

## Benedict Cumberbatch The Biography

For centuries John Milton, author of *Paradise Lost* and many other poetic works, and of radical pamphlets on free speech, divorce and political rights, has emerged from biographies as a woman-hating domestic tyrant or a saintly blind man. But, as Anna Beer shows, his personal life was just as rich and complex as his professional one. By close and groundbreaking analysis of Milton's careful editing of his own life, his wider family's affairs, the records of his government work, and the history of England during one of its most tumultuous periods of social and cultural life, Beer brings both the poet and his period to vivid life.

Stephen Lewis, a successful writer of children's books, is confronted with the unthinkable: his only child, three-year-old Kate, is snatched from him in a supermarket. In one horrifying moment that replays itself over the years that follow, Stephen realizes his daughter is gone. With extraordinary tenderness and insight, Booker Prize-winning author Ian McEwan takes us into the dark territory of a marriage devastated by the loss of a child. Kate's absence sets Stephen and his wife, Julie, on diverging paths as they each struggle with a grief that only seems to intensify with the passage of time. Eloquent and passionate, the novel concludes in a triumphant scene of love and hope that gives full rein to the author's remarkable gifts.

Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy, *War Horse*, *Star Trek: Into Darkness*, *The Hobbit* trilogy, *Twelve Years a Slave*, *August: Osage County*, *The Fifth Estate*; Hedda Gabler, *After the Dance*, *Frankenstein*; *Hawking*, *To the Ends of the Earth*, *The Last Enemy*, *Parade's End*, and, of course, *Sherlock*. For most actors, these stellar cinematic, theatrical, and television events would be the highlights of a lifetime's work. On Benedict Cumberbatch's résumé they are only a few of many entries. Especially since 2010, his performances have garnered a plethora of best actor awards, both in the theatre (*Evening Standard Theatre Award*, *Critics Circle Theatre Award*, and *Olivier Award*), by playing the dual roles of Victor Frankenstein and the Creature in the National Theatre's *Frankenstein*, and on television (*Broadcasting Press Guild Award*, *Critics Choice Television Award*, *Crime Thriller Award*, and *TV Choice Award*), by starring as the titular Holmes in the BBC's *Sherlock*. Add these and other recent accolades to nearly a decade's nominations and awards (such as the *Golden Nymph* as best actor in *Hawking*), and it's easy to see why Benedict Cumberbatch is often hailed as the actor of his generation. Cumberbatch's body of work further includes indie films, radio plays and series, television documentaries, live dramatic readings, multimedia advertisements, and even the occasional stint as a fashion model. He often shares an intriguing perspective on his profession, as evidenced in sometimes controversial interviews. He has become so much in demand that online box offices crash when tickets for his performances go on sale, and, before a Cheltenham Literature Festival Q&A session, fans overwhelmed Twitter when so many responded immediately to a call for questions. Cumberbatch consistently is a top name on lists ranging from sex appeal to global

influence. In 2012 he beat David Beckham in the former and U.S. President Barack Obama in the latter. Increasingly, part of Cumberbatch's job involves the role of celebrity. Benedict Cumberbatch is at a pivotal point in his profession, and his career trajectory especially as documented in entertainment media permits a closer examination of just what it means to be a celebrity or star in Britain or the U.S. and how an actor may be perceived very differently in London or Hollywood. This performance biography is an analysis of a man in transition from working actor to multimedia star, as well as the balance between actor and celebrity. It looks at what makes this actor so well suited to play one of popular culture's iconic characters, Sherlock Holmes, and how Sherlock is so well suited to propel Cumberbatch toward greater global fame.

A rollicking look at popular culture 's most beloved sleuth: " For even the casual fan, the history of this deathless character is fascinating " (The Boston Globe). Today he is the inspiration for fiction adaptations, blockbuster movies, hit television shows, raucous Twitter banter, and thriving subcultures. More than a century after Sherlock Holmes first capered into our world, what is it about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle 's peculiar creation that continues to fascinate us? Journalist and lifelong Sherlock fan Zach Dundas set out to find the answer. The result is *The Great Detective*: a history of an idea, a biography of someone who never lived, a tour of the borderland between reality and fiction, and a joyful romp through the world Conan Doyle bequeathed us. In this " wonderful book " (Booklist, starred review), Dundas unearths the inspirations behind Holmes and his indispensable companion, Dr. John Watson; explores how they have been kept alive over the decades by writers, actors, and readers; and visits locales—from the boozy annual New York City gathering of one of the world 's oldest and most exclusive Sherlock Holmes fan societies; to a freezing Devon heath out of *The Hound of the Baskervilles*; to sunny Pasadena, where Dundas chats with the creators of the smash BBC series *Sherlock*. Along the way, he discovers the ingredients that have made Holmes go viral—then, now, and as long as the game 's afoot.

