The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath 2015-08-11 A realistic and emotional look at a woman who falls into the grips of insanity written by the iconic American writer Sylvia Plath. “It is this perfectly wrought prose and the freshness of Plath’s voice in The Bell Jar that make this book enduring in its appeal.” — USA Today "The Bell Jar chronicles the crack-up of Esther Greenwood: brilliant, beautiful, enormously talented, and successful, but slowly going under—maybe for the last time. Sylvia Plath masterfully draws the reader into Esther’s breakdown with such intensity that Esther’s insanity becomes completely real and even rational, as probable and accessible an experience as going to the movies. Such deep penetration into the dark and harrowing corners of the psyche that is the hallmark of Plath’s writing. Plath emerges from a mental hospital after a breakdown. The Bell Jar a haunting American classic. This P.S. edition features an extra 16 pages of insights into the book, including author interviews, recommended reading, and more.

The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath 2018-12-21 This eBook edition of “The Bell Jar” has been formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. Esther Greenwood, a young woman from the suburbs of Boston, gains a summer internship at a prominent magazine in New York City, under editor Jay Cee; however, Esther is neither stimulated nor excited by either the big city or the glamorous culture and lifestyle that girls her age are expected to idolize and emulate. She instead finds her experience to be frightening and disorienting. From hereafter her mental state keeps deteriorating until she starts feeling helpless as if being kept inside a glass bell jar! The Bell Jar is the only novel written by the American writer and poet Sylvia Plath. Originally published under the pseudonym "Victoria Lucas" in 1963, the novel is semi-autobiographical, with the names of places and people changed. The book is often regarded as a roman à clef because the protagonist's descent into mental illness parallels Plath's own experiences with what may have been clinical depression or bipolar II disorder. Plath died by suicide a month after its first UK publication. The novel was published under Plath's own name for the first time in 1967 and was not published in the United States until 1971, in accordance with the wishes of both Plath's husband, Ted Hughes, and her mother.

The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath 2018-07-29 This carefully crafted eBook: "The Bell Jar" is formatted for your eReader with a functional and detailed table of contents. Esther Greenwood, a young woman from the suburbs of Boston, gains a summer internship at a prominent magazine in New York City; under editor Jay Cee; however, Esther is neither stimulated nor excited by either the big city or the glamorous culture and lifestyle that girls her age are expected to idolize and emulate. She instead finds her experience to be frightening and disorienting. From hereafter her mental state keeps deteriorating until she starts feeling helpless as if being kept inside a glass bell jar! The Bell Jar is the only novel written by the American writer and poet Sylvia Plath. Originally published under the pseudonym "Victoria Lucas" in 1963, the novel is semi-autobiographical, with the names of places and people changed. The book is often regarded as a roman à clef because the protagonist's descent into mental illness parallels Plath's own experiences with what may have been clinical depression or bipolar II disorder. Plath died by suicide a month after its first UK publication. The novel was published under Plath's own name for the first time in 1967 and was not published in the United States until 1971, in accordance with the wishes of both Plath's husband, Ted Hughes, and her mother.

The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath 2018 The story, scarcely disguised autobiography, covers six months in a young girl's life, beginning when she goes to New York to serve on a fashion magazine's college-editorial board. It ends when she emerges from a mental hospital after a breakdown.

The Bell Jar - Sylvia Plath 2013-01-01 I was supposed to be having the time of my life. When Esther Greenwood wins an internship on a New York fashion magazine in 1953, she is elated, believing she will finally realise her dream to become a writer. But in the cocktail parties and piles of manuscripts, Esther's life begins to slide out of control. She finds herself spiraling into depression and eventually a suicide attempt, as she grapples with difficult relationships and the pervasive impact of illness, the novel's aspirations seriously. The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath’s only novel, was originally published in 1963 under the pseudonym Victoria Lucas. The novel is partially based on Plath’s own life and descent into mental illness, and has become a modern classic. The Bell Jar has been celebrated for its darkly funny and razor sharp portrait of 1950s society and has sold millions of copies worldwide.

Sylvia Plath - Raychel Haugrud Reiff 2008 "A biography of writer Sylvia Plath that describes her era, her major works—the novel The Bell jar and her poetry—her life, and the legacy of her writing”—Provided by publisher.

