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# The Bottle Imp

Issue 5, May 2009  
New Publications

## **Kidnappit by Robert Louis Stevenson**

*translated into Scots by Matthew Fitt  
Itchy Coe Books, 2007*

'Tak tent o whit I say, mannie – keep awa fae the Hoose o Shaws!'

Published in collaboration with Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature's One Book – One Edinburgh reading campaign, *Kidnappit* is the first ever graphic novel in Scots. Alan Grant and Cam Kennedy, renowned for their work writing and illustrating such weel-kent graphic fiction as *Batman*, *Strontium Dog*, *Judge Dredd* and *Star Wars*, have reworked Stevenson's classic tale of adventure in 18th-century Scotland to produce this brilliant new version. *Itchy Coe* are proud to be publishing this exciting Scots edition, our 25th title.

Graphic novel versions of *Kidnappit* are also available in English and Gaelic.

## **Gnothach Annasach an Dr Jekyll Is Mhgr Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson**

*translated into Gaelic by Ian MacDonald  
Waverley Books, February 2008*

The second, stunning graphic novel of an Robert Louis Stevenson classic from the creative 'dream team' of Cam Kennedy and Alan Grant, *Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde*, follows their acclaimed graphic novel adaptation of *Kidnappit*. This edition has been faithfully translated into Gaelic by Ian MacDonald of the Gaelic Books Council.

Graphic novel versions of *Gnothach Annasach an Dr Jekyll Is Mhgr Hyde* are also available in English and Scots.

## **Scottish Folk and Fairy Tales from Burns to Buchan**

*by Gordon Jarvie  
Penguin Classics, October 2008*

Mystery and excitement abound in this lively collection of fairy tales, folklore and legends, which celebrate Scotland's enormously rich oral tradition and offers a carefully chosen

combination of old favourites such as Tam Lin, Thomas Rymer and Adam Bell, as well as more modern stories by master story-tellers like Andrew Lang, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and John Buchan.

## **Louis comics by Metaphrog**

metaphrog, the Franco-Scottish duo have been releasing comics and graphic novels since 1996, first serialising *Strange Weather Lately* and *The Maze*. Their current Louis series have received multiple Eisner and Ignatz award nominations, Scottish Arts Council support and critical acclaim worldwide. Their latest multimedia project *Louis – Dreams Never Die*, a graphic novel with music by hey and múm, and featuring a special online Louis animation, was released in association with Fat-Cat Records. They are currently working on a new Louis graphic novel, *Louis – Night Salad*.

## **New Writing Scotland**

eds. Liz Niven and Alan Bissett  
*ASLS, annual; issue 27 available August 2009*  
New Writing Scotland is an annual volume publishing poetry and prose, drama and short fiction in English, Scots and Gaelic from both emerging and established writers. Every piece appears here in print for the first time, and has been drawn from a wide cross-section of Scottish culture and society.

## **Maw Broon's But An' Ben Cookbook: A Cookbook for Every Season, Using All the Goodness of the Land**

*by Maw Broon  
Waverley Books, 2008*

A cookbook with a difference, this nostalgic collection of recipes dates back to 1940 and is entirely different, but just as good as, the first Maw Broon cookbook. Funny, inventive and full of humour and comic strips from "The Broons", with witty comments from the family members throughout, this second cookbook has more balance with both sweet, traditional, recipes as well as recipes with lighter, healthier ingredients.

## **The Broons' Burns Night**

*by The Broons  
Waverley Books, 2008*

Robert Burns was born on 25th January, 1759 in Ayr, Scotland. He wrote the famous poems "To a Mouse", "Holy Wullie", "Tam O'Shanter", "Ae Fond Kiss", among many more. His use of the Scots language, his tone and the fact he speaks for 'everyman', and his prolific writing, make Burns enormously popular, with wide

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international appeal. Endorsed by the Burns Federation, this book is a guide on how to organise your own Burns' Night at home – from the shopping list you must take to buy the necessities for the plentiful recipes, to 'How to do the Gay Gordons' by Joe, to music and poetry from Burns throughout. The book is illustrated throughout with comic strips from Scotland's first family, The Broons.

