

Britain's greatest writers at work.

Set on drought affected Africa, by the author of "Empire of the sun."

Controversial science fiction writer, J.G. Ballard, tells of his unorthodox upbringing in Shanghai in the 1940's. Ballard has achieved acclaim for works such as *Empire of the Sun*, and controversy over *Crash*, which investigates the psychosexual significance of the car crash. The book includes an article on Ballard Mythmaker of the 20th Century by William S. Burroughs, and chapter one of *Crash*, plus Ballard's introduction to the French edition.

A war-ravaged Beirut is the setting for the title story of this visionary collection, a tale in which a young street fighter inadvertently discovers how to bring an end to the bloodshed only to find that his solution is all too effective as far as some supposedly neutral observers are concerned. Other stories feature an assassination plot against an American astronaut, the leader of an authoritarian religious movement; a man who is destroyed by a car crash and resolves never to leave his apartment again; and the survivor of a toxic-waste ship wrecked on a deserted Caribbean island.

One Of Britain's Most Significant Writers. Beginning With The Events That Inspired His Classic Novel, *Empire Of The Sun*, Turned Into An Acclaimed Film By Steven Spielberg, In This Revelatory Autobiography Ballard Charts The Course Of His Astonishing Life: His Early Childhood Spent Exploring Pre-War Shanghai, The Deprivations And Unexpected Freedoms Of The Lunghua Camp, To His Return To A Britain Physically And Psychologically Crippled By War. He Explores His Subsequent Involvement In The Dramatic Social Changes Of The 1960s, And The Adjustments To Life Following The Premature Death Of His Wife. In Prose Displaying His Characteristic Precision And Eye For Detail, Ballard Recounts The Experiences Which Would Fundamentally Shape His Writing, While Providing A Striking Social Analysis Of Post-War Britain. *Miracles Of Life* Is An Utterly Captivating Account Of An Extraordinary Writer'S Extraordinary Life. 'Exquisitely Written...A Subtle, Restlessly Enquiring Work Of Touching Humanity, Is Ballard'S Crowning Achievement.' *Financial Times*.

Before his masterpiece *The Rise of the Novel* made him one of the most influential post-war British literary critics, Ian Watt was a soldier, a prisoner of war of the Japanese, and a forced labourer on the notorious Burma-Thailand Railway. Both an intellectual biography and an intellectual history of the mid-century, this book reconstructs Watt's wartime world: these were harrowing years of mass death, deprivation, and terror, but also ones in which communities and institutions were improvised under the starkest of emergency conditions. *Ian Watt: The Novel and the Wartime Critic* argues that many of our foundational stories about the novel about the novel's origins and development, and about the social, moral, and psychological work that the novel accomplishes can be traced to the crises of the Second World War and its aftermath.

J. G. Ballard once declared that the most truly alien planet is Earth and in his science fiction he abandoned the traditional imagery of rocket ships traveling to distant galaxies to address the otherworldliness of this world. *The Empires of J. G. Ballard* is the first extensive study of Ballard's critical vision of nation and empire, of the political geography of this planet. Paddy examines how Ballard's self-perceived status as an outsider and exile, the Sheppertonian from Shanghai, generated an outlook that celebrated worldliness and condemned parochialism. This book brings to light how Ballard wrestled with notions of national identity and speculated upon the social and psychological implications of the post-war transformation of older models of empire into new imperialisms of consumerism and globalization. Presenting analyses of Ballard's full body of work with its tales of reverse colonization, psychological imperialism, the savagery of civilization, estranged Englishmen abroad and at home, and multinational communities built on crime, *The Empires of J. G. Ballard* offers a fresh perspective on the fiction of J. G. Ballard. *The Empires of J.G. Ballard: An Imagined Geography* offers a sustained and highly convincing analysis of the imperial and post-imperial histories and networks that shape and energise Ballard's fictional and non-fictional writings. To what extent can Ballard be considered an international writer? What happens to our understanding of his post-war science fictions when they are opened up to the language and logics of post-colonialism? And what creative and critical roles do the spectres of empire play in Ballard's visions of modernity? Paddy follows these and other fascinating lines of enquiry in a study that is not only essential reading for Ballard students and scholars, but for anyone interested in the intersections of modern and contemporary literature, history and politics.

