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The Tenth Gift The Tenth Gift
The Tenth Gift Crossed Bones
The Sultan's Wife The Sea Gate
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A Novel The Salt Road The
Secret Country The White Hare
A Penny for Your Thoughts The
Shadow World Fortune Smiles
1500 The Salt Roads Little
Bunny's Bedtime! My Dear
Noel Legends of the Shadow
World Changing the Course of
Autism The Man and the Vine
Treasures of Darkness Janie
Face to Face Strategic
Communication Families of
Adults with Autism Postural
Assessment Letters to Saint
Lydia Silent Souls Weeping The
Wild Road Stray City Seven
Holy Women Therapeutic
Stretching The Secret Country
Submergence Maskmaker Lady
Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain
Sight Everywhere Present Pale
Fire Alejandro's Gift They Left
Us Everything

For fans of Alice Hoffman and Kate Morton, *The White Hare* is a spellbinding novel about mothers and daughters finding a new home for themselves, the secrets they try to bury, and the local legends that may change their lives. In the far west of Cornwall lies the White Valley, which cuts deeply through bluebell woods down to the sea at White Cove. The valley has a long and bloody history, laced with folklore, and in it sits a house above the beach that has lain neglected

since the war. It comes with a reputation and a strange atmosphere, which is why mother and daughter Magdalena and Mila manage to acquire it so cheaply in the fateful summer of 1954. Magda has grand plans to restore the house to its former glory as a venue for glittering parties, where the rich and celebrated gathered for cocktails and for bracing walks along the coast. Her grown daughter, Mila, just wants to escape the scandal in her past and make a safe and happy home for her little girl, Janey, a solitary, precocious child blessed with a vivid imagination, much of which she pours into stories about her magical plush toy, Rabbit. But Janey's rabbit isn't the only magical being around. Legend has it that an enchanted white hare may be seen running through the woods. Is it an ill omen or a blessing? As Mila, her mother, and her young daughter adjust to life in this mysterious place, they will have to reckon with their own pasts and with the secrets that have been haunting the White Valley for decades. From the author of *The Tenth Gift* comes another story of exotic, foreign lands, entwining storylines spanning generations, and the quests to overcome love lost. The desert lay before them, and the secrets of the amulet . . . From Tafraout's magnificent mountainside, Isobel absorbs

the heat and romance of the Moroccan vista before her, with mosque and homes scattered far below. But a mere slip sees her tumbling uncontrollably into the arms of handsome rescuer Taïb, who notices her unusual silver amulet, and that her fall has revealed a tiny scroll hidden within. Entranced by the possibilities of its intricate and illegible script, they set out for the Sahara in search of a Tuareg elder to unlock the riddles of its past. Little does Izzy realize that the desert holds the key to more mysteries than the amulet's. From beneath the beating sun emerges nomadic Princess Mariata, whose stories of tortured love bind her to the precious talisman in Izzy's hands. She's battled the sands; she's found and lost love among its dunes. And where the amulet crosses both their paths, answers to the deepest secrets lie. Written by a group of friends, *Seven Holy Women?* is a one-of-a-kind journey into the lives of seven women saints. Each section of the book includes a story from one saint's life, told vividly and imaginatively in the second person; additional information about the saint to give her context; a reflection on ways the writer, reader, and saint intersect on their journeys; personal surveys for the reader and a friend to complete; and a

journal prompt that encourages the reader to explore and document her encounter with themes from the saint's life. Created as both a deeply personal and enriching communal experience, *Seven Holy Women* speaks directly to the reader, drawing her into the lives of seven saints as it invites her to look more closely and lovingly at her own spiritual journey and her friendship with the cloud of witnesses. Having learned from a talking cat that he and his sisters are the half-elfin royalty of a parallel world called Eidolon, twelve-year old Ben Arnold attempts to stop his evil uncle from smuggling magical creatures between the two worlds to sell on the black market. 1499. Venice. Beatrice de la Pietà, an orphan, becomes a reluctant demon hunter while trying to survive her first apprenticeship and an unexpected humanistic education from some of the Renaissance's famous, but now forgotten figures. The American poet John Shade is dead. His last poem, 'Pale Fire', is put into a book, together with a preface, a lengthy commentary and notes by Shade's editor, Charles Kinbote. Known on campus as the 'Great Beaver', Kinbote is haughty, inquisitive, intolerant, but is he also mad, bad - and even dangerous? As his wildly eccentric annotations slide into the personal and the fantastical, Kinbote reveals perhaps more than he should be. Nabokov's darkly witty, richly inventive masterpiece is a suspenseful whodunit, a story of one-upmanship and dubious

