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A Careless Widow and Other Stories

Just in time for Valentine's Day comes a confection from David Levithan that is sure to have fans of Boy Meets Boy eager to devour it. Here are 18 stories, all about love, all kinds of love. From the aching for the one you pine for, to standing up and speaking up for the one you love, to pure joy and happiness, these love stories run the gamut of that emotion that at some point has turned every one of us inside out and upside down. What is love? With this original story collection, David Levithan proves that love is a many splendored thing, a varied, complicated, addictive, wonderful thing. From the Trade Paperback edition.

The End of Desire

With 5.6 million spas and hot tubs in the United States (260,000 installed last year alone) service technicians and do-it-yourselfers have been clamoring for a practical user-friendly guide to demystify the purchase, repair, installation, and everyday maintenance of spas and tubs. And here it is. This first-ever book on the subject utilizes easy-to-follow photos and text to walk the reader through every necessary procedure--purchasing, installing, heating, winterizing, understanding water chemistry, troubleshooting and repair, automatic cleaning, decks and enclosures, enhancements, and much more. * Tricks of the Trade: special insider tips throughout the book speed and simplify each task * Tools of the Trade: a parts and tools list for each procedure makes preparation simple and assures success * A complete resource guide listing websites, manufacturers, sources of cost-saving generic replacement parts, and more * Realistic cost estimates of components, equipment, and upgrades makes anyone an educated shopper * Quick Start Guides: a short, summarized list for each common task helps the reader start right and finish quickly * All data and measurements presented in both English and standard metric dimensions for use in any country

The Adolescent Storm - A handbook for parents

This volume comprises papers presented at the 2nd International Conference on Advanced Nondestructive Evaluation (ANDE 2007) held in Busan, Korea, on October 17-19, 2007. Many of the excellent papers included in this book show the current state of nondestructive technologies, which are experiencing rapid progress with the integration of emerging technologies in various fields. As such, this volume provides an avenue for both specialists and scholars to share their ideas and the results of their findings in the field of nondestructive evaluation.

Where You Find it

Politically, as well as philosophically, concerns with human rights have permeated many of the most important debates on social justice worldwide for fully a half-century. Henry Shue's 1980 book on Basic Rights proved to be a pioneering contribution to those debates, and one that continues to elicit both critical and constructive comment. Global Basic Rights brings together many of the most influential contemporary writers in political philosophy and international relations - Charles Beitz, Robert Goodin, Christian Reus-Smit, Andrew Hurrell, Judith Lichtenberg, Elizabeth Ashford, Thomas Pogge, Neta Crawford, Richard Miller, David Luban, Jeremy Waldron and Simon Caney- to explore some of the most challenging theoretical and practical questions that Shue's work provokes. These range from the question of the responsibilities of the global rich to redress severe poverty to the permissibility of using torture to gain information to fight international terrorism. The contributors explore the continuing value of the idea of "basic rights" in understanding moral challenges as diverse as child labor and global climate change.

Murder 101

Collects poems, seen through a melancholic lens, about such topics as war memorials, Rush Limbaugh, and insomniac chickens.

Lone Star Blessings

A collection of poetry explores such concerns as childhood and adolescence shattered by the death of a father and the struggles of a single mother to raise her daughters

The 100th Day of School

From the Scottish author of "Foreign Parts" comes a collection of short stories that gazes unflinchingly at the struggle to love against the odds.

Country Pursuits

Describes the true story of five young American men who left a life of privilege and an Ivy League education to join the British Army and fight the Nazis six months before the United States became involved in World War II. 30,000 first printing.

