

The Understudy David Nicholls

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Us

Kelvin is a 33-year-old property developer living in a small Lancashire town. He has five close friends, all in well-paid jobs. Having bought their lovely houses cheaply in the early 1990s, they are free to spend money on their own pleasures - particularly clothes, meals and cars. Most of all, their life revolves around going to see things - art exhibitions, comedians, live music, plays When we first meet the six friends they are on their way to see a new kind of circus. Once there Kelvin does something unforgivable to a clown, has a strange snack and meets the most beautiful girl he has ever seen. It's the beginning of the end of the good life.

Attic of the Mind

The time is right for Lilith Fields to seek revenge. Twenty-five years have passed since the sadistic abuser tortured the patients of the psychiatric ward, and now Lily has decided he must meet his final judgment. As her plan unfolds she discovers she is not the only one with a dark secret. Now, only time will tell if Lily's demons will be vanquished, and just how many people are really involved.

From Dessalines to Duvalier

Based on the British Book Awards Biography of the Year, *Toast* is the story of Nigel Slater's childhood, told through the tastes and smells he grew up with. From making the perfect sherry trifle to waging a war over cakes and from the pressured playground politics of sweets to the rigid rules of restaurant dining, this is a story of love, loss and toast.

A Question of Attraction

'A gripping, wonderfully understated book that oozes humanity, emotion and humour.' Guardian Winner of the 2020 Butler Literary Award Shortlisted for the Edge Hill Prize 2019 Shortlisted for the Republic of Consciousness Prize 2019 Longlisted for the Gordon Burn Prize and the Sunday Times Audible Short Story Award 2019 'Wendy Erskine's first collection, *Sweet Home* . . . is every bit as good as her early stories in the always astute *Stinging Fly* magazine promised.' Jon McGregor, *New Statesman* Set in the author's

native Belfast, the ten stories in *Sweet Home* lay bare the heartbreak and quiet tragedies that run under the surface of everyday lives. A lonely woman is fascinated by her niqab-wearing neighbours; a middle-aged teacher becomes obsessed with a young Gaelic football player; and an employer covers for his two employees caught having sex in a public toilet. Wendy Erskine offers perfectly formed, brilliantly observed portraits of people trying to carve out a life for themselves, all the while being buffeted by the loss, grief and regret that come their way. Warm, compassionate and funny, *Sweet Home* captures life in contemporary East Belfast, in all of its forms. A Book of the Year in the *Guardian*, *The White Review*, *Observer*, *New Statesman*, *TLS*.

Nine Uses for an Ex-boyfriend

"The highly anticipated new novel from David Nicholls, author of the mega-bestselling fiction sensation *One Day*, which follows one man's efforts to salvage his marriage--and repair his troubled relationship with his teenaged son--during the course of a trip around Europe"--

Lucky Break

"New edition of a valuable survey of Haitian history that first appeared in 1979 (see *HLAS* 44:2491). Nicholls died in 1996, and changes to the original book appear to be limited to a new, 41-page preface that summarizes political events in the country from 1986-94"--*Handbook of Latin American Studies*, v. 58.

Us: TV Tie-In

With Gisèle Scanlon's chic and sophisticated guide, every woman can perfect her divine. In *The Goddess Guide*, she shares the secrets of living an unforgettable and desirable life, garnered from her own experiences and insight as well as those from a throng of fashion houses and celebrities, including Dolce & Gabbana, Laura Mercier, top New York trainer David Kirsch, and award-winning Chef Heston Blumenthal. Discover such secrets as: Finding the perfect bra Make-up bag essentials Closet cleaning the eBay way Caring for fine cashmere The best vintage shops around the world Essential discount websites, seasonal trends, and a body shape guide Tips for a clutter-free home, and much more Want to know why the soles of Christian Luoboutin's beautiful shoes are always crimson red? Ever wondered what Britartist Tracey Emin collects? Going to London, Paris, New York and need to know what perfumes, trinkets and treats to try out and bring home so that you can relive your trip and share the world with your family and friends? Perhaps you have a room to decorate and want to put up – and customize – a wall that will give you a daily feelgood feeling? Still searching for the best – fitting jeans, the snuggliest duvet, that awesome movie to watch while you work at home on a day off of work or fancy buying a neat piece of street art? Not only does *The Goddess Guide*, written by worldwide coolhunter Gisèle Scanlon contain all of the answers to the previous questions, but it's also beautiful to hold and own. The cover is a collection of Gisèle's favourite things experienced in

