

Mariana Monica Dickens

There is a place at World's End for any furry or feathered friend in need. The Fielding children live in a rambling old house, packed full of animals. Best of all – there are no grown-ups! Mum and dad are off on adventures of their own, which means the children have to take care of themselves. Carrie and Michael befriend Priscilla who has been left wheelchair-bound by a riding accident. Letting Priscilla ride Oliver is making her happy once again, but when the old barn collapses, there is nowhere for them to practise. Together Tom, Carrie, Em and Michael must come up with a scheme to raise the money to fix the roof and save Priscilla from her smothering mother. But where in the world will they find that sort of money? *World's End in Winter* is the third adventure in *The World's End Series*.

Successful lady novelist Laura Morland and her boisterous young son Tony set off to spend Christmas at her country home in the sleepy surrounds of High Rising. But Laura's wealthy friend and neighbour George Knox has taken on a scheming secretary whose designs on marriage to her employer threaten the delicate social fabric of the village. Can clever, practical Laura rescue George from Miss Grey's clutches and, what's more, help his daughter Miss Sibyl Knox to secure her longed-for engagement? Utterly charming and very funny, *High Rising* is irresistible comic entertainment.

The Making of a Marchioness follows thirty-something Emily who lives alone, humbly and happily, in a tiny apartment and on a meager income. She is the one that everyone counts on but no one goes out of their way to accommodate. This Cinderella-like story remains a much-loved favorite among many.

2020 Reprint of the 1924 Edition. Full facsimile of the original edition and not reproduced with Optical Recognition software. The novel describes the problems of a family in which husband and wife are oppressed and frustrated by the roles that they are expected to play. Evangeline Knapp is the ideal housekeeper, while her husband Lester is a poet and a dreamer. Suddenly, through a nearly fatal accident, their roles are reversed; Lester is confined to home in a wheelchair and his wife must work to support the family. "This 1924 novel... deals in a seemingly contemporary with the issue of how a married couple can feel oppressed and frustrated by the roles they are expected to play and what happens when these roles are reversed." -- Philadelphia Inquirer. "What if a husband likes to keep house and is good at it? What if a wife wants to have a job? In the early part of the 20th century, switching roles was an unthinkable solution, but the author uses the frame of a serious accident to set up the situation in this book. "The Home-Maker" is a great commentary on gender roles and Fisher is a keen observer of human nature, so the characters are wonderful. However, the real reason to read this book is something additional. It contains some of the very best writing I have ever seen on the unfolding of a child's character and the responsibility of a parent. The scenes with the children are charming and appealing, but they are also intensely insightful. Fisher had strong views on the need for children to grow up strong and independent, and she found few obligations more serious than that of parents who must carefully accord respect to their children, while nurturing their children's nature to the fullest. She makes her serious point in the framework of an irresistible tale of a loving father and mother who just happen to be miscast in their family roles. Don't miss this one if you want a great book about what children need from adults. And don't miss

Steven and the egg-beater."-Amazon Reviewer.

While breaking the hottest news story of the year, broadcast journalist Isabel Murphy falls apart on live television in front of an audience of millions. She lands at Three Breezes, a four-star psychiatric hospital nicknamed the "nut hut," where she begins the painful process of recovering the life everyone thought she had. But accepting her place among her fellow patients proves difficult, and Isabel struggles to reconcile the fact that she is, indeed, one of them. As she faces the reality that in order to mend her painfully fractured life she must rely solely on herself, she must also accept an imperfect life in a world that demands perfection.

Beautifully written, sparkly, witty, and knowing essays about the kitchen from Lady Jekyll.

One Pair of Feet is not just a spirited and entertaining account of the training of a hospital nurse in wartime but a fascinating glimpse into a time and a culture so recent and yet so utterly changed' Marina Lewycka As the effects of the war raging in Europe begin to be felt at home in London, Monica Dickens decides to do her bit and to pursue a new career, and so enrolls as a student nurse at a hospital in rural Hertfordshire. By nature clever and spirited, she struggles to submit to the iron rule of the Matron and Sisters, and is alternately infuriated and charmed by her patients. That's not to mention the mountains of menial work that are a trainee's lot. But there are friends among the staff and patients, night-time escapades to dances with dashing army men, and her secret writing project to keep her going. 'A brilliantly funny account' Elizabeth Bowen An outstanding novel about the fragility and tenacity of love.

'The sweetest love story . . . you're going to LOVE it' Marian Keyes 'You'll fall head over heels for this book' Reese Witherspoon A LOVE STORY FOR ANYONE WHO WATCHES LOVE ACTUALLY AND BRIDGET JONES' DIARY EVERY CHRISTMAS! This festive season get ready to be whisked off your feet by the Sunday Times bestseller that's stolen a million hearts around the world.

