

Tall Tales And Wee Stories The Best Of Billy Conn

Britain's best-loved comedian hits the most famous highway in the world on an unforgettable journey. Billy Connolly, music-lover, biker, and scourge of the beige and bland the world over, has dreamed about taking a trip on the legendary Route 66 since he heard Chuck Berry belting out one of the greatest rock 'n' roll records of all time. And now he's finally had the chance to do it, travelling every mile on his custom-made trike in search of the real America that can still be found beyond the nation's freeways. Taking in both the essential icons and the hidden gems of the 'Mother Road', Billy also meets up with plenty of the memorable characters who call it home. With his instinct for a good story, and the infectious enthusiasm that has made him our most engaging national treasures, Billy Connolly is the ultimate guide to the ultimate road trip.

In his first full-length autobiography, comedy legend and national treasure Billy Connolly reveals the truth behind his windswept and interesting life. Born in a tenement flat in Glasgow in 1942, orphaned by the age of 4, and a survivor of appalling abuse at the hands of his own family, Billy's life is a remarkable story of success against all the odds. Billy found his escape first as an apprentice welder in the shipyards of the River Clyde. Later he became a folk musician - a 'rambling man' - with a genuine talent for playing the banjo. But it was his ability to spin stories, tell jokes and hold an audience in the palm of his hand that truly set him apart. As a young comedian Billy broke all the rules. He was fearless and outspoken - willing to call out hypocrisy wherever he saw it. But his stand-up was full of warmth, humility and silliness too. His startling, hairy 'glam-rock' stage appearance - wearing leotards, scissor suits and banana boots - only added to his appeal. It was an appearance on Michael Parkinson's chat show in 1975 - and one outrageous story in particular - that catapulted Billy from cult hero to national star. TV shows, documentaries, international fame and award-winning Hollywood movies followed. Billy's pitch-perfect stand-up comedy kept coming too - for over 50 years, in fact - until a double diagnosis of cancer and Parkinson's Disease brought his remarkable live performances to an end. Since then he has continued making TV shows, creating extraordinary drawings... and writing. Windswept and Interesting is Billy's story in his own words. It is joyfully funny - stuffed full of hard-earned wisdom as well as countless digressions on fishing, farting and the joys of dancing naked. It is an unforgettable, life-affirming story of a true comedy legend. 'I didn't know I was Windswept and Interesting until somebody told me. It was a friend who was startlingly exotic himself. He'd just come back from Kashmir and was all billowy shirt and Indian beads. I had long hair and a beard and was swishing around in electric blue flairs. He said: "Look at you - all windswept and interesting!" I just said: "Exactly!" After that, I simply had to maintain my reputation...'

A very poor Irishman is provided with magical things by the "wee folk," but he must then keep his good fortune out of the hands of the greedy McGoons.

From singer-songwriter Josh Ritter, a lyrical, sweeping novel about a young boy's coming-of-age during the last days of the lumberjacks. In the tiny timber town of Cordelia, Idaho, ninety-nine year old Weldon Applegate recounts his life in all its glory, filled with tall tales writ large with murder, mayhem, avalanches and bootlegging. It's the story of dark pine forests brewing with ancient magic, and Weldon's struggle as a boy to keep his father's inherited timber claim, the Lost Lot, from the ravenous clutches of Linden Laughlin. Ever since young Weldon stepped foot in the deep Cordelia woods as a child, he dreamed of joining the rowdy ranks of his ancestors in their epic axe-swinging adventures. Local legend says their family line boasts some of the greatest lumberjacks to ever roam the American West, but at the beginning of the twentieth century, the jacks are dying out, and it's up to Weldon to defend his family legacy. Braided with haunting saloon tunes and just the right dose of magic, The Great Glorious Goddamn of It All is a novel bursting with heart, humor and an utterly transporting adventure that is sure to sweep you away into the beauty of the tall snowy mountain timber.

