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The Tulip Touch **The Tulip Touch** **The Tulip Touch** *The Tulip Touch* *Up on Cloud Nine* *The Road of Bones* *Shades of Scarlet* **Goggle-Eyes Joop** *The Tulip Touch* *Bill's New Frock* *The Tulip Touch* **The Diary of a Killer Cat** *The Chicken Gave It to Me* *Madame Doubtfire* *The Tulip Eaters* **Flour Babies** Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch *Crummy Mummy and Me* Under the Tulip Tree *Looking for JJ* **The Country Pancake** **The True Story of Christmas** **The Killjoy** **Step by Wicked Step** *Our Precious Lulu* The Killer Cat's Christmas *Bad Dreams* **The Return of the Killer Cat** **Frozen Billy** **Flour Babies** Guts *The Weight of Feathers* *A Pack of Liars* *Haunted by the Earl's Touch* **The Tulip Touch** **Boundaries** On Planet Fruitcake **Blood Family** *The Dutch House*

Lulu has always been intolerable. From spending every childhood moment worming her way into the affections of her stepmother (spitefully undermining poor Geraldine, her dumpy and hardworking stepsister, along the way) to growing into a sexy, long-legged a When his class of underachievers is assigned to spend three torturous weeks taking care of their own "babies" in the form of bags of flour, Simon makes amazing discoveries about himself while coming to terms with his long-absent father. In school, Yuri is taught that the revolution liberated his country. He learns how the new leaders are always working for the greater good. But the truth is that life for his family and those around him is a brutal, poverty-stricken struggle. The government does nothing except punish those who protest. And one day, to his shock and horror, Yuri himself is branded an "enemy of the state" simply for dropping a few careless words. In an author's note, Anne Fine describes *The Road of Bones* as an adventure-escape story set in "a sort-of Russia, in a sort-of 1930s, under a Stalin-type leader." This chilling political thriller follows the frantic footsteps of a teenager on the run, a criminal who hasn't committed a crime, a young man on a path to discovering the truth about how far he will go in order to survive. One stormy night, five stranded schoolchildren uncover the story of Richard Clayton Harwick – a boy who many years ago learned what it was like to have a truly wicked stepfather. But the children have stories of their own step-parents to tell – stories that have warmth and humour, as well as sadness, and a fair share of happy endings. 'For children who have some similar experience, this novel will be therapeutic; for those who haven't it's an absorbing read, to make them laugh and cry' Sunday Telegraph. "Nobody, not even his former wife Margaret, has ever treated Ian Laidlaw in a natural way. Presented with his hideous facial scars, everyone he meets reliably falls back on cast-iron, distant courtesy to hide pity or disgust or shock. But then Alicia Davie, a careless young student, breaks the rules totally by laughing in his face. Alicia goes on to infiltrate the hidden man, exposing the obsessive, destructive passions that lurk beneath his primly cordial manner, never realizing that she is playing with fire..." When Widow Tulip Jones of Bore, England, inherits a ranch in By-Golly Gully, Texas, and moves in with two trunks of tea, twelve pet tortoises, and three servants, hilarity ensues. The peaceful life suits the wealthy widow fine until word gets out and every unmarried man in Texas lines up to marry her. Widow Tulip and her small staff of three can't possibly run the farm and manage all the suitors, so she devises a plan—and it just might work. This story filled with giant tortoises, 1,000 brides, bad guys, a smart widow, and even a little romance is sure to get kids laughing. The author of *Where to Draw the Line* defines interpersonal boundaries, explains why they should not be crossed, and explains how to avoid having one's personal boundaries violated. Reissue. Natalie, who lives in the large hotel managed by her father, has a dangerous friendship with Tulip, the wildly uncontrollable girl on a neighboring farm. Bill wakes up one morning and finds that he has turned into a girl. From this experience, he learns how ridiculous gender constraints are. Lace Paloma and Cluck Corbeau, from feuding families of traveling performers, fall in love. Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize New York Times Bestseller | A Read with Jenna Today Show Book Club Pick | A New York Times Book Review Notable Book | TIME Magazine's 100 Must-Read Books of 2019 Named one of the Best Books of the Year by NPR, The Washington Post; O: The Oprah Magazine, Real Simple, Good Housekeeping, Vogue, Refinery29, and Buzzfeed Ann Patchett, the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Commonwealth*, delivers her most powerful novel to date: a richly moving story that explores the indelible bond between two siblings, the house of their childhood, and a past that will not let them go. *The Dutch House* is the story of a paradise lost, a tour de force that digs deeply into questions of inheritance, love and forgiveness, of how we want to see ourselves and of who we really are. At the end of the Second World War, Cyril Conroy combines luck and a single canny investment to begin an