

The Shell Seekers

From Robin D. G. Kelley, a "leading black historian of the age," *Black Bodies Swinging* is a fierce, distilled history of the pillage and defiance of Black America...

Victoria Bradshaw finds the man she loved years before standing on her doorstep with his two-year-old son in his arms and is foolish enough to want him back. Their early spring journey to a castle in Scotland forms the rich and unpredictable story of *WILD MOUNTAIN THYME*. In *THE EMPTY HOUSE* Virginia Keile is a young widow who returns to Cornwall with her children dreaming that she might have a second chance to love the handsome farmer she remembers from long ago. Jane Marsh goes back to her beloved Scotland in *THE END OF SUMMER* to find passion, not gentle love, together with the realisation that she may be about to marry the wrong man.

Whenever Selina asked about her late father, the grandmother who raised her changed the subject. The chance discovery of a photograph gave Selina hope that he was still alive and sent her searching for him on a small Spanish island. In this lush paradise, Selina found George Dyer, a writer who would help her solve the mystery of her past...and might hold the key to her future. When you read a novel like *Sleeping Tiger* by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another-the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us...

Melanie Stryder refuses to fade away. The earth has been invaded by a species that takes over the minds of their human hosts while leaving their bodies intact, and most of humanity has succumbed. Wanderer, the invading 'soul' who has been given Melanie's body, knew about the challenges of living inside a human: the overwhelming emotions, the too-vivid memories. But there was one difficulty Wanderer didn't expect: the former tenant of her body refusing to relinquish possession of her mind. Melanie fills Wanderer's thoughts with visions of the man Melanie loves - Jared, a human who still lives in hiding. Unable to separate herself from her body's desires, Wanderer yearns for a man she's never met. As outside forces make Wanderer and Melanie unwilling allies, they set off to search for the man they both love.

Any reader who has ever fallen in love with a house will understand the attraction of Moorgate, a light-and-fresh-air-filled old farmhouse on the edge of the moor in Cornwall. The enchanting house now belongs to seventy-something Maudie Todhunter, the late Lord Todhunter's free-spirited second wife. (The first wife, Hilda, was supposedly a paragon of virtue, and Maudie has always felt second-best.) The light of Maudie's life is her vivacious stepgranddaughter, Posy, who begs Maudie to board a giant English mastiff whom Posy's mean-spirited mother has banned from the house. (The large and ungainly Polonius is an impossibly lovable canine who outshines Lassie by a mile and is destined to become a favorite of readers worldwide.) When Maudie decides to sell Moorgate, all kinds of old family secrets come to light, and so the saga begins. Along the way, Rob, the contractor of Moorhouse,

falls in love with a woman who has a sad secret. Posy's father falls in love with someone kinder than his shrewish wife. Maudie must reevaluate someone she'd fallen in love with years ago. And as the connections intertwine between the past and the present, many unexpected alliances form. Vivid, lushly written, and entirely unforgettable, this all-absorbing novel provides the kind of abundant reading experience that will leave readers eagerly looking forward to more from this newly discovered and superbly talented author. *A Week in Winter* achieves a combined richness of character and circumstance that raises it above most modern contemporary fiction, and Marcia Willett is a writer to discover and to celebrate.

Titles include "Wild Mountain Thyme, The Shell Seekers" and "Under Gemini".

In *Another View*, there were only two men in Emma's life--her father, a remote artist in Cornwall who left her in boarding school and saw her every few years, and Christo, who had been her stepbrother for a few months, and now wanted to get to know her. But until Emma can understand what she means to them, there will never be room for love. When you read a novel by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another--the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us... Oliver Dobbs was a writer first, and a man second. To him other people were tools. Even though he had broken Victoria Bradshaw's heart once, when he arrived on her doorstep with a two-year-old son, she found she could not refuse him, and the three of them set out for a castle in Scotland. There, Victoria meets the new laird and finds her crushed spirit awakening. When you read a novel like *Wild Mountain Thyme* by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another--the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us...

