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The Ringmaster's Daughter Phoenix House From the author of SOPHIE'S WORLD. 'A masterful mixture of fantasy and reality...a simply wonderful read' SHE. Panina Manina, a trapeze artist, falls and breaks her neck. As the ringmaster bends over her, he notices an amulet of amber around her neck, the same trinket he had given his own lost child, who was swept away in a torrent some sixteen years earlier. This tale is narrated by Petter, a precocious child and fantasist, and perhaps Jostein Gaarder's most intriguing character since Sophie. As an adult, Petter makes his living selling stories and ideas to professionals suffering from writer's block. But as Petter sits spinning his tales, he finds himself in a trap of his own making. **The Ringmaster's Daughter** "Inspired by a true story, this WWII novel will sweep you away to the circus in this "delightful read that will get you hooked from the get go" (Lu Reads Anything). Paris, 1940. Twenty-year-old Michel Bonnet lives on the edge of the law, finding work where he can at the horse fairs on the outskirts of the city. But when Paris falls to the Nazis, Michel escapes as a stowaway on a secret midnight train bound for the south. It's a journey that will change his life forever -- he's joined the circus. It's there Michel first sees Frieda - dark-haired, mysterious and also fleeing the Germans. Homeless and hungry, Michel would do anything for a safe place to sleep... and the chance to spend one more hour with her. But there's something Frieda isn't telling him, a secret she has sworn to carry to her grave. As Michel leaves Paris behind for the lavender fields and hillside villages of the rural south, he's in more danger than he could ever know."-- **The World According to Anna** Weidenfeld & Nicolson When fifteen-year-old Anna begins receiving messages from another time, her parents take her to the doctor. But he can find nothing wrong; in fact he believes there may be some truth to what she is seeing. Anna is haunted by visions of the desolate world of 2082. She sees her great-granddaughter, Nova, roaming through wasteland with a band of survivors, after animals and plants have died out. The more Anna sees, the more she realises she must act to prevent the future in her visions becoming real. But can she act quickly enough? 'Compelling' Sunday Times **An Unreliable Man** Hachette UK From the creative genius of Jostein Gaarder, author of modern classic Sophie's World, comes a novel about loneliness and the power of words Jakop is a lonely man. Divorced from his wife, with no friends apart from his constant companion Pelle, he spends his life attending the funerals of people he doesn't know, obscuring his identity in a web of improbable lies. As his addiction spirals out of control, he is forced to reconcile his love of language and stories with the ever more urgent need for human connection. An Unreliable Man is a moving and thought-provoking novel about loneliness and truth, about seeking a place in the world, and about how storytelling gives our lives meaning. Decades after his global bestseller Sophie's World, Jostein Gaarder has written a poignant and funny book for our times - full of life and hope. Praise for Sophie's World 'A TOUR DE FORCE' Time 'EXTRAORDINARY' Newsweek 'A UNIQUE POPULAR CLASSIC' The Times 'A SIMPLY WONDERFUL, IRRESISTIBLE BOOK' Daily Telegraph **Sophie's World** Weidenfeld & Nicolson Sophie travels through 3000 years of Western philosophy as she explores the mystery of her own life and identity. **The Solitaire Mystery A Novel About Family & Destiny** Farrar, Straus and Giroux The story of a boy and his father on a car trip through Europe, searching for the boy's mother, who left many years ago to find herself. Structured as a deck of cards -- each chapter is one card in the deck -- The Solitaire Mystery subtly weaves together fantasy and reality, fairy tales and family history. **Sophie's World A Novel About the History of Philosophy** Farrar, Straus and Giroux One day Sophie comes home from school to find two questions in her mail: "Who are you?" and "Where does the world come from?" Before she knows it she is enrolled in a correspondence course with a mysterious philosopher. Thus begins Jostein Gaarder's unique novel, which is not only a mystery, but also a complete and entertaining history of philosophy. **Through A Glass, Darkly** Hachette UK Conversations about life and death, between a girl and an angel. It's almost Christmas. Cecilia lies sick in bed as her family bustle around her to make her last Christmas as special as possible. Cecilia has cancer. An angel steps through her window. So begins a spirited and engaging series of conversations between Cecelia and her angel. As the sick girl thinks about her life and prepares for her death, she changes subtly, in herself and in her relationships with her family. Jostein Gaarder is a profoundly optimistic writer, who writes about death with wisdom, compassion and an enquiring mind. THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY will not only bring comfort to the bereaved. It will move and amaze everyone who reads it. **The Castle in the Pyrenees** Hachette UK Two former lovers are brought back together ... but can they really trust their pasts? The new novel from the bestselling author of SOPHIE'S WORLD. Through five intense years in the 