enormous real estate empire, propelling his family from poverty to enormous wealth. His first order of business is to buy the Dutch House, a lavish estate in the suburbs outside of Philadelphia. Meant as a surprise for his wife, the house sets in motion the undoing of everyone he loves. The story is told by Cyril's son Danny, as he and his older sister, the brilliantly acerbic and self-assured Maeve, are exiled from the house where they grew up by their stepmother. The two wealthy siblings are thrown back into the poverty their parents had escaped from and find that all they have to count on is one another. It is this unshakeable bond between them that both saves their lives and thwarts their futures. Set over the course of five decades, *The Dutch House* is a dark fairy tale about two smart people who cannot overcome their past. Despite every outward sign of success, Danny and Maeve are only truly comfortable when they're together. Throughout their lives they return to the well-worn story of what they've lost with humor and rage. But when at last they're forced to confront the people who left them behind, the relationship between an indulged brother and his ever-protective sister is finally tested. Lydia, Christopher and Natalie are used to domestic turmoil. Their parents' divorce has not made family life any easier in either home. The children bounce to and fro between their volatile mother, Miranda, and Daniel, their out-of-work actor father. Then Miranda advertises for a cleaning lady who will supervise the children after school - and Daniel gets the job, disguised as Madame Doubtfire. This is a bittersweet, touching and extremely funny book. So go on, ask me. 'Dear, dear Tuffy. Why was your Christmas so horrible?' Well. I couldn't climb the tree. I couldn't touch the dangly decorations. And Ellie made me part of her sing-along Christmas performance. Horrible, horrible, horrible! But I showed them. I was Tuffy the Acting Cat, superstar. How was I supposed to know things would get so . . . messy? 'Okay, okay. So slap my teeny little paws. I messed up - big time.' Tuffy can't wait for Ellie and the family to go away on holiday. He and the gang plan to ignore the grumpy new cat-sitter, and run wild all night. But could that furry bundle, suddenly flying through the air, put a stop to all the fun? From the first day of their friendship, Natalie falls under the spell of bad-girl Tulip--telling lies to classmates, talking back to teachers, and playing evil tricks on people--but when Natalie tries to get away from the menace, she knows that Tulip will get the ultimate revenge. A boy with an abusive father grows up and fears that he has the same potential for violence as his father has. In modern-day Amsterdam, an elderly man named Joop describes his desperate efforts to feed his starving family during World War II, and reveals how his struggle to provide for them set in motion a horrifying chain of events. Jennifer Jones, a young woman recently released from prison for killing her friend six years earlier, attempts to start a new life with a new identity, but soon learns it is impossible to escape from the past. Ian's best friend, Stolly, is up on cloud nine. He's in the hospital, unconscious, and hooked up to machines. The question Ian is trying to answer is: How did Stolly end up there? In a way, Stolly's always been on cloud nine, living life by his own rules and making those rules up as he goes along. His parents' careers have them constantly rushing around, so Ian's family has all but adopted Stolly. That's why it's up to Ian to figure out what happened to his best friend. But once the pieces start coming together, the answer doesn't seem to make any sense. *Flour Babies* by Anne Fine, won the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book Award in 1992. When the annual school science fair comes round, Mr Cartwright's class don't get to work on the Soap Factory, the Maggot Farm or the Exploding Custard Tins. To their intense disgust they get the Flour Babies - sweet little six-pound bags of flour that must be cared for at all times. Funny and poignant, *Flour Babies* is a brilliant depiction of secondary school life. 'I adore stories in which people have weird dreams, and strange things happen. But that's in books. Real life is supposed to be real, and I like my world to be solid around me . . . ' Mel is the class bookworm. She prefers books to people and doesn't want - or need - friends. She certainly doesn't want to be first-week minder for new girl, Imogen. And Imogen is odd. Slowly, Mel discovers that Imogen has a special talent - a family 'gift' that Mel thinks is more like a curse. And that's when she realizes that stories can happen in real life, too. For only she can stop Imogen's private horror story - stop the bad dreams . . . Everyone loves the wickedly dry sense of humour of *The Diary of a Killer Cat* by Anne Fine. Okay, Okay. So hang me. I killed the bird. For pity's sake, I'm a cat. Poor Ellie is horrified when Tuffy drags a dead bird into the house. Then a mouse. But Tuffy can't understand what all the fuss is about. Who on earth will be the next victim to arrive through the cat-flap? Can soft-hearted Ellie manage to get her beloved pet to change his wild, wild ways before he ends up in even deeper trouble? The hilarious antics of Tuffy and his family as told by the killer cat himself. 