

●●● ADULT NON-FICTION
VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR

BASEMZANSI, Bomme

South African indigenous foods.- IndiZAfoods, 2004.

The publication of this book was initiated by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Department of Science & Technology in an effort to preserve indigenous knowledge and address empowerment. IndiZAfoods coordinated the project and collected recipes from rural women in Limpopo, North West Province, the Free State, KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. Women from these regions share their recipes using ingredients which are readily available, for example, wild vegetables, sorghum, sweet potato, sugar beans and mealie meal. Presented and illustrated in a colourful, ethnic style this is an attractive book which shares these local recipes with a wider world.

DH

BLAISE, Anneke

Maak jou huis nuut.- Tafelberg, 2004.

Hierdie titel uitgegee deur Tafelberg Uitgewers gee raad en idees vir huisverbeterings. Dit kyk onder meer na wat in gedagte gehou moet word met huiskoop, asook goeie beplanning ten opsigte van huisverbeterings. Dit bevat ook advies oor die keuse van verf, kleur en vloerbedekkings, teëlwerk riglyne, en pakplek. Die redaksionele span van die tydskrif, DIT, wat 'n huis in Mowbray as voorbeeld gebruik vir opknapping, gee advies oor hoe om die beste van jou kombuis, slaapkamers, badkamer en ander leefruimtes te maak. 'n Aantreklike omvattende titel, wat 'n aanwinst vir 'n biblioteek se versameling oor tuisteskepping sal wees.

EMW

KEEVIL, Elizabeth

Kids' quilts in a weekend: 20 colourful projects suitable for babies to 10-year-olds.- Hamlyn, 2004.

The first part of the book comprises instructions for making six easy projects which can be completed over a weekend. The seven projects in the next section are somewhat more time-consuming and require more skill. The projects in the third section include an alphabet quilt, friendship, sawtooth and floral quilts. These quilts require more preparatory work and a wider range of skills, but can still be completed in a weekend. Techniques and equipment are also covered. Attractively illustrated with colour photographs. The quilts in this book are all small and relatively quick and easy to make.

DH

KILLINGER, John

God, the Devil and Harry Potter: a Christian minister's defense of the beloved novels.- Dunne, 2004.

Ever since the Harry Potter books became the global publishing phenomena it is today, it has attracted condemnation from religious conservatives. Allegations of glamorising witchcraft and the occult have been heaped upon the author, JK Rowling and any who promote these titles. Scores of these accusers have, in many cases, not even read a Harry Potter book!

Here the author, a congregational minister and academic, presents a refreshing approach to a sensitive subject, which in the subtitle 'a Christian minister's defense of the beloved novels', says it all. With a touch of humor and an engaging insight, the author's argument provides the reader with plenty of positive points, revealing that the Potter stories in fact contain plenty of allegorical support of most of the important lessons of the Christian Church.

EB

LANGEMACK, Chapple

The booktalker's bible: how to talk about the books you love to any audience.- Libraries Unlimited, 2003.

The helpful guidelines in this book include keeping an awareness at the back of your mind and looking out for booktalk material while reading. Characters and scenes that are particularly interesting could be noted. Golden booktalk rules include: liking the books you talk about, knowing your audience, non-disclosure of the ending and leaving a list of the books you've talked about. There is also information on booktalks to schools, to adults and in other settings. She discusses many of her own learning experiences. This practical book should be a useful tool for anyone wanting to improve their booktalking skills.

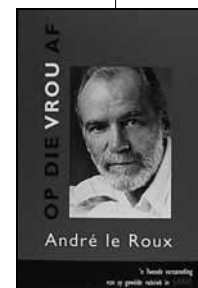
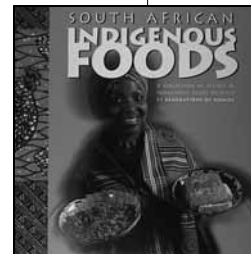
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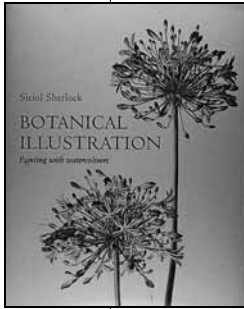
LE ROUX, André

Op die vrou af: Sarie 2001-2003.- Human & Rousseau, 2004.