Prof: Alan Turing Decoded

The Child in Time

After the Dance

Louis Wain's Cats

Benedict Cumberbatch, In Transition

Being Benedict Cumberbatch

**His fans regularly discuss whether he looks more like 'an otter' or 'a hammerhead shark', but that hasn't stopped Benedict Cumberbatch becoming an international sex symbol who's on the cusp of Hollywood superstardom. He's made 'geekelligence' hot in the insanely popular BBC series *Sherlock*, and explored his dark side in blockbusters like *Star Trek: Into Darkness* and the *Hobbit* trilogy. Along the way he's won the hearts, minds and Twitter accounts of an alarmingly**

**enthusiastic global fan base. Illustrated throughout with full colour photographs, Cumberlicious is an essential guide to the man at the centre of the Cumbervers**

**If you feel that sense that there is something missing from your life, some gap between who you are on the inside and who you are on the outside - then this is the book for you. This is, as the title says, not actually a book about Benedict Cumberbatch. In fact, it's a book about women and what we love. Whip smart, witty, insightful and clever, it's about what happens to women's passions after we leave adolescence, about how the space for joy in our lives is squeezed ever smaller as we age, and why. More importantly, it's about what happens if you subvert that narrative and simply love something like you used to. Drawing upon her personal experience of unexpectedly falling for the British actor Benedict Cumberbatch while stuck at home with two young children, Carvan challenges the reader to stop instinctively resisting the possibility of experiencing pleasure. Hers is clarion rallying cry: find your thing, whatever it may be, and love it like your life depends on it. Funny, intelligent, transporting and liberating, this book is a total joy.**

**AS HEARD ON RADIO 4 'Utterly wonderful' NINA STIBBE, author of Love, Nina Twenty hours have gone since I last wrote. I have been thinking of you. I shall think of you until I post this, and until you get it. Can you feel, as you read these words, that I am thinking of you now; aglow, alive, alert at the thought that you are in the same world, and by some strange chance loving me. In September 1943, Chris Barker was serving as a signaller in North Africa when he decided to brighten the long days of war by writing to old friends. One of these was Bessie Moore, a former work colleague. The unexpected warmth of Bessie's reply changed their lives forever. Crossing continents and years, their funny, affectionate and intensely personal letters are a remarkable portrait of a love played out against the backdrop of the Second World War. Above all, their story is a stirring example of the power of letters to transform ordinary lives.**

**Benedict Cumberbatch has played detective and monster, barrister and scientist, politician and painter, comic and spy. Still only in his thirties, he has become one of Britain's foremost acting talents, excelling in theatre, television, radio and cinema. With a string of starring and supporting roles, he has portrayed contemporary icons, historical figures and fictional favourites, from Stephen Hawking, to William Pitt the Younger, to Frankenstein. He has become a radio comedy staple too, as the bungling airline pilot Captain Martin Crieff, in Radio 4's Cabin Pressure. But inevitably, he is still best known for his idiosyncratic and boldly 21st century incarnation of Sherlock Holmes in the BBC TV series, Sherlock. In this book, Justin Lewis traces Benedict Cumberbatch's career to date, from his early promise in Harrow School plays, through his first supporting roles in film, theatre and TV, to national and international acclaim. He examines his considerable contributions not only to Sherlock, but also to Sir Tom Stoppard's adaptation of Parade's End on television, and to feature films such as Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy, Star Trek Into Darkness and War Horse.**

## **Benedict Cumberbatch**

**Stalin's Englishman: The Lives of Guy Burgess**

**Benedict Cumberbatch: London and Hollywood**

**Colorization**

**Alan Turing: The Enigma**

**How to Stop Time**

This biography of versatile actor Benedict Cumberbatch delves behind the curtains to look at his childhood and the influences that led him to such great success. Benedict Cumberbatch is an award-winning actor with a bright future. His portrayal of Sherlock Holmes and his role as the main antagonist in Star Trek Into Darkness have made him one of the biggest names in acting at the moment. Benedict Cumberbatch will tell his story so far, from the influence of his actor parents and his education at Harrow to his extraordinary success in the past few years. Including fascinating photographs that let us into the world of this great talent, such as behind-the-scenes shots from his various television and film roles, this biography will explain the intriguing life of a man who has taken the world by storm.

In *The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar*, seven tales of the bizarre and unexpected are told by the grand master of the short story, Roald Dahl. Enter a brilliant, sinister and wholly unpredictable world. Here you will find the suggestion of other-worldly goings on in a dark story about a swan and a boy; the surprising tale of a wealthy young wastrel who suddenly develops a remarkable new ability; and meet the hitchhiker whose light-fingers save the day. 'An unforgettable read, don't miss it' Sunday Times. Roald Dahl, the brilliant and worldwide acclaimed author of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, and many more classics for children, also wrote scores of short stories for adults. These delightfully disturbing tales have often been filmed and were most recently the inspiration for the West End play, *Roald Dahl's Twisted Tales* by Jeremy Dyson. Roald Dahl's stories continue to make readers shiver today.

