

Mariana Monica Dickens

There is a place at World's End for any furry or feathered friend in need. The Fielding children live in a rambling old house, packed full of animals. Best of all – there are no grown-ups! Mum and dad are off on adventures of their own, which means the children have to take care of themselves. Carrie and Michael befriend Priscilla who has been left wheelchair-bound by a riding accident. Letting Priscilla ride Oliver is making her happy once again, but when the old barn collapses, there is nowhere for them to practise. Together Tom, Carrie, Em and Michael must come up with a scheme to raise the money to fix the roof and save Priscilla from her smothering mother. But where in the world will they find that sort of money? World's End in Winter is the third adventure in The World's End Series.

'A truthful, exciting, agonising adult love triangle. An emotional labyrinth, with monsters, great risks – and survival' - Laline Paull, author of The Bees For Lucy, marriage to Mark provided an anchor after several years of drifting casually across countries, into jobs and out of relationships. Now forty-two, her anchor is working loose. Bewildered by the demands of motherhood and dissatisfied by her work, she has also grown understandably resentful of her husband: Mark has serious difficulties of his own and whilst harsh self-reliance has kept him sane, it has alienated his wife. When Lucy falls in love with Angus, a pianist in his sixties, her shock is extreme. Adamant that she will not deceive her husband, she instead asks his advice. Mark's reaction, however, is startlingly unorthodox, leaving Lucy to steer an impossible course between duty and desire, adventure and security. As her marriage falters and Angus presses for commitment, she is forced to choose between family and self, with lifelong consequences for everyone. Infused with her trademark precision, clarity and dark humour, Mary Loudon's searing, highly-charged novel My House is Falling Down is a fearless exploration of what infidelity means when no one is lying, and how brutal honesty may yet prove the biggest taboo in our relationships.

INTRODUCED BY LISSA EVANS 'I envy anyone yet to discover the joy of Monica Dickens. She's beady eyed, big hearted and blissfully funny' Nina Stibbe Poppy, newly recruited cub reporter at the Downingham Post, is determined to prove to the editor that he's wrong in his belief that 'Women are a nuisance in the office'. He certainly doesn't think she's a nuisance when it's time for the tea round - a job which never fails to fall to the only female reporter. What Poppy lacks in experience, she makes up for in spirit and ambition. She'll make the Downingham Post the best regional newspaper there is - even if she occasionally gets the names wrong in court hearings. Life, for a single professional woman in the post-war years, certainly has its challenges - from finding a room, when the tyrannical landlady doesn't consider Poppy to be quite respectable, to changing her editor's deeply entrenched ways. This semi-autobiographical novel, recounted with Monica Dickens's wit, warmth and wry observation, will charm all who read it. If you enjoyed My Turn to Make the Tea, you will love One Pair of Feet, Dickens's novel of being a wartime trainee nurse, also published in Virago Modern Classics.

When she has a nervous breakdown in front of an audience of millions, broadcast journalist Isabel Murphy is sent to recover at Three Breezes, a renowned psychiatric hospital, where, by facing the reality of her situation, she must pick up the pieces of her shattered life.

"A brilliant, bittersweet upstairs-downstairs comedy."--Guardian

One Pair of Feet is not just a spirited and entertaining account of the training of a hospital nurse in wartime but a fascinating glimpse into a time and a culture so recent and yet so utterly changed' Marina Lewycka As the effects of the war raging in Europe begin to be felt at home in London, Monica Dickens decides to do her bit and to pursue a new career, and so enrolls as a student nurse at a hospital in rural Hertfordshire. By nature clever and spirited, she struggles to submit to the iron rule of the Matron and Sisters, and is alternately infuriated and charmed by her patients. That's not to mention the mountains of menial work that are a trainee's lot. But there are friends among the staff and patients, night-time escapades to dances with dashing army men, and her secret writing project to keep her going. 'A brilliantly funny account' Elizabeth Bowen