Depression in Sylvia Plath's The Bell Jar - Dedria Bryfonski 2012-01-12 Because wherever I sat, on the deck of a ship or at a street café in Paris or Bangkok, I would be sitting under the same glass bell jar, stewing in my own sour air. Readers who are familiar with Sylvia Plath’s work may recognize this well-known quotation from her first and only novel, The Bell Jar, which tackles issues of depression, mental illness, and the search for individuality. This compelling volume examines Sylvia Plath’s life and writings, with a specific look at key ideas related to The Bell Jar. A collection of twenty-three essays offers readers context and insight to discussions centering around the pervasive impact of illness, the novel as a search for personal identity, and the autobiographical nature of the work. The book also examines contemporary perspectives on depression, such as the sometimes deadly pressure of perfectionism on gifted teens, and the idea that depression and risk of suicide run in families.

I Am Nobody’s Nigger - Dean Atta 2013-03-04 Revolutionary, reflective and romantic, I Am Nobody's Nigger is the powerful debut collection by one of the UK’s finest emerging poets. Exploring race, identity and sexuality, Dean Atta shares his perspective on family, friendship, relationships and London life, from riots to one-night stands. LONGLISTED for the Polari First Book Prize 2014 "Go Dean Atta. Speak the truth. Tweet the truth. Upload it. Let it ring out over the digital domain and strike at the heart of the offline wireless and disconnected." Lemn Sissay "Dean Atta's poetry is as honest as truth itself. He follows no trend; he seeks no favours ... Beyond black, beyond white, beyond straight, beyond gay, so I say. Love your eyes over these words of truth. You will be uplifted." Benjy Zephaniah "Lighteous and forceful" Peter Tatchell "I can do nothing but take my hat off to Dean Atta for speaking out, saying what he believed, and doing it so effectively and powerfully that countless people heard it who would never normally have done so. Poetry is a powerful tool, and I Am Nobody’s Nigger is a perfect example of when that tool shows its full strength." Huffington Post 'Raconteur Dean Atta doing what he does best: articulating London’s dark, deep-rooted social cancers through a beautiful and intricately personal narrative.' Clash

The Collected Poems - Sylvia Plath 2016-11-15 Pulitzer Prize winner Sylvia Plath’s complete poetic works, edited and introduced by Ted Hughes. By the time of her death on 11, February 1963, Sylvia Plath had written a large bulk of poetry. To my knowledge, she never scraped any of her poetic efforts. With one or two exceptions, she brought every piece she worked on to some final form acceptable to her, rejecting at most the odd verse, or a false head or a false tail. Her attitude to her verse was artisan-like: if she couldn’t get a table out of the material, she was quite happy to get a chair, or even a toy. The end product for her was not so much a successful poem, as something that had temporarily exhausted her ingenuity. So this book contains not merely what verse she saved, but—after 1956—all she wrote.—Ted Hughes, from the Introduction

Sylvia Plath’s The Bell Jar - Harold Bloom 2009-01-01 An overview of the novel features a biographical sketch of the American author, a list of characters, a summary of the plot, and critical and analytical views of the work.

Dedria Bryfonski 2012-01-12 "I was supposed to be having the time of my life. When Esther Greenwood wins an internship on a New York fashion magazine in 1953, she is elated, believing she will finally realise her dream to become a writer. But in the cocktail parties and piles of manuscripts, Esther's life begins to slide out of control. She finds herself spiraling into depression and eventually a suicide attempt, as she grapples with difficult relationships and the pervasive impact of illness, the novel's aspirations seriously. The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath's only novel, was originally published in 1963 under the pseudonym Victoria Lucas. The novel is partially based on Plath's own life and descent into mental illness, and has become a modern classic. The Bell Jar has been celebrated for its darkly funny and razor sharp portrait of 1950s society and has sold millions of copies worldwide."
Oppression of the Female in "The Bell Jar" by Sylvia Plath

