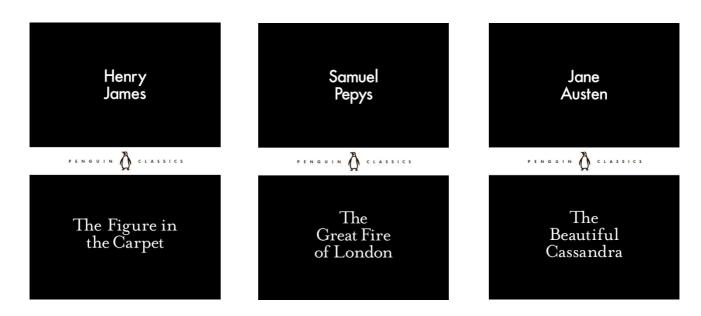
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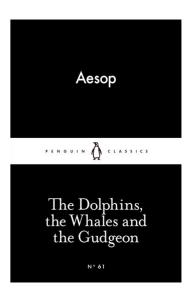


The Dolphins, the Whales and the Gudgeon Aesop

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'An ass, clothed in the skin of a lion...'

Aesop's animal fables are some of the earliest stories ever told, thought to have been composed by a slave in Greek antiquity and giving glimpses of a world that is harsh, pitiless and yet also eerily familiar.



February 2015 9780141398433

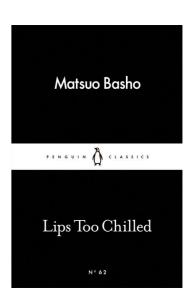
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Lips too chilled Matsuo Basho

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Nothing more lonely -'

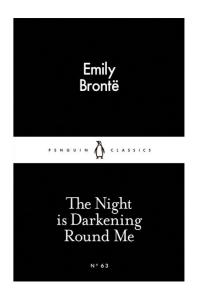


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The Night is Darkening Round Me Emily Brontë

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... ever-present, phantom thing; My slave, my comrade, and my king'

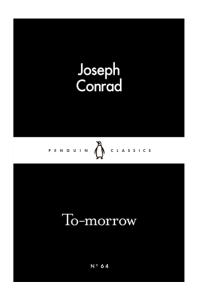


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To-morrow Joseph Conrad

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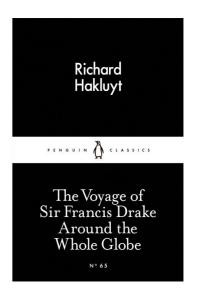
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The Voyage of Sir Francis Drake Around the Whole Globe Richard Hakluyt

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Their fruits be diverse and plentiful, as nutmegs, ginger, long pepper, lemons, cucumbers, cocos, sago, with divers other sorts...'

Scholar, spy, diplomat and supreme propagandist for Elizabethan sea power, Richard Hakluyt's accounts of famed explorers mythologised a nation growing rapidly aware of the size and strangeness of the world - and determined to dominate it.

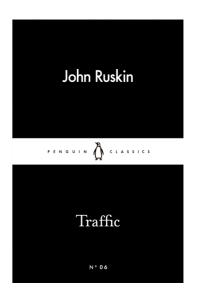


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Traffic John Ruskin

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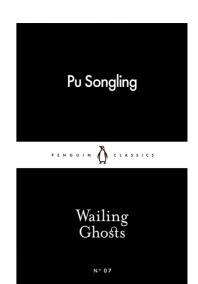
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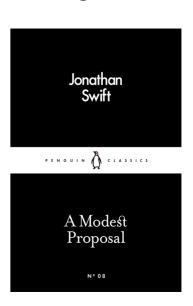
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A Modest Proposal Jonathan Swift

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A most delicious, nourishing, and wholesome food ...'

Suggesting that the Irish eat their children to avoid famine, Jonathan Swift's vicious satire on his times was published anonymously in the eighteenth century and has since become a touchstone of political writing, deadly serious in its humour.



