

# My Life In Middlemarch

How Literature Saved My Life  
 The Possessed  
 Middlemarch  
 Middlemarch Book II  
 My Life with Bob  
 The Things We Cannot Say  
 My Life in Middlemarch  
 The Red Hunter  
 Middlemarch  
 My Life in Middlemarch  
 Middlesex  
 You Never Get It Back  
 Middlemarch  
 Portrait of a Novel: Henry James and the Making of an American Masterpiece  
 Richard Scarry's Busy, Busy World  
 Atomic Habits  
 The Road to Middlemarch  
 Middlemarch  
 Foucault's Pendulum  
 The Virgins  
 Eleven Hours  
 Books that Saved My Life  
 Home/Land  
 Changing My Mind  
 Reading for Our Time  
 The Life of George Eliot  
 Too Much  
 Middlemarch  
 The Lost Apothecary  
 Closing Time  
 Middlemarch  
 George Eliot  
 The Road to Character  
 Gems from George Eliot  
 Mr. Darcy's Little Sister  
 Middlemarch Book VII  
 Off Keck Road  
 One Perfect Day  
 Black Cake (TV Tie-in Edition)  
 My Younger Lover

*My Life In Middlemarch*

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## JOYCE MAHONEY

*How Literature Saved My Life* Vintage

In *Middlemarch*, George Eliot draws a character passionately absorbed by abstruse allusion and obscure epigraphs. Casaubon's obsession is a cautionary tale, but Adam Roberts nonetheless sees in him an invitation to take Eliot's use of epigraphy and allusion seriously, and this book is an attempt to do just that. Roberts considers the epigraph as a mirror that refracts the meaning of a text, and that thus carries important resonances for the way Eliot's novels generate their meanings. In this lively and provoking study, he tracks down those allusions and quotations that have hitherto gone unidentified by scholars, examining their relationship to the text in which they sit to unfurl a broader argument about the novel – both this novel, and the novel form itself. *Middlemarch: Epigraphs and Mirrors* is both a study of George Eliot and a meditation on the textuality of fiction. It is essential reading for specialists and students of George Eliot, the nineteenth century novel, and intertextuality. It will also richly reward anyone who has ever taken pleasure in *Middlemarch*.

*The Possessed* Henry Holt

In Mr. Brooke the hereditary strain of Puritan energy was clearly in abeyance; but in his niece Dorothea it glowed alike through faults and virtues, turning sometimes into impatience of her uncle's talk or his way of "letting things be" on his estate, and making her long all the more for the time when she would be of age and have some command of money for generous schemes. She was regarded as an heiress; for not only had the sisters seven hundred a-year each from their parents, but if Dorothea married and had a son, that son would inherit Mr. Brooke's estate, presumably worth about three thousand a-year—a rental which seemed wealth to provincial families, still discussing Mr. Peel's late conduct on the Catholic question, innocent of future gold-fields, and of that gorgeous plutocracy which has so nobly exalted the necessities of genteel life

*Middlemarch* Grand Central Publishing

On April 10, 1994, PBS stations nationwide will air the first episode of a lavish six-part *Masterpiece Theatre* production of Eliot's brilliant work, *Middlemarch*, hosted by Russell Baker and produced by Louis Marks. The Modern Library is pleased to offer this official companion edition, complete with tie-in art and printed on acid-free paper. Unabridged.

*Middlemarch Book II* Penguin

A New Yorker writer revisits the seminal book of her youth—*Middlemarch*—and fashions a singular, involving story of how a passionate attachment to a great work of literature can shape our

lives and help us to read our own histories. Rebecca Mead was a young woman in an English coastal town when she first read George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, regarded by many as the greatest English novel. After gaining admission to Oxford, and moving to the United States to become a journalist, through several love affairs, then marriage and family, Mead read and reread *Middlemarch*. The novel, which Virginia Woolf famously described as "one of the few English novels written for grown-up people," offered Mead something that modern life and literature did not. In this wise and revealing work of biography, reporting, and memoir, Rebecca Mead leads us into the life that the book made for her, as well as the many lives the novel has led since it was written. Employing a structure that deftly mirrors that of the novel, *My Life in Middlemarch* takes the themes of Eliot's masterpiece—the complexity of love, the meaning of marriage, the foundations of morality, and the drama of aspiration and failure—and brings them into our world. Offering both a fascinating reading of Eliot's biography and an exploration of the way aspects of Mead's life uncannily echo that of Eliot herself, *My Life in Middlemarch* is for every ardent lover of literature who cares about why we read books, and how they read us.