Agnieszka Abańska

Agnieszka Abańska is a student of English language and literature at the University of Düsseldorf. Her thesis, titled "Oppression of the Female in Sylvia Plath's "The Bell Jar"", explores the themes of femininity, gender roles, and the impact of societal norms on women's lives as depicted in Plath's novel. The thesis employs a feminist critical approach, analyzing how Plath's protagonist, Esther Greenwood, navigates the challenges of mid-20th-century American society, particularly in terms of marriage, motherhood, and identity. Through a detailed examination of Plath's narrative techniques and the characters' experiences, Abańska's work contributes to a broader understanding of the novel's role in feminist literature.
Plath’s novel calls attention to the injustice of the treatment young women received at that time and shows the destructive effects of her era on women who wished to conform to ideals and rules made by the patriarchal system. The main part of this thesis examines how the novel presents the oppressive system of 1950’s America in which the heroine has to live in. With “The Bell Jar”, Plath provides insight into 1950’s America and underlines several issues regarding femininity. She demonstrates these issues with several characters that are either challenging or upholding the system, with character relationships or with medical institutions that “stand as an emblem to

Ariel—Sylvia Plath 1999-02-03 “In these poems…Sylvia Plath becomes herself, becomes something imaginary, newly, wildly and subtly created.” --From the Introduction by Robert Lowell

Winter Trees—Sylvia Plath 2016-11-15

Mary Ventura and The Ninth Kingdom—Sylvia Plath 2019-01-22 Never before published, this newly discovered story by literary legend Sylvia Plath stands on its own and is remarkable for its symbolic, allegorical approach to a young woman’s rebellion against convention and forceful taking control of her own life. Written while Sylvia Plath was a student at Smith College in 1952, Mary Ventura and The Ninth Kingdom tells the story of a young woman’s fateful train journey. Lips the color of blood, the sun an unprecedented orange, train wheels that sound like “guilt, and guilt, and guilt”; these are just some of the things Mary Ventura begins to notice on her journey to the ninth kingdom. “But what is the ninth kingdom?” she asks a kind-seeming lady in her carriage. “It is the kingdom of the frozen will,” comes the reply. “There is no going back.” Sylvia Plath’s strange, dark tale of female agency and independence, written not long after she herself left home, grapples with mortality in motion.

Crossing The Water—Sylvia Plath 2016-11-15

Girl, Interrupted—Susanna Kaysen 2013-06-19 In 1967, after a session with a psychiatrist she’d never seen before, eighteen-year-old Susanna Kaysen was put in a taxi and sent to McLean Hospital. She spent most of the next two years in the ward for teenage girls in a psychiatric hospital as renowned for its famous clientele—Sylvia Plath, Robert Lowell, James Taylor, and Ray Charles—as for its progressive methods of treating those who could afford its sanctuary. Kaysen’s memoir encompasses horror and razor-edged perception while providing vivid portraits of her fellow patients and their keepers. It is a brilliant evocation of a “parallel universe” set within the kaleidoscopically damaged landscape of the late sixties. Girl, Interrupted is a clear-sighted, unflinching document that gives lasting and specific dimension to our definitions of sane and insane, mental illness and recovery.

The Bell Jar, a Novel of the Fifties—Linda Wagner-Martin 1992 "Though her life was brief, the American poet and novelist Sylvia Plath (1932-63) exerted a profound influence on contemporary writers, particularly women writers of the sixties and seventies. Just as to her Pulitzer Prize-winning poetry Plath brought a decidedly feminist perspective, so too did she etch in her life's work a disturbing vision of life for young women in America at midcentury. The Bell Jar - based on Plath’s own experiences as a student at Smith College, an intern at Madamoiselle, and a young woman battling for her own sanity amid societal mores of the times - was initially published in England under a pseudonym, its American publication stilled for years by the writer’s family. When, however, the 1963 novel was finally released to U.S. audiences in 1971, it achieved both critical and popular success, and has since become a classic of feminist literature. This absorbing biographical account of Sylvia Plath, on the other hand, is a revealing complement to and a fitting sequel of Patricia Meier’s The Ninth Kingdom. Orchestrated by the editors of Plath Studies, this volume contains thirty-eight previously unpublished letters between Plath and her editors at Faber & Faber, which together with an extended introduction by Elizabeth Winder reveals how these twenty-six days indelicately altered how Plath saw herself, her mother, her friends, and her romantic relationships, and how this period shaped her emerging identity as a woman and as a writer. Pain, Parties, Work—the three words Plath used to describe that time—shows how Mary Ventura’s journey into the madhouse was only the beginning of an identity that would stay with her for the rest of her all-too-short life. Thoughtful and illuminating, this captivating portrait invites us to see Sylvia Plath before The Bell Jar, before she became an icon—a young woman with everything to live for.