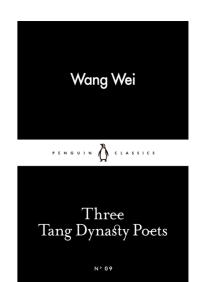
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'Can I bear to leave these blue hills?'



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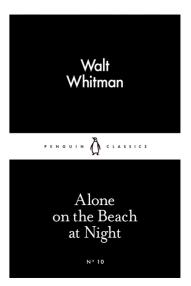
On the Beach at Night Alone Walt Whitman

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'All nations, colors, barbarisms, civilizations, languages...'

A selection taken from Walt Whitman's Leaves of Grass

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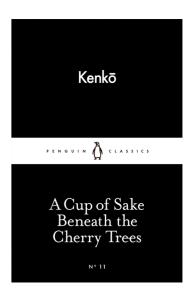
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A Cup of Sake Beneath the Cherry Trees Kenko

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It is a most wonderful comfort to sit alone beneath a lamp, book spread before you, and commune with someone from the past whom you have never met...'

Moonlight, sake, spring blossom, idle moments, a woman's hair - these exquisite reflections on life's fleeting pleasures by a thirteenth-century Japanese monk are delicately attuned to nature and the senses.



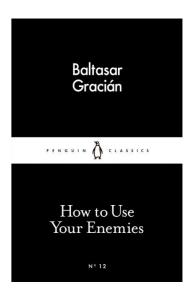
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Better mad with the crowd than sane all alone

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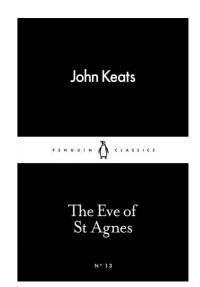


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The Eve of St Agnes John Keats

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Hoodwink'd in faery fancy...'



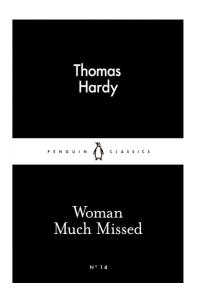
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Woman much missed Thomas Hardy

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Woman much missed, how you call to me, call to me...

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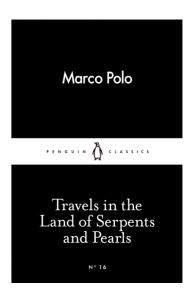
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Travels in the Land of Serpents and Pearls Marco Polo

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You will hear it for yourselves, and it will surely fill you with wonder...'

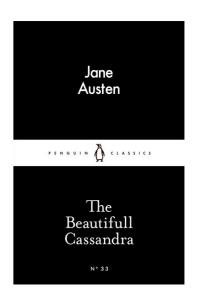


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The Beautifull Cassandra Jane Austen

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She has many rare and charming qualities, but Sobriety is not one of them.'



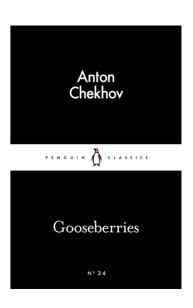
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Gooseberries Anton Chekhov

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"Oh, good God," he kept saying with great relish. "Good God..."

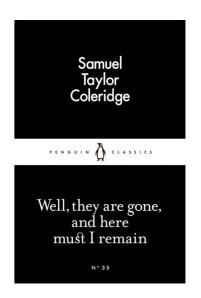


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Well, they are gone, and here must I remain

Samuel Taylor Coleridge

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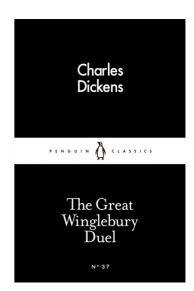
I can promise to be candid, not, however, to be impartial.'



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The Great Winglebury Duel Charles Dickens

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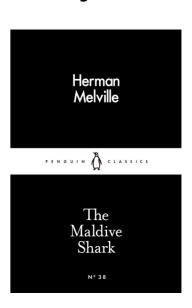
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The Maldive Shark Herman Melville

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No voice, no low, no howl is heard; the chief sound of life here is a hiss.'