A gorgeous read full of hope, warmth and heartfelt emotion from the Sunday Times bestselling author ? 'The feeling you get when you read a Milly Johnson book should be bottled and made available on the NHS' Debbie Johnson Laurie and Pete should never have met. But fate has pushed them together for a reason. Six months ago, on the same night, Laurie and Pete both lost their partners. Struggling to manage the grief, they join the same counselling group – and meet each other. From their sadness, Pete and Laurie find happiness growing and they sense a fresh new beginning. Except, the more they talk, the more they begin to spot the strange parallels in their stories. Then Pete discovers a truth that changes everything. But, as surely as a compass points north, some people cannot be kept apart. My One True North is a story of friendship and what love means, of secrets uncovered, teashops on corners and the northern lights. Praise for My One True North: 'Funny, poignant and so uplifting' Sun 'Reading a Milly Johnson book is like spending time with a best friend - you always end up feeling better about the world. Written with genuine warmth and heart, they're an absolute treat' Lucy Diamond 'A heartfelt novel from one of our favourite authors' Bella 'A heart-warming and engaging read' Woman's Weekly 'Johnson is in a league of her own in the genre...an uplifting story unfolding from hard times, all succinctly nailed with emotional honesty in absorbing prose' The Lady 'A heartfelt and emotional story . . . It's another wonderful feelgood read from a talented author' Daily Express 'Milly Johnson brings her trademark warmth, humour and compassion to this tale of love, fate, second chances and the importance of giving your heart time to heal. The perfect read for a rainy day spent under a blanket' Culturefly, 8 of the Best New Books To Read This March ? 'If your March reading list is all about warmth and cosiness, then Milly Johnson's latest novel should be top of your reading pile. From the writer of The Magnificent Mrs Mayhew (which is fabulous, by the way) My One True North is full of the heartfelt optimism we need at this time of year' Yahoo Book of the Month 'A dazzling, contemporary masterpiece, full of heart, soul and humour' Lancashire Evening Post

When Lily and Ida meet on a flight to America, they embark on a relationship that is to see them through two very different marriages. Lily wants passionately to help people, and to experience romance and adventure at the same time. Falling in love with a married man was not part of the plan. In order to escape her abusive father, Ida flees to America to marry Buddy, looking forward to a clean slate with her new husband. But is having a house and being Mrs. Someone enough for her? Married life will bring them comfort, distress, joy and tragedy in equal measure as the years unfold. Only their friendship can carry them through. First published in 1988, Dear Doctor Lily follows two women as they navigate the complexities of love, family, and friendship.

Women from all walks of life have been thrown together by the War. Together they must toil for long hours in the aircraft factory whilst striving to navigate their disrupted lives. Overseeing their work is the kindly Edward Ledward, whose beloved rabbits provide an escape from his loveless marriage. Given a promotion, and somewhat scared of 'his girls', Edward quickly finds himself out of his depth. But will these terrifying women be his ruin or his salvation? Set during World War II and covering themes of love, family, and independence, The Fancy is above all a human story, a study of everyday life and its extraordinary characters. It was first published in 1945.

A governess is sent by an employment agency to the wrong address, where she encounters a glamorous night-club singer, Miss LaFosse. "Earth and High Heaven" by Gwethalyn Graham. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

A young woman is intrigued by a younger man desperately pursuing her. As she soon learns, there are secrets in his present and past that are truly concealing his true identity. Her friends support her as she is navigating her relationship with her mate. The nature of his father's business has put her in harm's way. Risking everything to win his son's love, the father is willing to put everything on the line to safely

retrieve his son's lover. In two separate incidents, the young woman learns more about the true identity of her male companion and his father. His lifestyle clashes with hers. The woman has serious doubt that she can live in his world, but at the same time she has come to love him. Choosing will be the hardest thing she must do.

It is the end of WW II and the household of Mrs. North, a well-to-do widow with a country cottage, is very busy. War circumstances brought both of her daughters home: loud but good-hearted tomboy, Violet, and highly-strung and over sensitive Heather with her two small children. Mrs. North is also taking care of her young niece, Evelyn, a lively child who loves to play on the local farm and has a great passion for animals. But at the center of all this is Oliver, Mrs. North's only son who lost his leg during the war service abroad. Recovering from his injuries, bed-ridden Oliver has nothing better to do but observe the busy lives of the people around him. Treated as a hero and a confidant by all the women in his family, Oliver begins to enjoy his new role as a self-proclaimed counselor. Due to his advice, Violet, an independent spinster, unexpectedly accepts the marriage proposal from a local farmer. Her wedding is a success and Violet finds a new happiness in her marriage, but soon Oliver's meddling in his family affairs goes too far. Will his risky instructions save or ruin Heather's marriage, which is at the brink of crisis, when her husband comes back from Australia after a few years of separation? Will Oliver learn to accept his new circumstances? Will he finally face to the reality and start to rebuild his own life? In this compendium plot, Monica Dickens, with her typical attention to detail, humor and talent for creating vivid characters, explores complicated life stories of the close-knit family and their friends at the end of the war. The Happy Prisoner was first published in 1946.