Road Novels 1957-1960

A woman's faith in God is challenged by the first question Satan asks Eve in the Bible: "Did God really say you can't eat from any tree in the garden?" That seed of doubt and the story it begins to unfold breed a concept of fear still haunting each of us on some level every day-the idea that our actions could ruin something beautiful, and God might not have control of things. In *What Women Fear*, acclaimed writer and speaker Angie Smith admits, "fear is a major part of my testimony" and talks openly about her treatment for anxiety as a child. Giving a voice to the problem, she says, "I truly believe every single one of us struggles with some type of fear, whether it's fear of flying or fear of being 'found out.' Maybe you don't worry about dying, but you get sick thinking about the fact that you might fail." Rather than suggesting that those who truly love the Lord would never fear, Angie blends her own experiences with those of men and women from throughout Scripture to help us start dealing more effectively with these true, human emotions. Whether it's a constant "What if?," a nagging fear of abandonment or betrayal, fear of your own or someone else's death, fear of trusting God's plan, or even the fear that God's existence is a lie, Angie will walk you through stories of others who have simultaneously loved God and struggled with fear. Join Angie and discover how to let Jesus redeem this struggle as only He can, that He will be glorified, and you will be transformed! Endorsements Angie Smith has the rare gift to write a non-fiction page-turner as good as any fiction book I've read. As her words tumbled out in raw honesty, fresh hope spread before me. Her teachings on fear are comforting, practical, and gut honest. I can't wait for you to read this life-changing book. *What Women Fear* is one of my favorites this year. Honestly, I think it will stay next to my bed for a very long time. Lysa TerKeurst, New York Times best-selling author of *Made to Crave* You don't have to be around Angie Smith very long to fall in love with her. She is funny and transparent with a passionate love for Christ. In *What Women Fear* Angie holds up a mirror so that we can see ourselves from every angle, the thoughts we display on the front shelves of our lives and those we hide. The greatest gift tucked into this book is the overwhelming picture of the mercy of our God who understands our fears and invites us to stand beside Him in the rain and let His love wash us clean. Sheila Walsh, author of *The Shelter of God's Promises* Whatever high wire you're walking right now, there really is nobody you want at the other end of the line like Angie Smith. And this rare gem of a book is like a steadying, sure hand taking you right into His presence in ways you never imagined. Vivid, profoundly biblical, yet girlfriend real with just-the-medicine-you-need-funny, every page is reviving hope for every woman. Simply, Angie Smith is a Bible teacher for such a time as this. Ann Voskamp, New York Times best-selling author of *One Thousand Gifts*

The Clothes On Their Backs

Please note this is a 'Palgrave to Order' title. Stock of this book requires shipment from an overseas supplier. It will be delivered to you within 12 weeks. This book grapples with two basic questions. What is history? And How can history help illuminate contemporary concerns about the nature and character of America's schools? From antiquity to the postmodern present, history has served multiple purposes, including a basic human need to learn from what came before. Americans have long invested considerable time, energy, and emotion in their

schools, both private and public, and a knowledge of history helps explain why.

Ghost Dancing

With an inimitable wit and insight, this encouraging tome humorously addresses what women can do to lead more balanced lives. Women learn how to tackle anxiety, envy, guilt, and other sources of stress, while giving in to indulgences and desires like sex, food, friends, family, and shopping.

What Makes Women Happy

The Queen's Secret

New York Times bestselling author Faye Kellerman's beloved Decker and Lazarus embark on a new life in upstate New York—and find themselves entangled in deception, intrigue, and murder in an elite, picturesque college town. As a detective lieutenant with the LAPD, Peter Decker witnessed enough ugliness and chaos for a lifetime. Now he and his spirited wife, Rina Lazarus, are ready to enjoy the quiet beauty of upstate New York, where they can be closer to their four adult children, grandchildren, and their foster son, Gabe. But working for the Greenbury Police Department isn't as fulfilling as Decker hoped. While Rina has adapted beautifully to their new surroundings, Decker is underwhelmed and frustrated by his new partner, Tyler McAdams, a former Harvard student and young buck with a bad attitude. Just when he thinks he's made a mistake, Decker is called to an actual crime—a possible break-in at the local cemetery. The call seems like a false alarm until it's discovered that a mausoleum's stunning Tiffany panels have been replaced by forgeries. Soon the case escalates into murder: a co-ed at an exclusive consortium of liberal-arts colleges is brutally slaughtered. Poking into the hallowed halls of academia to find a killer, Decker and McAdams are drawn deep into a web of nasty secrets, cold-case crimes, international intrigue, and ruthless people who kill for sport. Suddenly Decker's job is anything but boring, and the case might be too much to handle for a sleepy town that hasn't seen a murder for nearly a quarter century. Decker will need to use every bit of his keen mind, his thirty years of experience as a homicide cop, and much-appreciated help from family and old friends to stop a callous killer and uncover a cabal so bizarre that it defies logic.