1970s, Steinn and Solrunn had a happy life together. Then they suddenly parted ways, for reasons that are unclear to both. In the summer of 2007 they meet again on a balcony of an old wooden hotel by a fjord in western Norway. It is a place they both have fond memories from, and their meeting turns out to be fateful. But is it purely coincidental that they meet at that particular spot at that particular time? Over a couple of weeks that summer they write emails to each other, and it becomes clear that they have been living with very different interpretations of their shared past... **Questions Asked** Elsewhere Editions A picture book with fundamental philosophical questions, posed in a way only Jostein Gaarder is capable of. The illustrator has made an independent visual narrative that underscores the existential aspect of Jostein Gaarder's philosophical questions. Questions Asked shows confidence in a child's capacity to think deeply and read between the lines. The book follows a little boy traveling alone in an open landscape. Soon we realize he is on a journey of thoughts and dreams, asking questions about loss, myth, language, magic, and what it means to be a human being. Jostein Gaarder's philosophical questions merge with the beautiful illustrations of Akin Düzakin into a tale of friendship, love, and grief - and about daring to think about life as you live it. **The Christmas Mystery** As Joachim opens, day by day, the windows in an old Advent calendar, a story emerges about a little girl called Elisabet who, fifty years ago, disappeared from Norway and travelled across Europe and back through time to be present at the birth of Christ in Bethlehem. This beautiful, mysterious story has been a huge success, both for the children it was originally written for, and as an enduring Christmas seller on the adult list. It now appears in a new form designed to appeal to a younger age group. Much shorter than the original, it loses nothing of the plot, and is enhanced by delightful halftone illustrations that dance through the text, showing angels, shepherds, children, kings and all the many characters who join Elisabet on her journey to Bethlehem. **Hello? Is Anybody There?** Hachette UK In the hours before his brother is born, eight year old Joe has an unusual visitor. Mika, who falls out of a spaceship and lands upside down in an apple tree in Joe's garden. Hens, dinosaurs, an astronaut and a white rabbit all play their part in this magical story in which the encounter between Earth-boy and alien opens up the wonders of the universe. Tender and enchanting as The Little Prince and with the same classic quality, HELLO? IS ANYBODY THERE? confirms Jostein Gaarder as an exceptional writer for children. Sally Gardner's lively pencil drawings on almost every page make this a delightful package. **The Christmas Mystery** Macmillan Joachim discovers a magic Advent calendar which contains the story of a little girl who traveled through time to be present at the birth of Jesus. **The Orange Girl** Weidenfeld & Nicolson From the author of SOPHIE'S WORLD, a modern fairy tale with a philosophical twist. 'My father died eleven years ago. I was only four then. I never thought I'd hear from him again, but now we're writing a book together' To Georg Røed, his father is no more than a shadow, a distant memory. But then one day his grandmother discovers some pages stuffed into the lining of an old red pushchair. The pages are a letter to Georg, written just before his father died, and a story, 'The Orange Girl'. But 'The Orange Girl' is no ordinary story - it is a riddle from the past and centres around an incident in his father's youth. One day he boarded a tram and was captivated by a beautiful girl standing in the aisle, clutching a huge paper bag of luscious-looking oranges. Suddenly the tram gave a jolt and he stumbled forward, sending the oranges flying in all directions. The girl simply hopped off the tram leaving Georg's father with arms full of oranges. Now, from beyond the grave, he is asking his son to help him finally solve the puzzle of her identity. **Vita Brevis** Hachette UK A playful and inventive work from the bestselling author of SOPHIE'S WORLD. A box of Latin manuscripts comes to light in an Argentine flea market. An apocryphal invention by some 17th or 18th century scholar, or a transcript of what it appears to be - a hitherto unheard of letter to St Augustine to a woman he renounced for chastity? VITA BREVIS is both an entrancing human document and a fascinating insight into the life and philosophy of St. Augustine. Gaarder's interpretation of Floria's letter is as playful, inventive and questioning as SOPHIE'S WORLD. **A letter to Saint Augustine** Orion Publishing Group In a second-hand bookshop in Buenos Aires, Jostein Gardner makes an exciting find: a transcript of a letter to St Augustine, author of the famous Confessions, from Floria Aemilia, the woman he renounced for chastity. --From publisher's description. **Another Name: Septology VI-VII Maya** Hachette UK A mysterious novel by the author of the international bestseller SOPHIE'S WORLD. A chance meeting on the Fijian island of Taveuni is the trigger for a fascinating and mysterious novel that intertwines the stories of John Spooke, an English author who is grieving for his dead wife; Frank Andersen, a Norwegian evolutionary biologist estranged from his wife