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*Dead Men S Trousers*

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## **BALLARD HARDY**

*A Sense of Freedom* Random House

A best-selling authoress of Regency romances suffers a paralyzing stroke and plots revenge on her unfaithful husband; a soccer thug and his love go in search of the man who marketed the drug that crippled her in order to cripple him; Lloyd and Heather explore the true nature of house music and chemical romance in the grim backstreets of Edinburgh."

*Porno* Words & Pictures

Suitable only for persons of strong constitution. Contains: Drug use Perversion Murder Corruption Sexism Racism Law Enforcement And a tapeworm

**Reheated Cabbage** Birlinn Ltd

The most terrifying character in "Trainspotting" returns -- with his own novel. Jim Francis has finally found the perfect life -- and is now unrecognisable, even to himself. A successful painter and sculptor, he lives quietly with his wife, Melanie, and their two young daughters, in an affluent beach town in California. Some say he's a fake and a con man, while others see him as a genuine visionary. But Francis has a very dark past, with another identity and a very different set of values. When he crosses the Atlantic to his native Scotland, for the funeral of a murdered son he barely knew, his old Edinburgh community expects him to take bloody revenge. But as he confronts his previous life, all those friends and enemies -- and, most alarmingly, his former self -- Francis seems to have other ideas. When Melanie discovers something gruesome in California, which indicates that her husband's violent past might also be his psychotic present, things start to go very bad, very quickly. "The Blade Artist" is an elegant, electrifying novel -- ultra violent but curiously redemptive -- and it marks the return of one of modern fiction's most infamous, terrifying characters, the incendiary Francis Begbie from "Trainspotting."

*The Seal Club* Dead Men's Trousers

Will Jason King ever charm the young rider Jenni Cahill and gain long-anticipated access to her jodhpurs? Part of the Storycuts series, this story was previously published in the collection *If You Liked School, You'll Love Work*.

Random House

This middle grade novel by bestselling author Nadia Hashimi tells the affecting story of an Afghan-American boy who believes his mother has been deported. For fans of *Inside Out* and *Back Again* and *Counting by 7s*, Jason has just learned that his Afghan mother has been living illegally in the United States since his father was killed in Afghanistan. Although Jason was born in the US, it's hard to feel American now when he's terrified that his mother will be discovered—and that they will be separated. When he sees his

mother being escorted from her workplace by two officers, Jason feels completely alone. He boards a train with the hope of finding his aunt in New York City, but as soon as he arrives in Penn Station, the bustling city makes him wonder if he's overestimated what he can do. After an accident lands him in the hospital, Jason finds an unlikely ally in a fellow patient. Max, a whip-smart girl who wants nothing more than to explore the world on her own terms, joins Jason in planning a daring escape out of the hospital and into the skyscraper jungle—even though they both know that no matter how big New York City is, they won't be able to run forever.

*Skagboys* Random House

Irvine Welsh's controversial first novel, set on the heroin-addicted fringe of working-class youth in Edinburgh, is yet another exploration of the dark side of Scottishness. The main character, Mark Renton, is at the center of a clique of nihilistic slacker junkies with no hopes and no possibilities, and only "mind-numbing and spirit-crushing" alternatives in the straight world they despise. This particular slice of humanity has nothing left but the blackest of humor and a sharpness of wit. American readers can use the glossary in the back to translate the slang and dialect--essential, since the dialogue makes the book. This is a bleak vision sung as musical comedy. Amazon.

*Glue* Random House

A child-sex predator is on the loose and Detective Lennox, terrified and determined is going to protect the victim at any cost. Detective Inspector Ray Lennox has fled to Miami to escape the aftermath of a mental breakdown induced by occupational stress and cocaine abuse, and a harrowing child-sex murder case back in Edinburgh. But his fiancée Trudi is only interested in planning their wedding, leaving Lennox cast adrift, alone in Florida. A coke-fuelled binge brings him into contact with another victim of sexual predation, ten-year-old Tianna, and Lennox flees across the state with his terrified charge, determined to protect her at any cost. Can Lennox trust his own instincts? And can he handle Tianna, while still trying to get to grips with the Edinburgh murder? 'Welsh is one of our most interesting writers' Sunday Telegraph 'A disturbing but vital read' Harper's Bazaar \*DISCOVER THE SECOND NOVEL IN IRVINE WELSH'S CRIME SERIES, THE LONG KNIVES, NOW\*