*My Life with Bob* University of Iowa Press

Lacing cultural criticism, Victorian literature, and storytelling together, "TOO MUCH" spills over: with intellect, with sparkling prose, and with the brainy arguments of Verona Cote, who posits that women are all, in some way or another, still susceptible to being called too much." (Esmé Weijun Wang) A weeping woman is a monster. So too is a fat woman, a horny woman, a woman shrieking with laughter. Women who are one or more of these things have heard, or perhaps simply intuited, that we are repugnantly excessive, that we have taken illicit liberties to feel or fuck or eat with abandon. After bellowing like a barn animal in orgasm, hoovering a plate of mashed potatoes, or spraying out spit in the heat of expostulation, we've flinched—ugh, that was so gross. I am so gross. On rare occasions, we might revel in our excess—belting out anthems with our friends over karaoke, perhaps—but in the company of less sympathetic souls, our uncertainty always returns. A woman who is *Too Much* is a woman who reacts to the world with ardent intensity is a woman familiar to lashes of shame and disapproval, from within as well as without. Written in the tradition of *Shrill*, *Dead Girls*, *Sex Object* and other frank books about the female gaze, *TOO MUCH* encourages women to reconsider the beauty of their excesses—emotional, physical, and spiritual. Rachel Verona Cote braids cultural criticism, theory, and storytelling together in her exploration of how culture grinds away our bodies, souls, and sexualities, forcing us into smaller lives than we desire. An erstwhile Victorian scholar, she sees many parallels between that

era's fixation on women's "hysterical" behavior and our modern policing of the same; in the space of her writing, you're as likely to encounter Jane Eyre and Lizzie Bennet as you are Britney Spears and Lana Del Rey. This book will tell the story of how women, from then and now, have learned to draw power from their reservoirs of feeling, all that makes us "Too Much."

**The Things We Cannot Say** Crown Publishing Group (NY)

The Critical Heritage gathers together a large body of critical sources on major figures in literature. Each volume presents contemporary responses to a writer's work, enabling students and researchers to read for themselves, for example, comments on early performances of Shakespeare's plays, or reactions to the first publication of Jane Austen's novels. The carefully selected sources range from landmark essays in the history of criticism to journalism and contemporary opinion, and little published documentary material such as letters and diaries. Significant pieces of criticism from later periods are also included, in order to demonstrate the fluctuations in an author's reputation. Each volume contains an introduction to the writer's published works, a selected bibliography, and an index of works, authors and subjects. The *Collected Critical Heritage* set will be available as a set of 68 volumes and the series will also be available in mini sets selected by period (in slipcase boxes) and as individual volumes.

**My Life in Middlemarch** Penguin

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Two estranged siblings delve into their mother's hidden past—and how it all connects to her traditional Caribbean black cake—in this immersive family saga, "a character-driven, multigenerational story that's meant to be savored" (*Time*). "Wilkerson transports you across the decades and around the globe accompanied by complex, wonderfully drawn characters."—Taylor Jenkins Reid, *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Seven Husbands of Evelyn Hugo*, *Daisy Jones & The Six*, and *Malibu Rising* ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR: *Oprah Daily*, *NPR*, *BuzzFeed*, *Glamour*, *PopSugar*, *Book Riot*, *She Reads* We can't choose what we inherit. But can we choose who we become? In present-day California, Eleanor Bennett's death leaves behind a puzzling inheritance for her two children, Byron and Benny: a black cake, made from a family recipe with a long history, and a voice recording. In her message, Eleanor shares a tumultuous story about a headstrong young swimmer who escapes her island home under suspicion of murder. The heartbreaking tale Eleanor unfolds, the secrets she still holds back, and the mystery of a long-lost child challenge everything the siblings thought they knew about their lineage and themselves. Can Byron and Benny reclaim their once-close relationship, piece together Eleanor's true history, and fulfill her final request to "share the black cake

when the time is right"? Will their mother's revelations bring them back together or leave them feeling more lost than ever?

Charmaine Wilkerson's debut novel is a story of how the inheritance of betrayals, secrets, memories, and even names can shape relationships and history. Deeply evocative and beautifully written, *Black Cake* is an extraordinary journey through the life of a family changed forever by the choices of its matriarch.

#### **The Red Hunter** Routledge

Three book editors, jaded by reading far too many crackpot manuscripts on the mystic and the occult, are inspired by an extraordinary conspiracy story told to them by a strange colonel to have some fun. They start feeding random bits of information into a powerful computer capable of inventing connections between the entries, thinking they are creating nothing more than an amusing game, but then their game starts to take over, the deaths start mounting, and they are forced into a frantic search for the truth

#### **Middlemarch** Harlequin

Travel the world thanks to the one and only Richard Scarry! Little explorers can travel the world thanks to Richard Scarry! With 33 stories featuring fun-filled stops in New York, Paris, Tokyo, Egypt, Australia, and more, this worldwide adventure of discovery will have children ready to pack their bags and visit those international Busytowns!