What Women Fear

The emotive final instalment of the Hillsbridge Sagas, perfect for fans of Ellie Dean and Rosie Clarke Jenny Simmons has always thought of herself as the ugly duckling of her family, so when she blossoms into a swan, she's not quite sure what to do with it. When amateur boxer Bryn Thompson walks into her life, it seems happiness really is possible. But then a well-kept family secret rears its ugly head, a secret that could put her very life in danger Helen Hall, a newly qualified doctor, may just be able to help her, but will she risk the job she loves in order to do it? *divA Family Affair*, a story of life, love and hope will appeal to fans of Maggie Hope and Katy Flynn. 'Sensitive and exceptionally polished' Manchester Evening News The Hillsbridge Sagas The Black Mountains The Emerald Valley The Hills and the Valley

A Family Affair

Viajes: Introduccion al espanol

To learn how to make movies, Ella becomes the personal assistant of Italian movie producer Santo Corretti. However, Santo's fame isn't limited to the film industry. He's also the son of a Sicilian noble, and being the arrogant playboy that he is, he can't help trying to seduce Ella with his sweet smile. Ella has sworn to never have a relationship with her boss. However, when Santo summons her one morning, she's shocked to find him in distress. Unsure what happened to his bottomless confidence, she can't help but feel sorry for him—and consoles him with a kiss.

The Forbidden Lady

What does a widowed father know about raising a preteen girl? Sheriff Tucker Grey is on top of basic needs, but when it comes to hair, clothes and first crushes, he's at a loss. Until Kate Lambert returns to Rosewood, Texas. His daughter's new Sunday School teacher seems exactly what the girl needs. Except when it comes to a mother. Tucker has loved and lost once and has no room in his heart for anyone. Especially a big-city gal like Kate. But she soon has this lone star lawman counting his blessings... herself included.

A LEGACY OF SECRETS

Storytelling in World Cinemas, Vol. 2: Contexts addresses the questions of what and why particular stories are told in films around the world, both in terms of the forms of storytelling used, and of the political, religious, historical, and social contexts informing cinematic storytelling. Drawing on films from all five continents, the book approaches storytelling from a cultural/historical multidisciplinary perspective, focusing on the influence of cultural politics, postcolonialism, women's social and cultural positions, and religious contexts on film stories. Like its sister volume, Storytelling in World Cinemas, Vol. 1: Forms, this book is an innovative addition to the academic study of world cinemas.

Living a Political Life

In Bitter Trail, Kelton tells the story of a tough teamster named Frio Wheeler whose wagons haul cotton from Texas to Mexico. Sounds like a peaceable enterprise? The problem is that the Civil War is raging throughout the South and Wheeler's cotton is to be sold for gold--gold used to buy guns and ammunition for the Confederate army. And, added to his balky mules, the broiling heat, and killing drought of the Mexican dessert, Wheeler has even more serious matters to contend with: His wagons are attacked, his cotton bales are burned, he is captured and tortured by banditos in league with Union sympathizers, and he is betrayed by his best friend--his former partner and brother of the woman he loves! At the Publisher's request, this title is being sold without Digital Rights Management Software (DRM) applied.

The Gift of Ford

THE FIRST SEDUCTION Christy Garrett and Jake McCrae had been high school sweethearts—and eventually lovers. It all ended suddenly...horribly one hot night when Christy sent Jake away...without explanation. THE LAST SEDUCTION Jake had never gotten Christy out of his system. Time hadn't healed his wounded heart. Now he was back in Palm Springs. Determined to find answers and uncover her secrets. Determined to make slow, agonizing, passionate love to Christy just once—and then leave. For good.