A novel about a happy, successful, middle-class, pre-war family, and the disintegration and devastation that the Second World War brought on.

Still-young naval officer, unexpectedly retired by a cut in armed forces appropriations, must create a new life in mufti.

This novel by the great granddaughter of Charles Dickens was a bestseller when it was originally published in 1940. "Mariana" is the often-comical story of a typical English girl growing up in the 1930s, who has no idea what to do with her life.

Charles Dickens' great-granddaughter Monica Dickens was the author of twenty-five novels and many classics for children, and one of the most popular writers of her day. Born into the upper classes, as a bored and unhappy debutante in the 1930s she took the incredible step of going into domestic service and then writing a book about it. 'One Pair of Hands,' published in 1939, sold in the millions and has never been out of print. Her subsequent works, calling on her rich experience as a wartime nurse, Spitfire factory worker, GI bride and more, sold in similar numbers but are now largely forgotten. Often dismissed as a 'light' writer, and her widespread appeal deflecting serious recognition, Monica Dickens was nevertheless highly praised by some of the most respected authors of the twentieth century, and indeed beyond. Far from writing lightly, in her middle period she addressed issues such as child abuse, suicide, and inner-city deprivation. Her novels, always threaded with humour, were immensely understanding of human frailties, but at the same time urged resilience and responsibility for one's fellow man. These were qualities that Monica herself possessed in plenty. After becoming a volunteer for the Samaritans in England, this deeply compassionate woman went on to found the first branch of the organisation in America and hence to save countless lives. Her name is engraved on a marker near the soaring bridges over the Cape Cod Canal, where she campaigned for the erection of higher barriers to stop desperate people jumping to their deaths. In her early sixties Monica produced an account of the experiences in her life which had influenced her writing, her 1978 memoir 'An Open Book'. 'This is not the whole story of a life,' begins the first chapter, and in truth much was omitted or by her own admission confused with the semi-autobiographical works she had written as a young woman. 'An Open Book' is a valuable starting-point but this first biography seeks to fill the gaps and to tell the story of her later years, with the help of contemporary accounts, family histories, interviews with close friends, articles and private correspondence, and not least Monica's major works and their critical reception. All her writing life Monica was compared to Charles Dickens, not always favourably. And yet the similarities between them are there: eccentric characters, humorous observation of the English scene, social conscience, an optimistic and moral view of life - but above all, talent for the written word.

'Times are changed with him who marries; there are no more bypath meadows where you may innocently linger, but the road lies long and straight and dusty to the grave.' So wrote Robert Louis Stevenson. Christine feels bound to agree. 'My wife can do anything,' Vinson says. Struggling to comply with this statement, Christine has to adjust to life in America, whilst catering to Vinson's idea of a good spouse. She must force a sycophantic smile for the wife of Admiral Hamer (who wears patent-leather shoes like bananas) in an effort to ease his promotion. There must be a cold Turkey and a cold ham at every party and she must suffer her ridiculous mother-in-law. Bitter arguments are relieved by bleak silences. As the realities of married life wash away her rosy dream of it, Christine begins to wonder if Vinson is really what she wants. First published in 1953, No More Meadows unravels the threads of a very real marriage. Full of her inimitable warmth and sense of idiosyncratic character, Monica Dickens explores Christine's heart-warming – and at times heart-breaking – search for happiness.

A 1930 novel by Persephone Books' most popular writer about a girl who sets up a dress shop.

