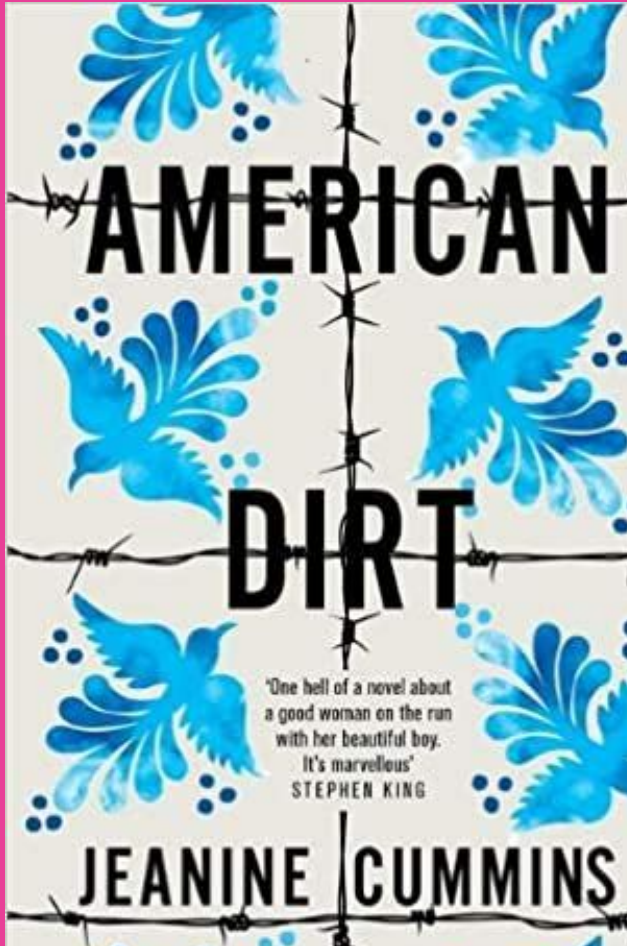


Books worth second looks

Sixth Form - Summer 2023



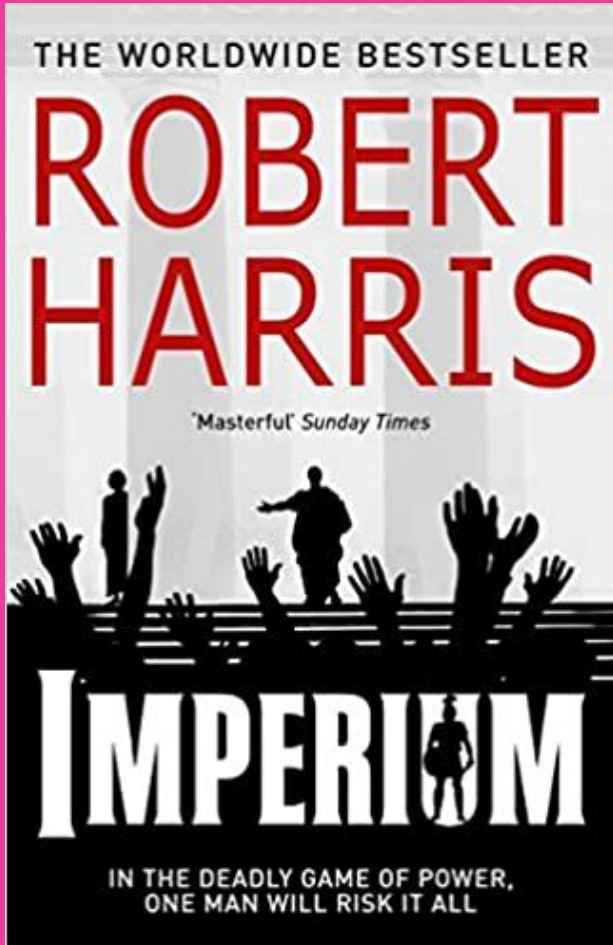


Yesterday, she had a bookshop. Yesterday, she was married to a journalist. Yesterday, she was with everyone she loved most in the world.

Today, her eight-year-old son is all she has left. For him, she will carry a machete strapped to her leg. For him, she will leap onto the roof of a high speed train. For him, she will find the strength to keep running.

Variously praised to the heavens and damned to hell, *American Dirt* is one of the most debated books of the past few years.