The Ultimate Guide to Spas and Hot Tubs

Following widespread news that Toronto Police are in possession of the alleged Rob Ford crack cocaine video, there has never been a better time to read the essential backgrounder to Rob Ford's increasingly wild and erratic mayoralty. When people talk about recalling politicians, it's usually because the politician delivered something other than what they advertised, and the voters voted for--lies, frauds and infidelities. Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, however, is exactly what the voters endorsed. They elected him with full knowledge of his obstreperous history as a city councillor, his inability to play well with others, his one-track mind and one-track message. His opponents warned voters that his platform was mostly wishful thinking. But Torontonians voted for him anyway. The story of Rob Ford is the story of what happens when voters--the supreme authority--throw a wrench into the gears of democracy and elect someone who can't govern, and manifestly never could. Ford's mayoralty has forced Toronto to reconsider questions that seemed settled long, long ago. What kind of city chose this man to take the helm? Where does a mayor derive his mandate--from the voters, the polls, or talk radio? Does it matter if a man is a national embarrassment if he's popular at home? Unwittingly, Ford has made possible a resurgence of the urban values that unite conservatives and liberals alike, galvanizing citizens in a way the city hasn't seen in some time. This is The Gift of Ford.

Magical Animals at Bedtime

In a dark and perilous realm, a nameless outcast seeks a voice, a past, and a future: "A dazzling debut" (Jennifer Roberson). In all of Erith, there is perhaps no one as wretched as the nameless mute foundling confined to the lowest depths of Isse Tower. Abused by many and despised by all, the pathetic creature lives without memories in the shadows. The amnesiac longs to escape—to roam the wild landscape in search of a past, a name, a destiny—but dangers surround the tower. Only flying ships and majestic winged horses carrying important visitors can reach the castle safely, landing high above the ground on its battlements. The local servants whisper about malevolent creatures that roam the forests and bear no love for humankind. Escape seems impossible in this treacherous world of wights and monsters. Praised as Australia's J. R. R. Tolkien, Cecilia Dart-Thornton has set a towering new standard for fantasy fiction, earning the respect and acclaim of readers, reviewers, and some of the world's most renowned fantasists. With roots firmly embedded in the ancient folklore of the British Isles, The Ill-Made Mute—the opening volume of Dart-Thornton's magnificent Bitterbynde Trilogy—introduces fantasy lovers to an unforgettable character whose remarkable adventures rival the epic trials of the Bagginses and the tales of The Silmarillion.

Advanced Nondestructive Evaluation II

The gorgeous women of Churchminster know exactly what they want - a constant flow of champagne (on tap at the local pub) and the love of a good man. But faced with the likes of braying, beer-guzzling farmer Angus, foul-tempered Lord Fraser and suave banker Sebastian (devoted only to himself), their attentions are increasingly drawn to more attractive possibilities . . . Meanwhile, when a part of their beloved village comes under threat from a villainous property developer and his bulldozer, the community is united by a different kind of passion. Can they raise enough money to save Churchminster? Will Mick Jagger turn up to the charity ball? And can a person actually die from too much extra-marital sex?

Carl Schmitt and the Politics of Hostility, Violence and Terror

From Aesop's Fables to shamanic totems, animals have long been at the centre of our imaginative world, providing wise insights. In many tribal cultures, animals underpin the spiritual world and are honoured as advisers. This delightful new collection of stories at bedtime features inspiring, funny and enlightening animals from all over the world. Here you will find the firefly who can't find his fire, the baby kangaroo who's ashamed he hasn't yet learned to hop and a condor who lives atop a temple at Machu Picchu in Peru and helps to rescue a lost girl. You will also discover amazing legendary creatures including a fire-breathing dragon who just wants a friend and a beautiful unicorn who teaches a spoilt princess the joy of sharing. The stories will not only excite your child's imagination: they also explore issues your child may well encounter in his or her daily life, including coping with shyness and managing change. 'Magical Messages' at the end of each tale help to highlight its positive message. Designed to be read either by parents to their children or by children on their own, these lovely narratives focus the child's mind and provide a soothing transition into sleep or to give food for thought during daytime reading.