The Struggle for Women’s Liberation in Sylvia Plath’s The Bell Jar and Margaret Atwood’s The Handmaid’s Tale—Kelly B. Nickell 2017 Sylvia Plath and Margaret Atwood each have novels that are currently being brought to the big and little screens. A film-version of Plath’s novel, The Bell Jar, is expected in 2018; while Hulu is releasing its adaptation of The Handmaid’s Tale at the end of this month. This thesis explores the relevance of the two novels in relation to the need for sustained feminist activism. The Bell Jar, first published in England under Plath’s pseudonym, Victoria Lucas, remains as Plath’s only novel among pages and pages of her poetry. Since Plath ended her own life before the novel was published in the U.S., many readers did not experience the novel until after her death when her family published the novel with Plath’s name on the cover. Plath’s novel provides readers an insight into the life of Esther Greenwood, a proto-feminist lonely in her quests to find what feminist theorist Helene Cixous calls an “elsewhere” away from patriarchal entrapment; that is, a space to explore her desire for advanced education, a fulfilling career, and a satisfying sexual life. Atwood’s novel, on the other hand, is a response to the female protagonist’s unique voice which followed that of Esther’s proto-feminist one. Offred, The Handmaid’s Tale narrator-protagonist, is pleased with her rights regarding education, careers, and sexuality. Before the dystopian Gilead takes over the United States, Offred is only able to view feminist ideologies and activism in terms of her own complicated relationship with her mother. Both Plath and Atwood present the complex identities of women who struggle to navigate the competing messages about socially acceptable femininity coming not only from society, but from within themselves as well. Each text exemplifies the necessity for women to stand in solidarity with each other so that we all can reach our greatest human potential.

Esther Greenwood’s Struggle for Control in Sylvia Plath’s The Bell Jar—Mary Cromer 1991

The Journals of Sylvia Plath—Sylvia Plath 2013-01-16 Sylvia Plath began keeping a diary as a young child. By the time she was at Smith College, when this book begins, she had settled into a nearly daily routine with her journal, which was also a sourcebook for her writing. Plath once called her journal “Sarspaw,” her repository of imagination, “a litany of dreams, directives, and imperatives,” and in fact these pages contain the germs of most of her work. Plath’s ambitions as a writer were urgent and ultimately all-consuming, requiring of her a heat, a fantastic chaos, even a violence that burned straight through her. The intensity of this struggle is rendered in her journal with an unsparring clarity, revealing both the frequent desperation of her situation and the bravery with which she faced down her
The Art of X-Ray Reading—Roy Peter Clark 2016-01-26 Roy Peter Clark, one of America’s most influential writing teachers, offers writing lessons we can draw from 25 great texts. Where do writers learn their best moves? They use a technique that Roy Peter Clark calls X-ray reading, a form of reading that lets you penetrate beyond the surface of a text to see how meaning is actually being made. In The Art of X-Ray Reading, Clark invites you to don your X-ray reading glasses and join him on a guided tour through some of the most exquisite and masterful literary works of all time, from The Great Gatsby to Lolita to The Bluest Eye. Along the way, he shows you how to mine these masterpieces for invaluable writing strategies that you can add to your arsenal and apply in your own writing. Once you’ve experienced X-ray reading, your writing will never be the same again.