A Memoir of Altercations, Humiliations, Hallucinations, and Observations

Suck Less

Kerry Packer

The Graveyard Book

Don't Stand Too Close to a Naked Man

I Can't Remember the Title But the Cover is Blue

A man discovers the planet's destiny in the ocean's depths in this near-future novel by one of the twentieth century's greatest science fiction authors. In the very near future, humanity has fully harnessed the sea's immense potential, employing advanced sonar technology to control and harvest untold resources for human consumption. It is a world where gigantic whale herds are tended by submariners and vast plankton farms stave off the threat of hunger. Former space engineer Walter Franklin has been assigned to a submarine patrol. Initially indifferent to his new station, if not bored by his daily routines, Walter soon becomes fascinated by the sea's mysteries. The more his explorations deepen, the more he comes to understand man's true place in nature—and the unique role he will soon play in humanity's future. A lasting testament to Arthur C. Clarke's prescient and powerful imagination, *The Deep Range* is a classic work of science fiction that remains deeply relevant to our times.

THE #1 SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER: a hilarious and heartfelt new autobiography from the

national treasure Sir David Jason 'There are British telly icons and then there is Sir David Jason. This book is such gold . . . an absolute delight' ZOE BALL

_____ 'During my life and career I have been given all sorts of advice and learned huge amounts from some great and enormously talented people. I've been blessed to play characters such as Derek Trotter, Granville, Pop Larkin and Frost, who have changed my life in all sorts of ways, and taught me lessons that go far beyond the television set. And I've worked a few things out for myself as well, about friendship, ambition, rejection, success, failure, adversity and fortune. With any luck, some of these thoughts and observations will chime with episodes and challenges you have faced, or are facing, in your own life. And if they don't. . . well, hopefully, at the very least you'll get to have a good old laugh at my expense. So lean back, pour yourself a glass, and try not to fall through the bar flap . . .' _____ 'An absolute delight . . . a romp with so much detail. Offers wisdom in difficult times . . . like being invited into his living room' BBC BREAKFAST 'It's beautifully written . . . so conversational and chatty . . . it's so lovely and warm' CHRIS MOYLES

Based on the column of the same name that appeared in The Toast, Hey Ladies! is a laugh-out-loud read that follows a fictitious group of eight 20-and-30-something female friends for one year of holidays, summer house rentals, dates, brunches, breakups, and, of course, the planning of a disastrous wedding. This instantly relatable story is told entirely through emails, texts, DMs, and every other form of communication known to man. The women in the book are stand-ins for annoying friends that we all have. There's Nicole, who's always broke and tries to pay for things in Forever21 gift cards. There's Katie, the self-important budding journalist, who thinks a retweet and a byline are the same thing. And there's Jen, the DIY suburban bride-to-be. With a perfectly pitched sardonic tone, Hey Ladies! will have you cringing and laughing as you recognize your own friends, and even yourself.

To have Billy Connolly as a personal tour guide through some of the world's most dramatic landscapes in the vast wilderness of the Arctic is to enjoy a once-in-a-lifetime experience only he can offer. In his own quintessential way, this much-loved Scottish

comedian, actor, musician and self-proclaimed 'citizen of the world' takes us zig-zagging from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean via Newfoundland, Canada, the Yukon and the Northwest Passage in an epic adventure only recently made possible through global warming. With his infectious enthusiasm and idiosyncratic humour, Billy goes searching for the beauty of ordinariness and bumps into all manner of weird and wonderful people along the way. He learns how to be a bear whisperer, pans for gold with prospectors, learns how to square dance, kayaks through ice floes between fishing trips, runs bare-assed into a sweat lodge, and attempts the finer complexities of the Inuit language. He jams with fiddlers, kisses a cod, goes hunting for Big Foot, and invokes the spirit of the ancients while iceberg-harvesting. With as many laugh-out-loud moments as they are poignant ones, Journey to the Edge of the World is more than just an informative and entertaining travel guide - it is time spent exclusively in the company of an irascible national treasure.

Did You Like That? Fred Dibnah, In His Own Words

Today I F****d Up

She's Leaving Home

An Irish Tale

The Ring of Truth

Tall Tales & True Stories

After the king of the leprechauns bestows on him the Ring of Truth, Patrick O'Kelley no longer expects to win a blarney contest.