### **Crossing the Highland Line: cross-currents in eighteenth-century Scottish writing**

ed. Christopher MacLachlan  
ASLS, January 2009

Scottish writing exploded across the globe in the eighteenth century, transforming world literature and culture. *Crossing the Highland Line* explores literary connections across Scotland, and traces the links between those who wrote in Scots and English and those who wrote in Gaelic. These essays, from fourteen leading scholars, show that the whole of Scotland – Highland and Lowland, high cultures and low – participated in the reshaping of literature in the eighteenth century. The Highland Line does not divide.

### **Scottish Newspapers, Language and Identity**

Fiona M. Douglas  
Edinburgh University Press, March 2009

The first decade of the new Scottish Parliament has seen the emergence of a new-found national confidence. 'Scottishness' is clearly alive and flourishing. This book offers new and detailed insights into Scottish language and its usage by the Scottish press. To what extent does the use of identifiably Scottish lexical features help them to maintain their distinctive Scottish identity and appeal to their readership? Which Scottish words and phrases do the papers use and where, is it a symbolic gesture, do they all behave in the same way, and has this changed since devolution? Combining analysis of broad trends with detailed discussion of individual Scottish words and phrases, its timely publication coincides with a period when interest in things Scottish is at an all-time high.

### **Letters Addressed to Clarinda, &**

Robert Burns, with an introduction by G. Ross Roy  
University of South Carolina Press, 2009

For more than forty years, the 1802 edition of Robert Burns's *Letters Addressed to Clarinda* provided the only record of his correspondence with Mrs. Agnes McLehose ("Clarinda"). It was from the letters printed here that Burns's early biographers first told the story of the Sylvander-Clarinda relationship. This facsimile has been

scanned from one of the three copies of the original edition in the G. Ross Roy Collection of Robert Burns & Scottish Poetry, in the Department of Rare Books & Special Collections at the University of South Carolina. The opportunity has been taken to add some additional pages with material drawn from manuscript letters in the G. Ross Roy Collection. The facsimile makes *Letters Addressed to Clarinda* available once again in its original format, both as a digital text, through the library's Digital Collections site, and also (slightly enlarged in page size) as a print-on-demand book, in partnership with the University of South Carolina Press.

### **Distance**

by Ewan Morrison  
Jonathan Cape, June 2008

They fall in love in New York City and spend a passionate week together before he returns to his home in Edinburgh, where they are to reunite in eight weeks. So begins a long distance relationship filled with phone calls, phone sex, emails, text messages and the pain of waiting. Back in Scotland, Tom's eyes are opened to the mess he's been living in, with a job he despises and a girlfriend, an ex-wife and son he can no longer relate to. As he waits for Meg he takes to drinking in secret. Meanwhile in New York, Meg has been inspired by Tom to throw in her job as a Hollywood script doctor, and to write from her heart, secretly recording every detail of their intense week together. They talk every day on the phone, her day is his night. Six time zones out of sync. As the weeks count down to her arrival their love turns increasingly obsessive and they face traumatic life choices. Does Tom really Love Meg, or is she a dream of escape? And what is Tom to Meg but increasingly a fiction? Only when she arrives they will know for sure. As he showed in his highly praised first novel, *Swung*, Ewan Morrison writes about relationships between men and women with extraordinary sympathy, insight and daring.

### **The Hunt in the Forest**

by John Burnside  
Jonathan Cape, forthcoming: 6 August 2009

Taking its title from Uccello's famous painting of a band of men - on foot and on horseback - massing for the chase, John Burnside's new poems take us on a journey out of the light and into the darkness, where we may just as easily lose ourselves as find what we are looking for. In these poems of hunting and predation, Burnside explores our most deep-rooted and primeval pursuits: romantic love, memory, selfhood, grief, the recollection of the dead. Yet just as we

seek, so are we sought out: at any moment we may slide into loss or be gathered in by some otherworldly light; at any moment, the angel of the annunciation may seek us out and demand some astonishing transformation. Even in the pursuit of love, or in the exercise of memory, we fall into snares and become entangled in veils; just as we are always on the point of discovery, so we are always a hair's-breadth away from being lost. Concerned with love and mourning, with what we discover and what remains hidden – with learning how to follow the trail through the forest and find the way home – above all, these poems are about the quest: knowing that whatever we bring back from the hunt, it is always hard-won and never fully our own.



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