(Jeanette Baxter, Anglia Ruskin University) Shanghai made my father. Arriving in England after WW2, he was a person of the world who'd witnessed extremes of human experience, and remained the outsider observing life from his home in Shepperton. 1930s Shanghai, Paris of the East, was a mix of international sophistication and violence, unfettered capitalism and acute poverty, American cars, martinis and Coca Cola, a place marked by death and war. It had a profound influence on my father and his imagination. Dr Paddy's fascinating book explores my father's fiction within an international context and offers a profound reading of a man who always kept his eyes and mind open to the world. (Fay Ballard)

A thrilling adventure with "an oppressive power reminiscent of Conrad" (Kingsley Amis), considered by many to be Ballard's finest. Richard's father was fatally wounded at the Metro-Centre, a shopping mall, when a deranged mental patient opened fire on a crowd of shoppers. When the main suspect is released without charge, thanks to the dubious testimony of self-styled pillars of the community, Richard suspects that there is more to his father's death than what meets the eye.

An eerie glimpse into the future, a spine-tingling fable of the concrete jungle.

The renowned science-fiction writer selects the best and most representative of his short fiction, revealing the variety of his projections of twentieth-century technology in post-atomic worlds

Like a latter-day Palm Springs, *Vermillion Sands* is a fully automated desert resort designed to fulfill the most exotic whims of the idle rich. But now it languishes in uneasy decay, populated only by forgotten movie stars, solitary impresarios and artistic and literary failures, a place where love and lust fall before the stronger pull of evil.

When the *Atrocity Exhibition* was originally printed (1970), Nelson Doubleday saw a copy and was so horrified he ordered the entire press run shredded. Two years later Grove Press brought out a small hardback printing re-titled *Love and Napalm: Export USA*. Now Re/Search brings out an illustrated, large-format edition of this notorious work, augmented with four recently written stories, plus extensive annotations-written by the author, never before published-which clarify and illuminate this exhilarating, prophetic masterpiece. Book jacket.

On a day in April, just after three o'clock in the afternoon, Robert Maitland's car crashes over the concrete parapet of a high-speed highway onto the island below, where he is injured and, finally, trapped. What begins as an almost ludicrous predicament soon turns into horror as Maitland-a wickedly modern Robinson Crusoe-realizes that, despite evidence of other inhabitants, this doomed terrain has become a mirror of his own mind. Seeking the dark outer rim of the everyday, Ballard weaves private catastrophe into an intensely specular allegory in *Concrete Island*.

Published in 1991, this semi-autobiographical novel is a daring masterpiece from "one of the most important and intelligent voices in contemporary fiction" (Susan Sontag). "Rueful the way Primo Levi's work was" (New York Times Book Review), the novel follows fifteen-year-

old Jim Graham as he leaves the ruins of postwar Shanghai, only to find that he cannot escape his own obsession with death.

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Peter Brigg examines the life and work of British author J.G. Ballard, from his science fiction to his mainstream fiction. Starmont Reader's Guide 26.

Collects all ninety-two of the late Empire of the Sun author's stories--including "Prima Belladonna," "Dead Time," and "The Index"-- which span five decades and explore everything from musical orchids to human cannibalism to the secret history of World War III.

Roman.

The "Cape Canaveral" stories, eight stories originally published between 1962 and 1985.

For the first time, the complete collected short stories of the author of 'Empire of the Sun', 'Cocaine Nights' and 'Super-Cannes' - regarded by many as Britain's No. 1 living fiction writer.

A high-tech business park on the Mediterranean coast is the setting for crime of the most disturbing kind in this extraordinary new bestseller from the writer widely regarded as Britain's No 1 living novelist – author of Cocaine Nights.

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