A little boy grows up with his family in the Melbourne suburb of Sunshine. It sounds idyllic, but the reality is far different. Justin Gardner's family was dysfunctional, his father was abusive, and Sunshine was full of darkness, with crime and drugs and violence lurking around every corner. Thrown first out of school, and then out of home, Justin's ambition when he was 14 was to grow up to become a hit-man. CrimeSon is the extraordinary story of Justin's life. Saved from the dark streets of death and crime in Melbourne, he was called by God to reach out to the brokenhearted with a message of restoration and hope. His journey from the trauma of a violent childhood, the pain of being suicidal and

'dream-bankrupt' and the fear of being close to death, to seeing his life turned around and his dream machine being switched on and working overtime will make a positive difference in your own life. CrimeSon is hard-hitting, and a rough and raw backstage pass into the heart and mind of a broken man's life. But this story provides the heartwarming twist that proves that people can overcome extreme obstacles. With God in your corner nothing is impossible. CrimeSon is an emotional journey and Justin's honesty and faith will give you an insight into just how powerful second chances can be.

In a dual biography and humorous information guide, the star of Home Improvement discusses his prison term and successful television show while offering hints on how to deal with the opposite sex and recognize the parallels between golf courses and strip joints. Reprint.

It takes a graveyard to raise a child. Nobody Owens, known as Bod, is a normal boy. He would be completely normal if he didn't live in a graveyard, being raised by ghosts, with a guardian who belongs to neither the world of the living nor the dead. There are adventures in the graveyard for a boy—an ancient Indigo Man, a gateway to the abandoned city of ghouls, the strange and terrible Sleer. But if Bod leaves the graveyard, he will be in danger from the man Jack—who has already killed Bod's family.

Bravemouth

The Best of Billy Connolly

Robin Williams - When the Laughter Stops 1951-2014

A Del of a Life

Three-minute Tales

The Story of 8 Best Friends, 1 Year, and Way, Way Too Many Emails

The first authorized pictorial autobiography for the trade by the legendary Tina Turner, containing iconic as well as never-before-seen candid photos, letters, and other personal items of The Queen of Rock 'n' Roll, from her early career to today. Tina Turner has always been a glorious force to be reckoned with; for more than sixty years, Tina has captivated audiences all over the world. For the first time, Tina has assembled an exceptional collection of images and ephemera to mark her eightieth birthday. Lavishly illustrated, Tina Turner: That's My Life features the work of world-renowned photographers including Peter Lindbergh, Annie Leibovitz, Bruce Weber, Anton Corbijn, Herb Ritts, Andy

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Warhol, Lord Snowdon, and Paul Cox among others. Also showcased are illustrations by fashion designers who were inspired by Tina, including Christian Louboutin, Antonio, and Bob Mackie. Additionally, Tina delved into her personal archive, and That's My Life showcases some of Tina's most famous dresses, wigs, and shoes. Comments handwritten by Tina Turner herself are included, and as well as handwritten letters from such friends as Beyoncé, Giorgio Armani, Bryan Adams, Oprah Winfrey, and Mick Jagger and others. Tina Turner: That's My Life is a comprehensive window into the world of Tina Turner, and is the perfect celebration of this storied performer that is sure to wow longtime and new fans alike.

The bizarre experiences of two childhood friends from Scotland and of two illegitimate half-brothers from the American South become mysteriously intertwined, in a bawdy, hilarious debut novel by the host of The Late Late Show. Reprint. 15,000 first printing.

The only lie told more often than "No, that looks totally cute on you" and "I got AIDS through oral" is "It gets better." Well, a lotta times it don't. Sometimes it just sucks less. But I promise you: where there's a Willam, there's a way. But this isn't all about me (for once). It's about you and how you can Suck Less at a variety of things drag queens are so much better at than the average person. I've got clap backs and life hacks and tips on classing up a simple grab-and-run lifting spree to the much more dignified act of larceny. Super-important life stuff with my own special, secret fag- swag sauce. So welcome to Willam's School of Bitchcraft and Wiggotry. Class is in session. With a foreword from Neil Patrick Harris.