_____ Laurie is pretty sure love at first sight doesn't exist. After all, life isn't a scene from the movies, is it? But then, through a misted-up bus window one freezing day, she sees a man she knows instantly is the one. Their eyes meet, there's a moment of pure magic...and then her bus drives away. Laurie thinks she'll never see the boy from the bus again. But at a party later that year, her best friend Sarah introduces her to the new love of her life. Who is, of course, the boy from the bus. Determined to let him go, Laurie gets on with her life. But what if fate has other plans? Following Laurie, Sarah and Jack through ten years of love, heartbreak and friendship, One Day in December is an uplifting and immensely moving love story for fans of Jojo Moyes, Lucy Diamond and Nicholas Sparks.

_____ WHAT AUTHORS ARE SAYING 'Sucked me in and didn't let go. It made me laugh, cry, ache and shout at the characters. Utterly captivating...one of my favourite books' Holly Martin 'The number one feel-good read' Dinah Jefferies 'The love story you've been waiting for ... I loved it!' Miranda Dickinson 'A feel-good, heart-wrenching tribute to the female friends we cannot do without, as well as the men that we fall for. Josie Silver is one to watch.' Stephanie Butland

_____ WHAT READERS ARE SAYING 'I laughed, I cried, I shouted at the characters and I absolutely loved this story' Jennifer 'This book NEEDS to be made into a film' Louise 'Devastatingly good' Johnny 'I LOVE LOVE LOVED this

book' Viccki 'Wow! What a book!' Jen 'This kept me turning pages long into the night. I'd highly recommend it' Christine 'I can't wait to reread it over and over' Nikita 'I just didn't want this book to end . . . I shall be singing its praises from the rooftops' Cassie 'The perfect book to read this winter' Rebecca 'I'd recommend it to all' L.J. 'I devoured this book' Amanda

It is the end of WW II and the household of Mrs. North, a well-to-do widow with a country cottage, is very busy. War circumstances brought both of her daughters home: loud but good-hearted tomboy, Violet, and highly-strung and over sensitive Heather with her two small children. Mrs. North is also taking care of her young niece, Evelyn, a lively child who loves to play on the local farm and has a great passion for animals. But at the center of all this is Oliver, Mrs. North's only son who lost his leg during the war service abroad. Recovering from his injuries, bed-ridden Oliver has nothing better to do but observe the busy lives of the people around him. Treated as a hero and a confidant by all the women in his family, Oliver begins to enjoy his new role as a self-proclaimed counselor. Due to his advice, Violet, an independent spinster, unexpectedly accepts the marriage proposal from a local farmer. Her wedding is a success and Violet finds a new happiness in her marriage, but soon Oliver's meddling in his family affairs goes too far. Will his risky instructions save or ruin Heather's marriage, which is at the brink of crisis, when her husband comes back from Australia after a few years of separation? Will Oliver learn to accept his new circumstances? Will he finally face to the reality and start to rebuild his own life? In this compendium plot, Monica Dickens, with her typical attention to detail, humor and talent for creating vivid characters, explores complicated life stories of the close-knit family and their friends at the end of the war. *The Happy Prisoner* was first published in 1946.

A young woman is intrigued by a younger man desperately pursuing her. As she soon learns, there are secrets in his present and past that are truly concealing his true identity. Her friends support her as she is navigating her relationship with her mate. The nature of his father's business has put her in harm's way. Risking everything to win his son's love, the father is willing to put everything on the line to safely retrieve his son's lover. In two separate incidents, the young woman learns more about the true identity of her male companion and his father. His lifestyle clashes with hers. The woman has serious doubt that she can live in his world, but at the same time she has come to love him. Choosing will be the hardest thing she must do.

When Erika Drake, of the Westmount Drakes, met and fell in love with Marc Reiser, a Jew from northern Ontario, their respective worlds were turned upside down. Set against the backdrop of the first three years of the Second World War, *Earth and High Heaven* captured the hearts and minds of its generation and helped to shape the more diverse and inclusive culture we have today. Published in 1944, this classic novel was very timely; it spoke of the prejudices of its time, when Gentiles and Jews did not mix in society. *Earth and High Heaven* was the most successful novel of its time, winning many awards and prizes, including the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award in 1945 (an award founded to reward books that exposed racism or explored the richness of human diversity). It was translated into eighteen languages and the film rights were purchased by Samuel Goldwyn for a remarkable \$100,000. *Earth and High Heaven* was the first Canadian novel to top the New York Times bestseller list for the better part of a year. 'Life was a wordless battle of wits between us, with her keeping a sharp look-out for

signs of neglect, and me trying to disguise my slovenliness by subterfuge. I became an adept at sweeping dust under the bed, and always used the same few pieces of silver' Unimpressed by the world of debutante balls, Monica Dickens shocked her family by getting a job. With no experience whatsoever, she gained employment as a cook-general. Monica's cooking and cleaning skills left much to be desired, and her first few positions were short lived, but soon she started to hold her own. Monica discovered the pleasure of daily banter with the milkman and grocer's boy and the joy of doing an honest day's work, all the while keeping a wry eye on the childish pique of her employers. *One Pair of Hands* is a fascinating and thoroughly entertaining memoir of life upstairs and downstairs in the early 1930s.

