

# Runemarks

The Ring of Solomon: A Bartimaeus Novel  
 Runemarks  
 Honeycomb  
 The Book Whisperer  
 The Last Viking Returns  
 the delightful bestselling sequel to *Chocolat*, from international multi-million copy seller Joanne Harris  
 A Novel  
 Sleep, Pale Sister  
 Storm-Wake  
 The Amethyst Child  
 The new novel from the bestselling author of *Chocolat*  
 Sacrifice  
 Nightingale  
 Under the Shadow of the Plateau  
 Daughter of Fire and Ice  
 Awakening the Inner Reader in Every Child  
 The Paladin  
 Rune Marks  
 The Strawberry Thief  
 The Dark Beloved  
 Tales of Odin, Thor and Loki  
 Rune Marks  
 What Love Looks Like  
 The Lost Mind  
 All the Greys on Greene Street  
 Runemarks  
 The Gospel of Loki  
 Frontier Forever  
 Loki of Midgard  
 Holy Fools  
 Magic Study  
 The Testament of Loki  
 Blueeyedboy  
 The Sea of Trolls  
 Gentlemen and Players  
 Runemarks  
 Runic Palmistry  
 Sometimes love turns up where you least expect it  
 Chocolat

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## ALLEN ANIYA

The Ring of Solomon: A Bartimaeus Novel Llewellyn Worldwide  
 In the sequel to *The Gospel of Loki*, Loki's adventures continue when he finds a way out of the end of the world and plans to restart the power of the Norse gods. The end of the world—also known as Ragnarok to the Norse gods—has occurred, and Loki has been trapped in a seemingly endless purgatory, in torture, until he finds a way to escape. It seems that he still exists in the minds of humanity and uses that as a way to our time. Back in the ninth world (Earth), Loki finds himself sharing the mind of a teenage girl named Jumps, who is a bit of a mess. She's also not happy about Loki sneaking his way into her mind since she was originally calling on Thor. Worse, her friends have also been co-opted by the gods: Odin, Jump's one-eyed best friend in a wheelchair, and Freya, the pretty one. Thor escapes the netherworld as well and shares the mind of a dog, and he finds that it suits him. Odin has a plan to bring back the Norse gods ascendancy, but Loki has his own ideas on how things can go—and nothing goes according to plan.

**Runemarks** Simon and Schuster

Joanne Harris, bestselling author of *Chocolat*, presents her most accomplished novel yet -- an intoxicating concoction that blends theology and reason, deception and masquerade, with a dash of whimsical humor and a soupçon of sensuality. *Britanny*, 1610. Juliette, a one-time actress and rope dancer, is forced to seek refuge among the sisters of the abbey of Sainte Marie-de-la-mer. Reinventing herself as Soeur Auguste, Juliette makes a new life for herself and her young daughter, Fleur. But when the kindly abbess dies, Juliette's comfortable existence begins to unravel. The abbey's new leader is the daughter of a corrupt noble family, and she arrives with a ghost from Juliette's past -- Guy LeMerle, a man she has every reason to fear and hate. This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

**Honeycomb** Simon and Schuster

I am as brown as brown can be, And my eyes as black as sloe; I am as brisk as brisk can be, And wild as forest doe. (*The Child Ballads*, 295) So begins a beautiful tale of love, loss and revenge. Following the seasons, *A Pocketful of Crows* balances youth and age, wisdom and passion and draws on nature and folklore to weave a stunning modern mythology around a nameless wild girl. Only love could draw her into the world of named, tamed things. And it seems only revenge will be powerful enough to let her escape. Beautifully illustrated by Bonnie Helen Hawkins, this is a stunning and original modern fairytale.

**The Book Whisperer** Random House

"Runic Palmistry" combines standard palmistry, Norse mythology, and the runes, using all three to understand a person and his or her path, personality, needs and special gifts.