penmanship, and a glorious literary conundrum. Therapeutic Stretching focuses on the use of both active and passive stretching as part of the rehabilitation of common musculoskeletal conditions and injuries. Covering all forms of stretches for the able-bodied, injured, and selected special populations, Therapeutic Stretching is a comprehensive resource for practitioners and students working in massage therapy, osteopathy, physical therapy, occupational therapy, rehabilitation, and personal and athletic training. With both active and passive stretches outlined for a range of musculoskeletal conditions and injuries, Therapeutic Stretching offers a range of rehabilitative stretches for the foot and ankle, knee and leg, hip and thigh, upper limb, shoulder, elbow, wrist, hand and fingers, and back and neck. Author Jane Johnson, a practicing physiotherapist, sport massage therapist, and body work instructor, provides information on incorporating passive stretching as a treatment option and selecting appropriate active stretches for clients to practice at home. Heavily illustrated with more than 230 color photos, Therapeutic Stretching provides excellent visual instruction on client positioning and the most effective handholds for the application of passive stretches to various joints and soft tissues. A user-friendly format, clear explanations of stretching techniques, and visual guidance from photos help students and practitioners

readily incorporate these stretches into their practice. Therapeutic Stretching outlines the rationale for stretching after musculoskeletal injury along with general safety guidelines and an overview of the musculoskeletal conditions addressed in the text. Also included is a discussion of the differences between and applications of passive, active, and advanced forms of stretching such as muscle energy technique (MET) and soft tissue release (STR). Readers of Therapeutic Stretching will find a 10-step process for designing, implementing, and assessing a stretching program. The text discusses applications of therapeutic stretching for three special populations: elderly clients, pregnant women, and athletes. For each, a listing of common physiological factors or characteristics that might affect a stretching program is included, along with tips on modifications to employ when working with these individuals. Following this foundational information are three chapters with photos and descriptions of active and passive stretches for musculoskeletal injuries and conditions of the lower limbs, upper limbs, and trunk. Here readers will find stretches useful for treating injuries and conditions such as sprained ankles, shin splints, runner's knee, tight calves or hamstrings, adhesive capsulitis, lateral epicondylitis, stiff wrists, kyphosis, low back pain, stiff neck, and whiplash. Special Tip boxes throughout the text offer guidance on modifying the stretches and

techniques to meet the needs of individual clients. Tables detail the passive and active stretches covered in each chapter and indicate whether a stretch is contraindicated for a particular injury or condition. Following most chapters are five Quick Questions that assist readers in gauging their understanding of the content. In addition, Therapeutic Stretching includes a visual guide to stretching routines that could be performed in the prone, supine, and seated positions. These suggested routines assist students and practitioners new to therapeutic stretching in learning to apply these stretches in an efficient manner and without excessive repositioning of the client. Therapeutic Stretching offers a range of stretches to assist both current and future practitioners in safely treating clients rehabilitating from musculoskeletal conditions and injuries. Delivering the most up-to-date stretching techniques, this guide is a valuable resource for professionals in health care, rehabilitation, fitness, and body work seeking tools to assist their clients in alleviating muscular pain, reducing joint stiffness, and speeding recovery from injury. Therapeutic Stretching is part of the Hands-On Guides for Therapists series, providing tools of assessment and treatment that fall well within the realm of massage therapists but may be useful for other body workers, such as osteopaths and fitness instructors. The guides include