INTRODUCED BY LISSA EVANS 'I envy anyone yet to discover the joy of Monica Dickens. She's beady eyed, big hearted and blissfully funny' Nina Stibbe Poppy, newly recruited cub reporter at the *Downingham Post*, is determined to prove to the editor that he's wrong in his belief that 'Women are a nuisance in the office'. He certainly doesn't think she's a nuisance when it's time for the tea round - a job which never fails to fall to the only female reporter. What Poppy lacks in experience, she makes up for in spirit and ambition. She'll make the *Downingham Post* the best regional newspaper there is - even if she occasionally gets the names wrong in court hearings. Life, for a single professional woman in the post-war years, certainly has its challenges - from finding a room, when the tyrannical landlady doesn't consider Poppy to be quite respectable, to changing her editor's deeply entrenched ways. This semi-autobiographical novel, recounted with Monica Dickens's wit, warmth and wry observation, will charm all who read it. If you enjoyed *My Turn to Make the Tea*, you will love *One Pair of Feet*, Dickens's novel of being a wartime trainee nurse, also published in *Virago Modern Classics*.

Until now, Mollie Panter-Downes's stories, originally published in *The New Yorker*, have been unavailable in English. They explore most aspects of British life during WWII in great detail.

A 1930 novel by Persephone Books' most popular writer about a girl who sets up a dress shop.

Still-young naval officer, unexpectedly retired by a cut in armed forces appropriations, must create a new life in mufti.

To celebrate having reached their one hundredth volume, here is Persephone's marvelous collection of short stories by women. They are very well chosen: some are by first-rank authors, including Katherine Mansfield, Edith Wharton, Dorothy Parker, Irène Némirovsky and Penelope Fitzgerald; others from well-known writers who have been championed by the imprint and deservedly gained fresh recognition, such as Dorothy Whipple and Mollie Panter-Downes. There are 30 stories in all, and all remarkably unhampered by their time. The first, Susan Glaspell's story of love and lexicography from 1909, seems as bold as the last, by Georgina Hammick (from 1986), though you might not have found such an unflinching description of a gynaecological procedure 103 years ago. Put-upon mothers, exasperated wives, discarded mistresses - shared tropes bind these disparate stories into a coherent whole. A stand-out is Norah Hoult's 1938 story of a wife whose husband is grateful for the money her gentleman friend pays her

for sex.

The mid-twentieth century British novelist Elizabeth Taylor numbered among her admirers Elizabeth Bowen, Ivy Compton-Burnett, and Kingsley Amis. She also regularly published stories in *The New Yorker* for close to two decades. For all that, her work, as steely as it is delicate, remains the secret of a small number of intensely devoted readers. The publication of her finest novel, *A Game of Hide and Seek*, long unavailable in the United States, should help to change that. This is an unabashed love story, capturing all the uncertainty and inevitability and deceptiveness of true love, tracking the shifting currents of emotional life, and never yielding to melodrama. Set in Britain between the wars, a time of transition between old convention and new ways, the book has for a heroine Harriet, the only child of a suffragette, whom we meet as a shy and domestic and not especially smart or pretty girl. At eighteen she falls in love with Vesey, but after Vesey must go away, she marries another man, Charles, and bears a child. Then Vesey returns. Love is at the center of the book, but so too is Taylor's extraordinary knack for depicting characters. The minor figures in the book—from Harriet's mother's friend Caroline, with her progressive politics, to Charles, his coworkers, and his mother, to Betsy with her schoolgirl crush on her Greek teacher—are as memorable as the passion and heartache of Harriet and Vesey. When Lily and Ida meet on a flight to America, they embark on a relationship that is to see them through two very different marriages. Lily wants passionately to help people, and to experience romance and adventure at the same time. Falling in love with a married man was not part of the plan. In order to escape her abusive father, Ida flees to America to marry Buddy, looking forward to a clean slate with her new husband. But is having a house and being Mrs. Someone enough for her? Married life will bring them comfort, distress, joy and tragedy in equal measure as the years unfold. Only their friendship can carry them through. First published in 1988, *Dear Doctor Lily* follows two women as they navigate the complexities of love, family, and friendship.