**The Victorian Book of the Dead** Pan Macmillan

They Don't Think They're Gonna Let You Stay in the Film Business *Performers* deals with masculinity at the point when the sexual revolution was saturating culture. For many working-class men, it was confusing and threatening. As secularism started to replace traditional Judaeo-Christian attitudes, a lot of men found themselves torn between embracing the liberation and clinging to the simpler, more morally binary past. In the swinging and hallucinogenic London of 1968, visionary Scottish filmmaker

Donald Cammell joined forces with cinematographer Nicolas Roeg to make "Performance". The film would star James Fox, Mick Jagger and Anita Pallenberg, but the casting process was frustrating for Cammell because he insisted on bringing "real villains" into the roles that supported the lead character of South London gangster Chas Devlin. David Litvinoff, a chameleon like character who bridged the worlds of rock and roll and organized crime, was employed as dialogue coach because of his connections and he set about introducing "real villains" to Donald Cammell. What started out as an acting vehicle for Mick Jagger soon took detours as Cammell began experimenting with the script. He developed the theme of dualism and became inspired by the writings of Borges and the paintings of Francis Bacon. Violence, psychedelic drugs, sex and a homo-erotic subtext became enmeshed in a story about the fracturing of the male psyche. David Litvinoff persuaded many London criminals to audition for roles in the film. *Performers* is the story of two of them. On release, "Performance" was disowned by Warner Brothers, refused distribution, banned in certain countries and attacked by the mainstream media over its gratuitous sex, violence and illicit drug consumption. "Performance" did however go on to become a critical success and remains a cult classic. The filming took its toll on those involved though, most notably James Fox, who suffered a nervous breakdown and retired from acting for a period of time. Many believe that this was a result of Fox's method acting and his submergence in the London criminal underworld in preparation for the role, which Cammell enthusiastically encouraged. Today the film is cited as a huge influence on director Martin Scorsese and many other filmmakers and has gained a place in pop culture as the "coolest" and most accurate portrayal of swinging London ever documented. "Performers" is a dark, subtle comedy with a cast of 4. A play of one scene, that narrates the story of two unwitting gangsters who find themselves auditioning for a part in the film. Homoerotic in parts, somewhat misogynistic, packed full of cultural reference points from the swinging sixties, the play presents an altogether inspiring twist on a classic casting couch situation.

*Dead Men Walking* Random House

On the goldfields of 19th-century Australia, two very different girls are trying to escape their past. English governess Violet Hartley has fled from England after a scandalous liaison. Now she is angling for a rich husband and a new life. Little Cat is fleeing from her home in Southern China after killing the powerful old man who tried to rape her. Disguised as a boy, she joins the huge Chinese workforce on the goldfields of Victoria. But the son of the murdered man is on her trail, intent on vengeance. Violet Hartley becomes first suspicious, then jealous of the delicate looking Chinese boy.

*The Bedroom Secrets of the Master Chefs* Random House

The bestselling Richard and Judy Book Club pick The Sunday Times Bestseller and BBC Radio 2 Book Club Pick 'Dark, dramatic and full of danger' - Daily Mail For readers of Circe and The Handmaid's Tale, Kiran Millwood Hargrave's The Mercies is inspired by real historical events. The storm comes in like a finger snap . . . 1617. The sea around the remote Norwegian island of Vardø is thrown into a vicious storm. A young woman, Maren, watches as the men of the island, out fishing, perish in an instant. Vardø is now a place of women . . . Eighteen months later, a sinister figure arrives. Absalom Cornet has been summoned to bring the women of the island to heel. With him travels his young wife, Ursa. In her new home, and in Maren, Ursa encounters something she has never seen before: independent women. But where Ursa finds happiness, even love, Absalom sees only a place flooded with a terrible evil, one he must root out at all costs . . . A story about how suspicion can twist its way through a community, about a love that could prove as dangerous as it is powerful. 'Gripping' - Madeline Miller, author of Circe 'Took my breath away' - Tracy Chevalier, author of Girl With a Pearl Earring 'A beautifully intimate story of friendship, love and hope' - Douglas Stuart, author of Shuggie Bain 'Something rare and beautiful' - Marian Keyes, author of Again, Rachel 'Chilling and page-turning' - The Times