her travels put together in a lush velvet rich flock by her photographer coolhunting partner. Inside this eclectic homemade handbook is another beautiful visual treat, each chapter heading has been embroidered by the Queen of England's embroiderery house and each page is completely original and individually scrapbooked and handmade with layers of illustration, photography and exquisite tips. The Goddess Guide also contains handwritten letters from cool industry insiders as varied as Nylon magazine editor Marvin Scott Jarrett and New York fashion designer Narciso Rodriquez. From getting the perfect Hollywood smile from world renowned experts Marc Lowenburg and Gregg Lituchy in New York to booking the best hotel bed and seeing Christian Louboutin's Paris to obtaining those perfectly sculpted arms, The Goddess Guide has it all.

One Day

Recently divorced actor Stephen C. McQueen (no relation, unfortunately) seems to have a knack for bad luck. But a failed marriage, a stalled career, a judgmental ex-wife, a distant daughter, a horrid little studio apartment in the far reaches of the London suburbs—all these pathetic elements seem to pale in the chiseled face of his newest tormentor: the Twelfth Sexiest Man in the World, Josh Harper. Josh is the star of *Mad, Bad, and Dangerous to Know*, a biographical play about Lord Byron—and Stephen is his understudy. Not only is Josh fantastically, infuriatingly good-looking, internationally renowned, and remarkably talented, he's also frustratingly healthy. No matter

how many all-night booze-and-coke benders Josh goes on, he always shows up at the stage door for his call like clockwork. Stephen doubts he'll ever get his chance to slip on the puffy shirt and tight breeches of Byron and tread the boards in the role that would certainly be the break he's always waited for. And just when Stephen's sure he couldn't resent Josh more, he meets Josh's witty, restless American wife, Nora . . . and discovers he likes her a little too much. Another man might curse his luck at finding that his potential dream woman is a rival's wife, but at this point, Stephen would expect nothing else. Caught between his stirring feelings for Nora, the demands of an insistent and secretive Josh, and his lifelong desire for a real career in show business, Stephen must make a terrible decision: Will it be the girl or the fame? A hapless, bumbling bloke in love, an arrogant megastar with a potpourri of addictions, a sexy married woman out of her element in the fast lane—David Nicholls brings them all together in this knockout romantic comedy.

Complexes and First-Row Transition Elements

Hope Delafield hasn't always had an easy life. She has red hair and a temper to match, as her mother is constantly reminding her. She can't wear heels, is terrified of heights and being a primary school teacher isn't exactly the job she dreamed of doing, especially when her class are stuck on the two times table. At least Hope has Jack, and Jack is the God of boyfriends. He's sweet, kind, funny, has a killer smile,

a cool job on a fashion magazine and he's pretty (but in a manly way). Hope knew that Jack was The One ever since their first kiss after the Youth Club Disco and thirteen years later, they're still totally in love. Totally. They're even officially pre-engaged. And then Hope catches Jack kissing her best friend Susie Does true love forgive and forget? Or does it get mad and get even?

The Understudy

Recently divorced actor Stephen C. McQueen (no relation, unfortunately) seems to have a knack for bad luck. But a failed marriage, a stalled career, a judgmental ex-wife, a distant daughter, a horrid little studio apartment in the far reaches of the London suburbs—all these pathetic elements seem to pale in the chiseled face of his newest tormentor: the Twelfth Sexiest Man in the World, Josh Harper. Josh is the star of *Mad, Bad, and Dangerous to Know*, a biographical play about Lord Byron—and Stephen is his understudy. Not only is Josh fantastically, infuriatingly good-looking, internationally renowned, and remarkably talented, he's also frustratingly healthy. No matter how many all-night booze-and-coke benders Josh goes on, he always shows up at the stage door for his call like clockwork. Stephen doubts he'll ever get his chance to slip on the puffy shirt and tight breeches of Byron and tread the boards in the role that would certainly be the break he's always waited for. And just when Stephen's sure he couldn't resent Josh more, he meets Josh's witty, restless American wife, Nora . . . and discovers he likes her a little too much. Another

