



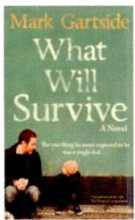
COMPILED BY ANNA RICH

BOOKS



What Will Survive: A Novel

By Mark Gartside
(Macmillan)

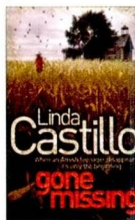


Graham Melton gets under your skin. His heart-warming story is so true and real you find yourself missing him at the end – an ordinary bloke whose experiences will resonate with yours if you, too, are 40-odd. Graham is a survivor from a lower class English family who meets the wealthy Charlotte Marshall when he is 15. Through her, he's introduced to lifestyles and viewpoints other than those of his parents: his family hates Thatcher, but her family supports her. Gartside switches between the 'now' (2009) and the 'then' (1980s–1990s), revealing Melton as both the single parent he has become and the lonely guy wanting a date. Gartside may be new to novels, but *What Will Survive* is outstanding in its honesty and hilarity. A must-read for all parents – and teenage sons.

Janis Theron

Gone Missing

By Linda Castillo
(Minotaur Books)



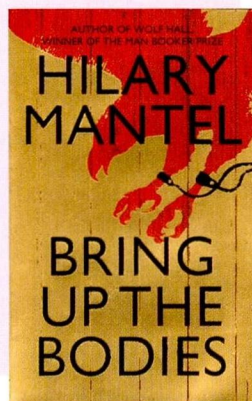
This is the fourth in Linda Castillo's Amish series: police chief Kate Burkholder is called in by her sometime colleague and lover, John Tomasetti, to help find some missing teens. The teens disappear individually, but have a lot in common: they are all Amish, and were all – just before they vanished – 'misbehaving', according to the tenets of the religion. Kate was raised Amish, and so has access to the community that most police don't, although her rejection of 'the plain life' is seen by the Amish as a betrayal. As usual, the case is

Bring up the Bodies

By Hilary Mantel
(HarperCollins)

Divorced, beheaded, died; divorced, beheaded, survived. A trite little line, perhaps, but a useful way of remembering what happened to each of Henry VIII's wives. Technically, though, despite the six weddings, he was only legally married twice. So, even taking into account his 'divine right' as king, how did he get away with this? In *Bringing up the Bodies*, Hilary Mantel offers this suggestion: his astute right-hand man, Thomas Cromwell, interpreted Henry's wishes and made them a reality, no matter the obstacle, by applying his formidable mind. This, the second in the series (the first, *Wolf Hall*, earned Mantel the Man Booker Prize), culminates in the beheading of Anne Boleyn. If you're in the least bit *au fait* with Tudor history you know her fate at the outset – but there's still sufficient mystery to sustain interest. Why did Henry want rid of her? How did Cromwell make the law and facts meet so expediently? I'm even more fascinated by Henry than before and, despite the messy business he's involved in, I love Thomas Cromwell. This read requires a certain level of application, but it is rewarding. Bring on the next one.

Anna Rich



complicated, as are relations between Kate and John, both of whom are scarred by their pasts. This is a quick, easy read in familiar territory for those who have read the others (perhaps becoming a little too familiar). But the series clearly strikes a chord with readers, and has been so successful for Linda Castillo that she is already working on the next one.

Suzy Brokensha

The Sea on Fire

By Howard Cunnell
(Picador)



Kim, the self-destructive lad from Cunnell's first book, *Marine Boy*, who plunged headfirst into the debauched world of professional scuba diving, is back.

Now living in London with his wife, who resents his love for the sea, he thinks he has hung his fins up to dry for good when his old diving mentor invites him on one last dive trip in the Red Sea. As soon as Kim sets foot on the gangster-owned live-aboard, he is once again immersed in a seedy world of drugs and violence that forces him to re-evaluate everything he holds dear. This easy-read thriller, with its superb if flowery attention to diving and aquatic detail, will resonate with divers who crave the colour, ecstasy and sheer escapism of the underwater world. But beneath the surface lies a deceptively clever and coded foray into the darkness and selfishness of desire.

Craig Bishop

Redemption Song

By Amanda Coetsee
(Pan Macmillan)

Harry 'Badger' O'Connor is recovering from the emotional and physical scars of his previous case among the people who adopted him, 'The Travellers'. On leave of absence from