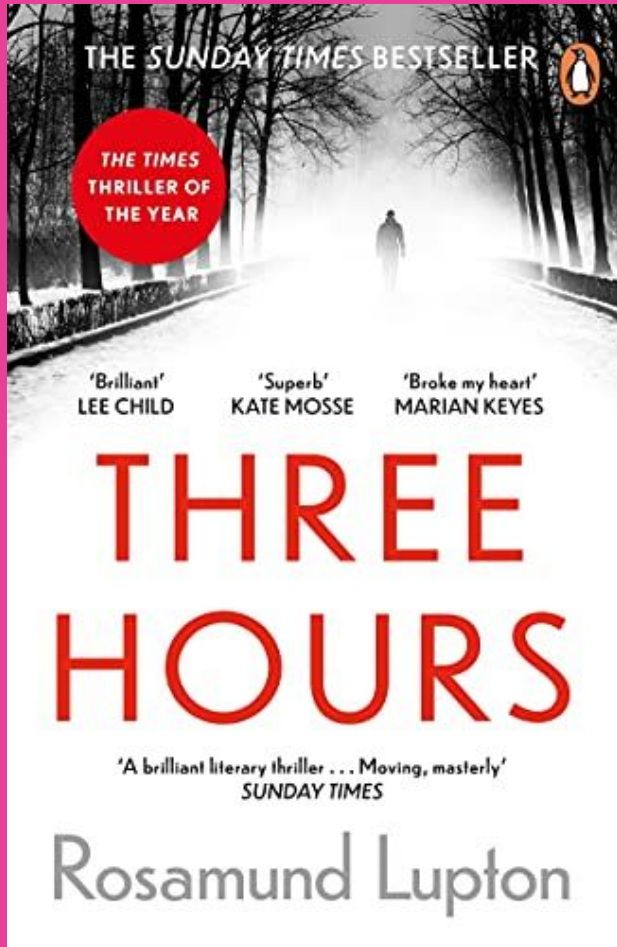
Find out what all the fuss is about, and make up your own mind.



Imperium takes us into the violent world of Roman politics, and the quest of one man to reach the top.

When Tiro, the confidential secretary of a Roman senator, opens the door to a terrified stranger on a cold November morning, he sets in motion a chain of events which will eventually propel his master into one of the most famous courtroom dramas in history.

The stranger is a Sicilian, a victim of the island's corrupt Roman governor, Verres. The senator is Cicero, a brilliant young lawyer and spellbinding orator, determined to attain supreme power - imperium.

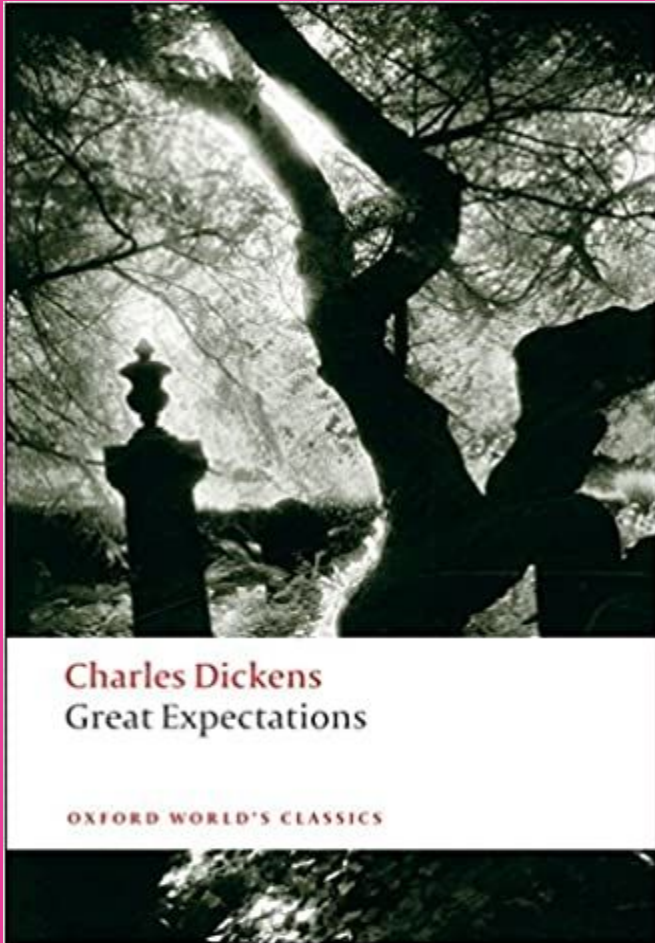


In rural Somerset in the middle of a blizzard, the unthinkable happens: a school comes under siege from armed gunmen.