full-color instructional photographs, Tips sections that provide advice on adjusting massage techniques, Client Talk boxes that present ideas for creatively applying techniques for various types of clients, and questions that test knowledge and skill. All Ben wants is a Mongolian fighting fish. He's saved his allowance for weeks and finally has enough to go to the pet store. But instead of his fish, he comes home with a talking cat from Eidolon, the Secret Country. Ben learns that this is just a small piece of the magical creature smuggling that is going on and that with each creature taken from their home, the magical land grows weaker. And so does Ben's mom, the long-lost queen of Eidolon. Ben exposed Mr. Dodd's vile pet emporium in The Secret Country, but that was not enough to put a stop to his evil scheme. In The Shadow World, Queen Isadora goes back to her homeland to help the magical creatures overcome the dog-headed Dodman. Ellie, Ben's sister, follows and lands in a trap. The Arnold children are destined to save the Secret Country, but first they must save each other. The battle continues in The Dragon's Fire, but the magical creatures under Queen Isadora's guide are not fairing so well. Before Ben and the others ride to her rescue, she is captured by the Dodman and taken to the castle for a wedding ceremony. Her wedding ceremony. But first the Dodman must get rid of Ben's father. It is a fight to the finish when baby sister Alice

goes through the most extraordinary transformation, vanquishes the Dodman, and reunites her family for good. In this riveting and emotional conclusion to the thriller-romance Janie series, that started with The Face on the Milk Carton, all will be revealed as readers find out if Janie and Reeve's love has endured, and whether or not the person who brought Janie and her family so much emotional pain and suffering is brought to justice. Communication and relationships sit at the centre of our hyper-connected lives, and their effective management is a strategic necessity for all organisations today. As the communication and public relations industries continue to grow globally, they offer a dynamic career for those with the right skills and knowledge. Jane Johnston and Leanne Glenny show how strategic communication and public relations plug into the social, economic and political world, creating crucial links between organisations and people. They explain how communication professionals build partnerships, motivate and engage stakeholders, manage content, media and planning, develop reputations, and troubleshoot crisis communication. Strategic Communication is a complete introduction to the fundamentals of communication and public relations for the next decade. It presents innovative and creative approaches to deliver 100 tools and tactics, over 30 theories and models, and three

levels of strategy that underpin successful communication. The authors include examples from around the world, from private sector, public sector and not for profit organisations. The National Book Award-winning story collection from the author of *The Orphan Master's Son* offers something rare in fiction: a new way of looking at the world. "MASTERFUL."—The Washington Post
"ENTRANCING."—O: The Oprah Magazine
"PERCEPTIVE AND BRAVE."—The New York Times
Throughout these six stories, Pulitzer Prize winner Adam Johnson delves deep into love and loss, natural disasters, the influence of technology, and how the political shapes the personal, giving voice to the perspectives we don't often hear. In "Nirvana," a programmer whose wife has a rare disease finds solace in a digital simulacrum of the president of the United States. In "Hurricanes Anonymous," a young man searches for the mother of his son in a Louisiana devastated by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. "George Orwell Was a Friend of Mine" follows a former warden of a Stasi prison in East Germany who vehemently denies his past, even as pieces of it are delivered in packages to his door. And in the unforgettable title story, Johnson returns to his signature subject, North Korea, depicting two defectors from Pyongyang who are trying to adapt to their new lives in Seoul, while one cannot forget the woman he left behind.
WINNER OF THE STORY PRIZE • A NEW YORK TIMES

NOTABLE BOOK NAMED ONE OF THE TEN BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The Miami Herald • San Francisco Chronicle • USA Today AND ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY The Washington Post • NPR • Marie Claire • St. Louis Post-Dispatch • BuzzFeed • The Daily Beast • Los Angeles Magazine • The Independent • BookPage • Kirkus Reviews "Remarkable . . . Adam Johnson is one of America's greatest living writers."—The Huffington Post
"Haunting, harrowing . . . Johnson's writing is as rich in compassion as it is in invention, and that rare combination makes *Fortune Smiles* worth treasuring."—USA Today
"Fortune Smiles [blends] exotic scenarios, morally compromised characters, high-wire action, rigorously limber prose, dense thickets of emotion, and, most critically, our current technomoment."—The Boston Globe
"Johnson's boundary-pushing stories make for exhilarating reading."—San Francisco Chronicle
In *Changing the Course of Autism*, Dr. Bryan Jepson and Jane Johnson reveal the biological and neurological conditions behind autism spectrum disorders. Foreword by Katie Wright, daughter of the founders of *Autism Speaks*
Rather than simply masking symptoms with drugs like Ritalin and Prozac, Dr. Bryan Jepson and Jane Johnson explain that autism can be treated by reducing the neurological inflammation that is part of the disease process. The authors have seen autistic behaviors improve dramatically

