



A penetrating and incisive study of the fanaticism and foibles of some of history's most illustrious names. From Assad to Nero, Gaddafi to Ivan The Terrible, this work attempts a thorough illumination of the minds of some of the most powerful people in history. While leaving some room to describe the amusing incidents and eccentricities associated with a host of men and women of power, it also reaches into the terrifying depths and depravities of minds that shaped the destinies of peoples and nations. Using a unique combination of history, politics, and psychology, this book fully describes how power not only corrupts but deranges.

Fronted by the androgynous Pete Burns, Dead Or Alive achieved their big break in 1984 with their UK Top 30 single That's The Way (I Like It) and its equally successful parent album Sophisticated Boom Boom. They would be the first two of eleven UK Top 30 records for the band, including following year's Lover Come Back To Me (#11), In Too Deep (#14) and You Spin Me Round (Like A Record) (#1). All three 1985 hits were yielded from their Gold-certified UK Top 10 album Youthquake. 1986 saw the band score one of their five hit singles on the US Hot 100, with Brand New Lover (#15) - also a #1 on the US Dance Club Songs Chart - before they achieved further UK Top 20 hit Something In My House. Both were lifted from their Transatlantic hit album Mad, Bad and Dangerous To Know. Pete turned down a chance to tour with Madonna and stepped away from the spotlight to help his mother, who was given just months to live. Meanwhile, compilation/remix LP Rip It Up was issued to become a Top 5 success in Japan - a market which Dead Or Alive saw great success in throughout their career, including next single Turn Around & Count 2 Ten, which spent 17 weeks at #1 on the country's International singles chart. Follow-up Come Home With Me Baby became another US#1 dance hit. Both hits were from their fourth Billboard 200 hit album, and second Japan Top 10 album, 1988's Nude.

The 1990's saw Dead Or Alive release just two studio albums, both initially exclusive in Japan: 1990's Fan The Flame (Part 1) was a Top 30 hit, whilst 1995's Nukleopatra eventually became the band's fourth hit album in Australia and yielded three hits there - namely Rebel Rebel, the Top 30 You Spin Me Round (Like a Record) (Sugar Pumpers Radio Remix) and Sex Drive. Dead Or Alive continued to have hits into the 2000's... Hit and Run Lover hit #2 on Japan's International Singles Chart as its parent album Fragile became yet another Top 50 hit in the country. You Spin Me Round 2003 provided the band with another UK Top 30 hit and became their fifteenth hit single in Australia. It was lifted from their Evolution: The Hits collection - their ninth hit on Japan's main album chart. After spending almost all his life-savings and 18 months in Italy to fix a devastating botched lip augmentation, Pete went straight into the UK celebrity Big Brother house in 2006, where much of the UK public witnessed his quick-wit, frankness, unique fashion style, and - during a performance of You Spin Me Round (Like A Record) - his masculine powerful singing voice. Unsurprisingly, a re-issue of the song shot straight into the Top 5 once again. In 2016, the world lost one its most intriguing, mesmerising and underrated music front-men, as, shockingly, Pete Burns passed away at just 57 years old.

The Mad, Bad & Dangerous Guide To Dead Or Alive & Pete Burns is the first of its kind: A tribute to Pete Burns. With Pete Burns quotes scattered throughout, the book showcases Dead Or Alive's - and Pete's - career successes with a condensed biography of their musical output, Pete's colourful personal life, and his television successes, before detailing their records a little more with a career-spanning discography from Nightmares In Wax's Birth Of A Nation to Pete's solo Never Marry An icon.

Part of the "High Impact" series for reluctant readers, this text is designed to motivate secondary school students with a reading age of eight to nine. Discover the cruel and crazy stories of: Vlad Dracula; Henry VIII; and Jack the Ripper.

Byron scholar, Dexter Wildblood, is in hot pursuit of Adam Blow, but Adam fears that surrendering to their mutual passion is too dangerous to risk. When university administrator Adam Blow steals the departmental photograph of Professor Dexter Wildblood, Byron scholar and new member of staff, he gets far more than he bargained for. Not only is Wildblood hot for Adam, he doesn't care who knows or sees. But Adam, worried about jeopardizing his job, is far more cautious and wants to keep Wildblood at bay. But Wildblood, reckless and dissolute, isn't easily dissuaded and Adam finds him impossible to resist. Can they work out their differences and surrender to passion? Or will Adam play it safe in the face of danger?

Boyd Hilton examines the changes in politics and society in the years 1783-1846, showing how the raffish and rakish style of eighteenth-century society, having reached a peak in the Regency, then succumbed to the new norms of respectability popularly known as 'Victorianism'.

A light-hearted roundup of robots in popular culture, fiction, films, TV, animation and toys. From the earliest robots through to the 21st century's cutting-edge automations, Furman highlights the influential, the radical and the downright weird.