Pupils and teachers barricade themselves into classrooms, the library, the theatre. The headmaster lies wounded, critically injured, unable to help his trapped students and staff.

Outside, the police work desperately to identify the gunmen, while parents gather desperate for news.

In three intense hours, all must find the courage to stand up to evil and save the people they love.



'It was now too late and too far to go back, and I went on. And the mists had all solemnly risen now, and the world lay spread before me.'

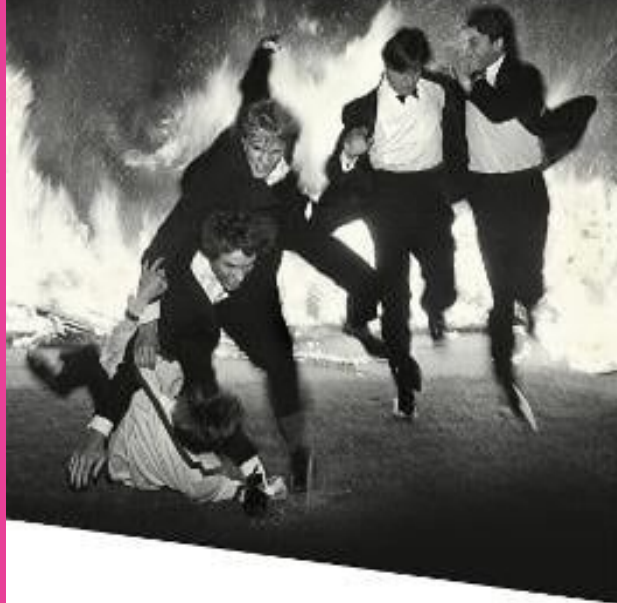
A terrifying encounter with an escaped convict in a graveyard... A demand to meet the bitter, decaying Miss Havisham and the beautiful, cold-hearted Estella... The sudden generosity of a mysterious benefactor...

A series of strange events are set to change the life of an orphan boy, as he abandons his humble origins to set out on a new life as a "gentleman".

PICADOR
COLLECTION

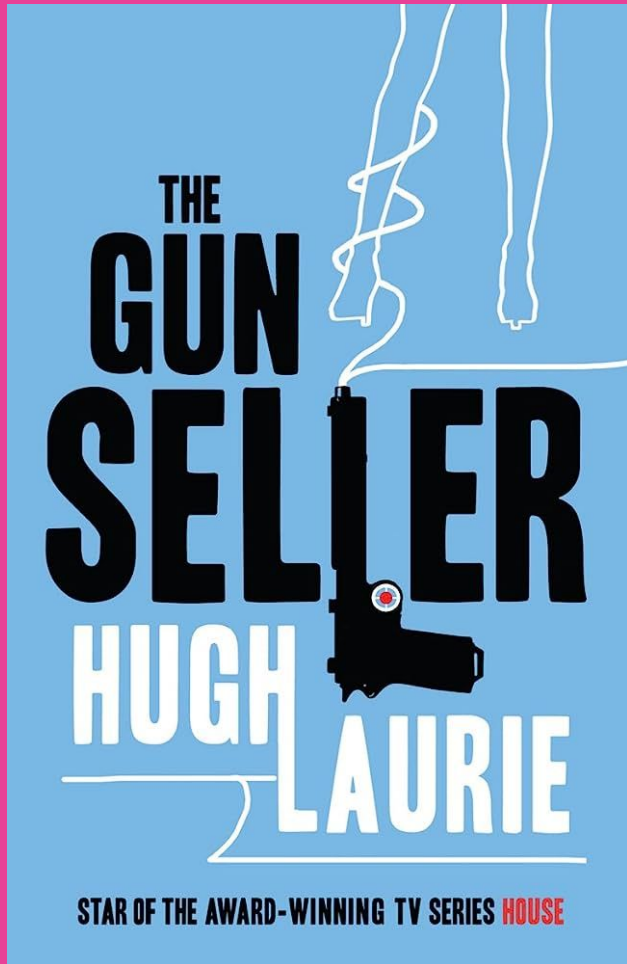
THE LINE OF BEAUTY

Alan Hollinghurst



There was the soft glare of the flash - twice - three times - a gleaming sense of occasion, the gleam floating in the eye as a blot of shadow, his heart running fast with no particular need of courage as he grinned and said, 'Prime Minister, would you like to dance?'