A traveller's account that reads like a vision of Hell, Melville's descriptions of the nightmarish creatures and otherworldly landscapes of the Galapagos Islands, based on his adventures around the Pacific in a whaler, are accompanied here by his darkly resonant sea poems.



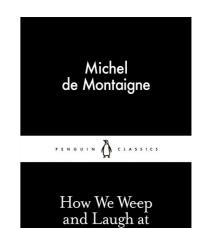
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How We Weep and Laugh at the Same Thing Michel de Montaigne

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No one characteristic clasps us purely and universally in its embrace.'



the Same Thing

N° 29

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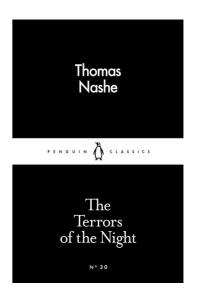
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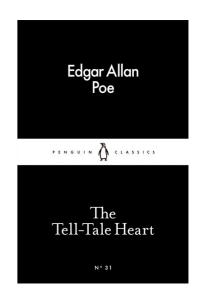


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The Tell-Tale Heart Edgar Allan Poe

Mary Kingsley

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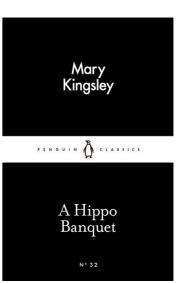
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A Hippo Banquet

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While engaged on this hunt I felt the earth quiver under my feet, and heard a soft big soughing sound, and looking round saw I had dropped in on a hippo banquet...'

Told with verve and self-mocking wit, the adventures of doughty female Victorian explorer Mary Kingsley describe stumbling upon five hippos by night, dodging elephants and fighting off a leopard with a stool.



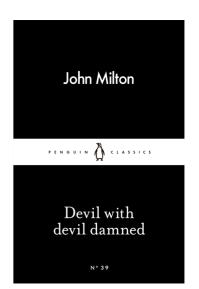
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Devil with devil damned John Milton

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Better to reign in Hell than serve in Heav'n...'



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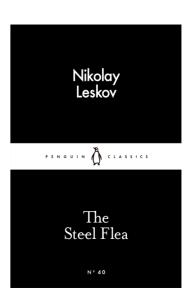
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The Steel Flea Nikolay Leskov

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He gave orders that they were not to get any hot glum pudding in flames, for fear the spirits in their innards might catch fire'

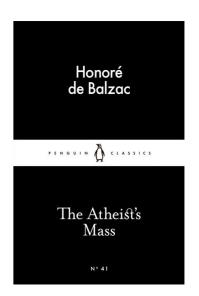


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The Atheist's Mass Honoré de Balzac

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This is as much a mystery as the Immaculate Conception, which of itself must make a doctor an unbeliever.'



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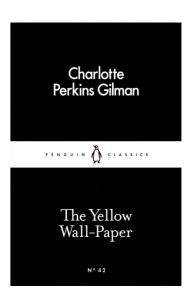
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The Yellow Wall-Paper Charlotte Perkins Gilman

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The color is hideous enough, and unreliable enough, and infuriating enough, but the pattern is torturing'

Written with barely controlled fury after she was confined to her room for 'nerves' and forbidden to write, Gilman's pioneering feminist horror story scandalized nineteenth-century readers with its portrayal of a woman who loses her mind because she has literally nothing to do.

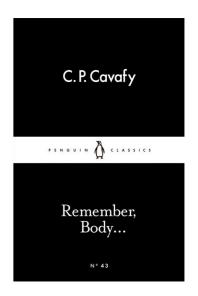


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Remember, Body... C.P. Cavafy

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All those excessive, useless regrets...'



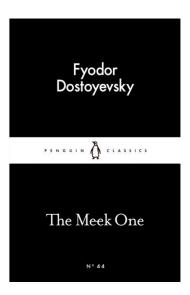
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The Meek One Fyodor Dostoyevsky

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I could see that she was still terribly afraid, but I didn't soften anything; instead, seeing that she was afraid I deliberately intensified it.'