The Last Viking Returns Harper Collins

Seven o'clock, on a Monday morning, five hundred years after the end of the world, and goblins had been at the cellar again... Maddy Smith was born with a rusty-coloured runemark on her hand - a symbol of the old gods and definitely cause for suspicion. For magic is dangerous. Or so everyone thinks. But Maddy enjoys working magic. Even if it is just to control some pesky goblins. And every time her friend, One-Eye - a good-for-nowt *Outlander* - comes by, he teaches her more and more about the gods and the runes. Now he wants Maddy to open Red Horse Hill and descend into World Below to retrieve a relic of the old gods. Otherwise it is likely to be the End of Everything. Again . . . An epic romp into the heart of the old Norse tales: wild, dangerous, richly inventive and superbly imaginative.

**the delightful bestselling sequel to *Chocolat*, from international multi-million copy seller Joanne Harris** Little, Brown Books for Young Readers

Collects twenty-two short works which take place at different times in history and in such locales as London, Paris, Brazil, and the American Old West.

A Novel Random House

A book about being the eldest child in the family, finding inner strength, and conquering fear Josh is as brave as a Viking warrior. And not much can scare a Viking. Not even bullies. But the two littlest Vikings are so fearless they think they're invincible. When Pop takes the family to Viking World, the two littlest Vikings go berserk. Josh is in for one rocky ride as he discovers just how far he'll go to keep them safe.

Harper Collins

A dark and intricately plotted tale of a poisonously dysfunctional family, a blind child prodigy, and a serial murderer who is not who he seems. Told through posts on a webjournal called *badguysrock*, this is a thriller that makes creative use of all the multiple personalities, disguise and mind games that are offered by playing out a life on the internet.

**Sleep, Pale Sister** Alfred a Knopf Incorporated

Loki knows what he wants but risks losing everything at stake. Fully enjoying his double life, Loki flirts with danger as he dashes back and forth between two worlds. On Midgard during the Roaring Twenties, Loki revels in fame, fortune, and new-found love. As his human friend and manager, Kristoff, promotes his new act in Paris and London, Loki could easily pursue a budding romance with Carina Green, his talented American costar. But can he justify the cost, especially revealing his true identity to her? And how will he handle Klaus, Carina's former fiancé, when he returns with threats of force? Meanwhile, on Asgard, Loki's much-

anticipated rite of passage fast approaches. But first, he must complete three days of trials to prove himself ... even as he fights to hide his mounting secrets. How will Loki avoid getting caught by Odin and Frigga, his warrior brother Thor, or even the eye of Heimdall, keeper of Asgard's gates? Will he keep his promise to his childhood friend Sigyn? And why does it seem King Odin is beginning to favor Loki for the throne rather than Thor, the rightful heir? As Loki's duplicity grows, the youngest prince of Asgard and Europe's favorite illusionist must decide which path to take. Discover new twists and turns in this historical fantasy meets paranormal romance as you explore Asgard in all its splendor, experience more of Paris, London, Norway, and Germany, including actual historical figures and landmarks, and savor delightful tidbits of Norse mythology along the way.

*Storm-Wake* Simon and Schuster

DISAPPEAR INTO THE WORLD OF THE SUNDAY TIMES  
 BESTSELLING CHOCOLAT . . . 'So wise, so atmospheric, so beautifully written' Marian Keyes 'The most magical, stunningly beautiful novel' Joanna Cannon 'It will intrigue and charm readers every bit as much as *Chocolat*' Monica Ali -----

Faith. Secret. Magic. Murder...? Vianne Rocher has settled down. Lansquenet-sous-Tannes, the place that once rejected her, has finally become her home. With Rosette, her youngest child, she runs her chocolate shop in the square, talks to her friends on the river, is part of the community. Even Reynaud, the priest, has become a friend. But when old Narcisse, the florist, dies, leaving a parcel of land to Rosette and a written confession to Reynaud, the life of the sleepy village is once more thrown into disarray. Then the opening of a mysterious new shop in the place of the florist's across the square - one that mirrors the chocolaterie, and has a strange appeal of its own - seems to herald a change: a confrontation, a turbulence - even, perhaps, a murder . . . What will the wind blow in today? ----- Return to the world of the multi-million-copy bestselling *Chocolat*.... 'A writer whose wit and sharp observation enhances her engaging storytelling' Salley Vickers 'The most magical, stunningly beautiful novel . . . I sobbed at the end because I couldn't bear to leave. Joanne is truly one of the world's finest storytellers' Joanna Cannon 'A place of magic and mysteries, and Harris excels in this delicate balance of realism and enchantment . . . It will intrigue and charm readers every bit as much as *Chocolat*' Monica Ali 'Sheer pleasure from start to finish. *The Strawberry Thief* is a delight' James Runcie 'I devoured it in one go' Christopher Fowler 'Compelling, captivating, incredibly moving, *The Strawberry Thief* whirls you into a thrilling world you will never forget . . . A perfect novel that shimmers with brilliance and truth' Kate Williams *The Amethyst Child* Random House  
 Donalyn Miller says she has yet to meet a child she couldn't turn into a reader. No matter how far behind Miller's students might be