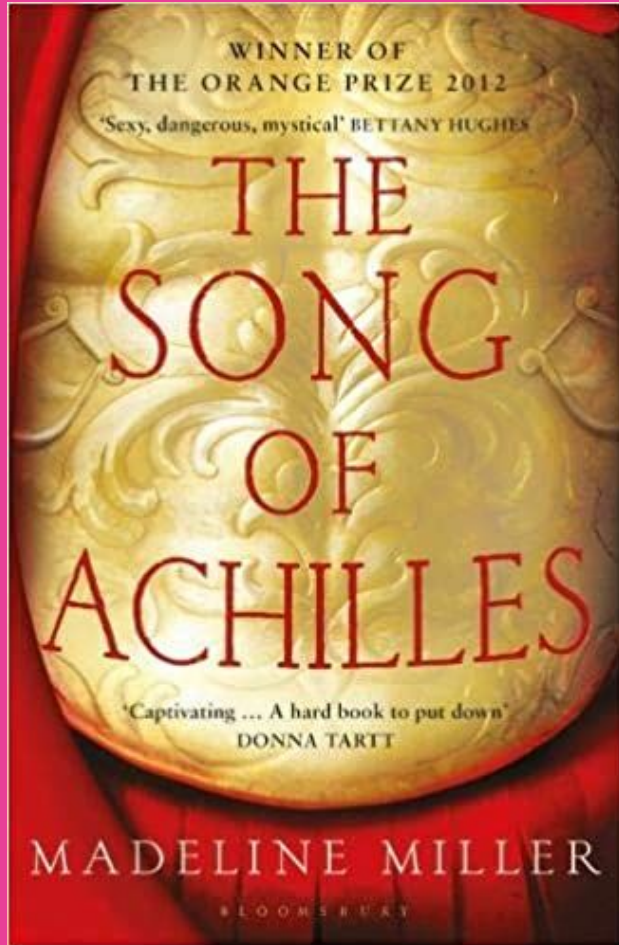
In the summer of 1983, twenty-year-old Nick Guest moves into an attic room in the Notting Hill home of the wealthy Feddens: Gerald, an ambitious Tory MP, his wife Rachel and their children Toby and Catherine. Innocent of politics and money, Nick is swept up into the Feddens' world and an era of endless possibility, all the while pursuing his own private obsession with beauty.



When Thomas Lang, a hired gunman with a soft heart, is contracted to assassinate an American industrialist, he opts instead to warn the intended victim - a good deed that doesn't go unpunished.

Within hours Lang is butting heads with a Buddha statue, matching wits with evil billionaires, and putting his life (among other things) in the hands of a bevy of femmes fatales, whilst trying to save a beautiful lady... and prevent an international bloodbath to boot.

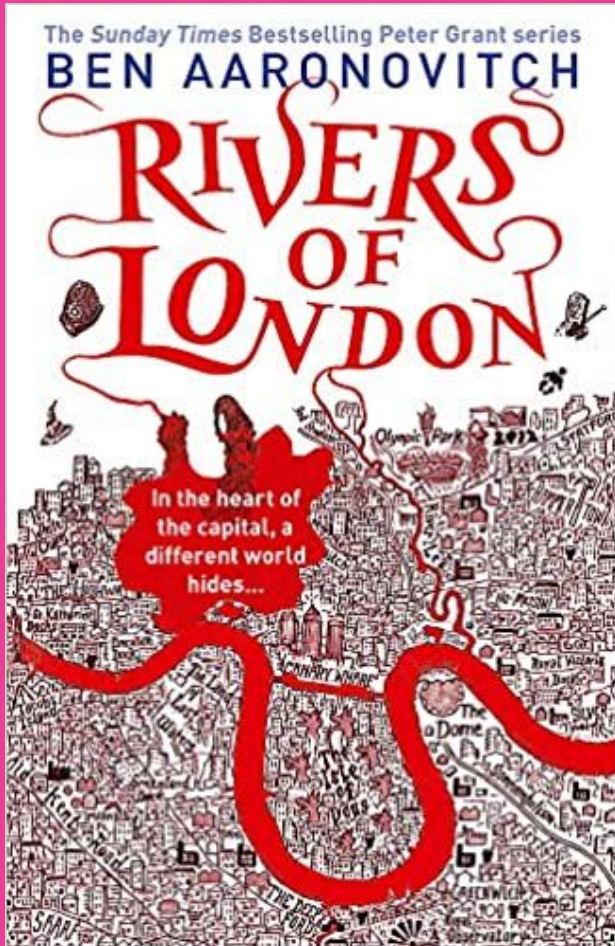
A wonderfully funny novel from one of Britain's most famous comedians and star of award-winning US TV medical drama series, *House*.



