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The Black Velvet Gown *Corgi Books*

There would be times when Riah Millican came to regret that her husband had learned to read and write, and then shared his knowledge with her and their children. For this was Durham in the 1830's, when employers tended to

regard the spread of education with suspicion. But now Seth Millican was dead and she was a widow with the need to find a home and a living for herself and her children. The chance of becoming a housekeeper didn't work out, but it led to Moor House and a scholarly recluse obsessed with that very book learning that could open so many doors and yet create so many problems; especially with her daughter, Biddy, who was not only bright, but witty... THE BLACK VELVET GOWN is the story of a mother and daughter, often at odds with each other, facing the need to challenge and fight the prejudice of an age--a narrative of great power and diversity that is one of

Catherine Cookson's major achievements.

The Black Velvet Gown

A Novel *Random House (UK)*

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The Black Velvet Gown

Widow Maria struggles for personal fulfilment for herself and for her children. Learning to read and write was a rare and perilous

accomplishment among people of the 1830's. When Maria becomes housekeeper to a scholarly recluse, it causes problems for her daughter Biddy, whose aspirations reach beyond what is acceptable for their class.

The Black Velvet Gown *Corgi*

The black velvet gown. *Large Print*

Confessions of a Little Black Gown *Harlequin*

With her latest book, "New York Times"-bestselling author Boyle begins a two-book, back-to-back romance set in Regency England. Original.

The Black Candle *Random House*

Yorkshire, 1880s At nineteen years old, Bridget Dean Mordaunt inherits her father's candle and blacking factories. Determined to restore the businesses to their former glory, by the time she turns twenty-three she is running them as confidently as any man. But despite her success, trouble is looming. When the devious Lionel Filmore enters Bridget's family life, hoping to marry into her hard-earned wealth, she has to use all of her strength and ingenuity to keep her family together. Then, when young Lily Whitmore comes to her after her husband – an overseer in one of Bridget's factories – has wrongly been tried for his brother's murder, Bridget has no choice but to help. If

Lily's husband didn't kill his brother, who did? The decisions Bridget makes will shape the lives of generations to come. Can her family overcome the darkness of the past to find new happiness? Catherine Cookson was the original and bestselling saga writer, selling over 100 million copies of her novels. If you like *Dilly Court*, *Katie Flynn* or *Donna Douglas*, you'll love Catherine Cookson.

The black velvet gown, Catherine Cookson

The Moth

A Novel *Random House (UK)*

As a diversion from his job in his uncle's carpentry shop, newly arrived Robert Bradley

began to explore the Durham countryside. It was on one of these walks that he met Millie, the ethereal girl-child whose odd ways and nocturnal wanderings had led her to be known locally as Thorman's Moth.

Rag Nymph

A Novel *Simon & Schuster*

The Gambling Man
Bantam Books

A Masculine Ending
A&C Black

Loretta Lawson, a feminist professor visiting Paris to deliver a paper on the oppressive nature of masculine grammatical forms, stumbles across the murder of an Oxford don. But when the body disappears, she returns to England

without alerting the French police, but is resolved to solve the mystery from across the Channel. The BBC adaptation of *A Masculine Ending*, starring Bill Nighy and Imelda Staunton, premiered in 1992. 'I love Loretta' - P.D. James 'Ms. Smith is a literate writer who, in this accomplished novel, manages both to educate and to entertain, which is no mean achievement.' - The New York Times

The Mallen Streak

Thomas Mallen of High Banks Hall had many sons, most of them out of wedlock. But to all of them he passed on his mark - a distinctive flash of white hair running to the left temple, known as the Mallen Streak. It was said that those who

bore the Streak seldom reached old age and that nothing good ever came of a Mallen. In 1851, Thomas Mallen found himself a ruined man, forced amid scandal and disgrace, to sell the Hall. With him went his two young wards and their indomitable governess. Then the Radlet brothers of Wilbur Farm arrived, one of whom bore the unmistakable Mallen Streak.

The Round Tower
Random House

Vanessa Ratcliffe is just sixteen, daughter of one of the town's richest men. And in spite of her social standing and convent education, Vanessa's provocative manner often draws envious eyes in her direction. Angus Cotton is a

rough diamond, living in filthy Ryder's Row, but as engineer at Affleck and Tate he's worth his weight in gold. Angus has ambitious plans for his future, plans that had never included Vanessa - until now... The Round Tower is a beautifully imagined story of power, love, honour and greed and an award-winning novel from one of Britain's most popular novelists.