A toe curling, laugh out loud collection of worst day disasters. I'd always rolled my eyes when people describe things as 'happening in slow motion'. Surely everything happens in regular time and it's only when you replay it in your head that it seems to slow down? But as the car lurched forward and I found myself sailing through the back of the garage, I finally understood what they meant. When a trip to meet his new girlfriend's grandparents ends in disaster (think a crashed ute, an angry wasp and a cranky farmer with a shotgun), Thomas Mitchell knows one thing for sure: bad days make for great stories. While we might not like to admit it, we can't help but find a sneaky pleasure in other people's misfortune. It's the reason fail compilations rack up millions of views on YouTube or television shows like Funniest Home Videos exist at all. Deep down we're addicted to the downfall of our fellow humans, and if there was ever a point in history when we needed a laugh, it's now. Today I F***D Up is a collection of tall tales but true that are equal parts hilarious and horrifying; a timely reminder that no matter how terrible things get, they could always be worse. So much worse. Praise for Today I F***D Up 'Today I F***d Up turns disaster, catastrophes, abject humiliation and pure mortification into gold. Essential reading for anyone who's been there as many times as I have. Read the book, and you'll laugh for sure, and you just might also cry.' Markus Zusak 'You know those days where everything goes wrong? We've all had them and now Thomas Mitchell has written a book about them. It's very funny. You can do what we love

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to do the most... laugh at other people's expense.' Larry Emdur 'If you're in need of a good laugh do yourself a favour and give it a read.' Francesca Hung 'Thomas Mitchell has written a book. He says it's hilarious and I concur!' Samantha Armytage 'I'm reading this - it's so good. Thomas Mitchell is very funny. And talented. If you want a laugh and a great read - can't recommend it enough.' Sally Obermeder 'He's hilarious!' Kylie Gillies 'Ever had a bad day? It's nothing compared to the hilarious stories in this book. Filled to the brim with stories about dating, sex, losing your job, capitulating in a job interview and accidentally throwing a house party (we've all been there), Mitchell has compiled the best of the best for your enjoyment.' Pop Sugar 'Bad day? This book will help you feel 100 per cent better about your life choices.' TV WEEK

High Hopes

Tina Turner: That's My Life

Tall Tales and Wee Stories

The Big Yin on the Ultimate American Road Trip

The Deep Range

Where There's a Willam, There's a Way

THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER 'Connolly's raucous run through his life is as furious, funny and foul-mouthed as you'd expect' Sunday Times In December 2018, after fifty years of belly-laughs, energy and outrage, Billy Connolly announced his retirement from live stand-up comedy. It had been an extraordinary career. When he first started out in the late sixties, Billy played the banjo in the folk clubs of Scotland. Between songs, he would improvise a bit, telling anecdotes from the Clyde shipyard where he'd worked. In the process, he made all kinds of discoveries about what audiences found funny, from his own brilliant mimes to the power of speaking irreverently about politics or explicitly about sex. He began to understand the craft of great storytelling. Soon the songs became shorter and the monologues longer, and Billy quickly became recognised as one of the most exciting comedians of his generation. Billy's routines always felt spontaneous. He never wrote scripts, always creating his comedy freshly on stage in the presence of a live audience. A brilliant comic story might be subsequently discarded, adapted or embellished. A quick observation or short anecdote one night, could become a twenty-minute segment by the next night of a tour. Billy always brought a beautiful sense of the absurd to his shows as he riffed on his family, hecklers, swimming in the North Sea or naked bungee jumping. But his comedy can be laced with anger too. He hates pretentiousness and calls out hypocrisy wherever he sees it. His insights about the human condition have shocked many people, while his unique talent and startling appearance on stage gave him license to say anything he damn well pleased about sex, politics or religion. Billy got away with it because he has always had the popular touch. His comedy spans generations and different social tribes in a way that few others have ever managed. Tall Tales and Wee Stories brings together the very best of Billy's storytelling for the first time and includes his most famous routines including, The Last

Supper, Jojoba Shampoo, Incontinence Pants and Shouting at Wildebeest. With an introduction and original illustrations by Billy throughout, it is an inspirational, energetic and riotously funny read, and a fitting celebration of our greatest ever comedian.