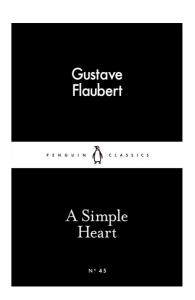


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A Simple Heart Gustave Flaubert

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She decided she would teach him to speak and he was very soon able to say, 'Pretty boy!', 'Your servant, sir!' and 'Hail Mary!''



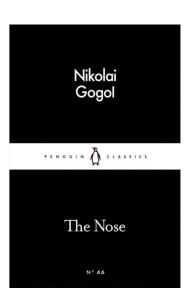
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The Nose Nikolai Gogol

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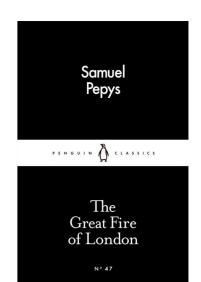
Strangely enough, I mistook it for a gentleman at first. Fortunately I had my spectacles with me so I could see it was really a nose.'



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The Great Fire of London Samuel Pepys

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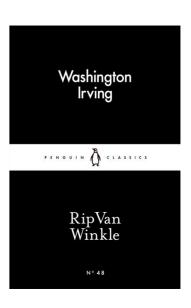
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Rip Van Winkle Washington Irving

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The great error in Rip's composition was an insuperable aversion to all kinds of profitable labour.'

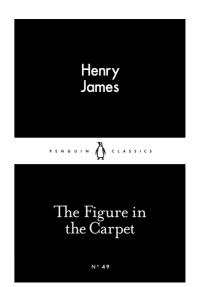


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The Figure in the Carpet Henry James

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Did she know and if she knew would she speak?'



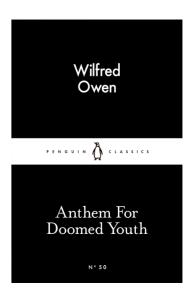
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Anthem For Doomed Youth Wilfred Owen

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Tonight he noticed how the women's eyes Passed from him to the strong men that were whole.'

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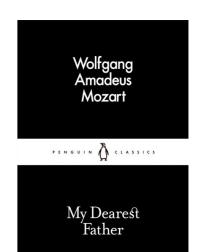


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My Dearest Father Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

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They wanted me to give a concert; I wanted them to beg me. And so they did. I gave a concert.'



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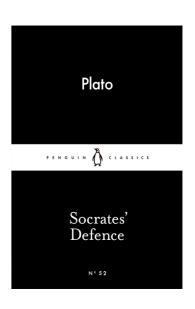
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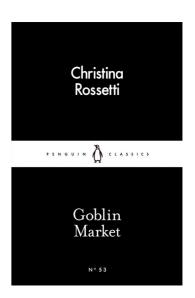
I'll stop doing it as soon as I understand what I'm doing.'



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Goblin Market Christina Rossetti

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Sindbad the Sailor

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The valley was full of snakes and serpents as big as palm trees, so huge that they could have swallowed any elephant that met them.'

Sindbad the Sailor

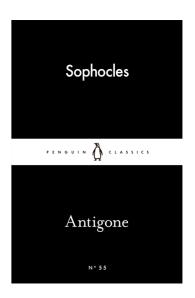
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Antigone Sophocles

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It's a dreadful thing to yield...but resist now? Lay my pride bare to the blows of ruin? That's dreadful too.'

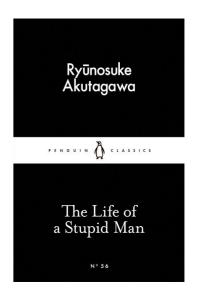


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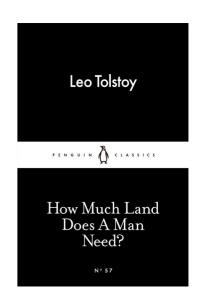


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Although he feared death, he could not stop. 'If I stopped now, after coming all this way - well, they'd call me an idiot!'



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In this painting of Leonardo's there was a smile so pleasing that it seemed divine rather than human.'