The sharp, smart and outrageously funny finale in the Alvie Knightly trilogy 'Trust us when we say that you won't ever have encountered a character quite like Alvie Knightly' HEAT Once, serial killer Alvie Knightly was living the dream. Unlimited cash. An Italian getaway. A hot new boyfriend . . . How the mighty fall. One year - and one very unfortunate incident - later, Alvie is homeless, surviving on meal deals, and counting her dwindling pennies. It's time for one last hit, and if anyone can pull it off - in six-inch heels - it's Alvie. But if she's to succeed in her mission to avenge her ex, win back her money and secure her future, she'll have to face her most terrifying enemy yet . . . Her past. Readers are LOVING Dangerous to Know: 'Every bone in my body is shaking. A masterful thriller' 5\*\*\*\*\* Reader Review 'Fizzing and fast, the story is crazy, I love this series!' 5\*\*\*\*\* Reader Review 'Deliciously unputdownable . . . a must-read book' 5\*\*\*\*\* Reader Review 'It had me thrilled and enthralled' 5\*\*\*\*\* Reader Review

Innocent Caroline Hanscombe loves Captain Richard Davenport but finds herself succumbing to the ruthless will of Jason Kincaid, Baron Radford, who will do anything to wed her in The Diabolical Baron, while gambler Andrew Kane is given a reprieve from the noose when he is rescued by a beautiful widow, in "Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know." Original. 25,000 first printing.

'Always the leader and always the best' Bear Grylls 'Fiennes has so much to fit in, it's a wonder to grasp the full breadth of a lifetime of adventuring' - Compass Magazine 'Even readers with a broadly low tolerance for macho heroism will find themselves gripped . . . compelling' - Time Out Sir Ranulph Fiennes has travelled to the most dangerous and inaccessible places on Earth, almost died countless times, lost nearly half his fingers to frostbite, raised millions of pounds for charity and been awarded a polar medal and an OBE. He has been an elite soldier, an athlete, a mountaineer, an explorer, a bestselling author and nearly replaced Sean Connery as James Bond. In his bestselling autobiography, Mad, Bad & Dangerous to Know, he describes how he led expeditions all over the world and became the first person to travel to both Poles on land. He tells of how he discovered the lost city of Ubar in Oman and attempted to walk solo and unsupported to the North Pole - the expedition that cost him several fingers, and very nearly his life. And now the extraordinary life story of the world's greatest living

explorer is re-published to celebrate his 75th birthday, with two new chapters to bring his story up to date - telling of more mountains climbed, including his ascent to the top of Mount Everest, and even more extraordinary and risky adventures.

Discover New York Times bestseller Samira Ahmed's romantic, sweeping adventure through the streets of Paris told in alternating narratives that bridge centuries, continents, and the lives of two young Muslim women fighting to write their own stories. Smash the patriarchy. Eat all the pastries. It's August in Paris and 17-year-old Khayyam Maquet--American, French, Indian, Muslim--is at a crossroads. This holiday with her parents should be a dream trip for the budding art historian. But her maybe-ex-boyfriend is ghosting her, she might have just blown her chance at getting into her dream college, and now all she really wants is to be back home in Chicago figuring out her messy life instead of brooding in the City of Light. Two hundred years before Khayyam's summer of discontent, Leila is struggling to survive and keep her true love hidden from the Pasha who has "gifted" her with favored status in his harem. In the present day--and with the company of Alex, a très charmant teen descendant of Alexandre Dumas--Khayyam searches for a rumored lost painting, uncovering a connection between Leila and Alexandre Dumas, Eugène Delacroix, and Lord Byron that may have been erased from history. Echoing across centuries, Leila and Khayyam's lives intertwine, and as one woman's long-forgotten life is uncovered, another's is transformed.

Alvie Knightly is back . . . and she's hungover. When Alvie discovers that her hit man boyfriend has driven off with the Lamborghini and two million euros, she does what any heartbroken, deserted, amateur assassin would do - she drinks everything in the mini-bar and trashes her hotel room. And then she gets to work. A perilous cat-and-mouse game takes the pair across Rome, leaving a trail of collateral damage in their wake. But as she wholeheartedly embraces her dark side Alvie will have to figure out if Nino is her nemesis . . . or the only man bad enough to handle her. Bad is the second book in the sexy, shocking and compulsively readable Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know trilogy. print book

The alarming history of the British, and European, aristocracy - from Argyll to Wellington and from Byron to Tolstoy, stories of madness, murder, misery, greed and profligacy. From Regency playhouses, to which young noblemen would go simply in order to insult someone to provoke a duel that might further their reputation, to the fashionable gambling clubs or 'hells' which were springing up around St James's in the mid-eighteenth century, the often bizarre doings of aristocrats. An eighteenth-century English gentleman was required to have what was known as 'bottom', a shipping metaphor that referred to stability. Taking part in a duel was a bold statement that you had bottom. William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne certainly had bottom, if not a complete set of gonads following his duel with Colonel Fullarton, MP for Plympton. Both men missed with their first shots, but the colonel fired again and shot off Shelburne's right testicle. Despite being hit, Shelburne deliberately discharged his second shot in the air. When asked how he was, the injured Earl coolly observed his wound and said, 'I don't think Lady Shelburne will be the worse for it.' The cast of characters includes imperious, hard-drinking and highly volatile Danish astronomer Tycho Brahe, who is remembered today as much for his brilliant scientific career as his talent for getting involved in bizarre mishaps, such as his death as a result of his burst bladder; the Marquess of Queensberry, a side-whiskered psychopath, who, on a luxury steamboat in Brazil, in a row with

a fellow passenger over the difference between emus and ostriches, and knocked him out cold; and Thomas, 2nd Baron Lyttelton, a Georgian rake straight out of central casting, who ran up enormous gambling debts, fought duels, frequented brothels and succumbed to drug and alcohol addiction. Often, such rakes would be swiftly packed off on a Grand Tour in the hope that travel would bring about maturity. It seldom did.