There are, roughly speaking, two distinct types of Scottish Fairy Tales. There are what may be called "Celtic Stories," which were handed down for centuries by word of mouth by professional story-tellers, who went about from clachan to clachan in the "Highlands and Islands," earning a night's shelter by giving a night's entertainment, and which have now been collected and classified for us by Campbell of Isla and others. These stories, which are also common to the North of Ireland, are wild and fantastic, and very often somewhat monotonous, and their themes are strangely alike. They almost always tell of some hero or heroine who sets out on some dangerous quest, and who is met by giants, generally three in number, who appear one after the other; with whom they hold quaint dialogues, and whom eventually they slay. Most of them are fairly long, and although they have a peculiar fascination of their own, they are quite distinct from the ordinary Fairy Tale. These latter, in Scotland, have also a character of their own, for there is no country where the existence of Spirits and Goblins has been so implicitly believed in up to a comparatively recent date. As a proof of this we can go to Hogg's tale of "The Wool-gatherer," and see how the countryman, Barnaby, voices the belief of his day. "Ye had need to tak care how ye dispute the existence of fairies, brownies, and apparitions! Ye may as weel dispute the Gospel of Saint Matthew." Perhaps it was the bleak and stern character of their climate, and the austerity of their religious beliefs which made our Scottish forefathers think of the spirits in whom they so firmly believed, as being, for the most part, mischievous and malevolent. Their Bogies, their Witches, their Kelpies, even their Fairy Queen herself, were supposed to be in league with the Evil One, and to be compelled, as Thomas of Ercildoune was near finding out to his cost, to pay a "Tiend to Hell" every seven years; so it was not to be wondered at, that these uncanny beings were dreaded and feared. But along with this dark and gloomy view, we find touches of delicate playfulness and brightness. The Fairy Queen might be in league with Satan, but her subjects were not all bound by the same law, and many charming tales are told of the "sith" or silent folk, who were always spoken of with respect, in case they might be within earshot, who made their dwellings under some rocky knowe, and who came out and danced on the dewy sward at midnight.

The jolly and exciting tale of the little boy who lost his red coat and his blue trousers and his purple shoes but who was saved from the tigers to eat 169 pancakes for his supper, has been universally loved by generations of children. First written in 1899, the story has become a childhood classic and the authorized American edition with the original drawings by the author has sold hundreds of thousands of copies. Little Black Sambo is a book that speaks the common language of all nations, and has added more to the joy of little children than perhaps any other story. They love to hear it again and again; to read it to themselves; to act it out in their play.

Offers over eighty short stories from around the globe, including Asia, Mexico, and eastern Europe.

My Grand Adventures in a Wee Country

The Autobiography

The hilarious #1 bestseller from the national treasure

Billy Connolly's Route 66

Journey to the Edge of the World

Made in Scotland

A battered and neglected child, Billy Connolly first turned himself into a classroom clown as a means of survival. A comic now enjoys the status of a national institution, he continues to be dogged by controversy and is accused of abandoning his Glasgow roots. This is his story.

THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER 'Where do you come from? It's one of the most basic human questions of all. But there is another question, which might sound a wee bit similar but is actually very different- What do you come from? let me tell you, that question can take you all sorts of strange places...' In Made in Scotland, Legendary comic and national treasure Billy Connolly returns to his roots, reflecting on his life, his homeland and what it means - then and now. Made in Scotland is Scottish. Full of Billy's distinctive humour, Made in Scotland is a hilarious and heartfelt love letter to the place and people that made him.