when they reach her 6th grade classroom, they end up reading an average of 40 to 50 books a year. Miller's unconventional approach dispenses with drills and worksheets that make reading a chore. Instead, she helps students navigate the world of literature and gives them time to read books they pick out themselves. Her love of books and teaching is both infectious and inspiring. The book includes a dynamite list of recommended "kid lit" that helps parents and teachers find the books that students really like to read.

**The new novel from the bestselling author of *Chocolat*** The O'Brien Press Ltd

A teenager wakes up in the woods, horrified to discover a bloody knife in her hand and a dead body at her side and, lacking all memory of who she is, begins to suspect that someone has stolen her mind. Simultaneous.

*Sacrifice* Gollancz

Aoife has returned. Back with her family after her adventures in the Land of the Young "where she rescued her younger sister Eva, narrowly escaping the evil fairy Dorocho" she is adjusting to life in the human world. But this is hard when you are trying to contain an otherworldly power . . . and even harder when you've been thought dead, mourned by those you love. Aoife's world collapses completely when Shay, her fellow traveller and love of her life, abandons her. He is a lenanshee" and it is dangerous to love, and be loved, by such a fairy. But Shay is trapped in his own web of desire, as dark forces move against the pair. When he is taken in by a beautiful demon, this can only mean a return to the Fairy World. Aoife" with her best friend Carla" must battle old and new enemies, meet old and new friends, and use all her Fairy Powers to save Shay" her true Beloved. And when days in the Fairy World are months in the human world, time runs out very fast indeed . . .

*Nightingale* Runemarks

After twelve-year-old Lark, determined to escape her squalid life, steals a magical sword from the Royal Museum, she reluctantly becomes the next Nightingale, destined to vanquish an ancient evil.

**Under the Shadow of the Plateau** John Wiley & Sons

It's been five hundred years since the end of the world and society has rebuilt itself anew. The old Norse gods are no longer revered. Their tales have been banned. Magic is outlawed, and a new religion - the Order - has taken its place. In a remote valley in the north, fourteen-year-old Maddy Smith is shunned for the ruinmark on her hand - a sign associated with the Bad Old Days. But what the villagers don't know is that Maddy has skills. According to One-Eye, the secretive Outlander who is Maddy's only real friend, her ruinmark - or runemark, as he calls it - is a sign of Chaos blood, magical powers and gods know what else... Now, as the Order moves further north, threatening all the Worlds with conquest and Cleansing, Maddy must finally learn the truth to some unanswered questions about herself, her parentage, and

her powers. From the bestselling author of *CHOCOLAT* and *THE GOSPEL OF LOKI* comes a fantastical tale of magic, adventure and Norse mythology.

**Daughter of Fire and Ice** Simon and Schuster

"Discover Norse mythology through the enthralling exploits of all-powerful Odin, mighty Thor, and the trickster Loki."--Front jacket flap.

*Awakening the Inner Reader in Every Child* Simon and Schuster

When her father goes missing leaving behind a cryptic note and everyone around her begins acting strange, twelve-year-old Olympia knows she must find her dad in order to figure out what is going on.