**Filth** Random House

**Dead Men's Trousers** Random House

**The Ragged Trousered Philanthropists** Random House

The explosive sequel to *Trainspotting*—ten years down the line. Still scheming, still scamming – it's ten years later and the boys from *Trainspotting* are still trying to fight for the first-class seats as the locomotive careers at high speed towards the buffers. Simon "Sick Boy" Williamson is back in his native Edinburgh after a spell in London. Having failed spectacularly as a hustler, pimp, husband, father and businessman, he taps into an opportunity, which to him represents one last throw of the dice. For this scam to work, Sick Boy needs bedfellows. A desirable one may be the lovely Nicola Fuller-Smith, a young student with enough ambition, ego and troubles to rival his own. However, to realize his dream of directing and producing a pornographic movie, Sick Boy teams up with old pal and fellow exile Mark Renton and a motley crew that includes the city's favourite ex-aerated-water-salesman, "Juice" Terry Lawson. In the world of *Porno*, however, nothing is straightforward as Sick Boy and Renton find out that they have unresolved issues to address concerning the increasingly unhinged Frank Begbie, the troubled, drug-addled Spud, but, most of all, with each other. From the Trade Paperback edition.

**4-Play** Random House

**\*\*A SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER\*\*** Mark Renton from *Trainspotting* is back – and he's finally a success. An international jet-setter, he now makes significant money managing DJs, but the constant travel, airport lounges, soulless hotel rooms and broken relationships have left him dissatisfied with his life. He's then rocked by a chance encounter with Frank Begbie, from whom he'd been hiding for years after a terrible betrayal and the resulting debt. But the psychotic Begbie appears to have reinvented himself as a celebrated artist and – much to Mark's astonishment – doesn't seem interested in revenge. Sick Boy and Spud, who have agendas of their own, are intrigued to learn that their old friends are back in town, but when they enter the bleak world of organ-harvesting, things start to go so badly wrong. Lurching

from crisis to crisis, the four men circle each other, driven by their personal histories and addictions, confused, angry – so desperate that even Hibs winning the Scottish Cup doesn't really help. One of these four will not survive to the end of this book. Which one of them is wearing Dead Men's Trousers? 'Welsh is on compulsively readable, searingly funny form' The Times 'No one captures the competing affections and resentments that underpin lifelong friendships like Welsh' Esquire

**Marabou Stork Nightmares** Random House

**\*Number #1 Bestseller\*\* BEFORE TRAINSPOTTING CAME**

**SKAGBOYS** Mark Renton has it all: he's good-looking, young, with a pretty girlfriend and a bright future. But there's no room for him in the 1980s and when his family starts to fracture, Mark's life swings out of control. The way out is heroin. It's no better for his friends - Spud Murphy is laid off from his job, Tommy Lawrence finds himself sucked into a life of petty crime, violence and the world of the psychotic Franco Begbie. Only Sick Boy seems to ride the current, scamming and hustling his way through it all. Exhilarating and moving, *Skagboys* charts their journey from likely lads to young addicts in a decade which changed Britain forever. 'Masterful... its banter, outrage and razor wit sing off the page' Independent 'Funny... visceral and true... Welsh's finest work to date' The Times

**Kingdom of Fife (Storycuts)** Random House

Stasiuk's masterpiece—in line with the work of Danilo Kis and countryman Bruno Schulz—is finally made available in English in a stunning translation by Bill Johnston. At several points in the haunting *Dukla*, Andrzej Stasiuk claims that what he is trying to do is “write a book about light.” The result is a beautiful, lyrical series of evocations of a very specific locale at different times of the year, in different kinds of weather, and with different human landscapes. *Dukla*, in fact, is a real place: a small resort town not far from where Stasiuk now lives. Taking an usual form—a short essay, a novella, and then a series of brief portraits of local people or events—this book, though bordering on the metaphysical, the mystical, even the supernatural, never loses sight of the particular time, and above all place, in which it is rooted. Andrzej Stasiuk is one of the leading writers of Poland's younger generation, and is currently one of the most popular Polish novelists in English translation.