The intimate - and surprising - autobiography of Britain's most adored band. Prepare to meet the real McFly ... In 2003, Tom Fletcher, Danny Jones, Harry Judd and Dougie Poynter came together and formed what would become one of the most popular and successful bands in the UK. Just teenagers at the time, they were catapulted into the limelight and had to adapt quickly to their

new-found fame – and everything that came with it. Now, at last, they have decided to tell their story, in full and revealing detail. Speaking with candour and their trademark humour, Tom, Danny, Harry and Dougie share both the stories of their own lives and that of McFly. They give their personal insights into their contrasting childhoods, the individual paths that led them to the band, the struggles they have each overcome, their love lives and, of course, their music. Packed with previously untold stories, a lot of laughter and the occasional tear, *Unsaid Things* offers a privileged look into the lives of four guys who started out as bandmates and became best friends. Their unique camaraderie radiates from every page and by the end of the book, you'll know them almost as well as they know each other ... Tom Fletcher, Danny Jones, Harry Judd and Dougie Poynter have been together as McFly since 2003. They hold the record for being the youngest band to have a debut No 1 album in the UK. Their hits include: 'Five Colours in Her Hair', 'All About You', 'Please, Please' and 'Shine a Light'. They are one of the biggest bands in the UK.

'The Book of the Year, perhaps of the decade, has to be Matthew Sturgis's *Oscar*' TLS, Books of the Year. NOMINATED FOR THE WOLFSON HISTORY PRIZE 2019. A SUNDAY TIMES BOOK OF THE YEAR. 'Simply the best modern biography of Wilde ... A terrific achievement' Evening Standard. 'Page-turning ... Vivid and desperately moving. However much you think you know Wilde, this book will absorb and entertain you' Sunday Times. 'Wonderfully exciting ... Sturgis's great achievement is to take on board his great flurry of contradictions' Craig Brown, Mail on Sunday. '[Sturgis] is a tremendous orchestrator of material, fastidious, unhurried, indefatigable' Observer. 'Oscar Wilde is more fashionable than ever ... Sturgis's account of the hearing at the Old Bailey is as gripping as it is grim' Guardian. 'The Book of the Year, perhaps of the decade, has to be Matthew Sturgis's *Oscar* which captures the wit, the love-ability, the dramatic genius, the insane self-destructiveness, the originality of Wilde ... [Sturgis] is the greatest chronicler of the 1890s we have ever had' TLS, Books of the Year. Oscar Wilde's life – like his wit – was alive with paradox. He was both an early exponent and a victim of 'celebrity culture': famous for being famous, he was lauded and ridiculed in equal measure. His achievements were frequently downplayed, his successes resented. He had a genius for comedy but strove to write tragedies. He was an unabashed snob who nevertheless delighted in exposing the faults of society. He affected a dandified disdain but was prone to great acts of kindness. Although happily married, he became a passionate lover of men and – at the very peak of his success – brought disaster upon himself.

He disparaged authority, yet went to the law to defend his love for Lord Alfred Douglas. Having delighted in fashionable throngs, Wilde died almost alone: barely a dozen people were at his graveside. Yet despite this ruinous end, Wilde's star continues to shine brightly. His was a life of quite extraordinary drama. Above all, his flamboyant refusal to conform to the social and sexual orthodoxies of his day make him a hero and an inspiration to all who seek to challenge convention. In the first major biography of Oscar Wilde in thirty years, Matthew Sturgis draws on a wealth of new material and fresh research to place the man firmly in the context of his times. He brings alive the distinctive mood and characters of the fin de siècle in the richest and most compelling portrait of Wilde to date.

Benedict Cumberbatch, an Actor in Transition

Benedict Cumberbatch - The Biography

The Great Detective

Poet, Pamphleteer and Patriot

One Hundred Years of Black Films in a White World

Never Mind

Winner of the Betty Trask Award, *Never Mind* is the first in Edward St Aubyn's semi-autobiographical Patrick Melrose novels, adapted for TV for Sky Atlantic and starring Benedict Cumberbatch as aristocratic addict, Patrick. At his mother's family house in the south of France, Patrick Melrose has the run of a magical garden. Bravely imaginative and self-sufficient, five-year-old Patrick encounters the volatile lives of adults with care. His father, David, rules with considered cruelty, and Eleanor, his mother, has retreated into drink. They are expecting guests for dinner. But this afternoon is unlike the chain of summer days before, and the shocking events that precede the guests' arrival tear Patrick's world in two. *Never Mind* was originally published, along with *Bad News* and *Some Hope*, as part of a three book omnibus, also called *Some Hope*.

