

Sue Townsend The Queen And I

From one of England's most celebrated writers, a funny and superbly observed novella about the Queen of England and the subversive power of reading
When her corgis stray into a mobile library parked near Buckingham Palace, the Queen feels duty-bound to borrow a book. Discovering the joy of reading widely (from J. R. Ackerley, Jean Genet, and Ivy Compton-Burnett to the classics) and intelligently, she finds that her view of the world changes dramatically. Abetted in her newfound obsession by Norman, a young man from the royal kitchens, the Queen comes to question the prescribed order of the world and loses patience with the routines of her role as monarch. Her new passion for reading initially alarms the palace staff and soon leads to surprising and very funny consequences for the country at large. With the poignant and mischievous wit of The History Boys, England's best loved author Alan Bennett revels in the power of literature to change even the most uncommon reader's life.

It's 1997. Adrian, 30 is a chef at an up-market restaurant, selling down-market food for ridiculous prices. There, the only person who seems to notice he can't cook is AA Gill. But problems abound when, in a fit of madness, he agrees to become a TV chef on the show Offally Good. Behind the doors of the most famous address in the country, all is not well. Edward Clare was voted into Number Ten after a landslide election victory. But a few years later and it is all going wrong. The love of the people is gone. The nation is turning against him. Panicking, Prime Minister Clare enlists the help of Jack Sprat, the policeman on the door of No 10, and sets out to discover what the country really thinks of him. In disguise, they venture into the great unknown: the mean streets of Great Britain. And for the first time in years, the Prime Minister experiences everything life in this country has to offer - an English cream tea, the kindness of strangers, waiting for trains that never come and treatment in a hospital - and at last he remembers some of things he once really cared about . . . Wickedly entertaining. There is a gem on nearly every page. Nothing escapes Townsend's withering pen. Satirical, witty, observant . . . a clever book.' Observer 'A delight. Genuinely funny . . . compassion shines through the unashamedly ironic social commentary.' Guardian 'Poignant, hilarious, heart-rending, devastating.' New Statesman 'Hilarious. Sue Townsend's laughter is infectious.' John Mortimer, Sunday Telegraph Books of the Year www.suetownsend.com

Presents the latest diaries of young Master Mole, whose private musings represent the reflections of a misunderstood and muddled soul

Adrian Mole

The Uncommon Reader

Love, Nina

The Adrian Mole Collection

*The Queen and I*Random House (UK)

Every book tells a story And the 70 titles in the Pocket Penguins series are emblematic of the renowned breadth of quality that formed part of the original Penguin vision in 1935, and that continues to define our publishing today. Together, they tell one version of the unique story of Penguin. transvestite PM or the Queen reduced to living on a council estate, Sue Townsend has been brilliantly satirizing British life for more than twenty years. Penguin publish all Townsend's hilarious Adrian Mole books and The Queen in Hell Close is an extract from The Queen and I, a brilliantly acerbic take on a Royal Family in dire straits.

"When you're done binge-watching The Crown, pick up this multifaceted wartime thriller."—Kirkus Reviews
As London endures nightly German bombings, Britain's secret service whisks the princesses Elizabeth and Margaret from England, seeking safety for the young royals on an old estate in Ireland. Ahead of the German Blitz during World War II, English parents from every social class sent their children to the countryside for safety, displacing more than three million young offspring. In The Secret Guests, the British royal family takes this evacuation a step further, secretly moving the princesses to the estate of the Duke of Edenmore in “neutral” Ireland. A female English secret agent, Miss Celia Nashe, and a young Irish detective, Garda Strafford, are assigned to watch over “Ellen” and “Mary” at Clonmillis Hall. But the Irish stable hand, the housemaid, the formidable housekeeper, the Duke himself, and other Irish townspeople, some of whom lost family to English gunshots during the War of Independence, go freely about their business in and around the great house. Soon suspicions about the guests’ true identities percolate, a dangerous boredom sets in for the princesses, and, within and without Clonmillis acreage, passions as well as stakes rise. Benjamin Black, who has good information that the princesses were indeed in Ireland for a time during the Blitz, draws readers into a novel as fascinating as the nascent career of Miss Nashe, as tender as the homesickness of the sisters, as intriguing as Irish-English relations during WWII, and as suspenseful and ultimately action-packed as war itself.