'Dis die snaaksste, lekkerste, waarste sketse wat ek nog ooit teëgekome het.' 'My tone krul om, my middelrif ruk op en af, ek kom regop - 'n 360 grade se lag moet voltooi word'...'beste medisyne vir stres.' Dis soos Sarie-lesers André le Roux se nuwe boek **Op die vrou af** beskryf. En ek stem saam met hulle: hierdie versameling rubrieke wat in Sarie verskyn het, is op die man af, en vol waarhede. Boonop is van die insette taamlik komies. As sy vorige versameling rubrieke, **Op die man af**, nie in jou voorraad is nie, sorg dat jy hierdie een in die hande kry!

EMW

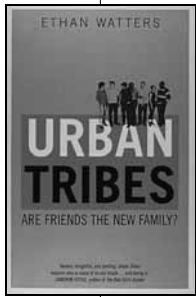




SHERLOCK, Sirol
Botanical illustration: painting with watercolours.- Batsford, 2004.

The author is an award-winning botanical artist. She describes her use of the wet-in-wet technique and her way of painting directly onto the paper with no outline drawing. Other techniques covered include layering, lifting colour and specific colour effects. There are chapters covering leaves, veins, complicated shapes, stems and branches and fruit. She also describes techniques for difficult details such as markings on petals, flower centers and tiny flowers. Composition and presentation, pricing of work and the trials and tribulations of a botanical artist are also discussed. The attractive colour illustrations are the author's own work. This book is full of useful techniques and tips for the use of watercolour by budding botanical artists.

DH

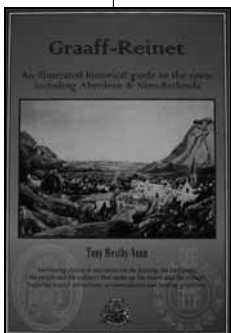


WATTERS, Ethan
Urban tribes: are friends the new family?- Bloomsbury, 2004.

DH

San Francisco journalist, Ethan Watters, writes about a social trend he has identified. He says young city-dwelling people in their twenties and thirties increasingly delay marriage, leading affluent lifestyles and relying on groups of friends for support and a sense of identity. He interviewed members of 'urban tribes' from around the United States, however, this account is largely anecdotal and based to some extent on his own experience. It is very readable and the trends he identifies are reflected in an American television series.

DH



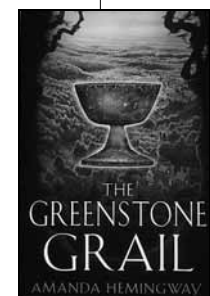
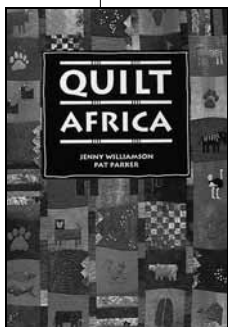
WESTBY-NUNN, Tony
Graaff-Reinet: an illustrated historical guide to the town including Aberdeen and Nieu-Bethesda.- Elephant Head Pub., 2004.

This attractive book provides an overview of what is on offer in the three Eastern-Cape towns of Graaff-Reinet, Aberdeen and Nieu-Bethesda. Packed with colour, and black and white photographs, historical and modern, it is very informative about historically important buildings, monuments and historical personalities associated with the district. Finally there is an overview of hunting opportunities and accommodation. This colourful and informal book meets a subject need as there is nothing similar available. It is likely to appeal to visitors and the interested general reader.

DH

WILLIAMSON, Jenny and PARKER, Pat
Quilt Africa.- Wild Dog P., 2004.

This is the second quilt book from these well-known Johannesburg sisters who also exhibit their quilts internationally. Their previous book, **Quilts on safari** (1998) was the only locally-published title on quilts with an African theme. It has been a referral point for South African quilters since its publication. This new book showcases quilts with an African



theme, their own and those of other quilters. Shown alongside each quilt are the photographs which inspired the designs. Instructions and motif templates are provided for making 13 of the quilts. The instructions are clear and the quilts lovely to look at in this inspirational and practical book.