A heart-warming and feel-good romcom about a second chance at falling in love, perfect for fans of In Case You Missed It and This Time Next Year. 'Anna Bell's best book yet . . . An incredibly compelling and brilliant story. I fell in love with Ellie, and I know you will, too.' Lucy Vine, author of Hot Mess 'Funny and true. Anna Bell writes beautifully.' Lia Louis, author of Dear Emmie Blue ----- What happens when the man she married can't remember her? Ellie has the perfect life: a happy marriage, a gorgeous daughter and a baby on the way. But when her husband Max develops amnesia, he forgets everything about the last five years . . . including their relationship. Now the man she said 'I do' to has become a stranger, and she has no idea why. Yet Ellie is determined to reconnect and find her Max again - he has to be in there somewhere, right? As they get to know one another afresh, Ellie finds herself seeing Max clearly for the first time. But then she discovers that before his memory loss, Max was keeping a huge secret from her. Will their new beginning prove to be a false start, just as it seemed they might fall in love all over again? ----- What authors and readers are saying about Anna Bell: 'Warm-hearted and hilarious. It will make you giggle and want to hug the book when you finish it.' Miranda Dickinson, Sunday Times bestselling author 'A brilliantly funny, uplifting yet emotional rom-com that I just lost myself in.' Elle Spellman, author of Running Into Trouble 'I absolutely loved this - one of the funniest books I've read in ages, perhaps even ever. I would totally recommend this hilariously funny, fast-paced romance.' 'I laughed out loud so many times throughout this book, really enjoyable, wonderful characters and a great escapism read.' 'Another brilliant romp from the pen of Anna Bell. I love all her books and this is one of her best!! Go and buy it now!!!' 'Made me belly laugh out loud throughout ... I would recommend this book to everyone who needs a good story and a good laugh in their lives. Utterly fantastic!'

A reissue of the 1956 novel in which Hatty, a middle-aged woman who grew up feeling out of place in her family and in the world, gains new insights into her past and future while honeymooning in Ibiza with her much-younger husband.

A small town romantic comedy with her landlord! USA Today bestselling series. Jazz singer Zoe Davis is facing eviction due to a teensy, ill-advised fling with her landlord, so when Gabe Reynolds offers the apartment over his garage, Zoe knows better than to get involved with her landlord again. No matter how smoking hot he is. Former shark lawyer Gabe returns to Clover Park for the stress-free lifestyle only to corner the market on ridiculous "legal" cases. When Zoe comes to him asking for legal advice, Gabe's solution is a shock even to him. Gabe's got good reason to avoid anything permanent, so when Zoe tells him she'll only be staying a month, he figures it's the perfect situation. But when passion flares this hot, someone is bound to get burned. For more humorous contemporary romance, check out all of Kylie's books! Clover Park Series The Opposite of Wild (Book 1) Daisy Does It All (Book 2) Bad Taste in Men (Book 3) Kissing Santa (Book 4) Restless Harmony (Book 5) Not My Romeo (Book 6) Rev Me Up

(Book 7) An Ambitious Engagement (Book 8) Clutch Player (Book 9) A Tempting Friendship (Book 10) Clover Park Bride: Nico and Lily's Wedding A Valentine's Day Gift (Book 11) Maggie Meets Her Match (Book 12) Clover Park STUDS Series Almost Over It (Book 1) Almost Married (Book 2) Almost Fate (Book 3) Almost in Love (Book 4) Almost Romance (Book 5) Almost Hitched (Book 6) Happy Endings Book Club Series Hidden Hollywood (Book 1) Inviting Trouble (Book 2) So Revealing (Book 3) Formal Arrangement (Book 4) Bad Boy Done Wrong (Book 5) Mess With Me (Book 6) Resisting Fate (Book 7) Chance of Romance (Book 8) Wicked Flirt (Book 9) An Inconvenient Plan (Book 10) A Happy Endings Wedding (Book 11) The Rourkes Series Royal Catch (Book 1) Royal Hottie (Book 2) Royal Darling (Book 3) Royal Charmer (Book 4) Royal Player (Book 5) Royal Shark (Book 6) Rogue Prince (Book 7) Rogue Gentleman (Book 8) Rogue Rascal (Book 9) Rogue Angel (Book 10) Rogue Devil (Book 11) Rogue Beast (Book 12) Keywords: contemporary romance, romantic comedy, chick lit, funny romance, humorous romance, humorous fiction, women's fiction, small town romance, series romance, series, clover park series, family sagas, romance series, romance, romantic, marriage, love, family life, friendship, Kylie Gilmore, USA Today bestselling author, friends to lovers romance 'Clever and magical' - Women's Weekly 'Author Jaclyn is the sister of Liane Moriarty (Big Little Lies) and has the same talent for great plots. This unusual novel tugs at the heartstrings.' - Good Housekeeping Twenty years ago, Abigail Sorenson's brother Robert went missing one day before her sixteenth birthday, never to be seen again. That same year, she began receiving scattered chapters in the mail from a mysterious guidebook, whose anonymous authors promised to make her life soar to heights beyond her wildest dreams. These missives have remained a constant in Abi's life - a befuddling yet oddly comforting voice through her family's grief over her brother's disappearance, a move across continents, the devastating dissolution of her marriage, and the new beginning as a single mother and café owner in Sydney. Now, two decades after receiving those first pages, Abi is invited to learn 'the truth' about the book. It's an opportunity too intriguing to refuse - she believes its absurdity and her brother's disappearance must be connected. What follows is an entirely unexpected journey of discovery that will change Abi's life - and enchant readers. Gravity Is the Thing is a smart, unusual, wickedly funny novel - heart-warming and life-affirming. Until now, Mollie Panter-Downes's stories, originally published in The New Yorker, have been unavailable in English. They explore most aspects of British life during WWII in great detail.