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Nigel Slater's Toast

“Utterly charming . . . a big-hearted, flawless coming-of-age tale, as scary and funny as your yearbook picture.”—People (four stars) The year is 1985. Brian Jackson, a working-class kid on full scholarship, has started his first term at university. He has a dark secret—a long-held, burning ambition to appear on the wildly popular British TV quiz show *University Challenge*—and now, finally, it seems the dream is about to become reality. He's made the school team, and they've completed the qualifying rounds and are limbering up for their first televised match. (And, what's more, he's fallen head over heels for one of his teammates, the beautiful, brainy, and intimidatingly posh Alice Harbinson.) Life seems perfect and triumph inevitable—but as his world opens up, Brian learns that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE “Fresh, edgy and very funny . . . [David Nicholls] has a talent for droll

dialogue and a wonderful sense of the ridiculous.”—USA Today “Starter for Ten has that elusive Hornby-factor. . . . It’s wincingly funny . . . a prospect to savour.”—Arena

The Understudy

David Nicholls' highly-anticipated new novel, *SWEET SORROW*, is out now. *THE UNDERSTUDY* is a scintillating comedy of ambition, celebrity, jealousy and love. For Josh Harper, being in show-business means everything he ever wanted - money, fame, a beautiful wife, and a lead role on the London stage. For Stephen C. McQueen, it means a disastrous career playing passers-by and dead people. Stephen is stuck with an unfortunate name, a hopeless agent, a daughter he barely knows, and a job as understudy to Josh Harper, the 12th Sexiest Man in the World. And when Stephen falls in love with Josh's clever, funny wife Nora, things get even more difficult. But might there yet be a way for Stephen to get his Big Break? *THE UNDERSTUDY* is a scintillating comedy of ambition, celebrity, jealousy and love.

Constellation Street

Falling in love on the eve of their 1988 college graduations, Dexter and Emma embark on a heady relationship marked throughout subsequent decades by their disparate personalities, conflicts and misconceptions, in a tale told on the anniversaries of the day they met. Original.

Overtaken

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER In 1970, Willie Traynor comes to Clanton, Mississippi, in a Triumph Spitfire and a fog of vague ambitions. Within a year, the twenty-three-year-old finds himself the owner of Ford County's only newspaper, famous for its well-crafted obituaries. While the rest of America is in the grips of turmoil, Clanton lives on the edge of another age—until the brutal murder of a young mother rocks the town and thrusts Willie into the center of a storm. Daring to report the true horrors of the crime, Willie makes as many friends as enemies in Clanton, and over the next decade he sometimes wonders how he got there in the first place. But he can never escape the crime that shattered his innocence or the criminal whose evil left an indelible stain. Because as the ghosts of the South's past gather around Willie, as tension swirls around Clanton, men and women who served on a jury nine years ago are starting to die one by one—as a killer exacts the ultimate revenge. **BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from John Grisham's *The Litigators*.

The Goddess Guide

It is their first day at Drama Arts, and the circle of huddled, nervous students are told in no uncertain terms that here, unlike at any other drama school, they will be taught to Act. To Be. To exist in their own world on the stage. But outside is the real world--a pitiless, alluring place in which each of them in their most fervent dreams, hopes to flourish and excel.

Nell, insecure and dumpy, wonders if she will ever be cast as anything other than the maid. She'll never compete, she knows this, with the multitude of confident, long-legged beauties thronging the profession--most notably Charlie, whose effortless ascendance is nothing less than he expects. While Dan, ambitious and serious, has his sights fixed on Hamlet, as well as on fiery, rebellious Jemma. Over the following decade these young actors will grapple with haphazard tours, illogical auditions, unobtainable agents, deluxe trailers, rocky relationships, and red-carpet premieres. This dazzling new novel from Esther Freud uncovers a world of ruthless ambition, uncertain alliances, and the many-sided holy grail of Success.