Inevitable Aging?

A collection of stories featuring Jimmy One Rock, his wife Mary, and their family on a disintegrating Native American reservation in the Pacific Northwest presents the themes of loneliness, poverty, and racism

An Untamed Heart

The Long-Awaited Prequel to the RED RIVER OF THE NORTH Series Twenty-year-old Ingeborg Strand is certain she is destined to be an old maid. She's had several suitors but none she deemed worthy of spending her life with. That is, until she meets a university student from Oslo, and feelings stronger than friendship begin to develop between them. But tragedy strikes, and the future begins to look bleaker than ever. Grief settles heavily over Ingeborg, and her mother suggests that she leave Norway and start afresh in America, as so many others have done before her. But how will she accomplish that with little money and no one to accompany her? It isn't long before she meets Roald Bjorklund, a widower who has been planning to go to America for some time, lured by the promise of free land.

He's a good man, a hard-working man--and he has a young son who desperately needs a mother. He's clearly interested in Ingeborg, but is he the answer to her prayers? And what about love? This isn't how she's always imagined it. Ingeborg Strand has a heartrending decision to make

Into Dust and Fire

Businessman Carl Carson decides to make a dash for South America to escape the economic slump. He invents an imaginary son and plans to stage a fictitious kidnapping - after all, what could be more natural than a father liquidating his assets to pay the ransom demand?

The Scope of Morality

The first time Madeleine M. Kunin ran for office it was because she thought there ought to be more women in politics. In time she fulfilled that belief by becoming the first woman governor of Vermont. Throughout her career, Kunin found that the rules for women politicians were different: she would not be forgiven (nor would she forgive herself) for neglecting her family. She could not afford to display emotion at the wrong times lest she be thought "weak." And she would have to learn to play political hardball with the best of them while keeping her integrity. In *Living a Political Life*, Kunin—who is now Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education—takes a frank look at the challenges that confronted her as she tried not just to succeed in politics but to set a precedent for other women. In doing so, she illuminates both what it means to be a woman and what it means to be a public servant and gives us a memoir as thoughtful and revealing as any to emerge from the corridors of power.

Oz, the Complete Collection, Volume 5

VIAJES: Introduccion al espanol, First Edition, immerses students in the cultures of the Spanish-speaking world without overwhelming them with superfluous material. Designed specifically for two-semester courses and/or courses with reduced contact hours, VIAJES: Introduccion al espanol, First Edition, provides comprehensive coverage of the structures appropriate for first year students without compromising the quality of the communication and the attention to cultures. The embedded culture, solid four-skills approach, and systematic attention to the National Standards combined with robust instructor support and a full technology package make this the ideal program for any introductory Spanish course. Important Notice: Media content referenced within the product description or the product text may not be available in the ebook version.

How They Met and Other Stories

Revel in the magic of Oz in this collection of the final three books in L. Frank Baum's classic American fairy tale series. The three concluding titles of the iconic Oz series, now in one collection! In *The Magic of Oz*, the mischievous Kiki Aru has discovered a magical word that can transform him and anyone else into whatever he wants. Worse yet, Kiki has been recruited by the villainous Nome King in his

latest attempt to get revenge on Princess Ozma and all her friends. Can Dorothy and the Wizard stop the evildoers before they conquer Oz? Or will Kiki's incredible powers finally give the Nome King the revenge he has craved for so long? In Glinda of Oz, Dorothy and Ozma journey to a remote part of Oz to stop a war between the Flatheads and the Skeezers. But the Flatheads and Skeezers have a different idea. Soon Ozma and Dorothy are trapped in an amazing crystal-domed city on an enchanted island. The watertight city submerges itself, and only the Wizard and Glinda can save them—but will they make it in time? In The Royal Book of Oz, the Scarecrow goes to search for his family roots. He returns to the cornfield where Dorothy first found him and discovers that he is the Long Lost Emperor of the Silver Island. Will he decide to stay there? Or will he return to Oz?