Vera; and an enigmatic Spanish couple, Ana and Jose, who are absorbed in their love for each other. Why does Ana bear such a close resemblance to the model for Goya's famous Maja paintings? What is the significance of the Joker as he steps out of his pack of cards? As the action moves from Fiji to Spain, from the present to the past, unfolding further stories within the stories, the novel reveals an astonishing richness and complexity. As bold and imaginative in its sweep as Sophie's World, it shows again that Jostein Gaarder's unique and special gift is to make us wonder at the awe-inspiring mystery of the universe. **A Time to Dance, a Time to Die The Extraordinary Story of the Dancing Plague of 1518** Icon Books Company "In July 1518 a terrifying and mysterious plague struck the medieval city of Strasbourg. Hundreds of men and women danced wildly, day after day, in the punishing summer heat. Their feet blistered and bled, and their limbs ached with fatigue, but they simply could not stop. Throughout August and early September more and more were seized by the same terrible compulsion." "By the time the epidemic subsided, heat and exhaustion had claimed an untold number of lives, leaving thousands bewildered and bereaved, and an enduring enigma for future generations." "This book explains why Strasbourg's dancing plague took place. In doing so, it leads us into a largely vanished world, evoking the sights, sounds, aromas, diseases and hardships, the fervent supernaturalism and the desperate hedonism of the late-medieval world." "At the same time, it offers insights into how people behave when driven beyond the limits of endurance. Not only a historical detective story, A Time to Dance, A Time to Die is also an exploration of the strangest capabilities of the human mind and the extremes to which fear and irrationality can lead us."--BOOK JACKET. **The Greenwood Encyclopedia of Folktales and Fairy Tales** Greenwood Provides alphabetically arranged entries on folk and fairy tales from around the world, including information on authors, subjects, themes, characters, and national traditions. **Awake in the Dark Stories** Simon and Schuster A collection of tales about the contemporary lives of the children of Holocaust victims and perpetrators features protagonists who in turn struggle with questions about their Jewish identities and embark on journeys of self-discovery to uncover their parents' dark secrets. A first collection. Reprint. 75,000 first printing. **The Botanist's Daughter** Hachette Australia Discovery. Desire. Deception. A wondrously imagined tale of two female botanists, separated by more than a century, in a race to discover a life-saving flower, from the author of the bestselling The Forgotten Letters of Esther Durrant In Victorian England, headstrong adventuress Elizabeth takes up her late father's quest for a rare, miraculous plant. She faces a perilous sea voyage, unforeseen dangers and treachery that threatens her entire family. In present-day Australia, Anna finds a mysterious metal box containing a sketchbook of dazzling watercolours, a photograph inscribed 'Spring 1886' and a small bag of seeds. It sets her on a path far from her safe, carefully ordered life, and on a journey that will force her to face her own demons. In this spellbinding botanical odyssey of discovery, desire and deception, Kayte Nunn has so exquisitely researched nineteenth-century Cornwall and Chile you can almost smell the fragrance of the flowers, the touch of the flora on your fingertips . . . 'Two incredibly likeable, headstrong heroines . . . watching them flourish is captivating. With these dynamic women at the helm, Kayte weaves a clever tale of plant treachery involving exotic and perilous encounters in Chile, plus lashings of gentle romance. Compelling storytelling' The Australian Women's Weekly 'The riveting story of two women, divided by a century in time, but united by their quest to discover a rare and dangerous flower said to have the power to heal as well as kill. Fast-moving and full of surprises, The Botanist's Daughter brings the exotic world of 19th-century Chile thrillingly to life' KATE FORSYTH Praise for The Forgotten Letters of Esther Durrant: 'If you enjoyed City of Girls by Elizabeth Gilbert, read Kayte Nunn' The Washington Post 'Nunn's US debut is an engaging, dual-period narrative tracing Esther's journey towards healing and wholeness as well as Rachel's attempts to move beyond her wanderlust and unwillingness to commit to a home, job or relationship. The ending highlights the enduring power of love and forgiveness' Booklist Magazine 'Vivid descriptions highlight intertwining plot lines that seamlessly build to a satisfying climax. For fans of authors such as Lauren Willig and Kate Morton' Library Journal **Contains BONUS extract from Kayte's newest spellbinding novel, THE SILK HOUSE** **Crossword Lists Theo's Odyssey** Arcade Publishing An international bestseller being published in more than 20 countries, "Theo's Odyssey" is an extraordinary journey through the world's religions that does for spirituality what "Sophie's World" did for philosophy. **The Castle in the Pyrenees** Weidenfeld & Nicolson Two former lovers are brought back together ... but can they really trust their pasts? The new novel from the bestselling author of SOPHIE'S WORLD. Through five intense years in the 1970s, Steinn and Solrunn