or disappear completely with appropriate medical treatment. The book reviews the medical literature regarding the biological nature of the disease, including the potential connection between vaccines and autism. "This book will be the new PDR of autism for parents and physicians. Incredibly well referenced and easy to understand, it challenges long-held beliefs about this condition and introduces us to the new medical model of autism. An important book that every professional and family member who deals with autism must own." —Lee Grossman, former president and CEO, Autism Society of America
"The idea that the suffering of autism could be rooted in environmental injuries poses a huge challenge to medicine, science and society. Opening our hearts and minds to fresh thinking is the only way forward. Dr. Jepson's information-filled book moves the reader through the discomfort of painful news to a framework for constructive responses." —Martha Herbert, M.D., Ph.D., co-author of *The Autism Revolution*
"The parent of an autistic child, Jepson encourages physicians and parents to view autism 'as a medical illness, not just a behavior disorder.' He discusses the neurological, gastrointestinal, genetic, and environmental issues that complicate our understanding of autism." —Library Journal
His parting gift to her was a new beginning... Julia Lovat walks away from her seven-year affair with Michael with a

broken heart and a book of secrets. Her book tells the true story of Cat Tregenna, kidnapped by Barbary pirates and sold into slavery in Morocco four hundred years ago. When Julia travels to Morocco to discover Cat's fate, she is quickly lost in an exotic and vibrant land. Yet her guide is Idriss, a man so charismatic and beguiling that their meeting feels like destiny. And so, in the heat and dust, two love stories, separated by four centuries, entwine and blossom... The Tenth Gift is an enthralling story of secrets and discovering love where you least expect it. Though postural assessment is a skill required by most therapists and useful for many health and fitness professionals, few resources offer a complete discussion of the topic to support practitioners in the task. Written for students and practitioners of massage therapy, physical therapy, osteopathy, chiropractic, sports medicine, athletic training, and fitness instruction, *Postural Assessment* is a guide to determining muscular or fascial imbalance and whether that imbalance contributes to a patient's or client's pain or dysfunction. Jane Johnson, a practicing physiotherapist and sport massage therapist and instructor, breaks down the complex and holistic process of assessing posture into easy-to-assimilate sections. Johnson begins with a discussion of ideal posture and the factors affecting posture as well as how to provide the correct environment for postural assessment, necessary

equipment, and the importance of documenting assessment findings. Then she details procedures for executing postural assessments from standing posterior, lateral, and anterior views as well as with the patient or client in a seated position. The text features tips for improving assessment technique, and What Your Findings Mean sections provide readers—students in particular—with guidance for systematic analysis. Each chapter ends with five Quick Questions, with answers, to assist in gauging understanding of the topics covered. Information in the text is enhanced with detailed illustrations that offer visual cues to learning postural assessment and identifying anatomical relationships. Line drawings illustrate bony landmarks used in the assessments, and numerous photos show both obvious and subtle postural variations. Reproducible illustrated postural assessment charts in the appendix provide space for recording observations during each step of the assessment. *Postural Assessment* can assist practitioners in learning what posture reveals about the relationships among various body parts and in determining whether such relationships cause or contribute to pain or discomfort. As a resource for novices, *Postural Assessment* offers guidance in observing and identifying common postural forms and interpreting those observations. *Postural Assessment* is part of the Hands-On Guides for Therapists series, which