Anatomy of Melancholy and Other Poems

British poetry is enjoying a period of exceptional richness and variety. This is exciting but it's also confusing, and throws up the need for an enthusiastic guide that can explain and celebrate the many parallel poetry projects now underway. Beyond the Lyric does just that. This is a book of enthusiasms: an intelligent and witty map of contemporary British poetry and a radical, accessible guide to living British poets, grouped for the first time according to the kind of poetry they write. In a series of groundbreaking new classifications, beginning with the bread-and-butter diction of the Plain Dealers and ending on the capacious generosity of the Exploded Lyric, it examines the broad range of contemporary tendencies – from the baroque swagger of the Dandies to the restrained elegance of the Oxford Elegists; from the layered, haunting verse of Mythopoesis to the inventive explorations of the New Formalists. By probing the cultural context from which these groups emerge and shifting the critical focus back to the work itself, Sampson's astute analysis illuminates and demystifies each of these terms and asks the big questions about what makes a poem. The result is a celebration of poetry as a connected, responsive and above all communitarian form. Lively, engaging and inviting, this is the indispensable and authoritative guide for anyone who's ever wondered what's going on in British poetry today.

Bitter Trail

Resolving to leave the pornography industry after her husband is found electrocuted in a hot tub with another woman, adult film star Debbie Dare endures a reckoning involving her late husband's debts, her estranged family, and the child she had to give up.

Global Basic Rights

This book introduces readers to the history, meaning, traditions, and celebrations of the 100th Day of School. Vivid photographs and easy-to-read text aid comprehension for early readers. Features include a table of contents, an infographic, fun facts, Making Connections questions, a glossary, and an index. QR Codes in the book give readers access to book-specific resources to further their learning. Aligned to Common Core Standards and correlated to state standards. Cody Koala is an imprint of Pop!, a division of ABDO.

Beyond the Lyric

A collector's edition of five works by the late Beat Generation classic writer combines the eminent "On the Road" with the novels, "The Dharma Bums," "The Subterraneans," "Tristessa," and "Lonesome Traveler."

Storytelling in World Cinemas

Carl Schmitt's friend/enemy principle is exposed to in-depth philosophical analysis and historical examination with the aim of showing that the political follows hostility, violence and terror as form follows matter. The book argues that the partisan is an umbrella concept that includes the national and global terrorist.

History, Education, and the Schools

The theoretical results in this monograph indicate that life provides alternative strategies to aging. The groundbreaking findings open a completely new field of research. The author gets away from the human centered vision of life showing that aging in any organism does not necessarily correspond to deterioration and senescence. The central insight of this monograph is: to deeply understand why some species age it is necessary to understand why other species do not.

A Family Affair

I don't recognise my child. Yesterday he was a sweet, polite boy who smiled a lot. Today he mumbles in monosyllables, shouts at his sister, and never comes out of his room except to raid the fridge. Think of a storm. Think how it builds - brooding slowly, dark with ominous clouds and flashes of lightning and rumbles of rolling thunder that may erupt at any minute. Then a torrent of rain, perhaps a few hailstones and finally, the sun comes out - as if the storm had never been. Adolescence can be just like that: a powerfully disruptive, often chaotic and yet a wonderfully vivid and energetic time. As parents, we can do a lot to manage the impact of this sometimes confusing and challenging time in a young person's life. Standing firm and holding on to one's values in the face of bombardment from adolescents, who in turn are facing their own pressures of identity and self doubt, requires a clear head, encouragement and a handbook. The Adolescent Storm is that handbook. This handbook will: give you a clearer insight into the process of healthy, age-appropriate adolescent development; help you to understand and enjoy the process of guiding your adolescent through these years; help you to enjoy a deeply connected and relevant relationship with your child from adolescence into adulthood. Thoughtful - not perfect - parents can create thoughtful adolescents and in turn thoughtful, responsible adults who are well integrated in society.