**A Decent Ride** Random House

From brightly coloured corals to shimmering shoals of fish, the diversity of life on a coral reef is celebrated in this visually stunning picture book with a strong ecological message about the need to protect this most precious of environments. Through gentle rhyme and intricately etched artwork, it explores the life cycle, diversity and colour of the coral reef ecosystem, as well as the threats the reef faces and what we can do to save it. With each page packed full of delightful sea creatures to discover and enjoy, this is a lyrical and engaging way to learn about the life cycle of a coral reef.

**Performers** Random House

'I'm a HUGE fan of Alison Green's "Ask a Manager" column. This book is even better' Robert Sutton, author of *The No Asshole Rule* and *The Asshole Survival Guide* 'Ask A Manager is the book I wish I'd had in my desk drawer when I was starting out (or even, let's be honest, fifteen years in)' - Sarah Knight, New York Times bestselling author of *The Life-Changing Magic of Not Giving a F\*ck* A witty, practical guide to navigating 200 difficult professional conversations Ten years as a workplace advice columnist has

taught Alison Green that people avoid awkward conversations in the office because they don't know what to say. Thankfully, Alison does. In this incredibly helpful book, she takes on the tough discussions you may need to have during your career. You'll learn what to say when: · colleagues push their work on you - then take credit for it · you accidentally trash-talk someone in an email and hit 'reply all' · you're being micromanaged - or not being managed at all · your boss seems unhappy with your work · you got too drunk at the Christmas party With sharp, sage advice and candid letters from real-life readers, *Ask a Manager* will help you successfully navigate the stormy seas of office life.

**The Coral Kingdom** Hachette UK

When the necrons rise, a mining planet descends into a cauldron of war and the remorseless foes decimate the human defenders. Salvation comes in an unlikely form – the Death Korps of Kreig, a force as unfeeling as the Necrons themselves. When the two powers go to war, casualties are high and the magnitude of the destruction is unimaginable.

**Ask a Manager** Dalkey Archive Press

"An incredibly interesting work." —Jane Smiley "A straight up masterwork." —Sarah Silverman "Blisteringly funny." —Corey Seymour "A transcendent apocalyptic satire." —Michael Silverblatt "Crackling with life." —Paul Theroux "Great fun." —Salman Rushdie "A provocative debut." —Kirkus Reviews From legendary actor and activist Sean Penn comes a scorching, "charmingly weird" (Booklist, starred review) novel about Bob Honey—a modern American man, entrepreneur, and part-time assassin. Bob Honey has a hard time connecting with other people, especially since his divorce. He's tired of being marketed to every moment, sick of a world where even an orgasm isn't real until it is turned into a tweet. A paragon of old-fashioned American entrepreneurship, Bob sells septic tanks to Jehovah's Witnesses and arranges pyrotechnic displays for foreign dictators. He's also a contract killer for an off-the-books program run by a branch of United States intelligence that targets the elderly, the infirm, and others who drain society of its resources. When a nosy journalist starts asking questions, Bob can't decide if it's a chance to form some sort of new friendship or the beginning of the end for him. With treason on everyone's lips, terrorism in everyone's sights, and American political life sinking to ever-lower standards, Bob decides it's time to make a change—if he doesn't get killed by his mysterious controllers or exposed in the rapacious media first. A thunderbolt of startling images and painted "with a broadly satirical, Vonnegut-ian brush" (Kirkus Reviews), *Bob Honey Who Just Do Stuff* is one of the year's most controversial and talked about literary works.

**Ecstasy** Bloomsbury Publishing

Irvine Welsh, 'poet laureate of the chemical generation', exposes the seamy underbelly of rave's utopian dream. Lloyd, our permanently pilled-up protagonist, pushes his weekends to breaking point and beyond in this frazzled trip through Scottish clubland. He experiences the vertiginous uppers and downers of the Second Summer of Love, dabbles in a spot of disc jockeying and closes in, gradually, on some kind of redemption... Selected from Irvine Welsh's novel *Ecstasy*. VINTAGE MINIS: GREAT MINDS. BIG IDEAS. LITTLE BOOKS. A series of short books by the world's greatest writers on the experiences that make us human Also in the Vintage Minis series: *Home* by Salman Rushdie *Dreams* by Sigmund Freud *Eating* by Nigella Lawson *Work* by Joseph Heller

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