

Poor Things Alasdair Gray

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Poor Things

Episodes from the Early Life of Archibald McCandless M.D., Scottish Public Health Officer *Dalkey Archive Press*

One of Alasdair Gray's most brilliant creations, Poor Things is a postmodern revision of Frankenstein that replaces the traditional monster with Bella Baxter - a beautiful young erotomaniac brought back to life with the brain of an infant. Godwin Baxter's scientific ambition to create the perfect companion is realized when he finds the drowned body of Bella, but his dream is thwarted by Dr. Archibald's McCandless's jealous love for Baxter's creation. The hilarious tale of love and scandal that ensues would be "the whole story" in the hands of a lesser author (which in fact it is, for this account is actually written by Dr. McCandless). For Gray, though, this is only half the story, after which Bella (a.k.a. Victoria McCandless) has her own say in the matter. Satirizing the classic Victorian novel, Poor Things is a hilarious political allegory and a thought-provoking duel between the desires of men and the independence of women, from one of Scotland's most accomplished authors. Alasdair Gray is the author of over a dozen novels amd short story collections, including Lanark, 1982 Janine, and Unlikely Stories, Mostly.

Poor Things *Dalkey Archive Essentials*

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Poor Things *Bloomsbury Publishing*

What strange secret made rich, beautiful, tempestuous Bella Baxter irresistible to the poor Scottish medical student Archie McCandless? Was it her mysterious origin in the home of his monstrous friend Godwin Baxter, the genius whose voice could perforate eardrums? This story of true love and scientific daring whirls the reader from the private operating-theatres of late-Victorian Glasgow through aristocratic casinos, low-life Alexandria and a Parisian bordello, reaching an interrupted climax in a Scottish church.

Lanark

A Life in Four Books

Set in the disintegrating cities of Unthank and Glasgow, this modern vision of hell tells the interwoven stories of two men: Lanark and Duncan Thaw. As the Life in Four Books unfolds, the strange, buried relationship between Lanark and Thaw slowly starts to emerge. Lanark is a towering work of the imagination and is the culmination of twenty-five years of work by Gray, who also illustrated and designed the novel. On its first publication it was immediately recognised as a major work of literature, and drew comparisons with Dante, Black, Joyce, Orwell, Kafka, Huxley and Lewis Carroll. Thirty years on, its power, majesty, anger and relevance has only intensified.

Something Leather *Random House (UK)*

The Fall of Kelvin Walker *Canongate Books*

It is the Swinging Sixties and Kelvin Walker has moved from Scotland to London to make his fortune. Through his wanton ambition, a megalomania surfaces that is unrelieved by his insensitive attempts at friendship and romance. Yet is he all bad, or are the true villains the establishment figures who he tricks and deceives? And, ultimately, does it matter? Gray's twist on the follies of religion, the media and the imperial British centre is as relevant now as ever.

A Life In Pictures *Canongate Books*

Alasdair Gray is Scotland's best known polymath. Born in 1934 in Glasgow, he graduated in design and mural art from the Glasgow School of Art in 1957. After decades of surviving by painting and writing TV and radio plays, his first novel, the loosely autobiographical, blackly fantastic Lanark, opened up new imaginative territory for such varied writers as Jonathan Coe, A.L. Kennedy, James Kelman, Janice Galloway and Irvine Welsh. It led Anthony Burgess to call him 'the most important Scottish writer since Sir Walter Scott'. His other published books include 1982 Janine, Poor Things (winner of the Whitbread Award), The Book of Prefaces, The Ends of our Tethers and Old Men in Love. In this book, with reproductions of his murals, portraits, landscapes and illustrations, Gray tells of his failures and successes which have led his pictures to be accepted by a new generation of visual artists.

The Queen and I *Penguin UK*

The Monarchy has been dismantled When a Republican party wins the General Election, their first act in power is to strip the royal family of their assets and titles and send them to live on a housing estate in the Midlands. Exchanging Buckingham Palace for a two-bedroomed semi in Hell Close (as the locals dub it), caviar for boiled eggs, servants for a social worker named Trish, the Queen and her family learn what it means to be poor among the great unwashed. But is their breeding sufficient to allow them to rise above their changed circumstance or deep down are they really just like everyone else? 'No other author could imagine this so graphically, demolish the institution so wittily and yet leave the family with its human dignity intact.' The Times 'Absorbing, entertaining . . . the funniest thing in print since Adrian Mole.' Ruth Rendell, Daily Telegraph 'Kept me rolling about until the last page.' Daily Mail www.suetownsend.com