Greece in the age of gods and heroes. Patroclus, an awkward young prince, has been exiled to the court of King Peleus and his perfect son Achilles. Despite their differences, Achilles befriends the shamed prince.

As they grow into young men skilled in the arts of war and medicine, their bond deepens to love - much to the displeasure of Achilles' mother Thetis, a cruel sea goddess.

Then comes word that Helen of Sparta has been kidnapped. To fulfill his destiny, Achilles goes to war in distant Troy. Patroclus, torn between fear and love for Achilles, goes with him. The years that follow will test everything they hold dear.

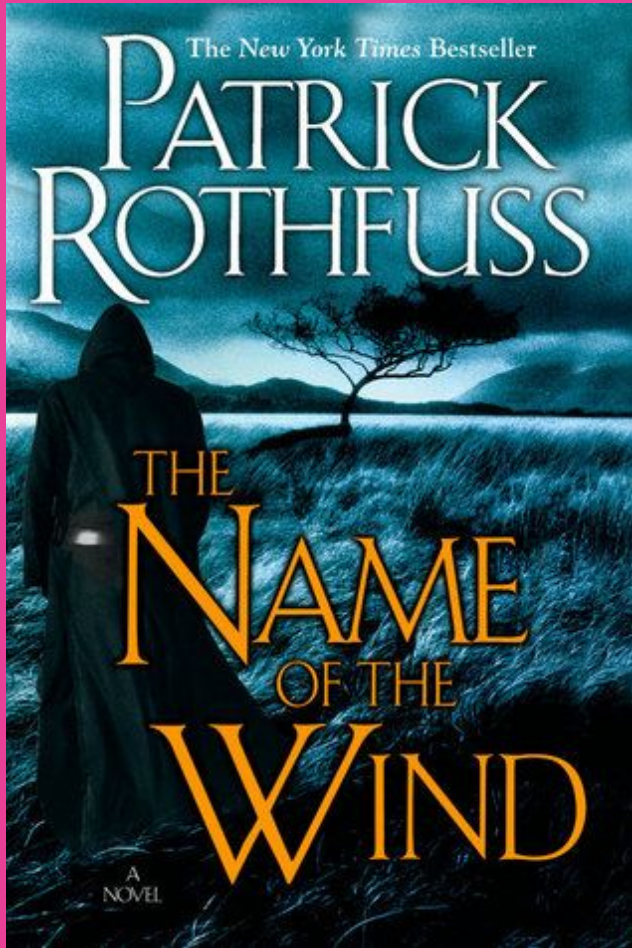


What if Harry Potter joined the Old Bill?

Until recently, Peter Grant was concerned only with avoiding police paperwork and attracting the attentions of WPC Leslie May. Then he tries to take a witness statement from someone who is dead but disturbingly voluble...

Now he finds himself tackling nests of vampires in Purley, digging up graves in Covent Garden and negotiating a truce between the warring god and goddess of the Thames. Oh, and he's become the first trainee wizard for fifty years...

So when a vengeful spirit starts wreaking havoc, it's down to Peter to save the day, or die trying.



'I burned down the town of Trebon. I have spent the night with Felurian and left with both my sanity and my life. I was expelled from the University at a younger age than most people are allowed in. I tread paths by moonlight that others fear to speak of during day. I have talked to Gods, loved women, and written songs that make the minstrels weep.

My name is Kvothe. You may have heard of me'

So begins the tale of Kvothe, from his childhood in a troupe of traveling players, through his years spent as a near-feral orphan in a crime-riddled city, to his daringly brazen yet successful bid to enter a difficult and dangerous school of magic.

Elliot Perlman

One of the 50 most important writers in the world —*LIBE (FRANCE)*

The street sweeper

Excellent... Harrowing, humane and brilliant —*THE TIMES (UK)*

Wonderfully rich, engaging and multilayered —*THE WASHINGTON POST*



An unlikely friendship, between a hospital janitor, just out of prison, and an elderly Jewish Holocaust survivor who starts to talk about his extraordinary past.

A personal crisis: the son of a prominent Jewish civil rights lawyer, is facing the end of both his long-term relationship and his academic career. Then one of his late father's closest friends suggests a promising research topic that offers the possibility of redemption.

Spanning over fifty years, and ranging from New York to Melbourne, Chicago, Warsaw and Auschwitz, these two very different paths lead to one much greater story.