

Hartright -- the sheltered, upright character from Wilkie Collins's classic mystery novel -- is commissioned to write a biography of England's great Romantic landscape artist, J.M.W. Turner, he discovers the "dark clue" hidden deep within the artist's brilliant paintings. Obsessed with reconstructing a life that is shrouded in mystery and steeped in rumour, Walter seeks helps from a Dickensian assemblage of the lowest and highest elements of society -- the visionary John Ruskin, the haughty aristocrats, the desperate and the criminal. Soon enough, Walter uncovers evidence of unspeakable depravity, but can it be believed? Can the truth behind Turner's myth possibly be freed from a tangled, rapidly expanding web of conspiracy? A string of breathtakingly dramatic incidents sends Walter into a harrowing downward spiral from which only his loving and capable sister-in-law, Marian Halcombe, can hope to rescue him. James Wilson's first book, *The Earth Shall Weep*, established him as a groundbreaking historian and evocative storyteller. His debut novel plumbs the myth of creative genius, offering not only a fast-moving historical thriller, but also a startling commentary on the problems of seeking truth and recording history. In the tradition of John Fowles's *The French Lieutenant's Woman* and Charles Palliser's *The Quincunx*, *The Dark Clue* is a masterful fiction debut from one of the original voices of our time. The Quincunx Random House Digital, Inc.

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This history of the Saltire Society Literary Awards demonstrates the significance the awards have had within Scottish literary and cultural life. The book explores how the prizes have influenced understandings of Scottish literature over eight decades and explores what they reveal about the wider mechanisms of how literary prize culture functions in the UK today.

This lively and fascinating new collection of European essays on contemporary Anglophone fiction has arisen out of the ESSE/3 Conference, which was held in Glasgow in September 1995. The contributors live and work in University English Departments in Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Portugal and Spain, as well as in the United Kingdom itself. Essays on general theoretical aspects of the subject head and conclude the collection, and there are also essays on individual writers or groups of writers, such as John Fowles, A.S. Byatt, Charles Palliser, Peter Ackroyd, William Golding, Doris Lessing, Daphne du Maurier, Angela Carter and Christina Stead. The performative aspect of the subject-matter of these essays is balanced by a locational aspect, including utopian and dystopian writing in authors as diverse as Michael Crichton, Jenny Diski and Salman Rushdie, and the travel literature of Bruce Chatwin. These essays show theoretical alertness, but no single theoretical position is privileged. The aim of the collection is to provide an indication of the range of work being carried out throughout European academe on Anglophone (mainly British) writing today.

A meditation on the Victorian novel and a sprawling epic tale of a man's quest for his identity follows John Huffman as he journeys to the heart of the Quincunx to reveal his elusive past

A brilliant guide to 100 of the finest historical novels ever published from Victor Hugo to Sarah Waters.

Desperate times and darker mysteries abound in this extraordinary historical thriller. With their savings rapidly running out, and the world turning against them, John and his mother are pursued by bailiffs and forced to move. Taking refuge with the Isbister family, they flee upon discovering a shocking dark side to their hosts. But then their luck seems to change when they discover the hospitable Miss Quilliam. And a way out of debt and disaster seems to offer itself with a momentous decision, one that will shape everything: to sell the most valuable thing they own. Life is never so easy, and cruelty, danger and disease are never far away... The second Part of the unputdownable classic, *The Quincunx*, is the ideal read for fans of S.J. Parris or Peter Ackroyd. Praise for *The Quincunx* 'Grips like steel... it's a book to make you miss your stop on the bus or the train, keep you up at night and wake you early... a formidable achievement' *Kaleidoscope*, BBC Radio 4 'His brilliant and entertaining pastiche of the mid-nineteenth-century novel' *The Times* 'A brilliant and deeply eccentric attempt to reproduce an early Victorian novel...it combines massive scope with minute detail – there is a cast of thousands, but every figure is lovingly painted. The plot is so thick the spoon stands up in it, and by the end, the reader has toured the whole of late Regency society... Magnificent – gripping and beautifully written; the sort of book that sends you into a trance of pleasure' *Independent* 'Charles Palliser has realised a world that can almost be smelt and tasted as it pours off the page of this gripping, extraordinary novel' *Daily Telegraph* 'His plot is of an intricacy that Wilkie Collins himself might have envied... an astonishing achievement' *Scotsman* *The Quincunx* *The Huffams* *The Mompessons* *The Clothiers* *The Palphramonds* *The Maliphants*