The Book of Prefaces *Bloomsbury Publishing*

A great, fascinating work from Scottish literary legend Alasdair Gray, beautifully illustrated throughout, chronicling the history of how literature spread and developed throughout the world. This is a unique history of literature as presented through the collected and annotated prefaces of major writers, including commentary by a range of authors including James Kelman, A.L. Kennedy, and Virginia Woolf. The result of a lifetime's reading and creative labour, intellectual and artistic, The Book of Prefaces will delight, amaze and inform both casual browsers and students. Its like will not be seen again for at least another millennium. 'Superb ... There is no disputing the enormous knowledge, the sheer love of books that is gathered here' SCOTLAND ON SUNDAY Praise for Alasdair Gray 'A necessary genius' ALI SMITH 'One of the brightest intellectual and creative lights Scotland has known in modern times' NICOLA STURGEON

A History Maker *Canongate Books*

A tale of border warfare, military and erotic, set in the twenty-third century, where the women rule the kingdom and the men play war games. This is the fictional memoir of Wat Dryhope - edited, annotated and commented upon. History has come to an end, war is regulated as if it's all a game. But Wat, the History Maker himself, does not play entirely by the rules, and when a woman, Delilah Puddock, joins the fray, this 'utopian' history is further enlivened. Alasdair Gray cleverly plays with the notion and writing of history, as well as perennial modern debates on war, sexism and society - entertaining and thought-provoking, this is a delightful satire illustrated throughout by the author.

1982 Janine *Jonathan Cape*

1982, Janine is a liberal novel of the most satisfying kind. Set over the course of one night inside the head of Jock McLeish, an aging, divorced, alcoholic, insomniac supervisor of security installations, as he tipsles in the bedroom of a small Scottish hotel, it makes an unanswerable case that republicanism is a state of absolute spiritual bankruptcy. For Jock McLeish, being a Republican is something he has to cure himself of, every bit as much as his alcoholism and his Sado-Masochistic fantasizing, if he is to become a human being again. 1982, Janine explores themes of male need and inadequacy through the lonely, darkly comic, alcohol-fueled fantasies of its protagonist. An unforgettably challenging book about power and powerlessness, men and women, masters and servants, small countries and big countries, Alasdair Gray's exploration of the politics of pornography has lost none of its power to shock.

Alasdair Gray *Bucknell University Press*

"Since the publication of Lanark in 1981 Alasdair Gray has been a figure of importance in contemporary literature. Now, through attention to mixed genre, counter-historical narrative, and the thematics of memory, this first study of Alasdair Gray's novels shows the coherence of the Scottish writer's varied body of work. Stephen Bernstein refuses to view Gray's work through the vague lens of postmodernism, seeing Gray instead as a writer at home in a variety of literary traditions. Beginning by providing an American audience with backgrounds to Gray's work, this study recounts the chronology of his publications and their reception by an international audience, simultaneously placing his writing in the contexts of Scottish culture and literature."--BOOK JACKET.Title Summary field provided by Blackwell North America, Inc. All Rights Reserved

Mavis Belfrage *Bloomsbury Publishing*

'All of the stories in this collection exude the unique imagination, social commitment and beautifully clear, concise prose of this singular writer' Irish Times From the legendary Scottish author of Poor Things and Lanark, this is a dazzlingly satirical collection of stories that describe painful kinds of education, starting with the title story in which an uninhibited woman educates a prim Scottish lecturer. 'One of the brightest intellectual and creative lights Scotland has known in modern times' NICOLA STURGEON 'Gray is a true original, a twentieth century William Blake' OBSERVER 'One of the most gifted writers to have put pen to paper in the English language' IRVINE WELSH

The Ends of Our Tethers

13 Sorry Stories *Canongate Us*

A collection of stories by the author of Unlikely Stories, Mostly and 1982, Janine offers a re-imagining of the short story that pushes the form to its limits, evoking the work of Donald Barthelme and Kurt Vonnegut, among others. Reprint.

Old Men in Love *A&C Black*

Men in Love, like The Arabian Nights, is about a storyteller whose stories contain other stories. As in Alasdair Gray's Lanark, 1982 Janine, Poor Things, and The Book of Prefaces, this one has many styles of narrative and location. Periclean Athens, Renaissance Florence, Victorian Somerset mingle with Britain under the New Labour Party, viewed from the West End of Glasgow. More than 50% is fact and the rest possible, but must be read to be believed.