"A grand, sweeping panorama . . . richly written, finely detailed . . . vivid and memorable."—Daily News (New York)

Yearning for a better life, Anna Friedman fled Poland for New York at the turn of the century. Finding work as a maid for the Werner family, Anna discovers an elegance beyond her dreams—and the passion of Paul Werner, a man beyond her reach, even when she is in his arms. But it is Joseph Friedman whom she marries. And through an act of illicit passion that will haunt her though all her days, Anna lifts Joseph from poverty to a wealth on which the Friedman dynasty would be based for generations. Sweeping from Jazz Age New York to Nazi Germany to a sun-baked Israeli kibbutz, *Evergreen* has become a modern American classic—an epic novel that spans three generations of an unforgettable family—and exposes the heart of an extraordinary woman: her marriage, her children, her deceit. "A magnificent story . . . this beautifully written book will be treasured and reread for many years to come."—Library Journal

Interesting natural history facts about hermit crabs and why they must seek the safety of shells.

Elizabeth von Arnim's novel "Elizabeth and Her German Garden" was first published in 1898. It was instantly popular and has gone through numerous reprints ever since. This story is the main character Elizabeth's diary, where she relates stories from her life, as she learns to tend to her garden. Whilst the novel has a strongly autobiographical tone, it is also very humorous and satirical, due to Elizabeth's frequent mistakes and her idiosyncratic outlook on life. She comments on the beauty of nature and shares her view on society, looking down on the frivolous fashions of her time and writing "I believe all needlework and dressmaking is of the devil, designed to keep women from study." The book is the first in a series about the same character. Elizabeth von Arnim (1866–1941), née Mary Annette Beauchamp, was a British novelist. Born in Australia, her family returned to England when she was three years old; and she was Katherine Mansfield's cousin. She was first married to a Prussian aristocrat, the Graf von Arnim-Schlagenthin, and later to the philosopher Bertrand Russell's older brother, Frank, whom she left a year later. She then had an affair with the publisher Alexander Reeves, a man thirty years her junior, and with H.G. Wells. Von Arnim moved a lot, living alternatively in the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany, Poland, before dying of influenza in South Carolina during the Second War. Elizabeth von Arnim was an active member of the European literary scene, and entertained many of her contemporaries in her Chalet Soleil in Switzerland. She even hired E. M. Forster and Hugh Walpole as tutors for her five children. She is famous for her half-autobiographical, satirical novel "Elizabeth and her German Garden" (1898), as well as for "Vera" (1921), and "The Enchanted April" (1922).

After years in the United States, Jane returns to the tranquil Scottish estate, Elvie, where she spent a magical childhood. Memories of Elvie had always summoned the image of Sinclair, the rakish man Jane had once dreamed of marrying, but now that she is home, she finds Sinclair a different man. His charm has a purpose, and Jane can no longer trust him...or herself, in *The End of Summer*. When you read a novel by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another-the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us... "Her genius is to create characters you really care for" - Daily Express

In *Snow in April*, Caroline travels to Scotland, hoping to make contact with a brother she hasn't seen for years, and return in time for her wedding to the man her strong-willed stepmother thought so suitable. Then a sudden snow strands her in an isolated house with a young man recovering from tragedy. Both are on the brink of terrible mistakes, but perhaps they can save each other. When you read a novel by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another-the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and

misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us...

New fans and old fans alike will appreciate three compelling stories--Snow in April, Wild Mountain Thyme, and Flowers in the Rain--filled with life, love, and family drama by the much beloved author of The Shell Seekers.