#shitty Poetry

Written By Sophie Hannah, BA Paris, Clare Mackintosh, and Holly Brown, this psychological thriller is perfect for fans of Liane Moriarty and Louise Candlish **HOW FAR WOULD YOU GO TO PROTECT YOUR DAUGHTER?** Carolyn, Bronnie, Elise, and Kendall are bound together by one thing - their four daughters are best friends at the highly competitive Orla Flynn Academy for the Performing Arts. Imogen Curwood is a new girl at the Academy and her behaviour is odd from the start. On the day she arrives, bad things start to happen. As one threatening incident follows another, the four mothers begin to ask themselves: are their girls in danger? When an attempted murder rocks the school, Imogen is pleased to report that she has an alibi. If she isn't

the guilty party, someone else must be. Carolyn, Bronnie, Elise and Kendall are determined to uncover the truth and protect their daughters. But are they prepared to risk their own secrets being exposed? THE UNDERSTUDY IS THE OUTSTANDING NEW NOVEL FROM FOUR MASTERS OF SUSPENSE

The Pluralist State

Desperate for a big break to prove his talent and redeem himself with his ex-wife and precocious young daughter, actor Stephen C. McQueen finally gets his chance while understudying movie sex symbol Josh Harper in a West End play when he stumbles upon one of Josh's deepest secrets and agrees to keep silent in exchange for the chance to go on stage. Reprint.

The Understudy

Xavier Ireland is the assumed name of a radio-show host with a devoted following of listeners riveted by the sleepless loners who call in throughout the night to seek his advice. Off the air, he leads a low-key life of avoiding his neighbors, playing Scrabble, and maintaining an awkward friendship with his cohost, Murray. But his life begins to change when he meets a cleaning lady named Pippa, who becomes a constant, surprisingly necessary presence in his life as he starts facing up to his past and discovering solace and redemption in the most unexpected places. British comedian Mark Watson's North American debut humorously and poignantly explores life and death,

strangers and friends, heartache and comfort, and whether the choices we don't make affect us just as powerfully as the ones we do.

The Under Study

'Place like this - you know this - place like this gets in your blood. Once it's in your blood, you can't get it out. One night under Cardiff skies, four lost souls go looking for answers. After dark, when the world is quiet, their paths weave and collide as they all go in search of salvation. When dawn breaks, life will go on but there will be another night to contend with soon enough. As the sun rises over the Taff, can anyone break free from the past?

Cell Mates

Toast

The Understudy

An encyclopedia of topics relating to the German leader such as his most important collaborators and opponents, his domestic and foreign policies, the use of propaganda, racial persecution and the Holocaust, and Hitler as a war leader.

The Legend of Kevin: a Roly-Poly Flying Pony Adventure

The latest book in Alexander McCall Smith's popular 44 Scotland Street series is a sheer delight. Summer has come to Scotland Street. The long days have prompted its denizens to engage in flights of fancy. Some, like the Duke of Johannesburg's plan to create a microlite seaplane, are literal flights, and some, like the vain Bruce Anderson's idea of settling down with one of his many admirers, are more metaphorical. With the domineering Irene off pursuing academic challenges, Stuart and Bertie are free to indulge in summer fun. Stuart reconnects with an old acquaintance over refreshing peppermint tea while Bertie takes his friend Ranald Braveheart Macpherson to the circus. But their trip to the big top becomes rather more than the pleasant diversion they were hoping for. Once again, Scotland Street teems with the daily triumphs and challenges of those who call it home, and provides a warm, wise, and witty chronicle of the affairs in this corner of the world. AN ANCHOR BOOKS ORIGINAL

The Understudy

This book presents a critical account of the political pluralism of Figgis, Laski and other English writers of the early twentieth century, indicating its whig roots in the previous century. Pluralists believed in liberty, preserved by power decentralised, and in group personality. Theories of sovereignty were rejected and a distinctive understanding of the state proposed. Pluralism is particularly relevant to a world where the omniscient state has increasingly been called into question and federal structures of authority are

the order of the day.