How We Should Rule Ourselves *Canongate Books*

This pamphlet is for anyone alarmed by the present British government. It argues that the component nations of the United Kingdom can become true democracies only by declaring themselves republics. The authors are Alasdair Gray, writer of fiction and pamphlets such as Why Scots Should Rule Scotland, and Adam Tomkins, Professor of Public Law in the University of Glasgow and author of Public Law and Our Republican Constitution. Both are committed republicans.

This Is Not About Me *Granta Books*

From her earliest years with a boozy, accident-prone father and a reluctantly pragmatic mother, Janice Galloway's grew up as a watcher - careful and vigilant. Then her parents' marriage broke up and mother and daughter moved to an attic above a doctor's surgery. When her big sister Cora returned home, with her steady stream of boyfriends, snappy dress sense and matching temper, evasion became a way of life. This is a funny and telling book about the routine dependencies and confusions, hopes and triumphs of childhood; it is also a book about emergence, as, slowly, the beginnings of unsuspected rage pushed the silent girl towards her voice.

Every Short Story by Alasdair Gray 1951-2012 *Canongate Books*

The first sixteen tales in this collection were published by Canongate in 1983 with the title Unlikely Stories, Mostly. This collection also has fifty-seven tales from later books, plus sixteen new ones written for the hardback publication of this collection. This last section, Tales Droll and Plausible, shows that Gray's recent twenty-first-century fiction is as uncomfortably funny and up to date as his earliest.

1982, Janine

Alasdair Gray's unforgettable second novel. Introduced by Will Self

His Tribute

A Gray Play Book *Luath Press Ltd*

A collection of some of Alasdair Gray's greatest works, this book includes samples of his long and short plays for stage, radio and television (acted between 1956 and 2009); an unperformed opera libretto; excerpts from the Lanark storyboard; and full film script of the novel Poor Things. With a range of Gray's dramatic works, this book is a great introduction to the portfolio of one of Scotland's most talented writers.

Alasdair Gray

A Secretary's Biography *Bloomsbury Publishing*

Alasdair Gray, author of the modern classics Lanark, Poor Things and 1982, Janine, is without doubt Scotland's greatest living novelist. Since trying (unsuccessfully) to buy him a drink in 1998, Rodge Glass, first tutee and then secretary to the author, takes on the role of biographer, charting Gray's life from unpublished and unrecognised son of a box-maker to septuagenarian "little grey deity" (as Will Self has called him). A Jewish Mancunian Boswell to Gray's Johnson, Glass seamlessly weaves a chronological narrative of his subject's life into his own diary of meeting, getting to know and working with the artist, writer and campaigner, to create a vibrant and wonderfully textured portrait of a literary great.

Alasdair Gray

Critical Appreciations and a Bibliography *British Library Board*

This volume of essays contains a detailed bibliography of Gray's writing and design, illustration of his artwork and critiques from such diverse hands as Professor Philip Hobsbaum, Kevin Williamson, Jonathan Coe and others.

This Monstrous Thing *HarperCollins*

A wildly creative Gothic fantasy retelling of Frankenstein, This Monstrous Thing is a wholly new reimagining of the classic novel by Mary Shelley and is perfect for fans of retellings such as Cinder by Marissa Meyer, fantasy by Libba Bray and Cassandra Clare, and alternative history by Scott Westerfeld. In an alternative fantasy world where some men are made from clockwork parts and carriages are steam powered, Alasdair Finch, a young mechanic, does the unthinkable after his brother dies: he uses clockwork pieces to bring Oliver back from the dead. But the resurrection does not go as planned,

and Oliver returns more monster than man. Even worse, the novel Frankenstein is published and the townsfolk are determined to find the real-life doctor and his monster. With few places to turn for help, the dangers may ultimately bring the brothers together—or ruin them forever.

The Dumb House *Random House*

As a child, Luke’s mother often tells him the story of the Dumb House, an experiment on newborn babies raised in silence, designed to test the innateness of language. As Luke grows up, his interest in language and the delicate balance of life and death leads to amateur dissections of small animals – tiny hearts revealed still pumping, as life trickles away. But as an adult, following the death of his mother, Luke’s obsession deepens, resulting in a haunting and bizarre experiment on Luke’s own children.