features specific tools for assessment and treatment that fall well within the realm of massage therapists but may be useful for other body workers, such as osteopaths and fitness instructors. The guides include full-color instructional photographs, Tips sections that aid in adjusting massage techniques, Client Talk boxes that present ideas for creatively applying techniques for various types of clients, and questions for testing knowledge and skill. The book is a collection of real-life stories of people on the autism spectrum growing up, as told by their families. Accounts explore the challenges that families of people with autism have faced, and the techniques they have used to improve the quality of their children's lives, from vitamins and dietary changes to intensive interaction. From the time he prepares the soil for planting, a man prays over his vines and the grapes they produce, until he finally tastes the wine that has been made from the juice and transformed into a blessing from Heaven. Includes facts about Holy Communion and the Eucharistic tradition in the Orthodox Christian Church. On a Sunday morning in July 1625, Barbary pirates sail into a quiet Cornish bay and storm the church. Their loot: sixty men, women and children, kidnapped and bound for northern Morocco, where they are to be sold in the thronging slave market of the Souq el Ghezal. Amongst them is Catherine Anne Tregenna, a talented young embroiderer. But as her diary reveals, Cat is

anything but the subservient and compliant slave that her captors were expecting — and as the coast of England fades from sight, adventure beckons in the East . . . In an exclusive London restaurant, a gift is given that will change Julia Lovat's life. The antique book of Jacobean embroidery delights her, but when she settles down to read it more closely, she unexpectedly discovers within its foxed and faded pages the extraordinary diary of a young Cornish girl, calling to her from across the centuries . . . The stories of these two women are destined to converge in an extraordinary and haunting manner. With handsome pirates, beautiful slave girls, exotic mysteries and Moroccan markets, *Crossed Bones* is an enthralling adventure of the high seas, based on the real-life raids on the Cornish coast by 17th century Barbary corsairs. From the SFWA Grand Master, a “sexy, disturbing, touching, wildly comic . . . tour de force” that blends fantasy, women’s history, and slavery (Kirkus Reviews, starred review). In 1804, shortly before the Caribbean island of Saint Domingue is renamed Haiti, a group of women gather to bury a stillborn baby. Led by a lesbian healer and midwife named Mer, the women’s lamentations inadvertently release the dead infant’s “unused vitality” to draw Ezili—the Afro-Caribbean goddess of sexual desire and love—into the physical world. As Ezili explores her newfound powers, she travels across time and space to inhabit the

midwife’s body, as well as those of Jeanne—a mixed-race dancer and the mistress of Charles Baudelaire living in 1880s Paris—and Meritet, an enslaved Greek-Nubian prostitute in ancient Alexandria. Bound together by Ezili and “the salt road” of their sweat, blood, and tears, the three women struggle against a hostile world, unaware of the goddess’s presence in their lives. Despite her magic, Mer suffers as a slave on a sugar plantation until Ezili plants the seeds of uprising in her mind. Jeanne slowly succumbs to the ravages of age and syphilis when her lover is unable to escape his mother’s control. And Meritet, inspired by Ezili, flees her enslavement and makes a pilgrimage to Egypt, where she becomes known as Saint Mary. With unapologetically sensual prose, Nalo Hopkinson, the Nebula Award-winning author of *Midnight Robber*, explores slavery through the lives of three historical women touched by a goddess in this “electrifying bravura performance by one of our most important writers” (Junot Díaz). Jamie Wave is an ordinary boy, not particularly big or brave or clever. He knows a lot of jokes and he's good at making masks. But he will need all the talent he can muster when a sinister Maskmaker forces him to enter a dangerous faraway world. Suggested level: primary, intermediate. This uplifting story about one man's gift to the desert and the gift he receives in return has a powerful environmental lesson.

Plus, this is the fixed format version, which will look almost identical to the print version. Additionally for devices that support audio, this ebook includes a read-along setting. **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** • “A revelation . . . a book in the Caro mold, using *Lady Bird*, along with tapes and transcripts of her entire White House diary, to tell the history of America during the Johnson years.”—The New York Times The inspiration for the documentary film *The Lady Bird Diaries*, premiering November 13 on Hulu Perhaps the most underestimated First Lady of the twentieth century, *Lady Bird Johnson* was also one of the most powerful. In *Lady Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain Sight*, Julia Sweig reveals how indispensable the First Lady was to Lyndon Johnson’s administration—which *Lady Bird* called “our” presidency. In addition to advising him through critical moments, she took on her own policy initiatives, including the most ambitious national environmental effort since Theodore Roosevelt and a virtually unknown initiative to desegregate access to public recreation and national parks in Washington, D.C. Where no presidential biographer has understood *Lady Bird*’s full impact, Julia Sweig is the first to draw substantially on her White House diaries and to place her center stage. In doing so, Sweig reveals a woman ahead of her time—and an accomplished strategist and politician in her own right. Winner of the Texas Book Award • Longlisted for the