Presents recipes from Indonesia that reflect the ingredients and culture of the country.

The Lost Diaries of Adrian Mole, 1999–2001

True Confessions of Margaret Hilda Roberts Aged 14 1/4

The Queen and I

Ten Tiny Fingers, Nine Tiny Toes

The Secret Guests

Adrian Mole and The Weapons of Mass Destruction is the sixth book in Sue Townsend's brilliantly funny Adrian Mole series. Wednesday April 2nd My birthday. I am thirty-five today. I am officially middle-aged. It is all downhill from now. A pathetic slide towards gum disease, wheelchair ramps and death. Adrian Mole is middle-aged but still scribbling. Working as a bookseller and living in Leicester's Rat Wharf; finding time to write letters of advice to Tim Heenan and Tony Blair; locked in marital combat with a vicious swan called Gildgul; measuring his expanding bald spot; and trying to win-over the voluptuous Daisy. . . Adrian years for a better more meaningful world. But he's not ready to surrender his pen yet. . . Bestselling author Sue Townsend has been Britain's favourite comic writer for over three decades. 'Hilarious. Deft, gleeful mockery impales modish fads, from home make-overs to now-age crazes, while fiercer irony is trained on the country's involvement with Iraq' Sunday Times 'Richly comic. . . stuffed full of humour, tragedy, vanity, pathos and, very occasionally, wisdom' Guardian 'Completely hilarious, laugh-out-loud, a joy' Daily Mirror Sue Townsend is Britain's favourite comic author. Her hugely successful novels include eight Adrian Mole books, The Public Confessions of a Middle-Aged Woman (Aged 55½), Number Ten, Ghost Children, The Queen and I, Queen Camilla and The Woman Who Went to Bed For a Year, all of which are highly acclaimed bestsellers. She has also written numerous well-received plays. She lives in Leicester, where she was born and grew up.

Sunday July 18th My father announced at breakfast that he is going to have a vasectomy. I pushed my sausages away untouched. In this second instalment of teenageer Adrian Mole's diaries, the Mole family is in crisis and the country is beating the drum of war. While his parents have reconciled after both embarked on disastrous affairs, Adrian is shocked to learn of his mother's pregnancy. And even though at the mercy of his rampant hormones and the fickle whims of the divine Pandora, a victim of a broken home and his own tortured (though uncensored) genius, Adrian continues valiantly to chronicle the pains and pleasures of a misspent adolescence.

The hilarious, bestselling follow-ups to Sue Townsend's The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 and 3/4: The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole, True Confessions of Adrian Albert Mole and Adrian Mole: The Wilderness together in one volume. Sunday July 18th. My father announced at breakfast that he is going to have a vasectomy. I pushed my sausages away untouched. Charting nearly ten years in the life of Adrian Mole, from his increasingly troubled adolescence and schooling to his first job as nest counter for the DoE. From his parents' marital troubles to his own difficult relationship with Pandora. From the failure of his early poems to the even grander failure of his epic novels, these three novels in one volume provide a hilarious portrait of one young man's coming of age. 'He will be remembered some day as one of England's great diarists. No matter what your troubles may be Adrian Mole is sure to make you feel better' Evening Standard

From the bestselling author of the Adrian Mole series The Woman Who Went to Bed For a Year comes a brilliant, laugh-out-loud satire on modern Britain and the battle of the sexes "There are two things that you should know about me immediately: the first is that I am beautiful, the second is that yesterday I killed a man. Both things were accidents. . . . When Midlands housewife Coventry Dakin kills her neighbour in a wild bid to prevent him from strangling his wife, she goes on the run. Finding herself alone and friendless in London she tries to lose herself in the city's maze of streets. There, she meets a bewildering cast of eccentric characters. From Professor Willoughby D'Esresby and his perpetually naked wife Letitia to Dodo, a care-in-the-community inhabitant of Cardboard City, all of whom contrive to change Coventry in ways she could never have foreseen . . .

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3/4

The Woman who Went to Bed for a Year

A Novel

Rebuilding Coventry

The Play with Songs

A sensitive British teenager records more highs and lows from his life in his diary.