#### *My Life in Middlemarch* Penguin

It's 1979, and Aviva Rossner and Seung Jung are notorious at Auburn Academy. They're an unlikely pair at an elite East Coast boarding school (she's Jewish; he's Korean American) and hardly shy when it comes to their sexuality. Aviva is a formerly bookish girl looking for liberation from an unhappy childhood; Seung is an enthusiastic dabbler in drugs and a covert rebel against his demanding immigrant parents. In the minds of their titillated classmates—particularly that of Bruce Bennett-Jones—the couple lives in a realm of pure, indulgent pleasure. But, as is often the case, their fabled relationship is more complicated than it seems: despite their lust and urgency, their virginity remains intact, and as they struggle to understand each other, the relationship spirals into disaster. *The Virgins* is the story of Aviva and Seung's descent into confusion and shame, as re-imagined in richly detailed episodes by their classmate Bruce, a once-embittered voyeur turned repentant narrator. With unflinching honesty and breathtaking prose, Pamela Erens brings a fresh voice to the tradition of the great boarding school novel.

#### **Middlesex** Crown

The linked stories in *Cara Blue Adams's* precise and observant collection offer elegantly constructed glimpses of the life of Kate, a young woman from rural New England, moving between her childhood in the countryside of Vermont and her twenties and thirties in the northeast, southwest, and South in pursuit of a vocation, first as a research scientist and later as a writer. Place is a palpable presence: Boston in winter, Maine in summer, Virginia's lush hillsides, the open New Mexico sky. Along the way, we meet Kate's difficult bohemian mother and younger sister, her privileged college roommate, and the various men Kate dates as she struggles to define what she wants from the world on her own terms. Wryly funny and shot through with surprising flashes of anger, these smart, dreamy, searching stories show us a young woman grappling with social class, gender, ambition, violence, and the distance between longing and having.

#### *You Never Get It Back* Harlequin

The #1 New York Times bestseller. Over 20 million copies sold! Translated into 60+ languages! *Tiny Changes, Remarkable Results* No matter your goals, *Atomic Habits* offers a proven framework for improving—every day. James Clear, one of the world's leading experts on habit formation, reveals practical strategies that will teach you exactly how to form good habits, break bad ones, and master the tiny behaviors that lead to

remarkable results. If you're having trouble changing your habits, the problem isn't you. The problem is your system. Bad habits repeat themselves again and again not because you don't want to change, but because you have the wrong system for change. You do not rise to the level of your goals. You fall to the level of your systems. Here, you'll get a proven system that can take you to new heights. Clear is known for his ability to distill complex topics into simple behaviors that can be easily applied to daily life and work. Here, he draws on the most proven ideas from biology, psychology, and neuroscience to create an easy-to-understand guide for making good habits inevitable and bad habits impossible. Along the way, readers will be inspired and entertained with true stories from Olympic gold medalists, award-winning artists, business leaders, life-saving physicians, and star comedians who have used the science of small habits to master their craft and vault to the top of their field. Learn how to: make time for new habits (even when life gets crazy); overcome a lack of motivation and willpower; design your environment to make success easier; get back on track when you fall off course; ...and much more. *Atomic Habits* will reshape the way you think about progress and success, and give you the tools and strategies you need to transform your habits—whether you are a team looking to win a championship, an organization hoping to redefine an industry, or simply an individual who wishes to quit smoking, lose weight, reduce stress, or achieve any other goal.

#### *Middlemarch* Golden Books

*Pride and Prejudice* continues... Georgiana Darcy grows up and goes in pursuit of happiness and true love, much to her big brother's consternation A whole new side of Mr. Darcy... He's the best big brother, generous to a fault. Protective, never teases. But over his dead body is any rogue or fortune hunter going to get near his little sister! (Unfortunately, any gentleman who wants to court Georgiana is going to have the same problem...) So how's a girl ever going to meet the gentleman of her dreams?