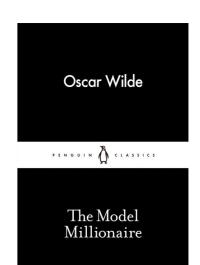


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He was not blind to the fact that murder, like the religions of the Pagan world, requires a victim as well as a priest...'



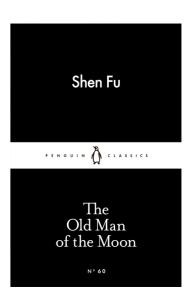
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The Old Man of the Moon Shen Fu

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Our passion was so great. Will the Old Man understand and help us once again?'



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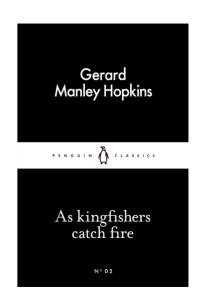
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As kingfishers catch fire Gerard Manley Hopkins

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O let them be left, wildness and wet'

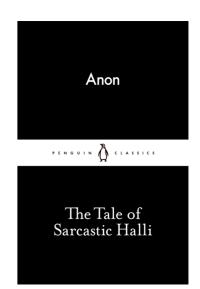


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in two I'll slice the hair-seat / of Helga's kiss-gulper'



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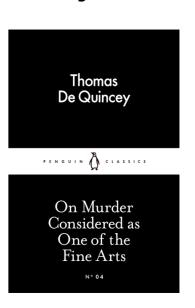
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On Murder Considered as One of the Fine Arts

Thomas De Quincey

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People begin to see that something more goes to the composition of a fine murder than two blockheads to kill and be killed - a knife - a purse - and a dark lane'

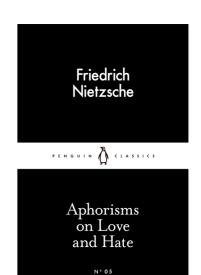


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We must learn to love, learn to be kind, and this from our earliest youth ... Likewise, hatred must be learned and nurtured, if one wishes to become a proficient hater'



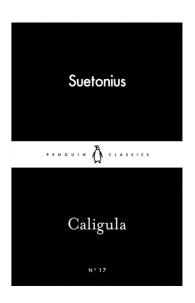
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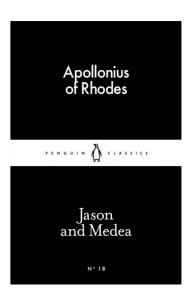
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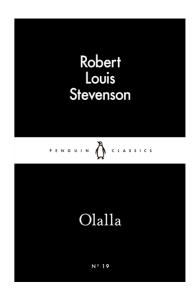


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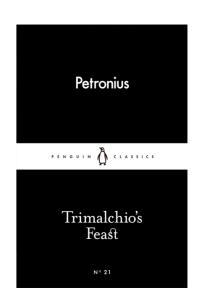
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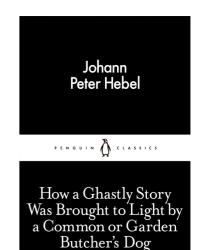
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How a Ghastly Story Was Brought to Light by a Common or Garden Butcher's Dog Johann Peter Hebel

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'The devil gave the woman a nudge: "Look at that belt full of money peeping out from under the butcher's shirt!"'

Written for a local German journal and published in 1811, these fabulous, funny, jewel-like miniature tales describe con men, tricksters, disasters, murders, rascals and lovers, and include Franz Kafka's favourite story.



N ° 22

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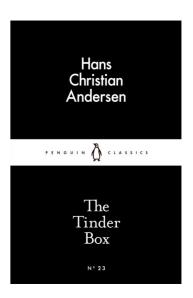
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The Tinderbox Hans Christian Andersen

Little Black Classics - the new series to celebrate Penguin's 80th anniversary

'There sat the dog with eyes as big as mill wheels'

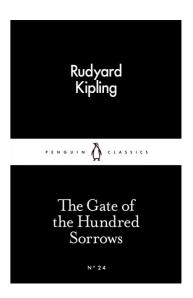
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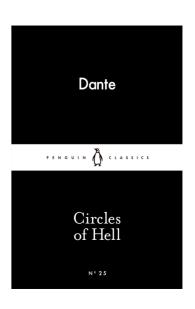
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Circles of Hell Dante

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I truly thought I'd never make it back.'