The final chapter in the beloved chronicles of an angry Briti begun in The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13½ is "a tour de force by a comic genius" (Daily Mail). Am I turning into one of those middle-aged men who think the country has gone to the dogs and that there has been no decent music since Abba? Hard to believe! Adrian Mole is pushing forty, a beleaguered bookseller looking back through the wistful eyes of an unrecognized intellectual and, admittedly, pretty much of an Everman. But he's also looking forward, despite a few things: His five-year-old daughter is showing alarming Stalinist traits; his son is fighting the Taliban and he's worried sick; his unfaithful wife is keeping a diary of her own and it's all rather heartbreaking; frequent urination has made him fear trouble "down there;" and his mother is penning a misery memoir that is one gross slog of a lie (born an aristocrat in a Norfolk potato field, indeed!). Then one day he receives a phone call out of the blue from the great and only love his life: Pandora Braithwaite. "Do you think of me?" she asks. Only ever since he was 13½. . . Adrian Mole's epic and hilarious chronicle of angst over a quarter century has sold more than twenty million copies worldwide, and been adapted for television and staged as a musical—truly "a phenomenon" (The Washington Post). This final volume is "like rediscovering an old school friend on Facebook" (Time Out), and "if [it] isn't the best book published this year, I'll eat my bookshelf!" (Daily Mail).

The day her gifted twins leave for university. For eleven years she's wanted to yell at the world: "Stop! I want to get off!" Finally, this is her chance. Perhaps she will be able to think. Her husband? Brian Beaver, an astronomer who divides his time between gazing at the expanding universe, an unsatisfactory eight-year-old affair with his colleague Tiana and mooching in his shed, is not happy. Who will cook dinner? Eva, he complains, is either having a breakdown or taking attention-seeking to new heights. But word of Eva's refusal to get out of bed quickly spreads. Alexander the dreadlocked white-man arrives to help Eva dispose of all her clothes and possessions and bring her tea and toast. Legions of fans are writing to her or gathering in the street to catch a glimpse of this 'angel'. Her mother Ruby is unsympathetic: 'She'd soon get out of bed if her ase was on fire.' And, though the world keeps intruding, it is from the confines of her bed that Eva at last begins to understand freedom. The Woman Who Went to Bed for a Year is a funny and touching novel about what happens when someone stops being the person everyone wants them to be. Sue Townsend, Britain's funniest writer for over three decades, has written a brilliant novel that eviscerates modern family life.Sue Townsend is Britain's favourite comic author. Her hugely successful novels include eight Adrian Mole books, The Public Confessions of a Middle-Aged Woman (Aged 55½), Number Ten, Ghost Children, The Queen and I and Queen Camilla, all of which are highly acclaimed bestsellers. She has also written numerous well-received plays. She lives in Leicester, where she was born and grew up.

What if being Royal was a crime? Queen Camilla is the brilliantly funny sequel to The Queen and I by bestselling author Sue Townsend The UK has come over all republican. The Royal Family exited to an Exclusion Zone with the other villains and spongers. And to cap it all, the Queen has threatened to abdicate. Yet Prince Charles is more interested in root vegetables than reigning ... unless his wife Camilla can be Queen in a newly restored monarchy. But when a scoundrel who claims to be the couple's secret lovechild offers to take the crown off their hands, the stage is set for a right Royal show down. And the question for Camilla (and rest of the country) will be: Queen of the vegetable patch or Queen of England? Bestselling author Sue Townsend has been Britain's favourite comic writer for over three decades. 'Brilliantly satirical' Evening Standard 'One of our finest living comic writers' The Times 'Brilliantly funny' Closer 'Another fantastic read from Townsend' OK!