Debbie Doesn't Do It Anymore

Before New York Times bestselling author Kerrelyn Sparks created a world of vampires, there was another world of spies and romance . . . Virginia Munro could not believe her ears. This bewigged, bejeweled, and bedeviling man was trying to

buy her? As if she were some trollop on the Boston docks? Before she's fully able to give in to her outrage, the fop moves on—and Virginia refuses to spare him another thought. But Quincy Stanton is not what he seems. By day, he poses as a carefree Loyalist with an army of wigs and a wardrobe that favors lavender. By night, he wages a secret war against the British with an impressive collection of eighteenth-century spy gadgets. If anyone were to discover the truth, Quincy would hang, yet he can't seem to stay away from the lovely and saucy Virginia. Will their attraction lead to love . . . or danger?

Carson's Conspiracy

Orange Prize winner and shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2008, Linda Grant has created an enchanting portrait of a woman who, having endured unbearable loss, finds solace in the family secrets her estranged uncle reveals. In vivid and supple prose, Grant subtly constructs a powerful story of family, love, and the hold the past has on the present. Vivien Kovacs, a sensitive, bookish girl grows up sealed off from the world by her timid Hungarian refugee parents, who conceal the details of their history and shy away from any encounter with the outside world. She learns how to navigate British society from an eccentric cast of neighbors -- including a fading ballerina, a cartoonist, and a sad woman who wanders the city and teaches Vivien to be beautiful. She loses herself in books and reinvents herself according to her favorite characters, but it is through clothes that she ultimately defines herself. Against her father's wishes, she forges a relationship with her uncle, a notorious criminal and slum landlord, who, in his old age, wants to share his life story. As he exposes the truth about her family's past Vivien learns how to be comfortable in her own skin and how to be alive in the world. Grant is a spectacularly humanizing writer whose morally complex characters explore the line between selfishness and self-preservation.

The Last Seduction

First published in 1989, here is England's leading man of letters—as old as the century—at the height of his powers, the incomparable V. S. Pritchett, whose brilliantly observed short stories have become classics in his own lifetime. In these six beautifully crafted stories—his latest effort—we see a master at work, casting his eye over the subjects he knows best, the ordinary men and women of England: studious fourteen-year-old Sarah, whose life is changed by a game of hide-and-seek; or Lionel Frazier, the hairdresser, who looks at a woman and sees only her head; or George Andrews, the salesman, for whom new floral carpeting is always an exciting omen. The genius of these stories is their familiarity—almost everyone will recognize a moment or a revelation of his own life in the experiences of Pritchett's utterly individual and incomparably real characters. Renowned in both the United States and England, Pritchett celebrates his eighty-ninth birthday with the publication of these six masterpieces. V. S. Pritchett's admirers and those lucky enough to be discovering him for the first time will find in *A Careless Widow* the work of a major talent at its best.

The Ill-Made Mute

Katherine of Valois was born a princess, the daughter of King Charles VI of France. But by the time Katherine was old enough to know him, her father had come to be called “Charles the Mad,” given to unpredictable fits of insanity. The young princess lived a secluded life, awaiting her father’s sane moments and suffering through the mad ones, as her mother took up with her uncle and their futures became more and more uncertain. Katherine’s fortunes appeared to be changing when, at nineteen, she was married to King Henry V of England. Within two years, she gave birth to an heir—but her happiness was fleeting. Soon after the birth of her son, she lost her husband to an illness. With Joan of Arc inciting the French to overthrow English rule, Katherine’s loyalty to her adopted homeland of England became a matter of intense suspicion. Katherine had brought her dowry and borne her heir; what use was she to England? It was decreed that she would live out her remaining years alone, far from the seat of power. But no one, not even Katherine herself, could have anticipated that she would fall in love with and secretly marry one of her guardians, Owen Tudor—or that a generation later, their grandson would become the first king of the great Tudor dynasty. From the Trade Paperback edition.

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