'Anne Fine knows how to make readers laugh' Guardian Anne Fine has written numerous highly acclaimed and prize-winning books for children and adults. *The Tulip Touch* won the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year Award; *Goggle-Eyes* won the Guardian Children's Fiction Award and the Carnegie Medal; *Flour Babies* won the Carnegie Medal and the Whitbread Children's Book of the Year; and *Bill's New Frock* won a Smarties Prize. Anne Fine was named Children's Laureate in 2001 and was awarded an OBE in 2003. A classic children's story from former Children's Laureate Anne Fine. Gemma doesn't believe a chicken could have written a book. Chickens can't even read! But when Andrew shoes her "The True Story of Harrowing Farm", she can't deny that its scratchy pages look, well, chicken-y. It is the story of a chicken who flies millions of miles, reaching the heights of intergalactic superstardom, to try and save us humans. A heart-warming tale about kindness and bravery. Calling herself Lady Melody Estelle Priscilla Hermione Irwin, Laura weaves a fantastic tissue of lies about herself to her dull penpal. But she soon finds she's not the only one capable of deception. 'I hate Frozen Billy - his painted, staring wooden eyes, the way his eyelids click when Uncle Len pulls a string, his long thin legs and his bright red wooden mouth . . . ' Clarrie and Will live with their Uncle Len - a brilliant ventriloquist in the nearby music hall. But though Len loves his act almost as much as he loves his beer, Top Billing is out of his grasp until Will thinks up a way to double the drama with a new act and some extraordinary new patter that he and Frozen Billy can share on stage. It's a grand idea, hatched in hope and excitement. But, to Clarrie's horror, soon it begins to turn terribly sour . . . Anne Fine's novel combines her trademark humour, engaging characters and flawless prose to produce a spooky adventure set in the late-Victorian world of the music hall. In a riveting exploration of the power the past wields over the present, critically acclaimed author Antoinette van Heugten writes the story of a woman whose child's life hangs in the balance, forcing her to confront the roots of her family's troubled history in the dark days of World War II... It's the stuff of nightmares: Nora de Jong returns home from work one ordinary day to find her mother has been murdered. Her infant daughter is missing. And the only clue is the body of an unknown man on the living-room floor, clutching a Luger in his cold, dead hand. Frantic to find Rose, Nora puts aside her grief and frustration with the local police to start her own search. But the contents of a locked metal box she finds in her parents' attic leave her with as many questions as answers—and suggest the killer was not a stranger. Saving her daughter means delving deeper into her family's darkest history, leading Nora half a world away to Amsterdam, where her own unsettled past and memories of painful heartbreak rush back to haunt her. As Nora feverishly pieces together the truth from an old family diary, she's drawn back to a city under Nazi occupation, where her mother's alliances may have long ago sealed her own—and Rose's—fate. Everyone knows the story of Christmas. Decking the halls with boughs of holly. Hanging stockings by the chimney with care. Chestnuts roasting on an open fire. Then there's the true story of Christmas. And Ralph Mountfield is smack in the middle of it. Great Granny's crustier than ever. Grandpa's singing to the dog. Great Aunt Ida is completely crackers. Uncle Tristam's giving out bricks. The cousins are whining and throwing tantrums. Mum's looking for Dad. Dad's looking for aspirin. And Ralph is looking to stay out of trouble. But when a Christmas Quiz brings out some hidden truths, trouble is exactly what Ralph finds. It's anything but a silent, holy night for the Mountfield family! From the Hardcover edition. Tulip's outlandish behaviour doesn't matter to Natalie. Natalie finds Tulip exciting, and at first she doesn't care that other people are so upset and unnerved by her bizarre games. But as the games become increasingly wild and sinister, Natalie realises that Tulip is going too far. And deep inside, Natalie knows that Tulip won't rest until she's won the most dangerous game of all. Junior high readers. 1997. Natalie, who lives in the large hotel managed by her father, has a dangerous friendship with Tulip, the wildly uncontrollable girl on a neighboring farm. This volume is part of the New Century Readers series of modern and classic novels, short stories and plays. Each book in the series provides the complete, original text; a section by or about the writer; and a study programme and guidance on keeping a reading log. It's not easy for Minna being the only sensible one in her family, even though she is used to her mum's weird clothes and behavior, but her whole, unusual family does come through for her when she needs them most. When Mum gives her the notebook, Scarlet should be happy. It's beautiful, with its shiny scarlet cover and its blank pages full of promise. But Scarlet is absolutely NOT in the mood for a peace offering. Does Mum really think she can tear their family