Indonesia

Public Confessions of a Middle-Aged Woman (Aged 55 3/4)

Number 10

Number Ten

Mr. Bevan's Dream

The royal family has been living in exile on a bleak housing estate for the past thirteen years. Prince Charles is happy: he has married the love of his life, Camilla, and taken her to live in his tiny council house. He spends his time gardening, poultry keeping and writing his tortured autobiography, Uneasy Lies the Head. Camilla occupies herself in doing as little as possible. Guidance of their new leader 'Boy Mackintosh, publish their election manifesto the 'reinstatement of the monarchy' is the first in the list of bullet points. Her Majesty Elizabeth II cannot face being Queen again and sends Charles a formal letter: Dearest Charles, At 9.30 this morning I abdicated my position as Queen of Britain, the Commonwealth etc. etc. PS It's 'Anyone who loved The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole will enjoy this collection of witty and sharply observed jottings from the inimitable Sue Townsend. Great stuff' OK! Enter the world of Susan Lillian Townsend - sun-worshippers, work-shy writers, garden centre lovers and those in search of a good time are all welcome . . . This sparkling collection of Sue Townsend's bans to Spanish restaurants, from writers' block to slug warfare, from slob holidays to the banning of beige. These funny, perceptive and touching pieces reveal Sue, ourselves and the nation in an extraordinary new light. Sit back and chortle away as one of Britain's most popular and acclaimed writers takes a feather to your funny bone. 'Full of homely, hilarious asides, fantastic advertisement for middle-age - it can't be bad if it's this funny' Heat 'A welcome addition to any bookshelf' Hello! It's as if Townsend has caught our idiosyncrasies on candid camera and is showing a rerun of all the silly clips . . . the ideal dip-in-and-out book' Time Out www.suetownsend.com

A rollicking comic adventure starring "one of literature's most endearing figures" (The Observer). Readers worldwide have loved Adrian Mole ever since he wrote his first diary at age thirteen and three quarters. Now he is age thirty-four and three quarters—not quite fully grown up, but getting there. In this "funny and wrenching," novel Adrian needs proof that Sado is a refund from a travel agency of the deposit he paid on a trip to Cyprus (Publishers Weekly). Naturally, he writes to Tony Blair for some evidence. He's engaged to the woman he loves, but obsessed with her voluptuous sister. And he is so deeply in debt to banks and credit card companies that it would take more than twice his monthly salary to ever repay them. Dinner in Leicestershire, and wonders if the prime minister's wife is available. In short, Adrian is back in true form, unable—like so many people we know, but of course, not us—to admit that the world does not revolve around him . . . In Adrian Mole and The Weapons of Mass Destruction, international-bestselling author Sue Townsend combines 'love, politics and cre... Times). "The trouble with trying to read passages from the Adrian Mole diaries aloud is that you find yourself laughing so hard you can't go on."—The Kansas City Star "Townsend's wickedly funny novels are another reason to be grateful for the right of free speech."—San Francisco Chronicle.

It's really, really, really funny! David Walliams Mole Press - a brand new imprint of Penguin Books - is proud to announce the first publication of The Collected Poems of Adrian Mole to mark the author's 50TH birthday. ----- Edgy politics, tortured eroticism, misunderstood intellect, changing Britain - a whiff of the sublime. Mole's contribution is significant. He's really, really, really funny! Mrs Thatcher, do you weep? But also see in later poems his merciless examination of the hollow shell of masculinity as well as documenting his declining libido in tragic pieces like To My Organ. For the first time in a single volume, these are the collected poems of misunderstood intellectual and tortured poet Adrian Mole. I ruthlessly exploited Adrian. But he can't do sharp as knives' Sunday Times 'One of the great comic creations' Daily Mirror 'The funniest person in the world' Caitlin Moran

Die Queen und ich

A Nanny Writes Home

True Confessions of Adrian Albert Mole, Margaret Hilda Roberts and Susan Lillian Townsend

The Pull of the Moon

Bazaar & Rummage : Groping for Words : Womberang

An absolute delight of a debut novel by William Kuhn—author of Reading Jackie: Her Autobiography in Books—Mrs Queen Takes the Train wittily imagines the kerfuffe that transpires when a bored Queen Elizabeth strolls out of the palace in search of a little fun, leaving behind a desperate team of courtiers who must find the missing Windsor before a national scandal erupts. Reminiscent of Alan Bennett's The Uncommon Reader, this lively, wonderfully inventive romp takes readers into the mind of the grand matriarch of Britain's Royal Family, bringing us an endearing runaway Queen Elizabeth on the town—and leading us behind the Buckingham Palace walls and into the upstairs/downstairs spaces of England's monarchy.