Rosamunde Pilcher's worldwide best-sellers, The Shell Seekers, September, and Coming Home, enchanted millions with their beguiling descriptions of the coasts of Cornwall, the Highlands of Scotland, and the society of London. Now, in this lavishly illustrated, full-color book, Rosamunde Pilcher invites people to share with her the breathtaking views and tranquil places that have inspired her writing. Rosamunde Pilcher's journey begins in Cornwall where she grew up. The dreamy villages, stout cottages, and beautiful gardens of her childhood stand out amidst the artists' studios, galleries, and cafes. This is the landscape that readers of the Shell Seekers, The Empty House, and Coming Home know and love. Then there is the world of September and Wild Mountain Thyme--Rosamunde Pilcher's Scotland. Her home after marriage, the Scottish hills overflow with heather and clear streams running with trout. It's a place of country houses and annual balls that preserve the warmth of family and a stately pace of life. London has always been a welcome contrast to Rosamunde Pilcher's peaceful country life: socializing in the elegant Kensington town houses, afternoon tea at the Ritz, and parties in Chelsea are all familiar rituals that evoke the mood of a time now past. With an introduction by the author, snapshots from family albums, mouth-watering recipes from her own kitchen, and extracts from her unforgettable novels and short stories, the World of Rosamunde Pilcher will be treasured by her millions of loyal fans. Moreover, as with Rosamunde Pilcher's novels, the beautiful places within these covers are testaments to the gorgeous landscape and glorious cultural heritage of Britain.

Beloved author Maeve Binchy's first published novel, an engrossing coming of age tale about the incredible bond of friendship. To escape the chaos of London during World War II, young Elizabeth White is sent to live a safer life in the small Irish town of Kilgarret. It is there, in the crowded, chaotic O'Connor household, that she meet Aisling—a girl who soon becomes her very best friend, sharing her pet kitten and secretly teaching her the intricacies of Catholicism.

Aisling's boldness brings Elizabeth out of her proper shell; later, her support carries Elizabeth through the painful end of her parents' chilly marriage. In return, Elizabeth's friendship helps Aisling endure her own unsatisfying marriage to a raging alcoholic. Through the years, they come to believe they can overcome any conflict, conquer any hardship—as long as they have each other. Now they're about to find out if they're right... “A sumptuous saga.”—Harper's “Wonderful... a novel that could be mistaken for life.”—New York Daily News

Set in London and Cornwall between World War II and the present, this is the story of the Keeling family, and of the

passions and heart-break that have held them together for three generations--a story of life, hope, children and death. A place you will never forget Rosamunde Pilcher's Scotland...where the fields flourish with greenery, the hills bloom with purple, and the lochs glitter with the bright blue of the sky. A time you will never forget September...when the heather is in full flower, the first chill of autumn cools the air, and the countryside stirs with the hunt, balls, dinner parties, and dance. A novel you will never forget Rosamunde Pilcher's September...a story of homecomings and heartbreaks, friendships, betrayals, forgiveness, and love. From the author of the classic multimillion-copy bestseller *The Shell Seeker*, it is a book you will fall in love with... A main selection of the Literary Guild and the Doubleday Book Club

As spring comes to Scotland and the hills burst into life, a dance is planned for September. The invitations summon home the group of people Violet Aird has cared for most in her long life. The oldest, strongest and wisest of them all, she sees Alexa, her vulnerable granddaughter, find love for the first time, while the decision to send her little grandson away to school is driving parents Edmund and Virginia even further apart. Far from them all is Pandora, the glamorous, exciting girl who ran away twenty years before. All will converge on Scotland this September.

Celebrate life's journeys with the beloved author whose stories of life and love touched the world. *A Place Like Home* is a spellbinding collection of short stories by internationally bestselling author Rosamunde Pilcher, never before published in book form. The collection contains fifteen stories, which range from *The Holiday*, in which a wife surprises her husband of twenty-five years with a holiday full of Mediterranean sunshine, red rocks and blue seas in an effort to rekindle the romance they had before children; *The Eye of Love*, which takes the reader to a village by the sea where old flames meet again; and *A Place Like Home*, where a lonely young woman goes to recuperate in the Scottish countryside after a brief illness. The fruit orchards and fresh sea air offer much needed respite—but not as much as the handsome, mysterious farmer she meets. Each unforgettable story is the perfect slice of romance written with warmth and passion featuring wonderfully memorable, smart, and feisty female characters that will transport the reader to another time and place.