Don't Leave Me This Way *A&C Black*

Loretta Lawson is not overjoyed when an old acquaintance, Sandra, turns up knocking on Loretta's doorstep on Christmas Eve. After a week of wrecking havoc on Loretta's content, quiet life, Sandra suddenly disappears. Loretta's

relief turns to suspicion when she finds out that Sandra died in a mysterious car crash. As Loretta investigates further, she finds herself dragged into Sandra's messy life and death. The BBC adaptation of *Don't Leave Me This Way* stars Imelda Staunton and Bill Nighy. 'Don't Leave Me This Way is the third clever mystery by Joan Smith...a nicely crafted novel with a decidedly feminist twist.' - The Globe and Mail

The Silent Lady

A Novel *Simon and Schuster*

Catherine Cookson was one of the world's most beloved writers. Her books have sold millions of copies, and her characters and their stories have

captured the imagination of readers around the globe. She passed away in 1998, but luckily for her fans, Cookson left behind several unpublished novels, among them the compelling *Silent Lady*. The story begins with a shocking revelation, delivered by a disheveled woman who presents herself at the offices of a respectable law firm in London. At first the receptionist suspects this mysterious woman is a vagrant; the clothes that hang on her frail body are filthy, and she seems unable to speak. When the woman requests to see the firm's senior partner, Alexander Armstrong, she is shown the door -- but when Mr. Armstrong learns the name of his visitor, all the office

staff is amazed by his reaction. For Irene Baidor is a woman with a past, and her emergence from obscurity signals the unraveling of a mystery that had baffled the lawyer for twenty-six years. To those around her, Irene Baidor had been a young woman of class and musical talent, the wife of a wealthy and powerful man, and the mother to a beloved baby boy. But behind closed doors she was a woman with a dangerous husband, a husband who would one day act with such cruelty that Irene would be left without most of her voice and memory. It was then that Irene disappeared. What Irene had been doing, and where she had been, gradually emerges over the

following weeks, as the unlikely benefactors who had befriended her step forward to reveal the remarkable life she has led. Fans of Cookson's novels, with their larger themes of romantic love and class conflict, will be delighted by the mystery and surprise of *The Silent Lady*. Drawing from her own firsthand experience of working-class life between two world wars and in the 1950s, Cookson once again displays the irresistible plotting, scene-setting, and characterization that have made her an icon of historical and romance fiction.

The Clue of the Velvet Mask

Nancy Drew joins the circus in order to investigate the mystery surrounding a

gold charm bracelet and a young orphaned aerialist.

The Parson's Daughter

The Cultured Handmaiden ; The Black Velvet Gown

The Long Corridor

Transworld Publishers

First published 1965. Novel about the revenge of a woman on the husband she does not love

The World in Miniature

England, Scotland, and Ireland

Wolf on a String

A Novel *Henry Holt and Company*

Bestselling author Benjamin Black turns his eye to sixteenth

century Prague and a story of murder, magic and the dark art of wielding extraordinary power Christian Stern, an ambitious young scholar and alchemist, arrives in Prague in the bitter winter of 1599, intent on making his fortune at the court of the Holy Roman Emperor, the eccentric Rudolf II. The night of his arrival, drunk and lost, Christian stumbles upon the body of a young woman in Golden Lane, an alley hard by Rudolf's great castle. Dressed in a velvet gown, wearing a large gold medallion around her neck, the woman is clearly well-born—or was, for her throat has been slashed. A lesser man would smell danger, but Christian is determined to follow his fortunes wherever

they may lead. He quickly finds himself entangled in the machinations of several ruthless courtiers, and before long he comes to the attention of the Emperor himself. Rudolf, deciding that Christian is that rare thing—a person he can trust—sets him the task of solving the mystery of the woman's murder. But Christian soon realizes that he has blundered into the midst of a power struggle that threatens to subvert the throne itself. And as he gets ever nearer to the truth of what happened that night in Golden Lane, he finally sees that his own life is in grave danger. From the spectacularly inventive Benjamin Black, *Wolf on a String* is a historical crime

novel that delivers both a mesmerizing portrait of a lost world and a riveting tale of intrigue and suspense.