An unnamed menace, an ancient document... five families torn apart. An unputdownable and bestselling historical mystery John Mellamphy's life is under threat. In the remote countryside, his mother, Mary, has been burgled in mysterious circumstances. Then her protector, Mr Fortisquince, is suddenly murdered in London. Mysterious forces are at work looking for an old document, the key to an enormous fortune. Already having experienced a life of toil and hardship, it may change John's life. But this is a document that provokes avarice, hatred, murder and madness, that determines the fates of five families and sets the pattern of John's own life. A pattern woven around, and unravelled within, that most mysterious symbol – the Quincunx! An extraordinary historical mystery and cult classic, *The Quincunx* is perfect for readers of M.J. Carter, C.J. Sansom and Oscar de Muriel. Praise for *The Quincunx* 'Grips like steel... it's a book to make you miss your stop on the bus or the train, keep you up at night and wake you early... a formidable achievement' *Kaleidoscope*, BBC Radio 4 'His brilliant and entertaining pastiche of the mid-nineteenth-century novel' *The Times* 'A brilliant and deeply eccentric attempt to reproduce an early Victorian novel...it combines massive scope with minute detail – there is a cast of thousands, but every figure is lovingly painted. The plot is so thick the spoon stands up in it, and by the end, the reader has toured the whole of late Regency society... Magnificent – gripping and beautifully written; the sort of book that sends you into a trance of pleasure' *Independent* 'Charles Palliser has realised a world that can almost be smelt and tasted as it pours off the page of this gripping, extraordinary novel' *Daily Telegraph* 'His plot is of an intricacy that Wilkie Collins himself might have envied... an astonishing achievement' *Scotsman* *The Quincunx* *The Huffams* *The Mompessons* *The*

Clothiers The Palphramonds The Maliphants

Guiding students through immediate contexts, key texts, and wider contexts of the Victorian novel, this book explores all the major writers and their subsequent afterlives.

Parody, plagiarism, revenge and murder are the themes of this novel by the author of *The Quincunx* and *The Sensationist*. Ten apparently unrelated texts gradually come together as the reader finds distorted versions of the same story appearing across a range of genres.

Traditional Chinese edition of *The Last Station*. The novel is about Leo Tolstoy's last year in which he struggled to live by his principles of poverty and chastity while fame, wealth and luxury encroached on his soul. He tried to run away from it all but found himself slowly dying alone. The moVietnamese adaptation starring Christopher Plummer and Helen Mirren was released in 2009. In Traditional Chinese.

Distributed by Tsai Fong Books, Inc.

In 1863, a sexually obsessed opium addict is sent away from Cambridge to live in the country where he becomes the lead suspect in a series of threatening letters and crimes in this new novel from the author of *The Quincunx*. 50,000 first printing.

The final gripping part of this classic historical mystery With the will finally in his grasp, John may be able to prove his inheritance, and put an end to the deadly plots and endless machinations that have plagued his life. But betrayal hides around every corner. Will justice narrowly fall through his fingers one last time? Upon uncovering a dastardly plot to trick Henrietta into a marriage that would steal the fortune, John must do everything in his power to stop it. But can John, who has struggled so hard and for so long, finally be in reach of peace? The unputdownable, final instalment of the bestselling *The Quincunx* is perfect for fans of Andrew Taylor, AD Swanston and Carol Hedges. Praise for *The Quincunx* 'Grips like steel... it's a book to make you miss your stop on the bus or the train, keep you up at night and wake you early... a formidable achievement' *Kaleidoscope*, BBC Radio 4 'His brilliant and entertaining pastiche of the mid-nineteenth-century novel' *The Times* 'A brilliant and deeply eccentric attempt to reproduce an early Victorian novel...it combines massive scope with minute detail – there is a cast of thousands, but every figure is lovingly painted. The plot is so thick the spoon stands up in it, and by the end, the reader has toured the whole of late Regency society... Magnificent – gripping and beautifully written; the sort of book that sends you into a trance of pleasure' *Independent* 'Charles Palliser has realised a world that can almost be smelt and tasted as it pours off the page of this gripping, extraordinary novel' *Daily Telegraph* 'His plot is of an intricacy that Wilkie Collins himself might have envied... an astonishing achievement' *Scotsman* *The Quincunx* *The Huffams* *The Mompessons* *The Clothiers* *The Palphramonds* *The Maliphants*