Adolf Hitler

Spies betray people. That's what we do. It becomes a - a habit. Difficult to break - even when it's not - not strictly necessary. Wormwood Scrubs Prison, London, 1961. One of Britain's most notorious double agents, George Blake, is serving a forty-two year sentence when he strikes up an unlikely friendship with Irish petty criminal, Sean Bourke. Both men are eccentric outsiders. Each sees in each other the possibility of escape and not just from prison. But once on the outside their mutual dependence faces mounting pressures from MI5, the KGB and indeed from themselves. Simon Gray's absorbing and deftly funny play explores how personal freedom is an illusion and how even friendship must have careful boundaries in a world where deception is a reflex response. Cell Mates premiered at the Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Guildford, in January 1995 before transferring to the Albery Theatre, London. The play was revived at the Hampstead Theatre, London, in November 2017.

American Experimental Music 1890-1940

Three Varieties of Pluralism

"This dark-comedic novel is about a woman, Janet, who wears a cloak of gloomy realism, until one summer when she learns of a new pill that offers even confirmed cynics a short-term taste of happiness. Her

family stages an intervention, her boyfriend leaves her, and she decides to take the pill to get through the Christmas holiday. What follows is life-changing for all concerned, in ways no one expected"--

New Musical Resources

NOW A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE starring ANNE HATHAWAY and JIM STURGESS It's 1988 and Dexter Mayhew and Emma Morley have only just met. But after only one day together, they cannot stop thinking about one another. Over twenty years, snapshots of that relationship are revealed on the same day—July 15th—of each year. Dex and Em face squabbles and fights, hopes and missed opportunities, laughter and tears. And as the true meaning of this one crucial day is revealed, they must come to grips with the nature of love and life itself. "One of the most hilarious and emotionally riveting love stories you'll ever encounter." —People #1 INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLER

The Understudy

Since its original publication in 1930, Henry Cowell's *New Musical Resources* has become recognized as one of the few seminal technical studies to be written by a twentieth-century composer. In 1971, Virgil Thomson hailed it as "a classic." For this new edition, David Nicholls has provided an explanatory essay and annotations to Cowell's text. The essay traces the sources for the book and attempts to place Cowell's theories in the broader context of musical modernism.

Sweet Sorrow

Entering the university on a scholarship, a young middle-class Englishman harbors an ambition to appear on a television quiz show, an endeavor that, once attained, is challenged by his feelings for a posh teammate.

Us

An introduction to the extraordinary life of John Cage, composer, writer, and artist

Eleven

Actor Stephen C. McQueen finally gets his chance to prove his talent while understudying Josh Harper in a West End play, when he stumbles upon one of Josh's deepest secrets and agrees to keep silent in order to go onstage.

Sad Janet

Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize David Nicholls brings the wit and intelligence that graced his enormously popular New York Times bestseller, *One Day*, to a compellingly human, deftly funny new novel about what holds marriages and families together—and what happens, and what we learn about ourselves, when everything threatens to fall apart. Douglas Petersen may be mild-mannered, but behind his reserve lies a sense of humor that, against all odds, seduces beautiful Connie into a second date

. . . and eventually into marriage. Now, almost three decades after their relationship first blossomed in London, they live more or less happily in the suburbs with their moody seventeen year-old son, Albie. Then Connie tells him she thinks she wants a divorce. The timing couldn't be worse. Hoping to encourage her son's artistic interests, Connie has planned a month-long tour of European capitals, a chance to experience the world's greatest works of art as a family, and she can't bring herself to cancel. And maybe going ahead with the original plan is for the best anyway? Douglas is privately convinced that this landmark trip will rekindle the romance in the marriage, and might even help him to bond with Albie. Narrated from Douglas's endearingly honest, slyly witty, and at times achingly optimistic point of view, *Us* is the story of a man trying to rescue his relationship with the woman he loves, and learning how to get closer to a son who's always felt like a stranger. *Us* is a moving meditation on the demands of marriage and parenthood, the regrets of abandoning youth for middle age, and the intricate relationship between the heart and the head. And in David Nicholls's gifted hands, Douglas's odyssey brings Europe—from the streets of Amsterdam to the famed museums of Paris, from the cafés of Venice to the beaches of Barcelona—to vivid life just as he experiences a powerful awakening of his own. Will this summer be his last as a husband, or the moment when he turns his marriage, and maybe even his whole life, around?