Highland Velvet

Simon and Schuster

Jude Deveraux steps back to a time and place where revenge and rivalry rule men's hearts—and love conquers all—in this wonderful Montgomery novel. Bronwyn MacArran was a proud Scot. Stephen Montgomery was one of the hated English. He came to Scotland as a conqueror, saw her beauty and was vanquished. But still she would abhor him. She owned a temper hot enough to forge the armors of battle or inflame a valiant soldier's passion. Yet still she would resist him. She became his

reason to live, his reason to love. And still she would deny him. But while clan fought clan, while brother took up sword against brother, and the highlands ran with blood—their destiny was made...and this mighty warrior pledged himself to his woman's pride, her honor and her name—and made of their love a torch to burn through the ages!

HRH

So Many Thoughts on Royal Style

Celadon Books

****THE INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**** Veteran style journalist Elizabeth Holmes expands her popular Instagram series, *So Many Thoughts*, into a nuanced look at the fashion and branding

of the four most influential members of the British Royal Family: Queen Elizabeth II; Diana, Princess of Wales; Catherine, The Duchess of Cambridge; and Meghan, The Duchess of Sussex. Kate Middleton and Meghan Markle are global style icons, their every fashion choice chronicled and celebrated. With all eyes on them, the duchesses select clothes that send a message about their values, interests, and priorities. Their thoughtful sartorial strategies follow in the footsteps of Queen Elizabeth II and Diana, Princess of Wales, two towering figures known for using their personal style to great acclaim. With one section devoted to each

woman, HRH is a celebration of their stories and their style, pairing hundreds of gorgeous photographs with extensive research. A picture emerges of the British monarchy's evolution and the power of royal fashion, showing there's always more than what meets the eye.

The Cinder Path

Our Kate *Random House*

An autobiography which presents a story that revolves around the author's mother. It offers an account of living with hardship and poverty as seen through the eyes of a sensitive child and woman.

The Queen of the Big Time

A Novel *Random House*

Known and loved around the world for her sweeping Big Stone Gap trilogy and the instant New York Times bestseller *Lucia, Lucia*, Adriana Trigiani returns to the charm and drama of small-town life with *Queens of the Big Time*. This heartfelt story of the limits and power of love chronicles the remarkable lives of the Castellucas, an Italian-American family, over the course of three generations. In the late 1800s, the residents of a small village in the Bari region of Italy, on the shores of the Adriatic Sea, made a mass migration to the promised land of America. They settled in Roseto, Pennsylvania, and re-created their former

lives in their new home—down to the very last detail of who lived next door to whom. The village’s annual celebration of Our Lady of Mount Carmel—or “the Big Time,” as the occasion is called by the young women who compete to be the pageant’s Queen—is the centerpiece of Roseto’s colorful old-world tradition. The industrious Castellucas farm the land outside Roseto. Nella, the middle daughter of five, aspires to a genteel life “in town,” far from the rigors of farm life, which have taken a toll on her mother and forced her father to take extra work in the slate quarries to make ends meet. But Nella’s dreams of making her own fortune shift when she meets Renato

Lanzara, the son of a prominent Roseto family. Renato is a worldly, handsome, devil-may-care poet who has a way with words that makes him irresistible. Their friendship ignites into a fiery romance that Nella is certain will lead to marriage. But Nella is not alone in her pursuit: every girl in town seems to want Renato. When he disappears without explanation, Nella is left with a shattered heart. Four years later, Renato’s sudden return to Roseto the night before Nella’s wedding to the steadfast Franco Zollerano leaves her and the Castelluca family shaken. For although Renato has chosen a path very different from Nella’s, they are fated to live and work in Roseto,

where the past hangs over them like a brewing storm. An epic of small-town life, etched in glorious detail in the trademark Trigiani style, *The Queen of the Big Time* is the story of a determined, passionate woman who can never forget her first love.

Dress Codes

How the Laws of Fashion Made History *Simon and Schuster*

A “sharp and entertaining” (*The Wall Street Journal*) exploration of fashion through the ages that asks what our clothing reveals about ourselves and our society. Dress codes are as old as clothing itself. For centuries, clothing has been a wearable status

symbol; fashion, a weapon in struggles for social change; and dress codes, a way to maintain political control. Merchants dressing like princes and butchers’ wives wearing gem-encrusted crowns were public enemies in medieval societies structured by social hierarchy and defined by spectacle. In Tudor England, silk, velvet, and fur were reserved for the nobility, and ballooning pants called “trunk hose” could be considered a menace to good order. The Renaissance-era Florentine patriarch Cosimo de Medici captured the power of fashion and dress codes when he remarked, “One can make a gentleman from two yards of red cloth.” Dress codes