had a happy life together. Then they suddenly parted ways, for reasons that are unclear to both. In the summer of 2007 they meet again on a balcony of an old wooden hotel by a fjord in western Norway. It is a place they both have fond memories from, and their meeting turns out to be fateful. But is it purely coincidental that they meet at that particular spot at that particular time? Over a couple of weeks that summer they write emails to each other, and it becomes clear that they have been living with very different interpretations of their shared past...

Contemporary World Fiction: A Guide to Literature in Translation ABC-CLIO This much-needed guide to translated literature offers readers the opportunity to hear from, learn about, and perhaps better understand our shrinking world from the perspective of insiders from many cultures and traditions. • Over 1,000 annotated contemporary world fiction titles, featuring author's name; title; translator; publisher and place of publication; genre/literary style/story type; an annotation; related works by the author; subject keywords; and original language • 9 introductory overviews about classic world fiction titles • Extensive bibliographical essays about fiction traditions in other countries • 5 indexes: annotated authors, annotated titles, translators, nations, and subjects/keywords

Just Another Little Lie Teen Fiction Award-winning author Eve Ainsworth returns with a stark, honest and deeply moving novella exploring the difficult subject of alcohol addiction. **Reconstructing Amelia** Simon and Schuster Stressed single mother and law partner Kate is in the meeting of her career when she is interrupted by a telephone call to say that her teenaged daughter Amelia has been suspended from her exclusive Brooklyn prep school for cheating on an exam. Torn between her head and her heart, she eventually arrives at St Grace's over an hour late, to be greeted by sirens wailing and ambulance lights blazing. Her daughter has jumped off the roof of the school, apparently in shame of being caught. A grieving Kate can't accept that her daughter would kill herself: it was just the two of them and Amelia would never leave her alone like this. And so begins an investigation which takes her deep into Amelia's private world, into her journals, her email account and into the mind of a troubled young girl. Then Kate receives an anonymous text saying simply: AMELIA DIDN'T JUMP. Is someone playing with her or has she been right all along?

An Unreliable Man Weidenfeld & Nicolson From the creative genius of Jostein Gaarder, author of modern classic *Sophie's World*, comes a novel about loneliness and the power of words Jakob is a lonely man. Divorced from his wife, with no friends apart from his constant companion Pelle, he spends his life attending the funerals of people he doesn't know, obscuring his identity in a web of improbable lies. As his addiction spirals out of control, he is forced to reconcile his love of language and stories with the ever more urgent need for human connection. **An Unreliable Man** is a moving and thought-provoking novel about loneliness and truth, about seeking a place in the world, and about how storytelling gives our lives meaning. Decades after his global bestseller *Sophie's World*, Jostein Gaarder has written a poignant and funny book for our times - full of life and hope. Praise for *Sophie's World* 'A TOUR DE FORCE' Time 'EXTRAORDINARY' Newsweek 'A UNIQUE POPULAR CLASSIC' The Times 'A SIMPLY WONDERFUL, IRRESISTIBLE BOOK' Daily Telegraph