The critically acclaimed drama by one of England's most successful mid-century playwrights.

When Charla Muller's husband turned 40, she gave him something memorable. Sex. Every day. For an entire year. The Mullers had a solid marriage and two wonderful children, but over the years sex had fallen low on their to-do list. The lack of intimacy wasn't causing them to drift apart, exactly, but their connection didn't seem as great as it could be. Charla decided she couldn't go on pretending the relationship they once had wasn't important. The couple would embark on a year of scheduled sex, falling over Tonka trucks and piles of laundry in an effort to make time for each other. There were obstacles along the way (work implosions, faking it) and questions came to light. Will sex every day strengthen a marriage, or reveal the cracks? Pull a couple together or drive them apart? Does good sex (even mediocre sex) make up for things that aren't so good?

Benedict Cumberbatch captivated audiences as Marvel's Doctor Strange. With compelling images, fun facts, and an Inside

Hollywood special feature, this book provides an engaging overview of Cumberbatch's life, acting career, and experience playing Doctor Strange.

The Amazing Rise and Immortal Life of Sherlock Holmes

Milton

A Life

Alan Turing

On a Grand Scale

A Memoir of Intimacy

Benedict Cumberbatch is an English actor who has performed in film, television, theatre and radio. The son of actors Timothy Carlton and Wanda Ventham, he graduated from the University of Manchester and continued his training at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art, obtaining a Master of Arts in Classical Acting. He first performed at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park in Shakespearean productions and made his West End debut portraying George Tesman in Richard Eyre's revival of Hedda Gabler in 2005. Since then he has starred in the Royal National Theatre productions *After the Dance* (2010) and *Frankenstein* (2011). In 2015, he played William Shakespeare's Hamlet at the Barbican Theatre. Cumberbatch's television work includes appearances in *Silent Witness* (2002) and *Fortysomething* (2003) before playing Stephen Hawking in the television film *Hawking* in 2004. He has starred as Sherlock Holmes in the series *Sherlock* since 2010. He has also headlined Tom Stoppard's adaptation of *Parade's End* (2012) and *The Hollow Crown: The Wars of the Roses* (2016). In film, he has starred in *Amazing Grace* (2006) as William Pitt the Younger, *Star Trek Into Darkness* (2013) as Khan, *12 Years a Slave* (2013) as William Prince Ford, *The Fifth Estate* (2013) as Julian Assange and *The Imitation Game* (2014) as Alan Turing. From 2012 to 2014, through voice and motion capture, he played the characters of Smaug and the Necromancer in *The Hobbit* film series. Cumberbatch portrays the Marvel Comics character Dr. Stephen Strange in the Marvel Cinematic Universe, first appearing in the film *Doctor Strange* (2016). Cumberbatch has received numerous awards and nominations for acting including three Laurence Olivier Award nominations, winning Best Actor in a Play for *Frankenstein*. He has also received four Primetime Emmy Award nominations, winning Outstanding Lead Actor in a Miniseries or a Movie for *Sherlock*. His performance in *The Imitation Game* earned him an Academy Award nomination for Best Actor. In addition, he has received six BAFTA nominations, five Screen Actors Guild Award nominations and two Golden Globe Award nominations among others. In 2014, *Time* magazine included him in its annual Time 100 as one of the "Most Influential People in the World." He was appointed a CBE by Queen Elizabeth II in June 2015 for his services to the performing arts and to charity.

In this extraordinary book, Alexander Masters has created a moving portrait of a troubled man, an unlikely friendship, and a desperate world few ever see. A gripping who-done-it journey back in time, it begins with Masters meeting a drunken Stuart lying on a sidewalk in Cambridge, England, and leads through layers of hell—back through crimes and misdemeanors, prison and homelessness, suicide attempts, violence, drugs, juvenile halls and special schools—to expose the smiling, gregarious thirteen-year-old boy who was Stuart before his long, sprawling, dangerous fall. Shocking, inspiring, and hilarious by turns, *Stuart: A Life Backwards* is a writer's quest to give voice to a man who, beneath his forbidding

exterior, has a message for us all: that every life—even the most chaotic and disreputable—is a story worthy of being told.

THE SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER WINNER OF THE 2017 BOOKS ARE MY BAG READERS AWARD FOR POPULAR FICTION  
Tom Hazard has a dangerous secret. He may look like an ordinary 41-year-old, but owing to a rare condition, he's been alive for centuries. From Elizabethan England to Jazz-Age Paris, from New York to the South Seas, Tom has seen a lot, and now craves an ordinary life. Always changing his identity to stay alive, Tom has the perfect cover - working as a history teacher at a London comprehensive. Here he can teach the kids about wars and witch hunts as if he'd never witnessed them first-hand. He can try to tame the past that is fast catching up with him. The only thing Tom must not do is fall in love.