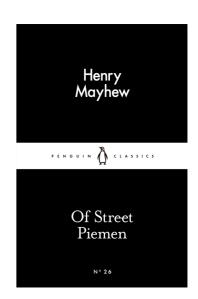
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Of Street Piemen Henry Mayhew

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...a good bit of spice to give the critlings a flavour, and plenty of treacle to make the mince-meat look rich'

Radical Victorian reformer Henry Mayhew walked the streets of London interviewing ordinary flower girls, market traders, piemen and costermongers to create the first ever work of mass social observation, and the ultimate account of urban life - including an extraordinary description of the city from a hot air balloon.

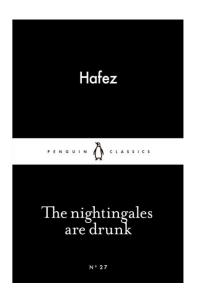


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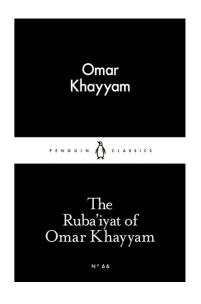


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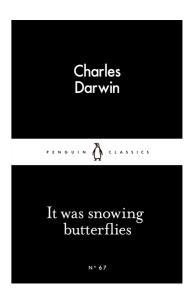
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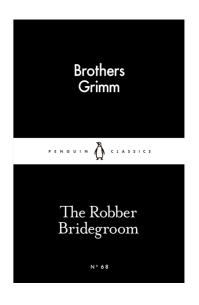


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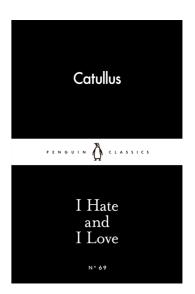
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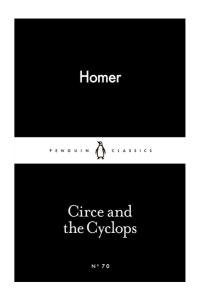


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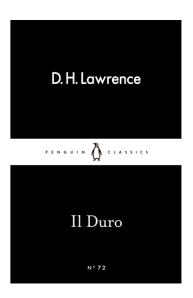
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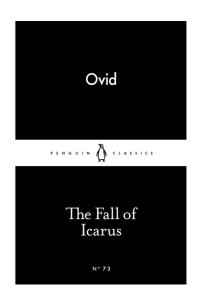
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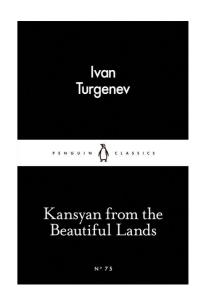
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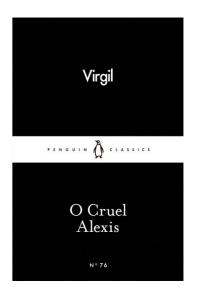


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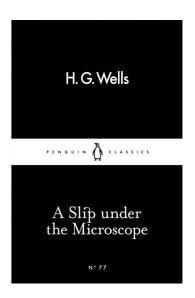
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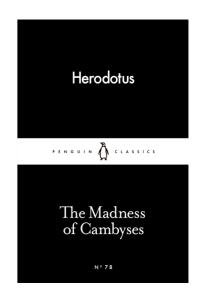


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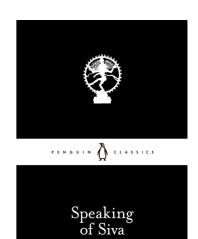
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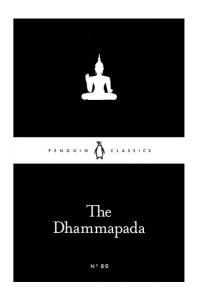


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