Against the backdrop of an elegant Cornwall mansion before World War II and a vast continent-spanning canvas during the turbulent war years, this involving story tells of an extraordinary young woman's coming of age, coming to grips with love and sadness, and in every sense of the term, coming home... In 1935, Judith Dunbar is left behind at a British boarding school when her mother and baby sister go off to join her father in Singapore. At Saint Ursula's, her friendship with Loveday Carey-Lewis sweeps her into the privileged, madcap world of the British aristocracy, teaching her about values, friendship, and wealth. But it will be the drama of war, as it wrenches Judith from those she cares about most, that will teach her about courage...and about love. Teeming with marvelous, memorable characters in a novel that is a true masterpiece, *Coming Home* by Rosamunde Pilcher is a book to be savored, reread, and cherished forever.

Celebrate life's journeys with the beloved author whose stories of life and love have touched the world. Return to the sun-drenched settings of *The Shell Seekers* and the rich emotion of *Coming Home*, as Rosamunde Pilcher takes you on an unforgettable journey of the heart. It is the passage of a young woman from a relationship that has become too tame and predictable to the excitement of a new life brimming with possibilities and the thrilling promise of love. And along the way, all the hopes, secrets, and desires that enrich us unite a joyous carousel of life that only Rosamunde Pilcher can create. From the elegance of the grand salons of Prideaux Place, Padstow's most stately of homes, to the wild and remote Cornish coastline, Rosamunde Pilcher captured in her novels Cornwall's unique, diverse beauty and compelling charm. Rosamunde Pilcher grew up near St Ives, publishing her first novel at the age of 25. Cornwall remained her long-standing inspiration with most of her novels set in this wonderfully diverse landscape. Her most famous novel, 'The Shell Seekers', catapulted Rosamunde to international fame and created a dedicated fan-base. This new Pitkin guidebook takes the reader on a tour of the key areas and places that inspired Pilcher's creative writing. Clamber down the steep Bedruthan Steps and enjoy the traditional Cornish welcome in the beautiful harbour town of St Ives. St Michael's Mount, one of the most famous sights in Cornwall, sits majestically off shore while the sound of the waves battering the coastline is a key element in enjoying a visit to Land's End. These sites and many more informed Rosamunde Pilcher's writing, making her novels and short stories some of the most popular and cherished around the world, several of which have been adapted for television.

At the end of a long and useful life, Penelope Keeling's prized possession is *The Shell Seekers*, painted by her father, and symbolizing her unconventional life, from bohemian childhood to wartime romance. When her grown children learn their grandfather's work is now worth a fortune, each has an idea as to what Penelope should do. But as she recalls the passions, tragedies, and secrets of her life, she knows there is only one answer...and it lies in her heart, in this beloved Cornwall novel from Rosamunde Pilcher.

Sunshine, rock gods and Hollywood heartthrobs! Jessie Jefferson is back in the next instalment from bestselling author Paige Toon. Perfect for fans of *Geek Girl*, *Jessica Cole* and *Girl Online*. Life as the undercover daughter of a rock god isn't going to be easy. How will Jessie adjust to her old boring life again after spending her summer living it up with her dad in LA? With tough decisions ahead (and not just choosing between two hot boys), can she cope juggling her two very different lives? Summer may be over, but Jessie's story is just beginning... 'Lots of fun' *Heat* magazine (four-star review) 'Fun and flirty, Jessie Jefferson is a top notch series YA fans should grab ASAP' *Maximum Pop!* 'A page-turner perfect for holidays' *Closer* 'A fabulous continuation of Jessie Jefferson's story...I loved every single second' *Rachel's Random Reads* blog Everyone loves Jessie! 'I didn't put *The Accidental Life of Jessie Jefferson* down until I'd got to the very last

page.' The Bookbag 'Addictive' Books for Company 'Packed with wit, charm, Californian sunshine and celebrities'
Handwritten Girl Praise for Paige Toon 'If you want escapism, Paige Toon is perfect' Cosmopolitan 'Brilliant' Heat 'Witty
and sexy - perfect holiday reading material' Closer