Women from all walks of life have been thrown together by the War. Together they must toil for long hours in the aircraft factory whilst striving to navigate their disrupted lives. Overseeing their work is the kindly Edward Ledward, whose beloved rabbits provide an escape from his loveless marriage. Given a promotion, and somewhat scared of 'his girls', Edward quickly finds himself out of his depth. But will these terrifying women be his ruin or his salvation? Set during World War II and covering themes of love, family, and independence, *The Fancy* is above all a human story, a study of everyday life and its extraordinary characters. It was first published in 1945.

"There's a dash of action, a sprinkle of cheer, and a lot of love to warm up this sweet, sexy wintertime tale." —Publishers Weekly on *Moonlight Over Manhattan*, starred review
Determined to conquer a lifetime of shyness, Harriet Knight challenges herself to do one thing a day in December that scares her, including celebrating Christmas without her family. But when dog walker Harriet meets her newest client, exuberant

spaniel Madi, she adds an extra challenge to her list—dealing with Madi’s temporary dog sitter, gruff doctor Ethan Black, and their very unexpected chemistry. Ethan thought he was used to chaos, until he met Madi—how can one tiny dog cause such mayhem? To Ethan, the solution is simple—he will pay Harriet to share his New York apartment and provide twenty-four-hour care. But there’s nothing simple about how Harriet makes him feel. Ethan’s kisses make Harriet shine brighter than the stars over moonlit Manhattan. But when his dog-sitting duties are over and Harriet returns to her own home, will she dare to take the biggest challenge of all—letting Ethan know he has her heart for life, not just for Christmas? Don't miss Sarah Morgan's next book, *The Summer Seekers!*

The story of a young Englishwoman's growth towards maturity in the 1930's, a funny, readable, and perceptive account of life and love.

A governess is sent by an employment agency to the wrong address, where she encounters a glamorous night-club singer, Miss LaFosse.

A novel about a happy, successful, middle-class, pre-war family, and the disintegration and devastation that the Second World War brought on.

This novel by the great granddaughter of Charles Dickens was a bestseller when it was originally published in 1940. "Mariana" is the often-comical story of a typical English girl growing up in the 1930s, who has no idea what to do with her life.

Hilary Wainright, a young English poet, had lost his wife and child in France during the war.

A reissue of the 1956 novel in which Hatty, a middle-aged woman who grew up feeling out of place in her family and in the world, gains new insights into her past and future while honeymooning in Ibiza with her much-younger husband.

'Times are changed with him who marries; there are no more bypath meadows where you may innocently linger, but the road lies long and straight and dusty to the grave.' So wrote Robert Louis Stevenson. Christine feels bound to agree. 'My wife can do anything,' Vinson says. Struggling to comply with this statement, Christine has to adjust to life in America, whilst catering to Vinson's idea of a good spouse. She must force a sycophantic smile for the wife of Admiral Hamer (who wears patent-leather shoes like bananas) in an effort to ease his promotion. There must be a cold Turkey and a cold ham at every party and she must suffer her ridiculous mother-in-law. Bitter arguments are relieved by bleak silences. As the realities of married life wash away her rosy dream of it, Christine begins to wonder if Vinson is really what she wants. First published in 1953, *No More Meadows* unravels the threads of a very real marriage. Full of her inimitable warmth and sense of idiosyncratic character, Monica Dickens explores Christine's heart-warming – and at times heart-breaking – search for happiness.

"William—An Englishman" by Cicely Hamilton. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

"A brilliant, bittersweet upstairs-downstairs comedy."--Guardian

From the bestselling author of the "glorious, heartfelt" (Rowan Coleman, *New York*

Times bestselling author) novel *The Magnificent Mrs. Mayhew* comes a warm-hearted tale about two people brought together by fate. Laurie and Pete should never have met. But life has a different idea. Six months ago, on the same night, Laurie and Pete both lost their partners. Overwhelmed by their grief, they join the same counselling group...and change their lives forever. From their profound sadness, Pete and Laurie begin to find happiness and healing. Except, the more they get to know one another, the more Laurie begins to spot the strange parallels in their stories. Then Pete discovers a truth that changes everything—one which threatens to reverse everything they've worked towards. But, as surely as a compass points north, some people cannot be kept apart. With Milly Johnson's signature "warm, optimistic, and romantic" (Katie Forde, bestselling author) style, *My One True North* is an unforgettable exploration of the power of love, friendship, and hope.

[Copyright: f8b802643ea2120b271849e6b3bcc1b8](#)