Bella Caledonia

Woman, Nation, Text *Rodopi*

Bella Caledonia: Woman, Nation, Text looks at the widespread tradition of using a female figure to represent the nation, focusing on twentieth-century Scottish literature. The woman-as-nation figure emerged in Scotland in the twentieth century, but as a literary figure rather than an institutional icon like Britannia or France's Marianne. Scottish writers make use of familiar aspects of the trope such as the protective mother nation and the woman as fertile land, which are obviously problematic from a feminist perspective. But darker implications, buried in the long history of the figure, rise to the surface in Scotland, such as woman/nation as victim, and woman/nation as deformed or monstrous. As a result of Scotland's unusual status as a nation within the larger entity of Great Britain, the literary figures under consideration here are never simply incarnations of a confident and complete nation nurturing her warrior sons. Rather, they reflect a more modern anxiety about the concept of the nation, and embody a troubled and divided national identity. Kirsten Stirling traces the development of the twentieth-century Scotland-as-woman figure through readings of poetry and fiction by male and female writers including Hugh MacDiarmid, Naomi Mitchison, Neil Gunn, Lewis Grassie Gibbon, Willa Muir, Alasdair Gray, A.L. Kennedy, Ellen Galford and Janice Galloway.

Mother Mother

The Sunday Times Bestseller *Wildfire*

THE SUNDAY TIMES TOP TEN BESTSELLER 'Annie Macmanus is writer whose understanding and capturing of human nature comes as easily to her as breathing' CANDICE CARTY-WILLIAMS 'A work of gilded melancholy that is going to take everyone by surprise' UNA MULLALLY 'Macmanus writes with flair and confidence rarely seen in a debut' SINÉAD GLEESON One Saturday morning, TJ McConnell wakes up to find his mother, Mary, gone. He doesn't know where - or why - but he's the only one who can help find her. Mary grew up longing for information about the mother she never knew. Her brother could barely remember her, and their father numbed his pain with drink. Now aged thirty-seven, Mary has lived in the same house her whole life. She's never left Belfast. TJ, who's about to turn eighteen, is itching to see more of the world. But when his mother disappears, TJ begins to realise what he's been taking for granted. MOTHER MOTHER takes us down the challenging road of Mary's life while following TJ's increasingly desperate search for her, as he begins to discover what has led her to this point. This is a story about family, grief, addiction and motherhood, and it asks an important question - if you spend your life giving everything to the ones you love, do you risk losing yourself along the way? 'A brilliant book...that explores the brutal legacy of addiction and the consequences of a deep grief left to stagnate' Sara Cox 'A tender, surprising, occasionally bleak, moving and delicate book' Irish Times 'A study of grief, addiction and what it means to be a mother' Stylist 'Melancholy, beautifully unadorned prose' Mail on Sunday 'Unflinching and unsparing but also beautifully written' Daily Mail 'An incredible debut' Daily Mirror 'A page-turning exploration of grief, addiction, young motherhood and unbreakable family ties' British Vogue

Five Letters from an Eastern Empire

Describing Etiquette, Government, Irrigation, Education, Clogs, Kites, Rumour, Poetry, Justice, Massage, Town-planning, Sex and Ventriloquism in an Obsolete Nation

The Giant, O'Brien *Anchor Canada*

From the two-time Man Booker winner, the story of the 18th Century Irish giant, Charles O'Brien. Charles O'Brien, bard and giant. The cynical are moved by his flights of romance; the craven stirred by his tales of epic deeds. But what of his own story as he is led from Ireland to seek his fortune beyond the seas in England? The Surprising Irish Giant may be the sensation of the season but only his compatriots seem to attend to his mythic powers of invention. John Hunter, celebrated surgeon and anatomist, buys dead men from the gallows and babies' corpses by the inch. Where is a man as unique as The Giant to hide his bones when he is yet alive? The Giant, O' Brien is an unforgettable novel; lyrical, shocking and spliced with black comedy.

Lean Tales *Random House (UK)*

Bones & All

A Novel *St. Martin's Press*

SOON TO BE A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE 2015 Alex Award Recipient! Maren Yearly is a young woman who wants the same things we all do. She wants to be someone people admire and respect. She wants to be loved. But her secret, shameful needs have forced her into exile. She hates herself for the bad thing she does, for what it's done to her family and her sense of identity; for how it dictates her place in the world and how people see her--how they judge her. She didn't choose to be this way. Because Maren Yearly doesn't just break hearts, she devours them. Ever since her mother found Penny Wilson's eardrum in her mouth when Maren was just two years old, she knew life would never be normal for either of them. Love may come in many shapes and sizes, but for Maren, it always ends the same-with her hiding the evidence and her mother packing up the car. But when her mother abandons her the day after her sixteenth birthday, Maren goes looking for the father she has never known, and finds much more than she bargained for along the way. Faced with a world of fellow eaters, potential enemies, and the prospect of love, Maren realizes she isn't only looking for her father, she's looking for herself. Camille DeAngelis' Bones & All is an astonishingly original coming-of-age tale that is at once a gorgeously written horror story as well as a mesmerizing meditation on female power and sexuality.