British adolescent angst has never been so 'laugh-out-loud funny' as in this first and only with a sharp-witted, pining, and achingly honest underdog (The New York Times). Perhaps when I am famous and my diary is discovered, people will understand the torment of being a 13½-year-old undiscovered intellectual. Adrian Mole is approaching fourteen, and like all radical intellectuals he must amass his grievances: His acne vulgaris is grotesque; his crush, Pandora, received seventeen Valentine's Day cards; his PE teacher is a sadist; he fears his parents' marriage is over since they no longer smoke together; his dog has gone AWOL: no one appreciates his poetry; and Animal Farm has set him off pork for good. If everyone were as appalled as Adrian Mole, it would be a better world. Introducing "one of literature's most endearing figures": a luckless adolescent of smote expectations and dwindling patience who knows all—or believes he does—and tells all (The Observer). First published in 1982, Adrian's chronicle of angst has sold more than twenty million copies worldwide, spawned seven sequels, and been adapted for television and staged as a musical. Here's where it all began.

Discover the brilliantly funny True Confessions of Margaret Hilda Roberts by Sue Townsend, 'the funniest person in the world' - Caitlin Moran, The Times Tuesday May 24th Had a lie in until 6am. Then got out of bed and had a brisk rub down with the pumice stone. I opened the curtains and saw that the sun was shining brightly. (A suspicion is growing in my mind that the BBC is not to be trusted.) Margaret Hilda Roberts is a rather ambitious 14 1/4 year old grocer's daughter from Grantham. She can't abide laziness, finds four hours of chemistry homework delightful and believes she is of royal birth - or at least destined for great things. But Margaret knows that good things never come to those who wait . . . These are the secret diary entries of a girl born into an ordinary life, yet who might just go on to become something really rather extraordinary, and she is brilliantly brought vividly to life by bestselling author Sue Townsend, Britain's favourite comic writer for over three decades. 'Essential reading for Mole followers' Times Educational Supplement 'Wonderfully funny and sharp as knives' Sunday Times

A three-play volume in which Sue Townsend extracts comedy from the most painful social insights. The first concerns a neurotic do-gooder, the second is set in an adult literacy class and "Womberang" shows a free spirited girl bringing anarchy to the grim waiting room of a gynaecology clinic.

The Queen in Hell Close

The Wilderness Years

The Secret Diary & Growing Pains of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3/4

A Novella

Queen Camilla

Get yourself TWO BOOKS IN ONE for this amazing price. 'I not only wept, I howled and hooted and had to get up and walk around the room and wipe my eyes so that I could go on reading' Tom Sharpe THE MUST-HAVE CHRISTMAS GIFT for devoted Adrian Mole fans. Celebrate Adrian Mole's 50th Birthday with this new double edition, featuring the FIRST TWO BOOKS in the hilarious collection and see life through the spectacles of a misunderstood boy growing up in the early 1980s. ----- Friday January 2nd I felt rotten today. It's my mother's fault for singing 'My Way' at two o'clock in the morning at the top of the stairs. Just my luck to have a mother like her. There is a chance my parents could be alcoholics. Next year I could be in a children's home. Meet Adrian Mole, a hapless teenager providing an unabashed, pimples-and-all glimpse into adolescent life. Telling us candidly about his parents' marital troubles, The Dog, his life as a tortured poet and 'misunderstood intellectual,' his love for the divine Pandora and his horror at learning of his mother's pregnancy, Adrian's painfully honest diary is a hilarious and heartfelt chronicle of misspent adolescence. Features the complete texts of The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole Aged 13 3 / 4 and The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole. 'I've never experienced a greater sense of recognition than when reading The Secret Diary' David Nicholls 'Every sentence is witty and well thought out, and the whole has reverberations beyond itself' The Times 'Townsend has held a mirror up to the nation and made us happy to laugh at what we see in it' Sunday Telegraph 'One of the great comic creations' Daily Mirror 'The funniest person in the world' Caitlin Moran