A Yorkshire veterinarian describes the adventures and experiences of his career as he tends to sick cattle, pregnant ewes, ailing dogs, and their eccentric owners, in a celebration of the relationships between human and animal
Celebrate life's journeys with the beloved author whose stories of life and love have touched the world. As in her worldwide bestseller *The Shell Seekers* and *September*, it is the richness of emotional seasons that has made Rosamunde Pilcher's novels beloved the world over. Now she invites you into long summer days on the coast of Cornwall—and into the stormy heart of newlywed Laura Haverstock. Shy, recovering from illness, and away from her husband, Laura's is a fearful heart on the verge of intimate discoveries...about herself, her family, and the source of true love within her. *Voices in Summer* speaks gently to the heart, in a voice that is Rosamunde Pilcher at her storytelling best.

"A huge warm saga...A deeply satisfying story written with love and confidence." --Maeve Binchy in *The New York Times Book Review*
An instant bestseller when it was first published, *The Shell Seekers* is an enduring classic which has touched the hearts of millions of readers worldwide. A novel of connection, it is the story of one family—mothers and daughters, husbands and lovers--and of the passions and heartbreak that have held them together for three generations. This magical novel—the kind of reading experience that comes along only once in a long while—is the perfect read, whether you are returning to it again, or opening the cover for the first time. At the end of a long and useful life, Penelope Keeling's prized possession is *The Shell Seekers*, painted by her father, and symbolizing her unconventional life, from bohemian childhood to wartime romance. When her grown children learn their grandfather's work is now worth a fortune, each has an idea as to what Penelope should do. But as she recalls the passions, tragedies, and secrets of her life, she knows there is only one answer...and it lies in her heart.

On the last day of her mother's life, Rebecca learns she has a family in Cornwall, and sets out to find the grandfather and cousin she has never known. But only the enigmatic Joss Gardner, the outsider who seems to be the apple of her grandfather's eye, can help her understand the dark currents that lie behind her family's loving reception, in *The Day of the Storm*. When you read a novel by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another—the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us...

The Shell Seekers St. Martin's Press

Academy Award-winning actress, director, producer, and activist Natalie Portman retells three classic fables and imbues them with wit and wisdom. From realizing that there is no “right” way to live to respecting our planet and learning what really makes someone a winner, the messages at the heart of Natalie Portman’s Fables are modern takes on timeless life lessons. Told with a playful, kid-friendly voice and perfectly paired with Janna Mattia’s charming artwork, Portman’s insightful retellings of The Tortoise and the Hare, The Three Little Pigs, and Country Mouse and City Mouse are ideal for reading aloud and are sure to become beloved additions to family libraries. An instant New York Times bestseller!

In *Winter Solstice* Rosamunde Pilcher brings her readers into the lives of five very different people.... Elfrida Phipps, once of London's stage, moved to the English village of Dibton in hopes of making a new life for herself. Gradually she settled into the comfortable familiarity of village life -- shopkeepers knowing her tastes, neighbors calling her by name -- still she finds herself lonely. Oscar Blundell gave up his life as a musician in order to marry Gloria. They have a beautiful daughter, Francesca, and it is only because of their little girl that Oscar views his sacrificed career as worthwhile. Carrie returns from Austria at the end of an ill-fated affair with a married man to find her mother and aunt sharing a home and squabbling endlessly. With Christmas approaching, Carrie agrees to look after her aunt's awkward and quiet teenage daughter, Lucy, so that her mother might enjoy a romantic fling in America. Sam Howard is trying to pull his life back together after his wife has left him for another. He is without home and without roots, all he has is his job. Business takes him to northern Scotland, where he falls in love with the lush, craggy landscape and set his sights on a house. It is the strange rippling effects of a tragedy that will bring these five characters together in a large, neglected estate house near the Scottish fishing town of Creagan. It is in this house, on the shortest day of the year, that the lives of five people will come together and be forever changed. Rosamunde Pilcher's long-awaited return to the page will warm the hearts of readers both old and new. *Winter Solstice* is a novel of love, loyalty and rebirth.