Contemporary works of art that remodel the canon not only create complex, hybrid and plural products but also alter our perceptions and understanding of their source texts. This is the dual process, referred to in this volume as "refraction", that the essays collected here set out to discuss and analyse by focusing on the dialectic rapport between postmodernism and the canon. What is sought in many of the essays is a redefinition of postmodernist art and a re-examination of the canon in the light of contemporary epistemology. Given this dual process, this volume will be of value both to everyone interested in contemporary art—particularly fiction, drama and film—and also to readers whose aim it is to promote a better appreciation of canonical British literature.

Thieves, mansions and murders... no one can be trusted in this classic historical mystery The tangled threads of family conspiracy and dark intentions will not let John Mellamphy rest. Seeking help from Henry Bellringer, a relation of a school friend, he instead finds himself in a nest

of thieves. Reading his mother's journal, with tantalising details of his parentage, his grandfather's murder and his deadly legacy, John finally discovers a terrible truth that could mean his death. But when John finally escapes the gang and a kindly household takes him in, their intentions may not be entirely altruistic... The third part of the bestselling classic, *The Quincunx*, is perfect for fans of C.S. Quinn, M.J. Carter or Alex Grecian. Praise for *The Quincunx* 'Grips like steel... it's a book to make you miss your stop on the bus or the train, keep you up at night and wake you early... a formidable achievement' *Kaleidoscope*, BBC Radio 4 'His brilliant and entertaining pastiche of the mid-nineteenth-century novel' *The Times* 'A brilliant and deeply eccentric attempt to reproduce an early Victorian novel...it combines massive scope with minute detail – there is a cast of thousands, but every figure is lovingly painted. The plot is so thick the spoon stands up in it, and by the end, the reader has toured the whole of late Regency society... Magnificent – gripping and beautifully written; the sort of book that sends you into a trance of pleasure' *Independent* 'Charles Palliser has realised a world that can almost be smelt and tasted as it pours off the page of this gripping, extraordinary novel' *Daily Telegraph* 'His plot is of an intricacy that Wilkie Collins himself might have envied... an astonishing achievement' *Scotsman* *The Quincunx* *The Huffams* *The Mompessons* *The Clothiers* *The Palphramonds* *The Maliphants* This *Pivot* examines a body of contemporary neo-Victorian novels whose uneasy relationship with the past can be theorised in terms of aggressive eating, including cannibalism. Not only is the imagery of eating repeatedly used by critics to comprehend neo-Victorian literature, the theme of cannibalism itself also appears overtly or implicitly in a number of the novels and their Victorian prototypes, thereby mirroring the cannibalistic relationship between the contemporary and the Victorian. Tammy Lai-Ming Ho argues that aggressive eating or cannibalism can be seen as a pathological and defining characteristic of neo-Victorian fiction, demonstrating how cannibalism provides a framework for understanding the genre's origin, its conflicted, ambivalent and violent relationship with its Victorian predecessors and the grotesque and gothic effects that it generates in its fiction.