"Townsend has a rare gift . . . wickedly funny."—Kirkus Reviews (starred) "It's not pretty, it's not subtle, but it's wickedly funny and skewers London's prime-time players."—Columbus Dispatch Praise for Sue Townsend: "It's a good thing British subjects are no longer beheaded for treason, or Sue Townsend's head would roll . . . outrageously cutting."—Newsday "[Townsend] is a national treasure."—The New York Times Book Review Edward Clare, PM of England, doesn't know the price of a liter of milk. Worse, he's admitted it on national television. The public that ushered him to a landslide election has turned against him. Edward decides the only way to get closer to the men and women on the street is to travel the country dressed in drag. Leaving his high-powered, ambitious wife to attend to things in his absence, he sets out. In this comic romp Sue Townsend sends up, roasts, hoists and generally petards the once and future prime ministers as only she can. Sue Townsend is celebrated as the author of the bestselling Adrian Mole series, read by millions, as well as the #1 British

bestseller, The Queen and I. She lives in Leicester, England. Adrian Mole faces the same agonies that life sets before most adolescents: trouble s with girls, school, parents, and an uncaring world. The difference, though, between young Master Mole and his peers is that this British lad keeps a diary—an earnest chronicle of longing and disaster that has charmed more than five million readers since its two-volume initial publication. From teenageer Adrian's anguished adoration of a lovely, mercurial schoolmate to his view of his parents' constantly creaking relationship to his heartfelt but hilarious attempts at cathartic verse, here is an outrageous triumph of deadpan—and deadly accurate—satire. ABBA, Princess Di's wedding, street punks, Monty Python, the Falklands campaign. . . . all the cultural panegyry of a keenly observed era marches past the unique perspective of Sue Townsend's brilliant comic creation: A. Mole, the unforgettable lad whose self-absorption only gets funnier as his life becomes more desperate.

The Queen and her family are deposed by a new Republican Government and allocated housing on a Leicester Council Estate. The Queen's husband takes his redundancy badly, her beautiful daughter-in-law copes bravely with the problems of bringing up two young lads alone in difficult circumstances while her sister reaches an understanding with criminal elements on the estate. The Royal Family come to terms with their new situation in a series of hilarious scenes as Sue Townsend's satire, based on her best-selling novel, explores the broken promises of the Welfare State.

The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole

The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4

Adrian Mole Diaries

Adrian Mole: The Prostrate Years

The Cappuccino Years

"The trouble with trying to read passages from the Adrian Mole Diaries aloud is that you find yourself laughing so hard you can't go on. It's that kind of book."—Kansas City Star "As sad and devastating as it is laugh-out-loud funny. A delight!"—New York Times The agonizingly funny, captivatingly poignant journals of England's bespotted everybody are now available again. An international phenomenon and perennial favorite since their initial publication made a splash in Thatcher's Britain more than twenty years ago, The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Age 13 ¼ is now side-by-side with its hilarious sequel The Growing Pains of Adrian Mole in this collected single volume.

A play by one of Britain's best-selling writers "Set in the year 2001 where the class system is numbered from one to five and only the upperclasses are allowed to breed, Ten Tiny Fingers, Nine Tiny Toes is about the births of a perfect but illegal 'class live' baby, and an imperfect government' baby bought by a 'class three' mother and exterminated at birth because of her nine toes...compulsive viewing...insanily is served up as common sense - to sinister effect." Kate Kellaway, Observer

"Breezy, sophisticated, hilarious, rude and aching with sweetness: Love, Nina might be the most charming book I've ever read."—Maria Sample, author of Where'd You Go, Bernadette In 1982, 20-year-old Nina Silbke moved to London to work as a nanny to two opinionated and lively young boys. In frequent letters home to her sister, Nina described her trials and triumphs: there's a cat nobody likes, supportive visits from a famous local playwright, a mysteriously unpaid milk bill, and repeated misadventures parking the family car. Dinner table discussions cover the gamut, from the greats of English literature, to swearing in German, to sexually transmitted diseases. There's no end to what Nina can learn from these boys (rude words) and their broad-minded mother (the who's who of literary London). A charming, hilarious, sweetly inspiring celebration of bad food and good company, Love, Nina makes a young woman's adventures in a new world come alive.

