

The Book Window



University Book Shop Newsletter February 2012

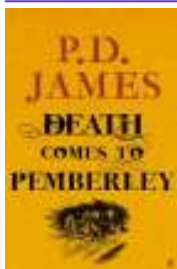
Bookseller Selections



The Storm at the Door

By Stefan Merrill Block
RRP: \$36.99, paperback, ISBN: 978057129594

Just outside Boston, in 1963, Frederick Merrill found himself a patient in the country's premier mental hospital, a world of structured authority and absolute control - a forced regression to a simpler time even as the pace of the outside world accelerated into modernity. Meanwhile, in a wintry New Hampshire village hours to the north, Frederick's wife Katharine struggled to hold together her fracturing family and to heal from the wounds of her husband's affliction. Spanning generations and genres, 'The Storm at the Door' blends memory and imagination, historical fact and compulsive storytelling, to offer a meditation on how our love for one another and the stories we tell ourselves allow us to endure.



Death Comes to Pemberley

by P.D. James
RRP: \$36.99, paperback, ISBN: 9780571283583

The year is 1803, and Darcy and Elizabeth have been married for six years. There are now two handsome and healthy sons in the Pemberley nursery, Elizabeth's beloved sister Jane and her husband, Bingley, live within seventeen miles, the ordered and secure life of Pemberley seems unassailable, and Elizabeth's happiness in her marriage is complete.

But their peace is threatened and old sins and misunderstandings are re-kindled on the eve of the annual autumn ball. The Darcys and their guests are preparing to retire for the night when a chaise appears, rocking down the path from Pemberley's wild woodland, and as it pulls up, Lydia Wickham, an uninvited guest, tumbles out, screaming that her husband has been murdered. In a pitch-perfect recreation of the world of *Pride and Prejudice*, P. D. James elegantly fuses her lifelong passion for the work of Jane Austen with her talent for writing detective fiction.



Angelica Lost and Found

By Russell Hoban
RRP: \$44.99, paperback, ISBN: 9781869795528

In Ariosto's epic 16th-century poem *Orlando Furioso*, the beautiful Angelica, chained, naked, to a rock and menaced by a sea monster is rescued by the valiant Ruggiero, riding a 'hippogriff'. Volatore, as this hippogriff calls himself, has escaped the poem in which he has been confined for centuries and is determined to find his Angelica, even if it takes him to the 21st century and involves some shape-shifting. Landing in San Francisco, he meets Angelica Greenberg and the unlikely couple falls in love. But events conspire to separate them, and shape-changing Volatore must find the perfect form in which to consummate their love. 'A corker, intellectually adventurous and marvelously odd' - *Guardian*.

Our New Arrivals Include Some Gorgeous Small, Illustrated Books



Medieval Cats

by Kathleen Walker-Meikle
(RRP: \$26.99, Hardback)
This volume, featuring a gorgeous collection of cat images from Mediaeval manuscripts, was produced by the British Library.



The Exquisite Butterfly Companion: The Science and Beauty of 100 Butterflies

by Hazel Davies
(RRP: \$24.99, Hardback, includes 100 die-cut butterflies)
Explores the habitats, habits, and life cycles of 100 species of butterflies and moths. Beautifully produced by the American Museum of



Breverton's Complete Herbal

A book of remarkable plants and their uses by Terry Breverton
(RRP: \$34.99, Hardback)

A compendium of 250 plants and herbs and their remarkable properties, based on Culpeper's *The English Physitian* and *Compleat Herbal* of 1653.



The Tiny Wife

by Andrew Kaufman
(RRP: \$19.99, Hardback)

The *Tiny Wife* is a fable about losing yourself in circumstances and finding yourself in the the love of another. Beautifully presented with lovely silhouette drawings.

Author of the Month



David Howard co-founded *Takahe* magazine (1989) and the Canterbury Poets Collective (1990). He spent his professional life as a pyrotechnics supervisor whose clients included the All Blacks, Janet Jackson and Metallica. In 2003 he retired to Purakanui in order to write. David was the inaugural recipient of the New Zealand Society of Authors Mid-Career Writer's Award (2009) for a body of poetry that has been translated into Dutch, German, Italian, Slovene and Spanish. He has published six collections of poetry, as well as pamphlets and collaborative works. His most recent book, *The Incomplete Poems* (Cold Hub Press, 2011), he describes as 'both a summation and a wiping clean of the slate. Here, in their definitive versions, are those poems that I am prepared to stand beside as chalk and duster come to rest next to one another.'

BW= Book Window DH= David Howard

BW: Do you find it easy to settle down to write or are there certain routines or rituals that are part of the process?

DH: Rush things and nothing happens: this is true in gardening, home decorating, poetry. It is not always true of love. I reread drafts, shuffle them as if they were cards and I could magically deal myself a winning suit. Rub my Roman ring with my right index finger. What I rarely do is seize the day; often I don't even seize the day before. But there is no hurry. It took me thirty-five years to write *The Incomplete Poems* (Cold Hub Press, 2011).