apart and expect Scarlet to be happy about it? Scarlet decides there's only one thing she can write in the notebook. The truth, about everything . . . Sixteen-year-old Lorena Leland's dreams of a rich and fulfilling life as a writer are dashed when the stock market crashes in 1929. Seven years into the Great Depression, Rena's banker father has retreated into the bottle, her sister is married to a lazy charlatan and gambler, and Rena is an unemployed newspaper reporter. Eager for any writing job, Rena accepts a position interviewing former slaves for the Federal Writers' Project. There, she meets Frankie Washington, a 101-year-old woman whose honest yet tragic past captivates Rena. As Frankie recounts her life as a slave, Rena is horrified to learn of all the older woman has endured--especially because Rena's ancestors owned slaves. While Frankie's story challenges Rena's preconceptions about slavery, it also connects the two women whose lives are otherwise separated by age, race, and circumstances. But will this bond of respect, admiration, and friendship be broken by a revelation neither woman sees coming? A classic children's book from best-loved Bill's New Frock author, former Children's Laureate Anne Fine. Perfect for readers aged between 7 and 9 and fans of David Walliams' *The Midnight Gang* and Pamela Butchart's *Wigglesbottom* Primary series. Philip has an incredible imagination, and when he lets it run riot in school one day it really gets his classmates thinking. Purple cows . . . brains in pots . . . a clever and beautiful chicken . . . What will

they think of next?! Anne Fine's fun school stories have been delighting children for more than 20 years, winning her awards such as the Smarties Book Award and Carnegie Medal along the way. 'Fine has a rare genius for building a funny, enriching and moving story around the nuts and bolts of school life' The Times Tells of a strange and disturbing friendship, seen through the eyes of Natalie, as she gets to know Tulip Pierce, a delinquent girl most others go out of their way to avoid. This work explores the dark side of a friendship bordering on obsession, and depicts one girl's gradual decline into hostility and violence. Ages 10-13. Lancelot's teacher Miss Mirabelle is amazing, but her daydreaming and her green high-heels have not endeared her to the school head. He worries about her terribly. And now she's told the head a giant whopper about her secret idea to raise money at the school Open Day. Lance thinks desperately for an idea to save Miss Mirabelle from having to admit they're empty-handed, and he comes up trumps. As part of the plan, the class have to divide the school pitch into a thousand equal squares, each one marked with a numbered lolly stick, an exercise which delights the head for a change. When the big day dawns Flossie the cow, obliges by choosing a winning square on which to deposit her very own country pancake. It's a huge success and Miss Mirabelle is saved from the wrath of the head. Lance, on the other hand, is disgusted to see that she takes all the credit for herself Nobody wants Tulip in their gang. She skives off school, cheeks the teachers and makes herself unpopular with her classmates by telling awful lies. None of this matters to Natalie who finds Tulip exciting. At first she doesn't care that other people are upset and unnerved by Tulip's bizarre games, but as the games become increasingly sinister and dangerous, Natalie realises that Tulip is going too far. Much too far. Racing, in fact, to the novel's shocking ending. Guess what -- Gary Paulsen was being kind to Brian. In Guts, Gary tells the real stories behind the Brian books, the stories of the adventures that inspired him to write Brian Robeson's story: working as an emergency volunteer; the death that inspired the pilot's death in Hatchet; plane crashes he has seen and near-misses of his own. He describes how he made his own bows and arrows, and takes readers on his first hunting trips, showing the wonder and solace of nature along with his hilarious mishaps and mistakes. He shares special memories, such as the night he attracted every mosquito in the county, or how he met the moose with a sense of humor, and the moose who made it personal. There's a handy chapter on "Eating Eyeballs and Guts or Starving: The Fine Art of Wilderness Nutrition." Recipes included. Readers may wonder how Gary Paulsen survived to write all of his books -- well, it took guts. Kitty Killin is not only a good storyteller, but also the World's Greatest Expert when it comes to mothers having new and unwanted boyfriends. Particularly when there's a danger they might turn into new and unwanted stepfathers... No man has ever wanted her for herself When she arrives at Beresford Abbey, orphan Mary Wilder's hopes of finding a place to belong are dashed when she meets Bane Beresford, the enigmatic earl. He is as remote as the ghosts that supposedly haunt the Abbey...and, like its crumbling walls, her dreams fall apart. Occasionally she sees a different, more caring man behind the facade, so is she foolish to long for a happy home...and a family? His proposal is for a marriage of convenience, but his touch has awakened within her a fervent and forbidden longing....

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