evolved along with the social and political ideals of the day, but they always reflected struggles for power and status. In the 1700s, South Carolina's "Negro Act" made it illegal for Black people to dress "above their condition." In the 1920s, the bobbed hair and form-fitting dresses worn by free-spirited flappers were banned in workplaces throughout the United States, and in the 1940s, the baggy zoot suits favored by Black and Latino men caused riots in cities from coast to coast. Even in today's more informal world, dress codes still determine what we wear, when we wear it—and what our clothing means. People lose their jobs for wearing braided hair, long fingernails, large

earrings, beards, and tattoos or refusing to wear a suit and tie or make-up and high heels. In some cities, wearing sagging pants is a crime. And even when there are no written rules, implicit dress codes still influence opportunities and social mobility. Silicon Valley CEOs wear t-shirts and flip-flops, setting the tone for an entire industry: women wearing fashionable dresses or high heels face ridicule in the tech world, and some venture capitalists refuse to invest in any company run by someone wearing a suit. In *Dress Codes*, law professor and cultural critic Richard Thompson Ford presents a "deeply informative and entertaining" (The New York Times Book

Review) history of the laws of fashion from the middle ages to the present day, a walk down history's red carpet to uncover and examine the canons, mores, and customs of clothing—rules that we often take for granted. After reading *Dress Codes*, you'll never think of fashion as superficial again—and getting dressed will never be the same.

The Congo and Other Poems

Captain Phil Harris

The Legendary Crab Fisherman, Our Hero, Our Dad *Simon and Schuster*

A portrait of the late star of Discovery Channel's *Deadliest Catch* reveals his high-risk private life of tempestuous affairs,

drug-fueled parties and motorcycle riding as well as his virtues as a devoted friend, loving father and steadfast captain. 50,000 first printing.

Black Velvet Gown

House of Men

When Kate Mitchell was offered the job of part-time secretary at Tor-Fret, a lonely old house on the Northumberland fells, she had no idea that the household was composed only of men. Her employer, Maurice Rossiter, an embittered victim of polio, was subject to alternative fits of temper and depression. Even so, Kate found it difficult to understand his peculiar hatred of his elder brother Logan, on whose charity Maurice

was obliged to depend. But when she accidentally stumbled upon Maurice with Logan's fiancée, she became aware of some of the secrets of Tor-Fret, and realised she was getting too deeply involved with Logan Rossiter and the other inhabitants of the mysterious household.

The Velvet Promise

Simon and Schuster

All of England rejoiced on her wedding day. But Judith vowed that her husband would get only what he took from her! At the flower-bedecked altar, the first touch of their hands ignited an all-consuming passion. Gavin Montgomery looked deep into her golden eyes and burned with desire for her...but his heart had been pledged to

another. Humiliated and alone in a strange castle, Judith resolved to hate this husband who took her body, but rejected her love...never admitting her fear of losing him. But destiny held another fate for Judith...a fate that would keep at last...The Velvet Promise.

The Fifteen Streets

A Novel *Simon and Schuster*

Catherine Cookson was one of the world's most beloved writers. Her books have sold millions of copies, and her characters and their stories have captured the imaginations of readers around the globe. Now, available for the first time in this country, comes one of

Cookson's earliest and most stirring historical romances: *The Fifteen Streets*. John O'Brien lives in a world where surviving is a continual struggle. He works long hours at the docks to help support his parents' large family. Many other families in the Fifteen Streets have already given up and descended into a dismal state of grinding poverty, but the O'Briens continue to strive for a world they are only rarely allowed to glimpse. Then John O'Brien meets Mary Llewellyn, a beautiful young teacher who belongs to that other world. What begins as a casual conversation over tea quickly blossoms into a rare love that should have been perfect. Fate steps in, however, when John is accused

of fathering the child of a local girl, and Mary's parents forbid her to see him. The couple begins to realize that the gulf of the Fifteen Streets between them is a chasm they could never bridge-or might they still find a way? In these pages Catherine Cookson displays the irresistible plotting, scene-setting, and characterization that have made her a recognized master of historical and romance fiction. Fans of her novels, with their larger themes of romantic love and class conflict, will be delighted to find that even at the beginning of her illustrious career, Cookson had the power to captivate audiences. Filled with passion and compelling drama, *The Fifteen Streets* is a rare treat

for lovers of romantic fiction.