BW: What books are you currently reading?

DH: *Flaubert in Egypt: a sensibility on tour: a narrative drawn from Gustave Flaubert's Travel Notes & Letters* translated from the French & edited by Francis Steegmuller (The Bodley Head, 1972). This is my third reading in thirty years. The most casual lines seem symbolic, for instance this entry on Monday 8 April 1850: 'The village is in the midst of the ruins of the outbuildings of the temple...' – That sounds like the home of poetry to me.

BW: Is there some place in the world that you would like to visit or revisit?

DH: Granada in Nicaragua. Church facades with bullet holes. Perfect imperfection.

BW: Is there a genre you don't enjoy?

DH: The novel, notwithstanding my admiration for Emily Bronte, Gustave Flaubert, and Evelyn Waugh. All too often it is an interminable way to cross the road so as to peer into an empty living room. Diaries, journals and letters require a more committed act of the imagination on the part of the reader precisely because, being quotidian, these forms often do not acknowledge let alone point the moral.

BW: Is there anyone who stands out in your life as a major influence on you taking your writing seriouslyauthors, mentors, teachers?

DH: There is a photograph of me as a five year old – I have a biro ostentatiously stuck in the lapel pocket of my hand-me-down blazer. Apparently I decided on writing at an early age. It was helpful to meet David Young, then a feature writer for *The Christchurch Star*, when I was wallowing in teen angst. The salutary mentor is someone I never met, the improvisatory jazz pianist Paul Bley. From the moment in 1975 when I first heard his recording *Open, To Love* it became my model for what is possible in the arts. As Miles Davis put it, 'Play what you don't hear.' I keep trying to do that.

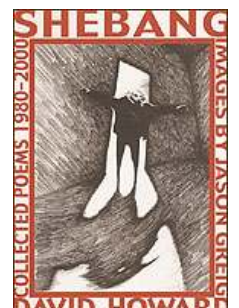
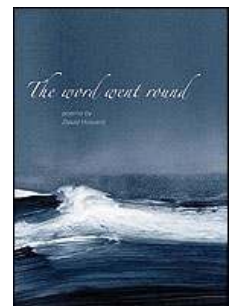
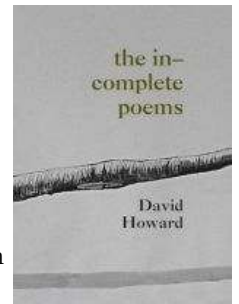


BW: What are your interests?

DH: I like to take photographs of seascapes, although I prefer to look at portraits. I enjoy rowing but I never go out on the harbour. I read a lot yet rarely finish a book – abandoned volumes cause my hammock to sag. Most of all, and foremost, I enjoy jazz while eschewing jazz poets.

BW: What do you always have in your fridge?

DH: An ice-cream container packed with black and white film.



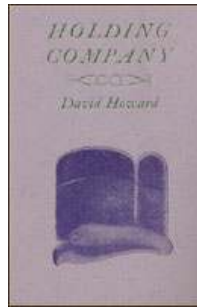
BW: What is special or unique about being a New Zealand author?

DH: Overseas people blink then say: 'A New Zealand writer? Ah, Katherine Mansfield and Janet Frame.' No one knows who our current gods are so no one values those gods over the hopeful mortal who stands before them. Travelling from the bottom of the world to wherever means that you can leave our literary hierarchy behind. As a newcomer you are not (yet) implicated in the host country's cliques – although that will inevitably happen if you are 'discovered'.

BW: What book would you like to have written?

DH: I'll leave *The Holy Bible* to the ghost of Allen Curnow – my preference is for *Poems* (1928) by Osip Mandelstam. It features two of my favourite pieces: 'Concert at the Railway Station' and 'The Finder of a Horseshoe':

Human lips with nothing more to say
Retain the shape of their last uttered word,
And a sense of heaviness stays in the hand
Though a jug being carried home has half spilled over.



Book News

WAITANGI DAY

4th February



Te Taiao Maori and the Natural World (RRP:\$49.99, Paperback)



Words Between Us: First Maori Pakeha Conversations on Paper By A James (RRP:\$39.99, Paperback)



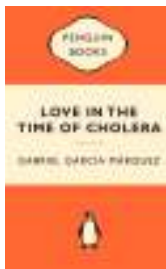
Encircled Lands: Te Urewera 1820-1921 By J Binney (RRP:\$89.99, Hardback)



The Illustrated History of the Treaty of Waitangi By C Orange

(RRP: \$39.99, Paperback)

A Favourite from the Backlist



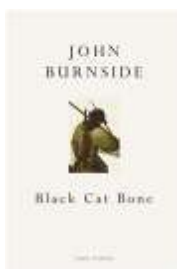
Love in a Time of Cholera

By Gabriel Marquez

RRP: \$13.99, paperback ISBN: 9780141037455

Gabriel García Márquez's *Love in the Time of Cholera* is a brilliantly crafted, beautifully written story of love and the love-sick. Spurned as a young man, Florentino Ariza has a half century of waiting to fill before a chance to redeclare his love for Fermina Daze comes, when her husband is killed retrieving a parrot from a mango tree. Funny, poignant and heartfelt - enduring and unrequited love have rarely been more movingly expressed.