“At once a film book, a history book, and a civil rights book” without a doubt, not only the very best film book” but it is also one of the best books of the year in any genre. An absolutely essential read.” —Shondaland  
This unprecedented history of Black cinema examines 100 years of Black movies—from *Gone with the Wind* to Blaxploitation films to *Black Panther*—using the struggles and triumphs of the artists, and the films themselves, as a prism to explore Black culture, civil rights, and racism in America. From the acclaimed author of *The Butler* and *Showdown*.  
Beginning in 1915 with D. W. Griffith's *The Birth of a Nation*—which glorified the Ku Klux Klan and became Hollywood's first blockbuster—Wil Haygood gives us an incisive, fascinating, little-known history, spanning more than a century, of Black artists in the film business, on-screen and behind the scenes. He makes clear the effects of changing social realities and events on the business of making movies and on what was represented on the screen: from Jim Crow and segregation to white flight and interracial relationships, from the assassination of Malcolm X, to the O. J. Simpson trial, to the Black Lives Matter movement. He considers the films themselves—including *Imitation of Life*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Porgy and Bess*, the Blaxploitation films of the seventies, *Do The Right Thing*, *12 Years a Slave*, and *Black Panther*. And he brings to new light the careers and significance of a wide range of historic and contemporary figures: Hattie McDaniel, Sidney Poitier, Berry Gordy, Alex Haley, Spike Lee, Billy Dee Williams, Richard Pryor, Halle Berry, Ava DuVernay, and Jordan Peele, among many others. An important, timely book, *Colorization* gives us both an unprecedented history of Black cinema and a groundbreaking perspective on racism in modern America.

Master Detective, Myth and Media Star

Actor, Lover, Priest, Spy

An Unauthorised Performance Biography

The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar and Six More

Einstein's Greatest Mistake

The Book That Inspired the Film *The Imitation Game* - Updated Edition

This extensively researched performance biography is an analysis of the work of a man in transition from working actor to multimedia star ... It looks at what makes this actor so well suited to play such a daring interpretation of one of popular culture's most iconic characters, Sherlock Holmes, and how "Sherlock" has been in turn so well suited to propel Cumberbatch toward the greater global fame he has achieved. -- Cover, page 4.

Alexander Masters, the bestselling author of *Stuart: A Life Backwards*, asks you to join him in celebrating an unknown and important life left on the scrap heap. In 2001, 148 tattered and mold-covered notebooks were discovered lying among broken bricks in a skip on a building site in Cambridge. Tens of thousands of pages were filled to the edges with urgent handwriting. They were a small part of an intimate, anonymous diary, starting in 1952 and ending half a century later, a few weeks before the books were thrown out. Over five years, the award-winning biographer Alexander Masters uncovers the identity and real history of their author, with an astounding final revelation. *A Life Discarded* is a true, shocking, poignant, often hilarious story of an ordinary life. The author of the diaries, known only as 'I,' is the tragicomic patron saint of everyone who feels their life should have been more successful. Part thriller, part love story, part social history, *A Life Discarded* is a biographical detective story that unfolds with the suspense of a mystery but has all the warmth, respect, humor, and dazzling originality that made Masters's *Stuart: A Life Backwards* such a beloved book.

Everybody knows about Sherlock Holmes, the unique literary character created by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, who has remained popular over the decades and is more appreciated than ever today. But what made this fictional character, dreamed up by a small-town English doctor back in the 1880s, into such a great success? This is the fascinating and exciting tale of the man and people who created the Holmes legend. The book was winner of the Best Non-fiction Award by The Swedish Crime Writers' Academy 2013 and shortlisted for The Great Non-Fiction Book Prize (Sweden's biggest non-fiction award) in Sweden 2013.

'Dazzling, witty, moving, joyful, mournful, profound. Wildly inventive, deeply felt. Hilarious. Humane. Simply put: it's one of the best novels I've read this century' Gillian Flynn, bestselling author of *GONE GIRL* 'A box of delights. Ingenious in construction, indefatigably entertaining, it grips the reader's imagination on the first page and never lets go.' HILARY MANTEL, author of *THE MIRROR AND THE LIGHT* What if you had the chance to live your life again and again, until you finally got it right? During a snowstorm in England in 1910, a baby is born and dies before she can take her first breath. During a snowstorm in England in 1910, the same baby is born and lives to tell the tale. What if there were second chances? And third chances? In fact an infinite number of chances to live your life? Would you eventually be able to save the world from its own inevitable destiny? And would you even want to? *Life After Life* follows Ursula Todd as she lives through the turbulent events of the last century again and again. With wit and compassion, Kate Atkinson finds warmth even in life's bleakest moments, and shows an extraordinary ability to evoke the past. Here she is at her most profound and inventive, in a novel that celebrates the best and worst of ourselves.