Vixen in Velvet
Harper Collins

From the Diary of Leonie Noirot: The perfect corset should invite its undoing . . . Lethally charming Simon Blair, Marquess of Lisburne, has reluctantly returned to London for one reason only: a family obligation. Still, he might make time for the seduction of a certain redheaded dressmaker—but Leonie Noirot hasn't time for him. She's obsessed with transforming his cousin, the dowdy Lady Gladys, into a swan. Leonie's skills can coax curves—and profits—from thin air, but his criminally handsome lordship is too busy trying to

seduce her to appreciate her genius. He badly needs to learn a lesson, and the wager she provokes ought to teach him, once and for all. A great plan, in theory—but Lisburne's become a serious distraction and Leonie's usual logic is in danger of slipping away as easily as a silk chemise. Could the Season's greatest transformation be her own?

The Upstart Corgi

Suddenly risen to power and influence, Samuel Fairbrother, manufacturer and retailer of boots, shoes and clogs, decided that his new station in life deserved a more imposing residence. Accordingly he bought himself a thirty-four-roomed mansion

situated on the outskirts of Fellburn. With the house came the butler, Maitland, who at once made plain his belief that Samuel, far from the gentleman his predecessor had been, was no more than an upstart. So began a clash of wills between master and man, at which Samuel Fairbrother discovered he was at a distinct disadvantage, for Maitland was well skilled in the art of maintaining his indispensability. Fairbrother, for his part, was only too aware that he dare not dispence with Maitland's services. And so an uneasy truce was declared between them. As the years went by and the century turned, Samuel Fairbrother saw his

children, one by one, leave the big house to make lives for their own--all except his eldest daughter Janet who, by means of a legacy, was enabled to shape the destiny of her father's scattered family and effect the reconciliation that he thought was impossible.

The Velvet Hours *Penguin*

From the international bestselling author of *The Lost Wife* and *The Garden of Letters*, comes a story--inspired by true events--of two women pursuing freedom and independence in Paris during WWII. As Paris teeters on the edge of the German occupation, a young French woman closes the door to her late grandmother's

treasure-filled apartment, unsure if she'll ever return. An elusive courtesan, Marthe de Florian cultivated a life of art and beauty, casting out all recollections of her impoverished childhood in the dark alleys of Montmartre. With Europe on the brink of war, she shares her story with her granddaughter Solange Beaugiron, using her prized possessions to reveal her innermost secrets. Most striking of all are a beautiful string of pearls and a magnificent portrait of Marthe painted by the Italian artist Giovanni Boldini. As Marthe's tale unfolds, like velvet itself, stitched with its own shadow and light, it helps to guide Solange on her own path. Inspired by the

true account of an abandoned Parisian apartment, Alyson Richman brings to life Solange, the young woman forced to leave her fabled grandmother's legacy behind to save all that she loved.

Katie Mulholland
Random House

Katie Mulholland began life as the daughter of a miner. In 1860, at the age of 15, she goes into service as a scullery maid for the Rosier family, who are members of the local gentry and owners of the mine for which her father works. She catches the eye of Bernard Rosier, the heir to the Rosier Mining Company, an accomplished seducer who uses force with Katie when charm fails. Deflowered but not

defeated, Katie vows to challenge the Rosiers on their own terms. Pregnant with Bernard's child, Katie is dismissed, and forced into a loveless marriage with William Bunting, the manager of the Rosier mines. Katie gives birth to her daughter, Sarah; but Bunting's cruelty increases. After his death, Katie leaves for greener pastures and begins what is to be a long and hard odyssey to found her own financial empire and dynasty.

The Desert Crop *Corgi*

Daniel Stewart wants to be a doctor, but his father won't pay for studies, spending his money on drink and on making babies with his second wife. When his father dies, Daniel

must care for the family, which ends his prospects of studies as well as marriage to his love.

A Dinner of Herbs *Corgi*

Tilly Trotter

Tilly Trotter isn't like the other girls in the villages of County Durham. Tall and coltish, she's not afraid of taking on 'man's work' to help out the grandparents who raised her. There's an unusual beauty to her too - a beauty that's envied by the local women and lusted after by the men. But for all the attention Tilly only loves one man, farmer Simon Bentwood, and she's heartbroken to discover that he's betrothed to another. But there are even

harder times ahead for Tilly. A spurned suitor takes a terrible revenge. Idle gossip brands her a witch. A betrayal forces her into the cruel drudgery of the local mine and puts her life in danger. But Tilly refuses to let her spirit be broken - determined that all this will serve only to make her stronger...