An extraordinary modern novel in the Victorian tradition, Charles Palliser has created something extraordinary—a plot within a plot within a plot of family secrets, mysterious clues, low-born birth, high-reaching immorality, and, always, always the fog-enshrouded, enigmatic character of 19th century—London itself. "So compulsively absorbing that reality disappears . . . One is swept along by those enduring emotions that defy modern art and a random universe: hunger for revenge, longing for justice and the fantasy secretly entertained by most people that the bad will be punished and the good rewarded."—*The New York Times* "A virtuoso achievement . . . It is an epic, a tour de force, a staggeringly complex and tantalizingly layered tale that will keep readers engrossed in days. . . . *The Quincunx* will not disappoint you. It is, quite simply, superb."—*Chicago Sun-Times* "A bold and vivid tale that invites the reader to get lost in the intoxicating rhythms of another world. And the invitation is irresistible."—*San Francisco Chronicle* "A remarkable book . . . In mood, color, atmosphere and characters, this is Charles Dickens reincarnated . . . It is an immersing experience."—*Los Angeles Times Book Review* "To read the first pages is to be trapped for seven-hundred odd more: you cannot stop turning them."—*The New Yorker* "Few books, at most a dozen or two in a lifetime, affect us this way. . . . For sheer intricacy and ingenuity, for skill and clarity of storytelling, it is the kind of book readers wait for, a book to get lost in."—*The Philadelphia Inquirer*

This book offers a collection of essays on novels and short stories from the beginning of Victoria's reign through to the end of the nineteenth century and into our own times. The essays represent a wide range of critical and theoretical viewpoints on fiction, and they deal with a number of lesser-known Victorian Works as well as with some of the most

canonical texts of the period. The chronological range of the volume is extended by essays which explore Victorian texts' connections with earlier literature, as well as by studies of twentieth-century novelists' responses to Victorian fiction. Overall this collection emphasizes the breadth and diversity of Victorian prose fiction and will be of interest to students and specialists alike.

Charles Dickens in Cyberspace opens a window on a startling set of literary and scientific links between contemporary American culture and the nineteenth-century heritage it often repudiates. Surveying a wide range of novelists, scientists, filmmakers, and theorists from the past two centuries, Jay Clayton traces the concealed circuits that connect the telegraph with the Internet, Charles Babbage's Difference Engine with the digital computer, Frankenstein's monster with cyborgs and clones, and Dickens' life and fiction with all manner of contemporary popular culture--from comic books and advertising to recent novels and films. In the process, Clayton argues for two important principles: that postmodernism has a hidden or repressed connection with the nineteenth-century and that revealing those connections can aid in the development of a historical cultural studies. In Charles Dickens in Cyberspace nineteenth-century figures--Jane Austen, Charles Darwin, Charles Dickens, Thomas Hardy, Henry James, Ada Lovelace, Joseph Paxton, Mary Shelley, and Mary Somerville--meet a lively group of counterparts from today: Andrea Barrett, Greg Bear, Peter Carey, Hélène Cixous, Alfonso Cuarón, William Gibson, Donna Haraway, David Lean, Richard Powers, Salman Rushdie, Ridley Scott, Susan Sontag, Neal Stephenson, Bruce Sterling, and Tom Stoppard. The juxtaposition of such a diverse cast of characters leads to a new way of understanding the "undisciplined culture" the two eras share, an understanding that can suggest ways to heal the gap that has long separated literature from science. Combining storytelling and scholarship, this engaging study demonstrates in its own practice the value of a self-reflective stance toward cultural history. Its personal voice, narrative strategies, multiple points of view, recursive loops, and irony emphasize the improvisational nature of the methods it employs. Yet its argument is serious and urgent: that the afterlife of the nineteenth century continues to shape the present in diverse and sometimes conflicting ways.

On the Turn: The Ethics of Fiction in Contemporary Narrative in English is an attempt to listen to the various voices that participate in the current dialogue on the relationship between fiction and ethics. The editors' introduction investigates the current state of affairs on the return to ethics in critical and literary consideration, and it opens up the way for the variety of approaches that follows. Participants include internationally recognized scholars like Andrew Gibson, Patricia Waugh, or Native American fiction writer and poet Gordon Henry, winner of the American Book Award in 1995. All in all, contributors cover a significant geographical diversity, and their approaches also vary from general theory to particular examples, from traditional interpretations to post-deconstruction ethics. Authors analyze texts both mainstream and

terrifying events in the present. Reader's Guide available. Reprint.

Beginning a tormented search for anonymous sensual pleasure, David, a man obsessed with women, pursues a trail of aimless conquest and the intimacy of strangers. By the author of The Quincunx. Reprint.

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