\_\_\_\_\_ 'Merging family saga with a fluid sense of time and an extraordinarily vivid sense of history at its most human level. A dizzying and dazzling tour de force' Daily Mail 'Absolutely brilliant...it reminded me a bit of her first book *Behind the Scenes at the Museum*, which is one of my most favourite books ever.' Mirian Keyes, author of *Grown Ups* 'Truly brilliant...Think of Audrey Niffenegger's *The Time Traveler's Wife* or David Nicholl's *One Day*...[or] Martin Amis's *Times Arrow*.... This is a rare book that you want to start again the minute you have finished.' The Times

The Biography

A Biography

Tom Hiddleston - The Biography

McFly - Unsaid Things...Our Story

Benedict Cumberbatch, Transition Completed: Films, Fame, Fans

365 Nights

*The Art for Kids Collection lets children get their hands on art! Each book contains five funny*

*'Louis Wain invented a cat style, a cat society, a whole cat world'. Broadcast in 1925 by H.G. Wells, these words characteristically foretold the future of the Wain cat which has, once more, become the century's most recognisable image in cat art. During their heyday, in the time before the First World War, Louis Wain's cats, dressed as humans, portrayed that stylish Edwardian world having fun: at restaurants and tea parties, going to the Race and the Seaside, celebrating at Christmas and Birthdays, and disporting themselves with exuberant games of tennis, bowls, cricket and football. This is a titillating world of cats at play, uninhibited and slightly dangerous, with most group activities likely to turn into mishap, mayhem and catastrophe. This is Wain's world, funny, edgy and animated: a whole cat world. The first comprehensive exhibition of Wain's work was held at the Victoria and Albert Museum in London in 1972 and, since then, Louis Wain has steadily become more fashionable, and collected worldwide. This biography contains 300 plates of richness and variety, all of which are reproduced faithfully from the original artwork. This book is jointly published by Chris Beetles Ltd and Canongate Books.*

*"What Bodanis does brilliantly is to give us a feel for Einstein as a person. I don't think I've ever read a book that does this as well" (Popular Science). In this "fascinating" biography, the acclaimed author of  $E=mc^2$  reveals that in spite of his indisputable brilliance, Albert Einstein found himself ignored by most working scientists during the final decades of his life, his ideas opposed by even his closest friends (Forbes). How did this happen? Einstein revolutionized our understanding of the cosmos with his general theory of relativity, and helped lead us into the atomic age. This book goes beyond his remarkable intellect and accomplishments to examine the man himself, from*

*the skeptical, erratic student to the world's greatest physicist to the fallen-from-grace celebrity. An intimate biography that "imparts fresh insight into the genius—and failures—of the 20th century's most celebrated scientist," Einstein's Greatest Mistake reveals what we owe Einstein today—and how much more he might have achieved if not for his all-too-human flaws (Publishers Weekly). Named a Science Book of the Year by the Sunday Times and one of the Top Five Science Books of 2016 by ABC News Australia, this unique book "offers a window onto Einstein's achievements and missteps, as well as his life—his friendships, his complicated love life (two marriages, many affairs) and his isolation from other scientists at the end of his life" (BookPage).*

*\*Tongue-in-cheek and totally unhelpful, this little book is the perfect gift for all Benedict Cumberbatch fans\**

*Oscar*

*The Life and Death of Sherlock Holmes*

*Three Little Monkeys*

*A Love Story in Letters*

*148 Diaries Found in the Trash*

*A Life Discarded*

*Benedict Cumberbatch is an award-winning actor with a bright future. His portrayal of Sherlock Holmes and a role as the main antagonist in Star Trek Into Darkness have made him one of the biggest names in acting at the moment. This biography tells his story so far, about his extraordinary success in the past few years. This is the story of an intriguing man who has taken the world by storm.*

*A remarkable collaboration – that brings together giants of the picture book world – to create a funny, anarchic and utterly delightful picture book. A classic of the future. Hilariously read by Olivia Colman.*

*Star Trek: Into Darkness, The Fifth Estate, 12 Years a Slave, August: Osage County, The Hobbit: The Desolation of Smaug—these would be milestones in most actors' entire career. For Benedict Cumberbatch, roles in these films are merely a year's additions to his already-vast resume. 2013 proved to be the final step in Cumberbatch's transition from respected working actor to bona fide worldwide celebrity and recipient of BAFTA Los Angeles' Britannia Award for British Artist of the Year. Like its predecessor, Benedict Cumberbatch, In Transition (MX Publishing, 2013), Benedict Cumberbatch, Transition Completed: Films, Fame, Fans explores the nature of Cumberbatch's fame and fandom while*