The Celestine Prophecy Grand Central Publishing THE #1 BESTSELLING INTERNATIONAL PHENOMENON - NOW WITH A NEW PREFACE You have never read a book like this before--a book that comes along once in a lifetime to change lives forever. In the rain forests of Peru, an ancient manuscript has been discovered. Within its pages are 9 key insights into life itself -- insights each human being is predicted to grasp sequentially; one insight, then another, as we move toward a completely spiritual culture on Earth. Drawing on ancient wisdom, it tells you how to make connections among the events happening in your life right now and lets you see what is going to happen to you in the years to come. The story it tells is a gripping one of adventure and discovery, but it is also a guidebook that has the power to crystallize your perceptions of why you are where you are in life and to direct your steps with a new energy and optimism as you head into tomorrow. Praise for *The Celestine Prophecy* "A gripping adventure story filled with intrigue, suspense, and spiritual revelations." - Commonwealth Journal "A spiritual classic...a book to read and reread, to cherish, and to give to friends." - Joan Borysenko, PhD, author of *Fire in the Soul* "In his inimitable style of great storytelling, Redfield opens us up to a world of insight, inspiration, synchronicity, and power." - Deepak Chopra

Diamond Solitaire Soho Press Fired from the police for insubordination, Peter Diamond is reduced to working as a security guard at Harrod's. There he finds an abandoned Japanese girl after the store closes. He must identify her in order to save her life.

Artwords Artwords is precisely that. Art and words combined to form a fusion of art and literature. This work is composed of colorful literary artworks consisting of calligrams, photographs, and redactive poetry. They are different forms of writing which can be both read and appreciated visually. Words have power. Words form images. But what if they formed images you could see with your eyes? Being both an artist and a writer, has led Beatriz Robles to want to create literature that could be seen as artwork as well. Coming from her second book, *A Sensual World: What do you see?*, the style of writing in *Artwords* takes it one step further as the writing itself becomes the art. They are one. *Artwords* is painting with words. It's taking a pair of scissors and making them a little more interesting, transforming it into literary art. And that was the genesis for *Artwords*- a book for everyone, for art lovers and readers; a book not just for your mind but for your eyes as well. "The prose of Bea Robles teases us into thought with its rich layers of meaning. The reader will be rewarded with this imaginative combination of illustration and prose." Danton Remoto, author of *Riverrun*, on Robles' second book, *A Sensual World: What do you see?* "Enchanting images systematically embellish the book, serving as unravelling of meanings or purposes." Edgar O. Cruz, Daily Tribune, on Robles' second book, *A Sensual World: What do you see?* "Robles is not always serious. Her stream-of-consciousness has naughty turns...sections end à la O. Henry. Unexpected...The sections are accompanied/depicted with photos which she herself took, including her own paintings." Paul Blanco Zafaralla, Manila Bulletin, on Robles' first book, *Life through Letters* Her artwork has been described to have a "disarming quality that by turns is soothing, hypnotic, mesmerizing." Gino Dormiendo, The Philippine Daily Inquirer

Folktales and Fairy Tales: Traditions and Texts from around the World, 2nd Edition [4 volumes] Traditions and Texts from around the World ABC-CLIO Encyclopedic in its coverage, this one-of-a-kind reference is ideal for students, scholars, and others who need reliable, up-to-date information on folk and fairy tales, past and present. • Provides encyclopedic coverage of folktales and fairy tales from around the globe • Covers not only the history of the fairy tale, but also topics of contemporary importance such as the fairy tale in manga, television, pop music, and music videos • Brings together the study of geography, culture, history, and anthropology • Revises and expands an award-winning work to now include a full volume of selected tales and texts

The Thief on the Winged Horse The Kendrick family have run their world famous doll-making business for over 200 years. But one night the most valuable doll is stolen. Only someone with knowledge of magic could have taken her... **Beatles** Arcadia Books "'Beatles' is the story of Kim Karlsen and his three buddies, Gunnar, Ola and Seb - and, yes, they occasionally like to think of themselves as the Fab Four. They were born in 1951, and the story starts with the first wave of Beatlemania in Norway, in the spring of 1965. Each chapter takes a different Beatles song (or, near the end, post-Beatles solo songs) as its title and theme - all the way through the winter of 1972. There's drinking (lots of it), football, some love-fumblings (Kim has two girlfriends that he has to semi-juggle) and the sort of minor adventures that are part of growing up. "Beatles" is a well-written account of a generation, and of growing up in a specific time. It feels very real" - "The Complete Review".