PEN/Jacqueline Bogard Weld Award Sometimes at the lowest point in your life, fate will slip you a gift. Exotic adventure and a quest for redemption collide in this stunning new novel from Jane Johnson. Kate Fordham, escaping terrible personal trauma, has fled to the beautiful sunlit city of Granada, the ancient capital of the Moors in Spain. There she is scraping by with an unfulfilling job in a busy bar. One day, in the glorious gardens of the Alhambra—once home to Sultan Abu Abdullah Mohammed—Kate finds a scrap of paper hidden in one of the ancient walls. Upon it, in strange symbols, has been inscribed a message from another era. The message has lain undiscovered since before the Fall of Granada in 1492, when the city was surrendered to Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand. Born of love, in a time of danger and desperation, the fragment will be the catalyst that changes Kate's life forever. An epic saga of romance and redemption, Court of Lions brings one of the great turning-points in human history to life, telling the dual stories of a modern woman and the last Moorish sultan of Granada, as they both move towards their cataclysmic destinies. Lydia -- who is about to leave for college and whose family has converted to Orthodox Christianity -- works through her own spiritual crisis by writing letters to an icon of St. Lydia. Award-winning foreign correspondent's cerebral spy novel-cum-love story exposes humanity's tenuous hold on a vast and

relentless world. Twelve-year-old Ben Arnold returns to the magical world of Eidolon to rescue his sister Ellie and help their mother battle the vile Dodman, whose power continues to grow. Most Christians living in a secular society have unwittingly relegated God and all things spiritual to the "second storey" of the universe: a realm we cannot reach except through death. The effect of this is to banish God, along with the saints and angels, from our everyday lives. Fr. Stephen Freeman makes a compelling case for becoming aware of God's living and active presence in every moment of our lives here and now. Learning to practice your Christian faith in a one-storey universe will change your life--and make possible the living, intimate relationship with God you've always dreamed of. Diana Gabaldon meets Ken Follett in this epic story of love, war and redemption. In the Syrian city of Akka, Nathanael, a young Jewish doctor, and a Muslim girl called Zohra are about to fall in love, unaware that Jerusalem has just been taken by Saladin's army and that their city will soon be engulfed by war. Meanwhile in England, John Savage, a foundling boy, runs away from his cruel life in a priory with The Moor, a mysterious man driven by a dream of perfection. John and The Moor become members of a band of conmen travelling through the English countryside faking religious miracles for cash, until they are recruited in Richard the Lionheart's drive to

regain the Latin Kingdom from the infidel. Akka awaits. It will be the site of the greatest--and cruellest--siege of its time. But even in the midst of war, lovers find ways to make transactions of beauty. Pillars of Light is a powerful and moving novel about the triumph of the human spirit against all the odds. It will delight fans of Philippa Gregory, Ken Follett and Diana Gabaldon. In 2011, Jane Johnson was five years into a battle with infertility. Her best friend was five months into an 18-month battle with stage four colon cancer. Prayer journals provided an outlet through which she was able to tread privately in the dark waters of grieving, heartache, and loss. Three years later, coming from a place of healing and restoration, she stitched together her experiences through these journals into an in-depth women's Bible study exploring the intrinsic holiness found in affliction and joy. Faith and thankfulness. Contentment and sovereignty. And the priceless treasures that can be found in the darkest of days. In this study, Jane provides the tools necessary to dig deeper into scripture and press deeper into your relationship with God. That you may know that He is the LORD. And He has called you by name. Even through the darkness. A warm, heartfelt memoir of family, loss, and a house jam-packed with decades of goods and memories. After almost twenty years of caring for elderly parents—first for their senile father, and then for their cantankerous ninety-