One of the most beloved novels of all time, Colleen McCullough's magnificent saga of dreams, struggles, dark passions, and forbidden love in the Australian outback has enthralled readers the world over. *The Thorn Birds* is a chronicle of three generations of Clearys—an indomitable clan of ranchers carving lives from a beautiful, hard land while contending with the bitterness, frailty, and secrets that penetrate their family. It is a poignant love story, a powerful epic of struggle and sacrifice, a celebration of individuality and spirit. Most of all, it is the story of the Clearys' only daughter, Meggie, and the haunted priest, Father Ralph de Bricassart—and the intense joining of two hearts and souls over a lifetime, a relationship that dangerously oversteps sacred boundaries of ethics and dogma.

Against the backdrop of an elegant Cornwall mansion before World War II and a vast continent-spanning canvas during the turbulent war years, this involving story tells of an extraordinary young woman's coming of age, coming to grips with love and sadness, and in every sense of the term, coming home... In 1935, Judith Dunbar is left behind at a British boarding school when her mother and baby sister go off to join

her father in Singapore. At Saint Ursula's, her friendship with Loveday Carey-Lewis sweeps her into the privileged, madcap world of the British aristocracy, teaching her about values, friendship, and wealth. But it will be the drama of war, as it wrenches Judith from those she cares about most, that will teach her about courage...and about love. Teeming with marvelous, memorable characters in a novel that is a true masterpiece, *Coming Home* is a book to be savored, reread, and cherished forever.

In *Under Gemini*, it seemed such an innocent deception. All Flora Waring had to do was play the part of Rose, her long-lost twin, for one weekend and meet the family of Rose's fiancé. But when Flora is introduced to the Armstrong family, she realizes that she has inherited the secret scandal Rose created five years before...and left wounds that turn the man Flora loves against her. When you read a novel by Rosamunde Pilcher you enter a special world where emotions sing from the heart. A world that lovingly captures the ties that bind us to one another—the joys and sorrows, heartbreaks and misunderstandings, and glad, perfect moments when we are in true harmony. A world filled with evocative, engrossing, and above all, enjoyable portraits of people's lives and loves, tenderly laid open for us...

Kate Ryan and her husband, John, have a rollicking pub in the Irish village of Mountfern . . . four lovely children . . . and such wonderful dreams. But all that is about to change one fateful summer when American millionaire Patrick O'Neill comes to town with his irresistible charm, and money to burn. As love and hate vie for a town's quiet heart, old traditions begin to crumble away. . . . Patrick O'Neill builds the grand hotel of his dreams, with its promise of wealth and change. Loyalties are challenged, jealousies ignited, and tragedy strikes before the foundation is laid. Suddenly Kate and John Ryan's lives and family are bound up with the newcomer in ways they can never imagine. And Patrick O'Neill faces his own crisis of conscience and heart as the events he sets in motion take on a life of their own in a town that will never be the same again. Praise for *Firefly Summer* “The best Binchy yet.”—The New York Times Book Review “Totally engrossing . . . unforgettable . . . an absolutely grand story . . . a lyrical and compelling family drama . . . Mountfern and its residents come vibrantly alive.”—Cleveland Plain Dealer “The secrets hidden behind lace curtains, a young girl's first kiss, children's summer games, unexpected pregnancies, sudden deaths. She makes us feel as if we also know the place and its people. . . . One of those good old-fashioned stories that are as comfortable and comforting as home itself.”—Philadelphia Inquirer

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