John Keats is regarded as one of the greatest poets of the Romantic movement, but during his tragically short lifetime his writing was attacked by critics and his talent went largely unrecognised. This edition of Selected Poems is edited and introduced by Dr Andrew Hodgson.

This new volume of his poetry brings together a selection both from his published works, Poems, Endymion and Lamia, Isabella, The Eve of St Agnes & Other Poems, as well as a number of poems that were published posthumously. Together they celebrate a poet who wrote with unsurpassed incite and emotion about art and beauty, love and loss, suffering and nature.

John Keats was born in London in 1795. He and his siblings were orphaned at a young age – his father died in a riding accident in 1804 and his mother died six years later. Keats then left school to train as an apothecary and a surgeon before dedicating his time to poetry. His first volume, Poems, was published in 1817 and only two more volumes, in 1818 and 1820, were published during his lifetime. In 1818 he fell in love with his neighbour Fanny Brawne but broke off their engagement due to his i...
What Katy Did

Susan Coolidge


‘My mother had kept her own copy of What Katy Did and I read it myself when I was about seven. It immediately became one of my favourite books’

*Jacqueline Wilson*

A treasured children's classic, Susan Coolidge’s *What Katy Did* is a vivid story of childhood bravery with a feisty heroine at its heart. This edition features original illustrations by Addie Ledyard and a new introduction by award-winning children's author Jacqueline Wilson.

Twelve-year-old Katy is a dreamer. Her imagination conjures up exciting games, takes her to faraway lands and imagines that one day she'll be charming and graceful. But in the meantime it also gets her into mischief . . . until one day a terrible accident happens and life as Katy knows it turns upside down. Can Katy's boisterous courage keep her dreams alive?

Sarah Chauncey Woolsey was born in 1935 into a wealthy family in Cleveland, Ohio. She worked as a nurse during the Civil War before establishing a career as a successful writer of novels, short stories and poems. Her most famous book, *What Katy Did*, published under her pseudonym Susan Coolidge, was inspired by her own childhood growing up in a large family with younger siblings. She never married and lived most of her adult life in Rhode Island where she died in 1905.
The Wizard of Oz

L. Frank Baum

Dorothy and Toto’s classic whirlwind adventure featuring the original illustrations by famous illustrator W. W. Denslow, coloured in by Barbara Frith, and a new introduction by Sarah Churchwell.

Regarded as a modern fairy tale, Frank L. Baum’s *The Wizard of Oz* is one of America’s most cherished and enchanting children’s stories. This edition features original illustrations by W. W. Denslow, coloured by Barbara Frith, and a new afterword by Professor Sarah Churchwell.

Follow Dorothy, and her dog Toto, as they are carried away from Kansas by a cyclone to the wonderful world of Oz. Wandering down the yellow brick road Dorothy meets her three famous companions - a Scarecrow longing for a brain, a Tin Woodman wishing for a heart, a cowardly Lion yearning for some courage - and together they travel to the illustrious Emerald City where they hope all their dreams will come true.

Lyman Frank Baum was born in 1856 in Chittenango, NY. Educated at home due to ill health, he was encouraged to pursue his early interests in journalism and playwriting. At a young age he started his first magazine and established his own theatre before turning to children’s fiction. *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* was a bestselling book and launched the hugely successful series of ‘Oz’ titles. Baum continued writing for the rest of his life and died in 1919 with over 100 books to his name.
Macmillan Collector's Library Spinner Rack
Macmillan Collector's Library
Zig Zag Shelf

Beautiful Macmillan Collector's Library zig zag shelf with six front-facing pockets. Holds approximately fifteen books.

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