A book by a leading exponent of work with mentally disordered offenders charting key events in a fifty year career, which will be of particular interest to criminal psychologists, psychiatrists, probation officers, social workers, judges, magistrates, criminologists, and all students of crime and punishment. From a relatively modest background, Herschel Prins rose to become a leading authority on forensic work with offenders suffering from mental disorder. In this frank and heartfelt account, he traces his journey from 'main grade' probation officer, Home Office civil servant, trainer and inspector to top level positions within academic institutions (notably at Leicester University and Loughborough University), with the Parole Board, key nationwide committees, inquiries and beyond. His 'reflections' on a life geared to enhancing knowledge and understanding in this sphere contain unique insights for practitioners and general readers alike - and words of wisdom for the Criminal Justice System as it enters the second decade of the 21st century. Praise for Herschel Prins 'In a field prone to disappointment and disillusion he continues to stimulate and inspire': Sir Michael Day OBE 'I can think of no-one more instrumental at the pivotal meeting point of crime, criminal justice and mental disorder': Andrew Rutherford 'A monument to unassertive sanity': Sir Louis Blom-Cooper QC 'One of my heroes': David Wilson From the Foreword 'Herschel has spent his professional life working with the troubled and the troublesome, the unloved (and the often unlovely) where the consistent theme of his work has been to combine the practical with an awareness of what is possible when one works with mentally disordered offenders. Why choose that life and these clients? What demands has that choice made on him, his family, his colleagues? . . . Mad, Bad and Dangerous to Know sets out to answer these – and other – questions':

David Wilson

From the multiple award-winning author of *The Master and Brooklyn*, an illuminating look at Irish culture, history, and literature through the lives of the fathers of three of Ireland's greatest writers—Oscar Wilde's father, William Butler Yeats's father, and James Joyce's father—“Thrilling, wise, and resonant, this book aptly unites Tóibín's novelistic gifts for psychology and emotional nuance with his talents as a reader and critic, in incomparably elegant prose” (*The New York Times Book Review*). Colm Tóibín begins his incisive, revelatory *Mad, Bad, Dangerous to Know* with a walk through the Dublin streets where he went to university and where three Irish literary giants came of age. Oscar Wilde, writing about his relationship with his father stated: “Whenever there is hatred between two people there is bond or brotherhood of some kind...you loathed each other not because you were so different but because you were so alike.” W.B. Yeats wrote

of his father, a painter: “It is this infirmity of will which has prevented him from finishing his pictures. The qualities I think necessary to success in art or life seemed to him egotism.” James’s father was perhaps the most quintessentially Irish, widely loved, garrulous, a singer, and drinker with a volatile temper, who drove his son from Ireland. “An entertaining and revelatory book about the vexed relationships between these three pairs of difficult fathers and their difficult sons” (The Wall Street Journal), Mad, Bad, Dangerous to Know illustrates the surprising ways these fathers surface in the work of their sons. “As charming as [they are] illuminating, these stories of fathers and sons provide a singular look at an extraordinary confluence of genius” (Bookpage). Tóibín recounts the resistance to English cultural domination, the birth of modern Irish cultural identity, and the extraordinary contributions of these complex and masterful authors. “This immersive book holds literary scholarship to be a heartfelt, heavenly pursuit” (The Washington Post).

Never have so many famous drummers been gathered together in one place! Drummer and writer Spike Webb has spent more than three years meeting fellow drummers in bars, clubs and cafes, shooting the breeze for a couple of hours and extracting anecdote after anecdote for posterity. This is truly a labour of love - and somebody had to do it. In this book you'll meet drummers like Nick Mason (Pink Floyd), Don Powell (Slade), Adam Facek (Babyshambles), Steve White (Paul Weller), Topper Headon (The Clash), Woody (Madness) and world-class session players like Toto's drummer Simon Phillips. Sometimes hilarious, sometimes poignant but always entertaining, it's the ultimate insight into what it really means to be a drummer and an explanation, at last, for what really makes someone do a 20-minute solo. You'll be asking for an encore!

Three of Sir Ranulph Fiennes acclaimed bestsellers in one eBook collection – his epic biography of CAPTAIN SCOTT (‘Fiennes own experiences allow him to write vividly and with empathy’ Daily Mail); his enthralling autobiography, MAD, BAD AND DANGEROUS TO KNOW (‘The memoir of a supreme sportsman, an uber-earthling who could show the Martians a thing or two about what the best of us can achieve’ Financial Times); and the story of his unconventional, extraordinary family, MAD DOGS AND ENGLISHMEN (‘History at its best and most approachable’ Country Life).

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