The Last Juror

Principally explores the music of Charles Ives, Charles Seeger, Carl Ruggles, Ruth Seeger, Henry Cowell, and John Cage.

One Day

The Peppermint Tea Chronicles

NOW A MAJOR BBC DRAMA STARRING TOM HOLLANDER AND SASKIA REEVE David Nicholls brings to bear all the wit and intelligence that graced ONE DAY in this brilliant, bittersweet novel about love and family, husbands and wives, parents and children. Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize for Fiction 2014. Douglas Petersen understands his wife's need to 'rediscover herself' now that their son is leaving home. He just thought they'd be doing their rediscovering together. So when Connie announces that she will be leaving, too, he resolves to make their last family holiday into the trip of a lifetime: one that will draw the three of them closer, and win the respect of his son. One that will make Connie fall in love with him all over again. The hotels are booked, the tickets bought, the itinerary planned and printed. What could possibly go wrong?

John Cage

Toast is Nigel Slater's truly extraordinary story of a childhood remembered through food. In each chapter, as he takes readers on a tour of the contents of his family's pantry—rice pudding, tinned ham, cream

soda, mince pies, lemon drops, bourbon biscuits—we are transported. His mother was a chops-and-peas sort of cook, exasperated by the highs and lows of a temperamental stove, a finicky little son, and the asthma that was to prove fatal. His father was a honey-and-crumpets man with an unpredictable temper. When Nigel's widowed father takes on a housekeeper with social aspirations and a talent in the kitchen, the following years become a heartbreaking cooking contest for his father's affections. But as he slowly loses the battle, Nigel finds a new outlet for his culinary talents, and we witness the birth of what was to become a lifelong passion for food. Nigel's likes and dislikes, aversions and sweet-toothed weaknesses, form a fascinating backdrop to this exceptionally moving memoir of childhood, adolescence, and sexual awakening. A bestseller (more than 300,000 copies sold) and award-winner in the UK, *Toast* is sure to delight both foodies and memoir readers on this side of the pond—especially those who made such enormous successes of Ruth Reichl's *Tender at the Bone* and Anthony Bourdain's *Kitchen Confidential*.

Sweet Home

Starter for Ten

Max is a young boy living in an ordinary tower block. He longs for adventure in his life - then one day - DOOF! - a flying pony called Kevin crashes into his flat, blown in by a magical storm!The storm causes a

huge flood and soon Max's town submerged by water. Luckily for the town, Max has a flying pony to come to the rescue, and luckily for Kevin, he has a new best friend and a constant supply of his favourite thing - biscuits. Together Max and Kevin will embark on many wild adventures together . . . This is the start of a hilarious new series brought to you by the creative and inspiring duo Philip Reeve and Sarah McIntyre and is packed with amazing two-colour illustrations.

Us

From the best-selling author of *One Day* comes a bittersweet and brilliantly funny coming-of-age tale about the heart-stopping thrill of first love—and how just one summer can forever change a life. Now: On the verge of marriage and a fresh start, thirty-eight year old Charlie Lewis finds that he can't stop thinking about the past, and the events of one particular summer. Then: Sixteen-year-old Charlie Lewis is the kind of boy you don't remember in the school photograph. He's failing his classes. At home he looks after his depressed father—when surely it should be the other way round—and if he thinks about the future at all, it is with a kind of dread. But when Fran Fisher bursts into his life and despite himself, Charlie begins to hope. In order to spend time with Fran, Charlie must take on a challenge that could lose him the respect of his friends and require him to become a different person. He must join the Company. And if the Company sounds like a cult, the truth is even more appalling: The price of hope, it seems, is Shakespeare, Romeo and Juliet learned and

performed in a theater troupe over the course of a summer. Now: Charlie can't go the altar without coming to terms with his relationship with Fran, his friends, and his former self. Poignant, funny, enchanting, devastating, *Sweet Sorrow* is a tragicomedy about the rocky path to adulthood and the confusion of family life, a celebration of the reviving power of friendship and that brief, searing explosion of first love that can only be looked at directly after it has burned out.

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