*analysing his most recent roles. This in-depth performance biography does more than critique the actor's radio, stage, film, and television performances—especially his star turn in the long-awaited yet controversial third series of Sherlock. It also analyses how and why the actor's work is so memorable in each role, a perspective unique to this performance biography. Cumberbatch's role in popular culture, as much as his acting in multiple media, is well worth such scrutiny to illustrate that Benedict Cumberbatch represents both the best of acting and of the power of celebrity.*

*Winner of the St Ermin's Intelligence Book of the Year Award. 'One of the great biographies of 2015.'* *The Times Fully updated edition including recently released information. A Guardian Book of the Year. The Times Best Biography of the Year. Mail on Sunday Biography of the Year. Daily Mail Biography of Year. Spectator Book of the Year. BBC History Book of the Year. 'A remarkable and definitive portrait'* *Frederick Forsyth 'Andrew Lownie's biography of Guy Burgess, Stalin's Englishman ... shrewd, thorough, revelatory.'* *William Boyd 'In the sad and funny Stalin's Englishman, [Lownie] manages to convey the charm as well as the turpitude.'* *Craig Brown Guy Burgess was the most important, complex and fascinating of 'The Cambridge Spies' - Maclean, Philby, Blunt - all brilliant young men recruited in the 1930s to betray their country to the Soviet Union. An engaging and charming companion to many, an unappealing, utterly ruthless manipulator to others, Burgess rose through academia, the BBC, the Foreign Office, MI5 and MI6, gaining access to thousands of highly sensitive secret documents which he passed to his Russian handlers. In this first full biography, Andrew Lownie shows us how even Burgess's chaotic personal life of drunken philandering did nothing to stop his penetration and betrayal of the British Intelligence Service. Even when he was under suspicion, the fabled charm which had enabled many close personal relationships with influential Establishment figures (including Winston Churchill) prevented his exposure as a spy for many years. Through interviews with more than a hundred people who knew Burgess personally, many of whom have never spoken about him before, and the discovery of hitherto secret files, Stalin's Englishman brilliantly unravels the many lives of Guy Burgess in all their intriguing, chilling, colourful, tragi-comic wonder.*

*Winner of the Costa Novel Award*

*Life After Life*

*Stuart: A Life Backwards*

*The Enigma of Intelligence*

*My Name Is X and I Am a Cumberbitch*

*The Outstanding Life of Sir Christopher Wren*

**A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** The official book behind the Academy Award-winning film *The Imitation Game*, starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Keira Knightley It is only a slight

exaggeration to say that the British mathematician Alan Turing (1912–1954) saved the Allies from the Nazis, invented the computer and artificial intelligence, and anticipated gay liberation by decades--all before his suicide at age forty-one. This New York Times–bestselling biography of the founder of computer science, with a new preface by the author that addresses Turing's royal pardon in 2013, is the definitive account of an extraordinary mind and life. Capturing both the inner and outer drama of Turing's life, Andrew Hodges tells how Turing's revolutionary idea of 1936--the concept of a universal machine--laid the foundation for the modern computer and how Turing brought the idea to practical realization in 1945 with his electronic design. The book also tells how this work was directly related to Turing's leading role in breaking the German Enigma ciphers during World War II, a scientific triumph that was critical to Allied victory in the Atlantic. At the same time, this is the tragic account of a man who, despite his wartime service, was eventually arrested, stripped of his security clearance, and forced to undergo a humiliating treatment program--all for trying to live honestly in a society that defined homosexuality as a crime. The inspiration for a major motion picture starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Keira Knightley, *Alan Turing: The Enigma* is a gripping story of mathematics, computers, cryptography, and homosexual persecution.

Alan Turing was an extraordinary man who crammed into a life of only 42 years the careers of mathematician, codebreaker, computer scientist and biologist. He is widely regarded as a war hero grossly mistreated by his unappreciative country and it has become hard to disentangle the real man from the story. It is easy to cast him as a misfit, the stereotypical professor. But actually Alan Turing was never a professor, and his nickname 'Prof' was given by his codebreaking friends at Bletchley Park. Now, Alan Turing's nephew, Dermot Turing, has taken a fresh look at the influences on Alan Turing's life and creativity, and the later creation of a legend. For the first time it is possible to disclose the real character behind the cipher-text: how did Alan's childhood experiences influence the man? Who were the influential figures in Alan's formative years? How did his creative ideas evolve? Was he really a solitary, asocial genius? What was his wartime work after 1942, and why was it kept even more secret than the Enigma story? What is the

truth about Alan Turing's conviction for gross indecency, and did he commit suicide? What is the significance of the Royal Pardon granted in 2013? In Dermot's own style he takes a vibrant and entertaining approach to the life and work of a true genius.