The Letters of Sylvia Plath Volume 1—Sylvia Plath 2017-10-17 A major literary event: the first volume in the definitive, complete collection of the letters of Sylvia Plath—most never before seen. One of the most beloved poets of the modern age, Sylvia Plath continues to inspire and fascinate the literary world. While her renown as one of the most influential poets is beyond dispute, Plath was also one of its most captivating correspondents. The Letters of Sylvia Plath is the breathtaking compendium of this prolific writer’s correspondence with more than 120 people, including family, friends, contemporaries, and colleagues. The Letters of Sylvia Plath includes her correspondence from her years at Smith, Wellesley, Massachusetts who had poetic ambition from a very young age and was an accomplished, published writer of poems and stories even before she became a star English student at Smith College in the early 1950s. Determined not to read Plath’s work as if her every act, from childhood on, was a harbinger of her tragic fate, Clark evokes a culture in transition, in the shadow of the atom bomb and the Holocaust, as she explores Plath’s world: her early relationships and determination not to become a conventional woman and wife; her conflicted ties to her well-meaning, widowed mother; her troubles at the hands of an unschooled mental-health industry; her Cambridge years and thunderclap meeting with Ted Hughes, a marriage of true minds that would change the course of poetry in English; and much more. Clark’s clear-eyed portraits of Hughes, her lover Assia Wevill, and other demonized players in the arena of Plath’s suicide promotes a deeper understanding of her final days, with their outpouring of first-rate poems. Along with illuminating readings of the poems themselves, Clark’s meticulous, compassionate research brings us closer than ever to the spirited woman and visionary artist who blazed a trail that still lights the way for women poets the world over.

All the Water I’ve Seen Is Running: A Novel—Elias Rodríques 2021-06-22 Former high school classmates reckon with the death of a friend in this stunning debut novel. Along the Intracoastal waterways of North Florida, Daniel and Aubrey navigated adolescence with the electric intensity that radiates from young people defined by otherness: Aubrey, a self-identified “Southern cracker” and Daniel, the mixed-race son of Jamaican immigrants. When the news of Aubrey’s death reaches Daniel in New York, years after they’d lost contact, he is left to grapple with the legacy of his precious and imperfect love for her. At ease now in his own queerness, he is nonetheless drawn back to the muggy haze of his Palm Coast upbringing, tinged by racism and poverty, to find out what happened to Aubrey. Along the way, he redesigns his family’s history, both in Jamaica and in this place he once called home. Roped by his teenage track-team buddies—Twig, a long-distance runner; Desmond, a sprinter; Egypt, Des’s girlfriend; and Jess, a chef—Daniel begins a frantic search for meaning in Aubrey’s death, recklessly confronting the drunken country boy he believes may have killed her. Sensitive to the complexities of class, race, and sexuality both in the American South and in Jamaica, the Water I’ve Seen Is Running is a novel of uncommon tenderness, grief, and joy. All the while, it evokes the beauty and threat of the place Daniel calls home—where the river meets the ocean.

American Isis—Carl Rollyson 2013-01-29 Draws on the recently opened archives of Ted Hughes to offer new insights into the iconic poet’s psyche and literary achievements, in a portrait that includes previously unpublished papers and dozens of letters exchanged between Plath and Hughes.

Red Comet—Heather Clark 2020-10-27 Finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award in Biography * "One of the most beautiful biographies I’ve ever read.” —Glennon Doyle, author of #1 New York Times Bestseller, Untamed The highly anticipated biography of Sylvia Plath that focuses on her remarkable literary and intellectual achievements, while restoring the woman behind the long-held myths about her life and art. With a wealth of never-before-accessed materials—including unpublished letters and manuscripts; court, police, and psychiatric records; and new interviews—Heather Clark brings to life the brilliant daughter of Wellesley, Massachusetts who had poetic ambition from a very young age and was an accomplished, published writer of poems and stories even before she became a star English student at Smith College in the early 1950s. Determined not to read Plath’s work as if her every act, from childhood on, was a harbinger of her tragic fate, Clark evokes a culture in transition, in the shadow of the atom bomb and the Holocaust, as she explores Plath’s world: her early relationships and determination not to become a conventional woman and wife; her conflicted ties to her well-meaning, widowed mother; her troubles at the hands of an unschooled mental-health industry; her Cambridge years and thunderclap meeting with Ted Hughes, a marriage of true minds that would change the course of poetry in English; and much more. Clark’s clear-eyed portraits of Hughes, her lover Assia Wevill, and other demonized players in the arena of Plath’s suicide promotes a deeper understanding of her final days, with their outpouring of first-rate poems. Along with illuminating readings of the poems themselves, Clark’s meticulous, compassionate research brings us closer than ever to the spirited woman and visionary artist who blazed a trail that still lights the way for women poets the world over.

Ariel—Sylvia Plath 2013-11-07 A beautiful gift hardcover edition, with the original 1960s cover design.