●●● **ADULT FICTION**
VOLWASSE VERHALENDE
LEKTUUR

HEMINGWAY, Amanda
The greenstone grail.- HarperCollins, 2004.

When thirteen-year-old Nathan Ward comes upon a buried ancient chapel in a secluded forest, mysterious and fantastical events start unfolding. Nathan's dreams become portals to alternate realities.

The idyllic English village, where the story is set, further highlights the extraordinary events that occur and the strange assortment of players that participate in the story.

The story opens with the arrival of a homeless young woman called Annie Ward on Bartlemy Goodman's doorstep one evening. Bartlemy, gifted with the powers of the witch-kind, has been living in the area for many years. He feels a special bond for the young woman and her baby son, and helps them to settle down.

As Nathan grows, strange occurrences begin to plague the village. At the same time Bartlemy joins his good friend Rowena Thorn, after whose family the village was named, to reclaim a lost family heirloom - a cup made of an unusual greenish stone that has suddenly turned up at Sotheby's. The cup is central to the story as it holds the key to the survival of two parallel worlds.

Though adult in tone, shades of Harry Potter add texture to this multi-layered fantasy offering. First title in the *Sangreal* trilogy, it is not only difficult to put down, but it is equally hard to forget.

EB

McCABE, John
Herding cats.- Black Swan, 2004.

A 'neo-Nazi' with mixed blood, an advertising executive with no marketing savvy, the world's worst journalist, a psychologist posing as a general practitioner and two warring meat manufacturers. Yes, **Herding cats** is as bizarre (and hilarious) as this assortment of characters suggests.

The author produces his unique brand of farcical comedy by combining satire with urban paranoia and very real characterisations. This delightful blend proves as difficult to deny, as indeed the herding of cats is impossible to achieve.

McCabe skilfully captures the reader in this witty trap of pure English humor, and no one could deny the delight of being thus ensnared.



Tim Powers who had left his job as a London advertising executive for a small local town, finds that it does not meet up with his expectations. His ad business is not thriving; Zoe, his longtime girlfriend, is away for three months and he is developing a carnal interest in his female lodger. Not only that, he finds himself reluctantly embroiled in a longstanding feud between two small town meat manufacturers. What ensues is a mind-boggling, hilarious, thrilling and farcical escape that makes **Herding cats** a fast-paced, laugh-inducing novel.

EB

McCALL SMITH, Alexander

In the company of cheerful ladies. - Polygon, 2004.

This is number six in the *Precious Ramotswe* series. Precious and Mr JLB Matekoni are now married and living in her house, with their two adopted children. Precious has moved her detective agency into offices in Mr Matekoni's garage. She is investigating a number of cases, helped by her assistant, Mma Makutsi, who is taking dancing lessons and running the Kalahari Typing School for men in her spare time. The cases include investigating the disappearance of a Lusaka financier, thought to be in Gabarone. Precious's first husband, Note, turns up in Gabarone and tries to blackmail her. As in the other books, Precious brings kindness, morality and common-sense to bear in solving the cases. This latest title is humorous, entertaining and just as delightful as its predecessors.

DH

McGOWAN, Anthony

Stag hunt. - Hodder, 2004.

Coerced into attending a stag weekend arranged by his acquaintance/drinking partner, Dominic Chance, Matthew Moriarty has no idea of the horror that awaits him. His is further perplexed by the invitation, feeling more of an outsider, as most of the guests are former military school friends of the host.

Sensing a growing animosity, Matthew gradually begins to thread together a nightmarish tapestry of love, revenge and ultimately savage murder.

Rich in atmosphere and imagery, the author has cleverly combined elements of the stereotypical stag weekend with subtle hints of an Agatha Christie who-dunnit.

McGowan's novel is thick with psychological complexities and troubled social interactions, making for a deliberately slow-paced read which results in drawing the reader deeper into its disturbing plot.

This first novel is brilliantly written and is one of those rare books that haunt the reader long after the final page has been read.