#### *Portrait of a Novel: Henry James and the Making of an American Masterpiece* Vintage

The life story of the Victorian novelist George Eliot is as dramatic and complex as her best plots. This new assessment of her life and work combines recent biographical research with penetrating literary criticism, resulting in revealing new interpretations of her literary work. A fresh look at George Eliot's captivating life story Includes original new analysis of her writing Deploys the latest biographical research Combines literary criticism with biographical narrative to offer a rounded perspective

#### **Richard Scarry's Busy, Busy World** Tin House Books

Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize Finalist for National Book Critics Circle Award (Biography) One of the Best Books of 2012: *The New Yorker*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Guardian*, *The Millions*, *Kirkus Reviews*, *Boston Phoenix* A revelatory biography of the American master as told through the lens of his greatest novel. Henry James (1843-1916) has had many biographers, but Michael Gorra has taken an original approach to this great American progenitor of the modern novel, combining elements of biography, criticism, and travelogue in re-creating the dramatic backstory of James's masterpiece, *Portrait of a Lady* (1881). Gorra, an eminent literary critic, shows how this novel—the scandalous story of the expatriate American heiress Isabel Archer—came to be written in the first place. Traveling to Florence, Rome, Paris, and England, Gorra sheds new light on James's family, the European literary circles—George Eliot, Flaubert, Turgenev—in which James made his name, and the psychological forces that enabled him to create this most memorable of female protagonists. Appealing to readers of Menand's *The Metaphysical Club* and McCullough's *The Greater Journey*, *Portrait of a Novel* provides a brilliant account of the greatest American novel of expatriate life ever written. It becomes a piercing detective story on its own.

#### **Atomic Habits** Penguin

Time to live and love again... Feline shifter Lisa Jordan lost her husband two years ago and now it's time to start living again. At the Middlemarch singles' ball, she's attracted to a sexy shifter, but his identity comes as a huge shock. A big, big shock since the man she's ogling is one she knew as a teenager. Sam Mitchell has harbored a crush on Lisa for years. A relationship was impossible then, but now he's eager to stake his claim. A few dances turn into a one-night stand full of exciting, satisfying sex. Sam wants more, but first, he'll need to persuade Lisa to his way of thinking. Back at home in Christchurch, Lisa's life takes a different turn when she attracts the attention of a mystery stalker. Juggling her safety and a romance with the gorgeous Sam is certainly spicing up her life. If only she lives to enjoy the rewards. NOTE: This is a standalone story that takes place during the same Singles Ball as *My Scarlet Woman*.

#### *The Road to Middlemarch* Vintage

"Mead's beautiful dissection of its influence on her life is easy for any reader to identify with, regardless of what 'your book' might be. . . . It is part memoir, part biography, part in-depth research project, all the while glowing with enthusiastic homage to something beloved." *National Post* Rebecca Mead was a young woman in an English coastal town when she first read George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, regarded by many as the greatest English novel. After gaining admission to Oxford and moving to the United States to become a journalist, through several love affairs, then marriage and family, Mead read and reread *Middlemarch*. The novel, which Virginia Woolf famously described as "one of the few English novels written for grown-up people," offered Mead something that modern life and literature did not. In this wise and revealing work of biography, reporting, and memoir, Rebecca Mead leads us into the life that the book made for her, as well as the many lives the novel has led since it was written. Employing a structure that deftly mirrors that of the novel, *My Life in Middlemarch* takes the themes of Eliot's masterpiece—the complexity of love, the meaning of marriage, the foundations of morality, and the drama of aspiration and failure—and brings them into our world. Offering both a fascinating reading of Eliot's biography and an exploration of the way aspects of Mead's life uncannily echo that of the author herself, *My Life in Middlemarch* is for every ardent lover of literature who cares about why we read books, and how they read us.

#### *Middlemarch* National Geographic Books

An extraordinary masterpiece written from personal experience, *Middlemarch* is a deep psychological observation of human nature that revolves around the issues of love, jealousy, and obligation. Eliot's feminist views are apparent through the novel: she stresses the fact that women should control their own lives.

#### **Foucault's Pendulum** Open Book Publishers

"[These essays] reflect a lively, unselfconscious, rigorous, erudite, and earnestly open mind that's busy refining its view of life, literature, and a great deal in between." —*Los Angeles Times* Split into five sections—Reading, Being, Seeing, Feeling, and Remembering—*Changing My Mind* finds Zadie Smith casting an acute eye over material both personal and cultural. This engaging collection of essays, some published here for the first time, reveals Smith as a passionate and precise essayist, equally at home in the world of great books and bad movies, family and philosophy, British comedians and Italian divas. Whether writing on Katherine Hepburn, Kafka, Anna Magnani, or Zora Neale Hurston, she brings deft care to the art of criticism with a style both sympathetic and insightful. *Changing My Mind* is journalism at its most expansive, intelligent, and funny—a gift to readers and writers both.

#### *The Virgins* Shelley Munro

A profound, funny and uplifting collection of reminiscences about a life in books, now available in a smaller, competitively priced format.

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