This volume contains five plays by the author of the highly successful Adrian Mole books, and includes her adaptation of the first book in the series.

Adrian Mole and The Weapons of Mass Destruction

The Lost Years

Mrs Queen Takes the Train

Adrian Mole: The Collected Poems

Plays

Adrian Mole has entered early middle age and is now 'the same age as Jesus was when he died' (33). Father to the grammatically challenged Glenn, and William, who takes a 'Big Boy Arouser' condom to nursery school as his innocent contribution to a hot air balloon project, Adrian is a single parent who has an on/off relationship with his housing officer, Pamela Pigg. Will she help him to move from the notorious Gaitskell estate before William joins the Mad Frankie Fraser fan club? In the meantime, Adrian continues to be scandalised by his irresponsible parents who are conducting a matrimonial square-dance with the Braithwaites - the parents of the beautiful but unobtainable Pandora, who is ruthlessly pursuing her ambition to be New Labour's first woman P.M. - and to confide in his diary. His current worries include: indestructible head-lice; his raging jealousy when his accomplished half-brother Brett arrives on his doorstep; moral decline in The Archers; his desperate attachment to two therapists; his mild addiction to Starburst (formerly Opal Fruits); a small earthquake in Leicester; and, perhaps most significantly, the dawn of a new millennium.

'A classic. The Adrian Mole diaries are thoroughly subversive. A true hero for our time' Richard Ingrams Celebrate Adrian Mole's 50th Birthday with this new edition of the FOURTH BOOK in his diaries, where we catch up with a hapless Adrian and his desperate attempts to win back the love of his life. ----- Thursday January 3rd I have the most terrible problems with my sex life. It all boils down to the fact that I have no sex life. At least not with another person. Finally given the heave-ho by Pandora, Adrian Mole finds himself in the unenviable situation of living with the love-of-his-life as she goes about shacking up with other men. Worse, as he slides down the employment ladder, from deskbound civil servant in Oxford to part-time washer-upper in Soho, he finds that critical reception for his epic novel, Lo! The Flat Hills of My Homeland, is not quite as he might have hoped. But Adrian is about to discover that extraordinary and wonderful things may blossom even in the wilderness . . . 'A very, very funny book' Sunday Times 'The funniest person in the world' Caitlin Moran

"This is not a novel about a woman leaving home but rather about a human being finding her way back."—Chicago Tribune In the middle of her life, Nan decides to leave her husband at home and begin an impromptu trek across the country, carrying with her a turquoise leather journal she intends to fill. The Pull of the Moon is a novel about a woman coming to terms with issues of importance to all women. In her journal, Nan addresses the thorniness—and the allure-of marriage, the sweet ties to children, and the gifts and lessons that come from random encounters with strangers, including a handsome man appearing out of the woods and a lonely housewife sitting on her front porch steps. Most of all, Nan writes about the need for the self to stay alive. In this luminous and exquisitely written novel, Elizabeth Berg shows how sometimes you have to leave your life behind in order to find it. the pull of the moon BONUS: This edition contains an excerpt from Elizabeth Berg's Once Upon a Time, There Was You. Praise for The Pull of the Moon "Breathtaking. . . . [Berg] writes with wry wit and aching lyricism, painting her characters as vividly as anyone writing today."—The Charlotte Observer: "When was the last time you thought about running away? . . . In the Pull of the Moon, Berg shares her strength, the wonderful widening of her soul so that we, too, can take the journey in the ease of our chair."—Greensboro News & Record "Berg's gift as a storyteller lies most powerfully in her ability to find the extraordinary in the ordinary, the remarkable in the everyday."—The Boston Globe "Reading The Pull of the Moon is like sitting down for a long, satisfying chat with a best girlfriend. . . . [It] pleasantly encourages readers to recover a little life-embracing enthusiasm themselves."—Orlando Sentinel

Theatre program.

Roman

The Adrian Mole Diaries

Adrian Mole: The Wilderness Years

The Heinemann Plays series offers contemporary drama and classic plays in durable classroom editions. Many have large casts and an equal mix of boy and girl parts. This play is an adaptation of the humorous diary of a young intellectual, suffering the traumas of love, parental divorce and spots.