Medicine, Health and Being Human *Routledge*

Medicine, Health and Being Human begins a conversation to explore how the medical has defined us: that is, the ways in which perspectives of medicine and health have affected cultural understandings of what it means to be human. With chapters that span from the early modern period through to the contemporary world, and are drawn from a range of disciplines, this volume holds that incremental historical and cultural influences have brought about an understanding of humanity in which the medical is ingrained, consciously or unconsciously, usually as a mode of legitimisation. Divided into three parts, the book follows a narrative path from the integrity of the human soul, through to the integrity of the material human body, then finally brought together through engaging with end-of-life responses. Part 1 examines the move from spirituality to psychiatry in terms of the way medical science has influenced cultural understandings of the mind. Part 2 interrogates the role that medicine has played in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in constructing and deconstructing the self and other, including the fusion of visual objectivity and the scientific gaze in constructing perceptions of humanity. Part 3 looks at the limits of medicine when the integrity of one body breaks down. It contends with the ultimate question of the extent to which humanity is confined within the integrity of the human body, and how medicine and the humanities work together toward responding to the finality of death. This is a valuable contribution for all those interested in the medical humanities, history of medicine, history of ideas and the social approaches to health and illness.

The Bridge *Abacus*

The man who wakes up in the extraordinary world of a bridge has amnesia, and his doctor doesn't seem to want to cure him. Does it matter? Exploring the bridge occupies most of his days. But at night there are his dreams... Dreams in which desperate men drive sealed carriages across barren mountains to a bizarre rendezvous; an illiterate barbarian storms an enchanted tower under a stream of verbal abuse; and broken men walk forever over bridges without end, taunted by visions of a doomed sexuality. Lying in bed unconscious after an accident wouldn't be much fun, you'd think. Oh yes? It depends who and what you've left behind. Which is the stranger reality, day or night? Frequently hilarious and consistently disturbing, THE BRIDGE is a novel of outrageous contrasts, constructed chaos and elegant absurdities. Why customers are loving The Bridge: "Banks' Wasp Factory is frequently called 'One of the 20th century's 100 greatest novels'. It pales in comparison to The Bridge!" - Amazon Reviewer, 5 stars "Mindblowing! This is the first Iain Banks novel I have read and needless to say I'll be back for more." - Amazon Reviewer, 5 stars

The Russian Influence on Alasdair Gray's POOR THINGS

The Trick is to Keep Breathing *Random House*

"A young drama teacher in the West of Scotland suffers deep psychological problems which affect all areas of her life. She fails to find meaning in anything around her, but in her search she strips situations of their conventional values and sees them in a sharp, new light." --Publisher's description.

Dante's Divine Trilogy *Canongate Books*

In this masterful retelling of one of the greatest works of world literature, Alasdair Gray - in his last work - offers an original translation in prosaic English rhyme. Lyrical and modern, this complete edition brings all three parts of Dante's epic journey through Hell and Purgatory and on to Paradise together in a single volume for the first time.

Transgressive Womanhood: Investigating Vamps, Witches, Whores, Serial Killers and Monsters *BRILL*

Frankenstein

The 1818 Text, Contexts, Criticism *Norton Critical Editions*

"Because I'm teaching an intro-level course in comparative literature, this edition was extremely helpful in showing the variety of critical approaches that they can take toward a single text. The article on radical science also helped me compare Frankenstein to Alasdair Gray's Poor Things. I highly recommend this edition of Frankenstein and will use it in the future." -Joshua Beall, Rutgers University

How Time Thickens

Chronotopes in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein and Alasdair Gray's Poor Things

The Postmodern *Psychology Press*

Simon Malpas investigates the theories and definitions of postmodernism and postmodernity, and explores their impact in such areas as identity, history, art, literature and culture. In attempting to map the different forms of the postmodern, and the contrasting experiences of postmodernity in

the Western and developing worlds, he looks closely at: * modernism and postmodernism * modernity and postmodernity * subjectivity * history * politics. This useful guidebook will introduce students to a range of key thinkers who have sought to question the contemporary situation, and will enable readers to begin to approach the primary texts of postmodern theory and culture with confidence.