three-year old mother—author Plum Johnson and her three younger brothers have finally fallen to their middle-aged knees with conflicted feelings of grief and relief. Now they must empty and sell the beloved family home, twenty-three rooms bulging with history, antiques, and oxygen tanks. Plum thought: How tough will that be? I know how to buy garbage bags. But the task turns out to be much harder and more rewarding than she ever imagined. Items from childhood trigger difficult memories of her eccentric family growing up in the 1950s and '60s, but unearthing new facts about her parents helps her reconcile those relationships, with a more accepting perspective about who they were and what they valued. *They Left Us* Everything is a funny, touching memoir about the importance of preserving family history to make sense of the past, and nurturing family bonds to safeguard the future. *Little Bunny* does not want to stop playing when it is time to take a bath, but he realizes he is missing out on the fun. 'Absolutely magical... Always intriguing' Richard Adams author of *Watership Down*. Behind the realm of man lie the wild roads. Weaving through time and space, these hidden pathways carry the natural energies - the spirits, the dreams - of the world. No creature can slip into the shadows and travel the wild roads better than the cat. For millennia, cats have patrolled the tangled paths, maintaining balance and order, guarding

against corruption and chaos. It is dangerous territory: for those who control the wild roads hold the keys to the world. Amid a struggle between the purest good and the darkest evil, here are tales of duty and destiny, of courage and comradeship among the extraordinary creatures who brave the wild roads... Secure in a world of privilege and safety, Tag is happy with life as a house cat - until the dreams begin. Hazy dreams of strange pathways, of a mission he must undertake and of a terrible responsibility he will bear. Armed with the cryptic message, Tag must bring the King and Queen of cats to Tintagel before the spring equinox. Meanwhile, a man known only as the Alchemist doggedly hunts the Queen for his own ghastly ends. And if the Alchemist captures her, the world will never be safe again... Poetry is the song that poets sing to beautify the world. In *A Penny for Your Thoughts*, contemporary American poet Penny Johnson presents verses about nature, love, life, death, philosophy, and religion. She considers American life in the present day. With her writing, she hopes to teach, fulfill, entertain, heal wounds, and show the beauty of the world. Johnson offers her work as a gift to anyone longing for the uplifting and nourishing experience that poetry can provide. This poetry collection explores a wide range of themes and seeks to provide inspiration and satisfaction while enhancing the natural splendor of the world. *A Special Joy* On Thursday morn,

a colt was born To everyone's delight As our gaze met, how his eyes did shine and the last thing I thought when I looked at him was, I wish that he were mine "A thoughtful and joyous literary experience that celebrates its characters and liberally rewards its readers."—New York Times Book Review, Editors' Choice "I tore through this novel like an orphaned reader seeking a home in its ragtag yet shimmering world." — Carrie Brownstein "Our '90s nostalgia is hella high these days, and this tender, funny story made our aging hipster hearts sing."— Marie Claire A warm, funny, and whip-smart debut novel about rebellious youth, inconceivable motherhood, and the complications of belonging—to a city, a culture, and a family—when none of them can quite contain who you really are. All of us were refugees of the nuclear family. . . . Twenty-three-year-old artist Andrea Morales escaped her Midwestern Catholic childhood—and the closet—to create a home and life for herself within the thriving but insular lesbian underground of Portland, Oregon. But one drunken night, reeling from a bad breakup and a friend's betrayal, she recklessly crosses enemy lines and hooks up with a man. To her utter shock, Andrea soon discovers she's pregnant—and despite the concerns of her astonished circle of gay friends, she decides to have the baby. A decade later, when her precocious daughter Lucia starts asking questions about the father she's never known,

Andrea is forced to reconcile the past she hoped to leave behind with the life she's worked so hard to build. A thoroughly modern and original anti-romantic comedy, *Stray City* is an unabashedly entertaining literary debut about the families we're born into and the families we choose, about finding yourself by breaking the rules, and making bad decisions for all the right reasons. Page-turning mystery, grandly seductive romance and full historical immersion into Moroccan court history, this exquisitely depicted and intensely absorbing novel follows in the bestselling tradition of *The Tenth Gift* and *The Salt Road*. 1677, Morocco. Behind the magnificent walls and towering arches of the Palace of Meknes, captive chieftain's son and now a lowly scribe, Nus Nus is framed for murder. As he attempts to evade punishment for the bloody crime, Nus Nus finds himself trapped in a vicious plot, caught between the three most powerful figures in the court: the cruel and arbitrary sultan, Moulay Ismail, one of the most tyrannical rulers in history; his monstrous wife Zidana, famed for her use of poison and black magic; and the conniving Grand Vizier. Meanwhile, a young Englishwoman named Alys Swann has been taken prisoner by Barbary corsairs and brought to the court. She faces a simple choice: renounce her faith and join the Sultan's harem; or die. As they battle for survival, Alys and Nus Nus find themselves thrust into an unlikely alliance--an alliance