EB

MURRAY, Paul

An evening of long goodbyes. - Penguin, 2004.

This satirical first novel set in Ireland, was short-listed for the 2003 Whitbread Literary Award. The 24-year-old Charles Hythloday has never had a job, he spends his time watching old movies, consuming

the contents of the family wine cellar and running the crumbling family estate. He lives in Amaurot with his sister, Bel, who has yet another unsuitable boyfriend in tow. She is obsessed with becoming an actress and is worried about Charles, especially when foreclosure notices are discovered in a junk drawer. Their mother returns from a clinic for alcoholics, cuts off Charles' allowance and he is forced to find a job. Also part of the household is their Bosnian housekeeper who is smuggling family members into the country. Veering from farce to poignancy this farcical novel makes entertaining reading.

DH

OPPEL, Martin

I loved that place: Tdjouboegas. - Kwela, 2004.

First novel, told in the first person, by Thomas, who looks back to his childhood on the farm, Tdjouboegas, outside Springbok. He recalls the way of life of his Nama family, trips to town in a donkey-cart, ploughing with donkeys pulling the metal shares and long walks to the Catholic school in Matjieskloof. He also writes of family engagement and marriage rituals, Christmas celebrations, fetching and carrying water, drought and the rains. He tells about the men on the municipal board who succeeded in taking away the land of all the Nama farmers in the area. It happened when the men were away at war and only his mother and one other farmer held out against the confiscation. The municipal workers then closed all wells on these farms and later tried to confiscate their wheat crop. After more degrading episodes their land, Tdjouboegas, was lost. At the end of the novel, Thomas, now a pensioner, says that Tdjouboegas lies unused, overrun with kraalbos and he is waiting for a result from the Land Claims Court. Loosely based on historical fact, this is an authentic story of a specific community which reads very well and is full of amusing stories.

DH

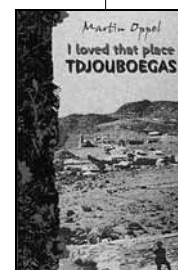
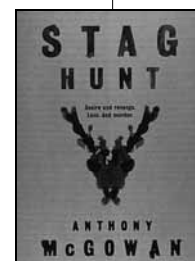
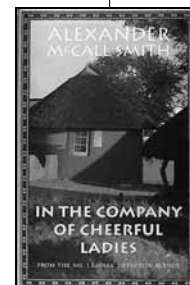
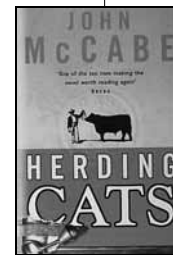
SUTHERLAND, Luke

Venus as a boy. - Bloomsbury, 2004.

A strange and gritty modern tale about a young man who possesses the unusual gift of bestowing a kind of spiritual ecstasy upon those he touches or makes love to. The growing irony of this is that this gift, a mystery to the young man, tends to be exploited by others, which eventually leads to the young man's demise.

In an uncanny take on the Midas legend, it is the young man's love of love (not of gold) that eventually turns him into gold. The protagonist of the novel, who is never named, grows up in Scotland's Orkney Islands that he leaves when his first love refuses his proposal of marriage. On the mainland he becomes a hotel dishwasher and starts loving up anyone whether they are male or female. In drag he goes under the name of Desiree, searching for true love in his harsh and drug-addled life.

In contrast to the beauty of the soul of this 'boy' are his squalid surroundings and the sordid company of prostitutes and transvestites that surround him.





This is never more poignant than when on his deathbed in a dingy flat in London he finally receives the kind of love he has been sharing with others all his life.

The author is a cultural darling in the United Kingdom and his debut novel **Jelly roll** was short-listed for the Whitbread First Novel Award. His latest novel is a haunting and beautiful fantasy that captures the imagination and heart of the more adventurous reader.

EB

●●● **YOUNG ADULT FICTION**
TIENERLEKTUUR

COONEY, Caroline B

On the seas to Troy.- Macmillan, 2004.