*The Paladin* Harper Collins

In an inspired restaging of Daphne du Maurier's classic *Rebecca*, a young curator finds herself haunted by the legacy of her predecessor. Two years have passed since the tragic death of Alena, curator at the Nauk, a cutting-edge art museum on Cape Cod. At the Venice Biennale, Bernard Augustin, the Nauk's wealthy, enigmatic founder—to whom Alena had been closest confidante and muse—offers the position to an aspiring young curator from the Midwest. It's the job of her dreams, and she dives at the chance. Just as quickly, she finds herself well out of her depth. The Nauk echoes with phantoms of the past—a past obsessively preserved by the museum's staff—and the newcomer's every move mires her more deeply in artistic, erotic, and emotional entanglements. When recently discovered evidence calls into question the circumstances of Alena's death, shattering secrets surface, putting to the test the loyalty, integrity, and courage of our heroine—who remains nameless, like the heroine of Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca*, the inspiration for this provocative and spellbinding tale.

*Rune Marks* Puffin Books

Before the sweet delight of *Chocolat*, before the heady concoction that is *Blackberry Wine*, and before the tart pleasures of *Five Quarters of the Orange*, bestselling author Joanne Harris wrote *Sleep, Pale Sister* -- a gothic tour-de-force that recalls the powerfully dark sensibility of her novel *Holy Fools*. Originally published in 1994 -- and never before available in the United States -- *Sleep, Pale Sister* is a hypnotically atmospheric story set in nineteenth century London. When puritanical artist Henry Chester sees delicate child beauty Effie, he makes her his favorite model and, before long, his bride. But Henry, volatile and repressed, is in love with an ideal. Passive, docile, and asexual, the woman he projects onto Effie is far from the woman she really is. And when Effie begins to discover the murderous depths of Henry's hypocrisy, her latent passion will rise to the surface. *Sleep, Pale Sister* combines the ethereal beauty of a Pre-Raphaelite painting with a chilling high gothic tale and is a testament to Harris's brimming cornucopia of talents. This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book,

including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

*The Strawberry Thief* Candlewick Press

When the exotic stranger Vianne Rocher arrives in the old French village of Lansquenet and opens a chocolate boutique called "La Celeste Praline" directly across the square from the church, Father Reynaud identifies her as a serious danger to his flock. It is the beginning of Lent: the traditional season of self-denial. The priest says she'll be out of business by Easter. To make matters worse, Vianne does not go to church and has a penchant for superstition. Like her mother, she can read Tarot cards. But she begins to win over customers with her smiles, her intuition for everyone's favourites, and her delightful confections. Her shop provides a place, too, for secrets to be whispered, grievances aired. She begins to shake up the rigid morality of the community. Vianne's plans for an Easter Chocolate Festival divide the whole community. Can the solemnity of the Church compare with the pagan passion of a chocolate éclair? For the first time, here is a novel in which chocolate enjoys its true importance, emerging as an agent of transformation. Rich, clever, and mischievous, reminiscent of a folk tale or fable, this is a triumphant read with a memorable character at its heart. Says Harris: "You might see [Vianne] as an archetype or a mythical figure. I prefer to see her as the lone gunslinger who blows into the town, has a showdown with the man in the black hat, then moves on relentless. But on another level she is a perfectly real person with real insecurities and a very human desire for love and acceptance. Her qualities too - kindness, love, tolerance - are very human." Vianne and her young daughter Anouk, come into town on Shrove Tuesday. "Carnivals make us uneasy," says Harris, "because of what they represent: the residual memory of blood sacrifice (it is after all from the word "carne" that the term arises), of pagan celebration. And they represent a loss of inhibition; carnival time is a time at which almost anything is possible." The book became an international best-seller, and was optioned to film quickly. The Oscar-nominated movie, with its star-studded cast including Juliette Binoche (*The English Patient*) and Judi Dench (*Shakespeare in Love*), was directed by Lasse Hallstrom, whose previous film *The Cider House Rules* (based on a John Irving novel) also looks at issues of community and moral standards, though in a less lighthearted vein. The idea for the book came from a comment her husband made one day while he was immersed in a football game on TV. "It was a throwaway comment, designed to annoy and it did. It was along the lines of...Chocolate is to women what football is to men..." The idea stuck, and Harris began thinking that "people have these conflicting feelings about chocolate, and that a lot of people who have very little else in common relate to chocolate in more or less the same kind of way. It became a kind of challenge to see exactly how much of a story I could get which was uniquely centred around chocolate." Rich with metaphor and gorgeous writing...sit back and gorge yourself on *Chocolat*.

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