that will become a deep and moving relationship in which these two outsiders will find sustenance and courage in the most perilous of circumstances. From the danger and majesty of Meknes to the stinking streets of London and the decadent court of Charles II, *The Sultan's Wife* brings to life some of the most remarkable characters of history through a captivating tale of intrigue, loyalty and desire. A broken family, a house of secrets—an entrancing tale of love and courage set during the Second World War. After Rebecca's mother dies, she must sort through her empty flat and come to terms with her loss. As she goes through her mother's mail, she finds a handwritten envelope. In it is a letter that will change her life forever. Olivia, her mother's elderly cousin, needs help to save her beloved home. Rebecca immediately goes to visit Olivia in Cornwall only to find a house full of secrets—treasures in the attic and a mysterious tunnel leading from the cellar to the sea, and Olivia, nowhere to be found. As it turns out, the old woman is stuck in hospital with no hope of being discharged until her house is made habitable again. Rebecca sets to work restoring the home to its former glory, but as she peels back the layers of paint and grime, she uncovers even more buried secrets—secrets from a time when the Second World War was raging, when Olivia was a young woman, and when both romance and danger lurked around every corner... A sweeping and utterly spellbinding tale of a young

woman's courage in the face of war and the lengths to which she'll go to protect those she loves against the most unexpected of enemies. What happens when your fantasy world turns real...? Each vacation for the past nine years, cousins Patrick, Ruth, Ellen, Ted, and Laura have played a game they call the "Secret"—and invented, scripted world full of witches, unicorns, a magic ring, court intrigue, and the Dragon King. In the Secret, they can imagine anything into reality, and shape destiny. Then the unbelievable happens: by trick or by chance, they actually find themselves in the Secret Country, their made-up identities now real. The five have arrived at the start of their games, with the Country on the edge of war. What was once exciting and wonderful now looms threateningly before them, and no one is sure how to stop it... or if they will ever get back home. "An intricate sparkling web of intrigue and magic. One of me very favorites."—Patricia C. Wrede, author of *Dealing with Dragons* An enthralling story of secrets and discovering love where you least expect it, in *The Tenth Gift* the art of embroidery uncannily links two fascinating women of different eras and their equally passionate love stories In an expensive London restaurant, Julia Lovat receives a gift that changes her life. At first glance it is a book of exquisite seventeenth-century embroidery patterns belonging to a woman named Catherine Ann Tregenna. Yet in its margins are the faintest diary entries; they reveal that "Cat"

and others were stolen from their Cornish church in 1625 by Muslim pirates and taken on a brutal voyage to Morocco to be auctioned off as slaves. Captivated by this dramatic discovery, Julia sets off to North Africa to determine the authenticity of the book and to uncover more of Cat's mesmerizing story. There, in the company of a charismatic Moroccan guide, amid the sultry heat, the spice markets, and exotic ruins, Julia will discover secrets long buried. And in Morocco—just as Cat did before her—she will lose her heart. Though they live almost 400 years apart, the stories of these two women converge in an extraordinary and haunting manner that begs the question, is history fated to repeat itself? "The Tenth Gift is wildly yet convincingly romantic—a rare combo . . . both a sensitive portrayal of Muslim culture and a delectable adventure of the heart."—USA Today An enthralling story of secrets and discovering love where you least expect it, in *The Tenth Gift* the art of embroidery uncannily links two fascinating women of different eras and their equally passionate love stories In an expensive London restaurant, Julia Lovat receives a gift that changes her life. At first glance it is a book of

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- [The Shadow World](#)
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- [1500](#)
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