Peter Kay's unerring gift for observing the absurdities and eccentricities of family life has earned himself a widespread everyman appeal. These vivid observations coupled with a kind of nostalgia that never fails to grab his audience's sympathy and understanding, have earned him comparisons with Alan Bennett and Ronnie Barker. In his award winning TV series 'The Book of Dave' creates worlds populated by degenerate, bitter, useless, endearing and always recognisable characters which have earned him a huge and loyal following. In many ways he's an old fashioned kind of comedian and the scope and enormity of his talent reflects this. He doesn't tell jokes about politics or sex, but rather rejoices in the far funnier areas of life: elderly neighbours, answering machines, dads dancing badly at weddings, garlic bread and cheesecake, your mum's HRT... His autobiography is full of this kind of humour and nostalgia, beginning with Kay's first ever driving lesson, taking him back through his childhood, the numerous jobs he held after school and leading up until the time he passed his driving test and four years later Kerry Packer was instrumental in shaping Australia's media landscape and culture. For 30 years he controlled television, perennial ratings leader Channel Nine, and a large percentage of the nation's most influential magazines. So much of what Australians watched, read and believed came through the prism of this larger-than-life man. Beneath all the billionaire clutter, Kerry Packer had plenty in common with the average Jo: a cheeky humour, a competitive drive, deep love for his kids, a passion for sports and movies. In business, Kerry Packer would fight to the last dollar in a deal. Yet the same

would take his private jet to Las Vegas and lose more than \$20 million in a week – then leave a \$1 million tip. In his New York Street, Sydney office, where the visitors' chairs were clustered in front of his giant desk, Packer would verbally dismantle a hapless executive, but no less often, the very same man would step in silently and invisibly when hardship or tragedy struck a loyal staffer or their family. Packer bulldozed through his dyslexic condition with a steel-trap mind and by asking a lot of questions. The son of a father who shunned him, he inherited a business in 1974 valued at perhaps \$100m. He died 31 years later, on Boxing Day 2005, he would hand his own much-loved son, James, control of a media, property, agriculture and gambling empire worth \$6.9 billion. Kerry Packer: Tall Tales and True Stories is a collection of stories gathered from people who knew him, from those who have documented him, and from the folklore that inevitably surrounded him.

An Original Irish Tale

The Sound of Laughter

The Story of Little Black Sambo

My Autobiography

Crimeson

That's Another Story

The number-one Sunday Times bestseller 'Walters's book - also well written - has moments of Alan Bennett warmth' SUNDAY TIMES 'This is a humorous and, at times, moving read from this much-loved actress' WOMAN AND HOME 'I was enthralled by her memoirs ... a celebrity memoir which is actually worth reading as a work of literature' AN Wilson, READER'S DIGEST Her mum wanted her to be a nurse so that is what Julie did. But in her heart she had always wanted to be an actress and soon she was on stage at the local theatre in Liverpool. Her career snowballed with highlights that include Educating Rita, Billy Elliot, Harry Potter, Acorn Antiques, Dinner Ladies and Mamma Mia! She has been nominated for two Oscars, been awarded multiple BAFTAs and a Golden Globe, plus been honoured with a DBE. This is the heart-warming and funny story of that journey.

THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER "Izzard is one of the funniest people alive, a talented actor, a sharp cross-dresser, an experienced marathon runner, and a great writer. You will have to read this if only to find out what a jazz chicken is."—The Philadelphia Inquirer With his brand of keenly intelligent humor that ranges from world history to

historical politics, sexual politics, mad ancient kings, and chickens with guns, Eddie Izzard has built an extraordinary fan base that transcends age, gender, and race. Writing with the same candor and insight evident in his comedy, he reflects on a childhood marked by the loss of his mother, boarding school, and alternative sexuality, as well as a life in comedy, film, politics, running and philanthropy. Honest and generous, Believe Me is an inspired account of a very singular life thus far.

Billy Connolly - raconteur, comedian, and irrepressible wanderer - has spent much of his life in the United States. It's a country he knows and loves a great deal, but even someone as well-travelled as Billy can always discover new things about such a vast nation. So he's off on the move again, this time via the tracks of the great railroads that helped to build the country. Billy's latest adventure takes him on an epic trip through the backyard of America, tracing the routes taken by the first European settlers westwards from Chicago to California, then back down south and eastwards through Arizona, Texas, Alabama and finally New York, over 6,000 miles and 26 states later. It's a journey through a country you don't get to see from 30,000 feet in the air - the real America of friendly people with fascinating tales to tell which not only give us an insight into their lives, but also into the life of their great homeland. And it's a journey that couldn't be shared with a more entertaining companion. Hope aboard and join Billy on a trip you'll never forget.