The story opens shortly before the Greek invasion of the ancient City of Troy. Twelve-year-old Anaxandra, daughter of a minor Greek ruler, is taken hostage by Nicander, king of the island, Siphnos, to be the companion of the king's invalid daughter, Callisto. Anaxandra is treated as part of the family and soon comes to enjoy her life there. This perfect idyll ends when a band of Greek pirates attack, killing most of the inhabitants and taking the rest into captivity.

Anaxandra survives and is discovered by chance by Menelaus, King of Sparta, when his fleet is forced off course by unfavourable winds. Scared that she might be taken as a slave, she pretends to be the slain princess Callisto. Moved by her plight, Menelaus takes her to Sparta where she quickly establishes good ties with Hermione, daughter of Menelaus. Only Queen Helen has suspicions about her and makes her life unpleasant. Then the Trojan delegation arrives.

After a chain of events, Anaxandra has to impersonate Hermione when Helen flees with her lover Paris to Troy. There she becomes friendly with Andromache, future bride of Hector. Soon Anaxandra finds herself faced with a struggle over where her loyalties lie.

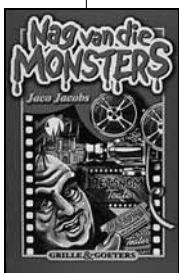
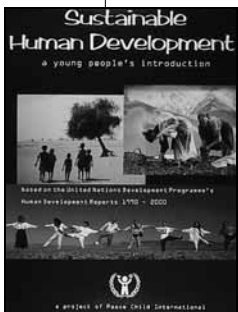
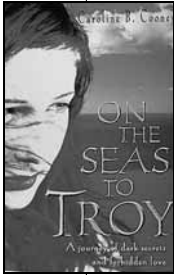
With the recent filming of the film called **Troy** I am sure that young readers will find this book appealing as it provides another perspective on the story. A truly gripping read.

EB

RAI, Bali

Rani & Sukh.- Corgi, 2004.

In the Punjab in the 1950s a secret love affair goes wrong when a girl's lover is killed by her family and she commits suicide. The brothers of the two lovers are living in present-day London and running their own businesses, but the family feud lives on. Children of the two feuding families, Rani and Sukh, meet at school and unbeknown to their families, start dating. The relationship develops, and when everything comes out into the open, Rani and Sukh find out about the past, and history partially repeats itself.



This engrossing story is on the 'arranged marriage' issue, which occurs in many books and films about Indian immigrants. It should appeal especially to a teenage readership.

DH

●●● **JUVENILE NON-FICTION**
JEUGVAKLEKTUUR

Sustainable human development: a young person's introduction.- Evans, c2002 (2003 printing).

This book draws on the United Nations annual **Human development reports**. An international team of young people selected key information from these reports and have presented it here in their own words. Topics covered include: development indicators, poverty, settlements, urbanisation, the feasibility of sustainable cities, sustainable development, women's rights, corruption, world security and the future. The quality of the writing is clear and refreshing. Prolifically illustrated with colour photographs, artwork, maps, flags, charts and graphs. A list of web sites is included. Older children should find the topics of interest and useful for school projects.

DH

●●● **JUVENILE FICTION**
JEUGLEKTUUR

JACOBS, Jaco

Nag van die monsters.- LAPA, 2004.

Jong lesers sal definitief vermaak word deur Jaco Jacobs se nuwe boek, **Nag van die monsters**, wat lees soos een of ander grillerige flielkriller, in die tradisie van **Scary movie** en **The ring**. In hierdie titel maak ons kennis met 'n jong seun en sy suster Rinnie, wat saam met hom kuier by sy oom se huis in Modderfontein, 'n stil dorpie. Die twee raak egter gou verveeld en besluit om 'n fliel by die Retsnom teater te gaan kyk. Met hul aankoms besluit kleinboet om solank te gaan sit, terwyl sy suster kleedkamer toe gaan. Die spanning bou egter gou op wanneer Rinnie deel word van die fliel: vasgevang in die kloue van wrede monsters. 'n Lekkerlees storie met 'n interessante intrige.

EMW

Note: At the time of going to press, some of these titles were still on order.

EB	Erich Buchhaus
DH	Denise Harris
EMW	Ethney Waters