An outstanding novel about the fragility and tenacity of love.

2020 Reprint of the 1924 Edition. Full facsimile of the original edition and not reproduced with Optical Recognition software. The novel describes the problems of a family in which husband and wife are oppressed and frustrated by the roles that they are expected to play. Evangeline Knapp is the ideal housekeeper, while her husband Lester is a poet and a dreamer. Suddenly, through a nearly fatal accident, their roles are reversed; Lester is confined to home in a wheelchair and his wife must work to support the family. "This 1924 novel... deals in a seemingly contemporary with the issue of how a married couple can feel oppressed and frustrated by the roles they are expected to play and what happens when these roles are reversed." -- Philadelphia Inquirer. "What if a husband likes to keep house and is good at it? What if a wife wants to have a job? In the early part of the 20th century, switching roles was an unthinkable solution, but the author uses the frame of a serious accident to set up the situation in this book. "The Home-Maker" is a great commentary on gender roles and Fisher is a keen observer of human nature, so the characters are wonderful. However, the real reason to read this book is something additional. It contains some of the very best writing I have ever seen on the unfolding of a child's character and the responsibility of a parent. The scenes with the children are charming and appealing, but they are also intensely insightful. Fisher had strong views on the need for children to grow up strong and independent, and she found few obligations more serious than of parents who must carefully accord respect to their children, while nurturing their children's nature to the fullest. She makes her serious point in the framework of an irresistible tale of a loving father and mother who just happen to be miscast in their family roles. Don't miss this one if you want a great book about what children need from adults. And don't miss Steven and the egg-beater."-Amazon Reviewer.

The Making of a Marchioness follows thirty-something Emily who lives alone, humbly and happily, in a tiny apartment and on a meager income. She is the one that everyone counts on but no one goes out of their way to accommodate. This Cinderella-like story remains a much-loved favorite among many.

"William—An Englishman" by Cicely Hamilton. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

Hilary Wainright, a young English poet, had lost his wife and child in France during the war.

'Life was a wordless battle of wits between us, with her keeping a sharp look-out for signs of neglect, and me trying to disguise my slovenliness by subterfuge. I became an adept at sweeping dust under the bed, and always used the same few pieces of silver' Unimpressed by the world of debutante balls, Monica Dickens shocked her family by getting a job. With no experience whatsoever, she gained employment as a cook-general. Monica's cooking and cleaning skills left much to be desired, and her first few positions were short lived, but soon she started to hold her own. Monica discovered the pleasure of daily banter with the milkman and grocer's boy and the joy of doing an honest day's work, all the while keeping a wry eye on the childish pique of her employers. One Pair of Hands is a fascinating and thoroughly entertaining memoir of life upstairs and downstairs in the early 1930s.

Beautifully written, sparkly, witty, and knowing essays about the kitchen from Lady Jekyll.

The story of a young Englishwoman's growth towards maturity in the 1930's, a funny, readable, and perceptive account of life and love.

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