DAFT WEE STORIES is Limmy's first book. It is a collection of stories. There are short stories. There are longer stories. There are stupid stories. There are thoughtful stories. There are upside-down stories. There are normal-way-up stories. There are weird stories. There are less weird stories. There are really weird stories. There is nothing else like it. Have a read.

Billy Connolly's Tracks Across America

The Great Glorious Goddamn of It All

Billy

Tim O'toole And The Wee Folk

Windswept & Interesting

Between the Bridge and the River

When Fred Dibnah debuted on television in 1979, British audiences immediately embraced a new cultural icon: a steeplejack from Bolton who fell in love with England's decaying industrial landscape and an exhaustive storyteller whose charm and wit was matched only by his down-to-earth manner. The Producer of that first film, Don Haworth, would go on to make nineteen films about this unlikely celebrity and true British eccentric. *Did You Like That?* collects the best stories from these films: colourful tales told by Fred himself, recounting key moments in his life, his experiences as a steeplejack, his fascination with machinery, his work as an engineer, craftsman, artist, inventor and steam enthusiast, and his forthright views on life in general. Told with true Northern grit, *Did You Like That?* is the story of a man who never shied away from a hair-raising challenge, and the closest thing to Fred's autobiography we're likely to get. In paperback for the first time, this is Fred's story, in his own words.

Helen Majinsky is sixteen, Jewish and confused. She is also in love - like every Merseyside schoolgirl - with four mop-topped young men, seduced by the Cavern Club and the exciting sound of 1963. In the year The Beatles have the world at their feet, Helen dreams secretly of reaching university and leaving Liverpool. Her Liverpool. Her world. For a grammar school girl to even consider a future outside the city is to break taboos stronger than the Mersey undertow, and as the prospect of a place at Oxbridge shimmers into view, Helen knows she is restrained by the very forces of stability she longs to escape. But when love intervenes - with Michael Levison, a locally stationed US serviceman - Helen finds the means to break the chains of the old life, and her guide through the hidden dangers of the new...

A portrait of the comedian, written by his wife, describes the forces that shaped his life and career, from his abuse-stricken and desperately poor childhood in Glasgow to the social and theatrical movements of his youth, noting his stage, television, and movie credits. 35,000 first printing.

In December 2018, after fifty years of belly-laughs, energy and outrage, Billy Connolly announced his retirement from live stand-up comedy. Back in the sixties, Billy played the

banjo in the folk clubs of Scotland and, improvising between songs, learned what made audiences laugh. Soon he was recognised as one of the most exciting comedians of his generation. Billy never wrote scripts, always creating his comedy freshly on stage, and he brought a beautiful sense of the absurd to his shows as he riffed on his family, hecklers, swimming in the North Sea, or naked bungee jumping - as well as sex, politics, and religion. TALL TALES AND WEE STORIES brings together the best of Billy's storytelling for the first time. An inspirational and riotously funny read, it's a fitting celebration of our greatest ever comedian.

A Memoir of Love, Death, and Jazz Chickens

Stories from the Other Side of the Bookshop Counter

Riding the Elephant

Believe Me

The Big Yin

Stories from Around the World to Tell Or Read when Time is Short

When Tiffany Aching sets out to become a witch, she faces ominous foes and gains unexpected allies. As she confronts the Queen of Fairies and battles an ancient, bodiless evil, she is aided (and most ably abetted) by the six-inch-high, fightin', stealin', drinkin' Wee Free Men! Laugh-out-loud humor and breathtaking action combine in the books that launched the unforgettable adventures of a determined young witch and her tiny but fierce blue friends. BILLY, the ground-breaking biography of the nation's favourite iconoclast, gave millions of readers a fascinating insight into the personal and professional life of the genius that is Billy Connolly. Then, in the sequel to that bestselling book, the award-winning Pamela Stephenson celebrated life with the Scottish beastie as he hit the big six-oh. In it we relive colourful and epic moments from Billy's early life in Glasgow - the background to an intimate portrait of his marriage with Pamela and his life in Scotland, LA and the rest of the world. Witty, insightful and intimate, BRAVEMOUTH draws the reader into two very different worlds - hers of international sexology and the serious psychology of humorists, his of incontinence pants, being married to a shrink... and the finer points of banjo playing. Veteran bookseller Elias Greig collects the best, worst and downright weirdest customer encounters from his years working as a Sydney bookseller. From ill-behaved children to