Book News



John Burnside has been named the winner of the £15,000 **TS Eliot Prize for Poetry 2012** for his collection 'Black Cat Bone'. A well deserved win. Burnside's extraordinary, haunting and haunted, imagination inhabits this evocative collection.

Writers & Readers Week, Wellington, 9-14th March

A celebrated gathering of acclaimed novelists, biographers, scientists, poets and political commentators. The full programme of events is available in the foyer of the bookshop or can be view on-line at:

<http://festival.co.nz/writers-and-readers/>



2011 Costa Book of the Year Award has gone to Andrew Miller for his novel, 'Pure' – a vivid tale of life in pre-revolutionary Paris. The Costa Prize is worth 30,000 UK pounds. Originally the prize was known as the Whitbread; Costa took over sponsorship in 2006.

turbine 11 – the latest issue of the International Institute of Modern Letters on-line journal features an eclectic mix of new writing. *Turbine 11* is available to view at <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/turbine/>

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Furry Logic: Love
RRP: \$29.99,
Hardback



How to Read Erotic Art
RRP: \$59.99, Paperback



Before, During & After
Sex Mints (in a tin)
RRP:\$6.50



Penguin's Poems for Love
RRP: \$29.99, Paperback

Valentine's Day — 14th February
LOVE & ALL THAT JAZZ....



Dance Me to the End of Love:
Poem by Leonard Cohen
Paintings by Henri Matisse
RRP: \$34.99, Hardback



Love
Poems and Stories from the
Heart
RRP: \$14.99, Hardback



RRP: \$14.99,
Hardback



My Furry Valentine
RRP: \$24.99 Hardback

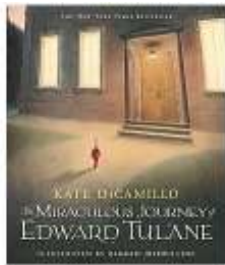


Magnetic Poetry Kit:
Love Edition
RRP:\$39.99



Shakespeare Pendant
RRP:\$99.99 sterling silver

Books for Young Readers

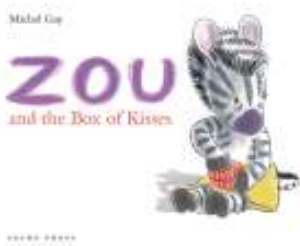


The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane
By Kate DiCamillo
Paperback, \$21.99, ISBN: 9780763647834

Once, in a house on Egypt Street, there lived a china rabbit named Edward Tulane. The rabbit was very pleased with himself, and for good reason: he was owned by a girl named Abilene, who treated him with the utmost care and adored him completely.

And then, one day, he was lost.

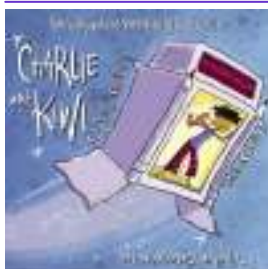
“An achingly beautiful story.” - *School Library Journal*



Zou and the Box of Kisses
By Michel Gay
Paperback, \$19.99, ISBN: 9781877467745

Zou is preparing to leave for a school camp. He doesn't want to seem like a baby, but he knows that he will miss all his daily kisses: the bedtime kisses, the morning kisses, the no-reason-at-all kisses ... But Zou needn't worry. Mum and Dad have a solution. They make dozens of kisses and put them in a box for Zou to use whenever he feels a bit lonely. But the box

of kisses comes in surprisingly useful on the train ...



Charlie and Kiwi—An Evolutionary Adventure
By Peter H. Reynolds and New York Hall of Science
Hardback, \$25.99, ISBN: 9781442421127

Charlie and Kiwi's Evolutionary Adventure offers an engaging story that introduces young readers to the basics of evolution, seen through the eyes of Charlie, a young boy who is writing a report about his favorite bird—the kiwi. Join Charlie as he travels back in time to the age of the dinosaurs to discover the kiwi's ancestors and evidence for how evolution works.

BARGAIN BOOKS

Don't forget our famous **non-stop sale room** — awesomely wonderful books at incredibly low prices! Upstairs in the shop.



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www.facebook.com/ubsotago

BOOK SHOP EVENTS

If you would like to be informed about book shop events please join our mailing list (send an email to ubs@unibooks.co.nz with “events” in the subject line).

Everyone is welcome

WE ARE OPEN 7 DAYS

378 Great King Street
T: 03 477 6976
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Mon-Fri: 8.30am-5.30pm
Sat: 9.30am-3pm
Sun: 11am-3pm