The Editor's Wife Random House 'So charming' Marian Keyes From the highly-acclaimed author of *SMALL PLEASURES* - winner of the 2022 British Book Awards Page-Turner When aspiring novelist Christopher Flinders drops out of university to write his masterpiece (in between shifts as a fish delivery man and builder's mate), his family is sceptical. But when he is taken up by the London editor Owen Goddard and his charming wife Diana it seems success is just around the corner. Christopher's life has so far been rather short of charm - growing up in an unlovely suburb, with unambitious parents and a semi-vagrant brother - and he is captivated by his generous and cultured mentors. However, on the brink of realising his dream, Christopher makes a desperate misjudgement which results in disaster for all involved. Shattered, he withdraws from London and buries himself in rural Yorkshire, embracing a career and a private life marked by mediocrity. Twenty years on, a young academic researching into Owen Goddard seeks him out, and Christopher is forced to exhume his past, setting him on a path to a life-changing discovery. Praise for *Clare Chambers*: 'Thoroughly enjoyable and very clever' Sunday Express 'Effortless to read, but every sentence lingers in the mind' Lissa Evans on *Small Pleasures* 'Beautifully observed and achingly funny' Woman & Home 'Chambers' eye for undemonstrative details achieves a Larkin-esque lucidity' Guardian on *Small Pleasures* 'Reminds us of the rare pleasure that an intelligent tale with a happy ending brings' The Sunday Times

To the Bright Edge of the World A Novel Hachette UK An atmospheric, transporting tale of adventure, love, and survival from the bestselling author of *The Snow Child*, finalist for the Pulitzer Prize. In the winter of 1885, decorated war hero Colonel Allen Forrester leads a small band of men on an expedition that has been deemed impossible: to venture up the Wolverine River and pierce the vast, untamed Alaska Territory. Leaving behind Sophie, his newly pregnant wife, Colonel Forrester records his extraordinary experiences in hopes that his journal will reach her if he doesn't return--once he passes beyond the edge of the known world, there's no telling what awaits him. The Wolverine River Valley is not only breathtaking and forbidding but also terrifying in ways that the colonel and his men never could have imagined. As they map the territory and gather information on the native tribes, whose understanding of the natural world is unlike anything they have ever encountered, Forrester and his men discover the blurred lines between human and wild animal, the living and the dead. And while the men knew they would face starvation and danger, they cannot escape the sense that some greater, mysterious force threatens their lives. Meanwhile, on her own at Vancouver Barracks, Sophie chafes under the social restrictions and yearns to travel alongside her husband. She does not know that the winter will require as much of her as it does her husband, that both her courage and faith will be tested to the breaking point. Can her exploration of nature through the new art of photography help her to rediscover her sense of beauty and wonder? The truths that Allen and Sophie discover over the course of that fateful year change both of their lives--and the lives of those who hear their stories long after they're gone--forever. "An epic adventure story that seems heir to the tradition of Melville's own sweeping and ambitious literary approach to the age-old struggle of humans versus nature . . . An absorbing and high-stakes read." -- Kathleen Rooney, Chicago Tribune An Amazon Best Book of the Year A Washington Post Notable Book A Goodreads Choice Award Nominee A Library Journal Top 10 Book of the Year A BookPage Best Book of the Year

Twenty Years in Siberia Centre for Romanian Studies **Reading Comprehension and Skills, Grade 2** Carson-Dellosa Publishing Reading Comprehension and Skills for second grade is designed to help students develop a strong foundation of reading basics so that they will become competent readers who can advance to more challenging texts. It includes engaging passages and stories about a variety of subjects to appeal to all readers. The book also encourages vocabulary development and reinforces reading comprehension through leveled activity pages that target each student's individual needs for support. Kelley Wingate 's Reading Comprehension and Skills series is the perfect choice for both teachers and parents. This valuable reading and comprehension skills practice book provides nearly 100 reproducible pages of exciting activities, 96 durable flash cards, and a motivating award certificate. The differentiated activity pages give students the practice they need at a level that is perfect to help them master basic reading comprehension skills necessary to succeed and are great for use at both school and home. **Special Delivery** Dell A contemporary romantic comedy, the author's fortieth novel captures the fun, the challenge, and the occasional embarrassment of starting a new relationship. Reprint.