nostalgic seniors and everything in between, this hilarious and unpredictable book is the perfect gift for anyone who's ever been on the wrong side of a counter.

From the comedian, actor, and former host of The Late Late Show comes an irreverent, lyrical memoir in essays featuring his signature wit. Craig Ferguson has defied the odds his entire life. He has failed when he should have succeeded and succeeded when he should have failed. The fact that he is neither dead nor in a locked facility (at the time of printing) is something of a miracle in itself. In Craig's candid and revealing memoir, readers will get a look into the mind and recollections of the unique and twisted Scottish American who became a national hero for pioneering the world's first TV robot skeleton sidekick and reviving two dudes in a horse suit dancing as a form of entertainment. In Riding the Elephant, there are some stories that are too graphic for television, too politically incorrect for social media, or too meditative for a stand-up comedy performance. Craig discusses his deep love for his native Scotland, examines his profound psychic change brought on by fatherhood, and looks at aging and mortality with a perspective that he was incapable of as a younger man. Each story is strung together in a colorful tapestry that ultimately reveals a complicated man who has learned to process—and even enjoy—the unusual trajectory of his life.

The Life and Times of Billy Connolly

Gullible's Travels

The Wee Free Men: The Beginning

Hey Ladies!

Daft Wee Stories

The Scottish Fairy Book

A true great of British comedy, Ronald 'Ronnie' Corbett, is hailed as one of the finest comedians of his generation. Son of an Edinburgh baker, Ronnie rose to fame as one half of the infamous Two Ronnies alongside Ronnie Barker. Known for his versatility, quick-wit, family-friendly dialogue, and meandering monologues, Corbett was a staple of British television for more than 50 years. In his autobiography, he tells the complete story, from his school technique of estimating the height of a girl before daring to ask her to dance, to his days as a night club barman in London, and finally, to his decades long career as a stand-up and sitcom star. Including tales of how he first met David Frost,

John Cleese and Michael Palin, this book is written with all of Ronnie's trademark warmth and wit. Celebrating his life and career, this is Ronnie's own honest and definitive account of his truly dramatic journey.

With his twinkling eyes, boundless energy and unrivalled natural wit, Robin Williams was the comedian who brought laughter to a generation. Through roles in cherished films such as Mrs. Doubtfire, Jumanji, Aladdin and Hook, he became the genial face of family comedy. His child-like enthusiasm was infectious, sweeping viewers away. Allied to his lightning-quick improvisation and ability to riff lewdly off any cue thrown at him, Robin was that rare thing - a true comic genius who appealed to adults and children equally. He could also play it straight, and empathetic depth came to him naturally. A poignant performance in Good Will Hunting won him an Academy Award whilst his masterfully chilling turn in psychological thriller Insomnia shocked audiences and hinted at a darker side. What truly caught the imagination, though, was his good-heartedness. Warmth radiated from him on-screen, but he was legendary for his off-screen acts of selfless generosity. Where most Hollywood A-listers demand outrageous pampering in their contract riders, he always insisted that the production company hire a full quota of homeless people to help make his movies. But behind the laughter lay a deeply troubled man, and tragedy would follow. At midday, on 11 August 2014, Robin Williams was pronounced dead at his California home. The verdict was suicide. He had battled depression and addiction for many years and was allegedly beset by financial difficulties. Virginia Blackburn's sensitive and thoughtful biography celebrates his genius and warmth, but also attempts to understand what could have driven such a gentle and gifted man to so tragic an end. This is Robin Williams, the life, the laughter, and the deep sorrow of the man who made the world smile.

Living with Billy Connolly