British television, stage and film actor Tom Hiddleston has a gift for playing the villain. Still only in his thirties, he has become one of Britain's great acting exports and has brought both the big and small screen to life for audiences around the world. First emerging on British television and stage - winning the Lawrence Olivier Award in 2008 and appearing in Othello opposite Ewan Macgregor - Hiddleston's breakthrough came when he was cast as Loki in the 2011 Thor film, and again in The Avengers (2012) and the 2013 blockbuster Thor: The Dark World, a role that cemented him as a star. He has since worked with legends of stage and screen, including Woody Allen and Steven Spielberg, and recently won a Golden Globe for his role in the BBC adaptation of John Le Carre's The Night Manager. In this book, Sarah Marshall traces Tom Hiddleston's career to date, from his early introduction to theatre as a child, through to his role at the heart of the blockbuster Marvel Universe and leaves few readers doubting the incredible talent of this modern star.

Benedict Cumberbatch's career is built to last. From his early success as a working actor through his dynamic trajectory to international star, Cumberbatch continues to be one of the best thespians of his generation. Those who know Cumberbatch primarily because of his award-winning star turn as Sherlock Holmes in the BBC's Sherlock know only a fraction of the actor's noteworthy professional history, including such critically acclaimed roles as, on television, Hawking, Small Island, To the Ends of the Earth, Parade's End, and The Hollow Crown; on stage, Hedda Gabler, After the Dance, Frankenstein, and Hamlet; on radio, Cabin Pressure and Nowhere; and on film, Atonement, War Horse, Star Trek: Into Darkness, and The Imitation Game. Whether starring on television, stage, or radio in home base London or filming a Hollywood production, Benedict Cumberbatch continues to choose interesting roles that cement his A-list status. His career is not without occasional controversy, but, like those he admires most in London or Hollywood, he has become savvy about the entertainment industry. Benedict Cumberbatch is here to stay in the spotlight-

to the delight of anyone who appreciates fine acting.

**This Is Not A Book About Benedict Cumberbatch**

**Benedict Cumberbatch (Life History)**

**Casanova**

**Cats**

**My Dear Bessie**

"A sheer testament to the power of the written word." (The New York Times) Giacomo Casanova's energy was dazzling. He made and lost fortunes, founded state lotteries, and wrote forty-two books and 3,600 pages of memoirs recording the tastes and smells of the years before the French Revolution—as well as his affairs and sexual encounters with dozens of women and a handful of men. Historian Ian Kelly draws on previously unpublished documents from the Venetian Inquisition, and documents by Casanova and his friends and lovers, which give new insights into his life and world. Kelly's research spans eighteenth-century Venice, Paris, St. Petersburg, Moscow, Rome, Prague, and the Czech castle where Casanova lived, wrote, and died. From his devotion to kabbalah to his collaboration with Mozart and librettist Da Ponte on the opera *Don Giovanni*, from his vast appetite for food and sex to his training for the priesthood, Casanova reveled in the *commedia dell'arte*. And, as Kelly posits, it is from Casanova's careful study of its artifice and illusion that his success as both a libertine and a libertarian was founded.

Trough the prism of the tumultuous life and brilliant intellect of Sir Christopher Wren, the multitalented architect of Saint Paul's Cathedral in London, historian Lisa Jardine unfolds the vibrant, extraordinary emerging new world of late-seventeenth-century science and ideas. The man behind the bold, imposing beauty of Saint Paul's was as remarkable as the monuments he has left us. Wren was a versatile genius who could have pursued a number of brilliant careers with equal virtuosity. A mathematical prodigy, an accomplished astronomer, a skillful anatomist, and a founder of the Royal Society, he eventually made a career in what he described disparagingly in later life as "Rubbish " -- architecture, and the design and construction of public buildings. Wren was a major figure at a turning point in English history. He mapped moons and the trajectories of comets for kings; lived and worked under six monarchs; pursued astronomy and medicine during two civil wars; exercised his creativity through the English Commonwealth, the Great Fire, the Restoration. His royal employment out lasted abdication, Dutch invasion, and the eventual extinction of the Stuart dynasty. Beyond the public achievements, Jardine explores Wren's personal motivations and passions. He was a sincere, intensely moral man with a remarkable capacity for friendship. His career was shaped by lasting associations forged during a turbulent boyhood and a lifelong loyalty to the memory of his father's master and benefactor, the "martyred king," Charles I. Everything Wren undertook, he envisaged on a grander scale -- bigger, better, more enduring than anything that had gone before.