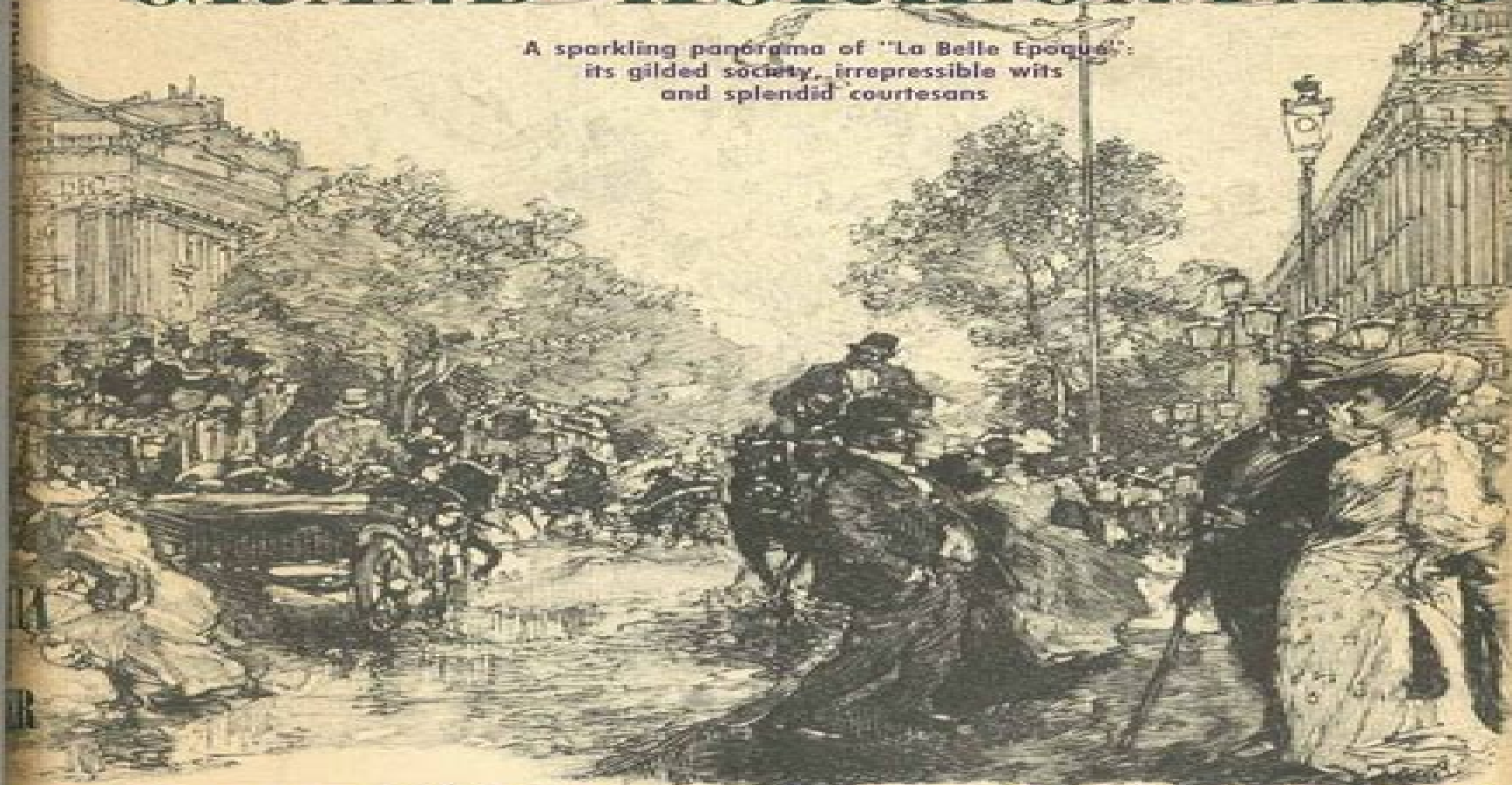


ELEGANT WITS AND GRAND HORIZONTALS

A sparkling panorama of "La Belle Epoque":
its gilded society, irrepressible wits
and splendid courtesans



CORNELIA OTIS SKINNER

Elegant Wits And Grand Horizontals

Rosina Ehmann



Elegant Wits And Grand Horizontals:

Elegant wits and grand horizontals, by cornelia otis skinner Cornelia otis Skinner,1963 **Elegant Wits and Grand Horizontals** Cornelia Otis Skinner,1963 *Little, Brown Book of Anecdotes* Clifton Fadiman,2009-10-31 Fadiman may do for the anecdote what Bartlett did for the quotation A thoroughly entertaining and useful reference source School Library Journal Along with an introduction an index of themes and a bibliography this A to Z collection includes anecdotes about over two thousand famous people from Alexander the Great to Muhammad Ali An enjoyable journey through history and popular culture it offers a blend of biographical tidbits with words of wisdom and just plain funny stories Tailor made for speech writers in search of the right story for a special occasion or for those who enjoy browsing among quotes from our brightest wordsmiths People *Encyclopedia of Feminist Literature* Mary Ellen Snodgrass,2015-04-22 Presents articles on feminist literature including significant authors themes and history **One Toss of the Dice: The Incredible Story of How a Poem Made Us Modern** R. Howard Bloch,2016-11-08 In the tradition of *The Swerve* comes this thrilling detective like work of literary history that reveals how a poem created the world we live in today It was improbably the forerunner of our digital age a French poem about a shipwreck published in 1897 that with its mind bending possibilities of being read up and down backward and forward even sideways launched modernism St phane Mallarm s *One Toss of the Dice* a daring twenty page epic of ruin and recovery provided an epochal tipping point defining the spirit of the age and anticipating radical thinkers of the twentieth century from Albert Einstein to T S Eliot Celebrating its intrinsic influence on our culture renowned scholar R Howard Bloch masterfully decodes the poem still considered among the most enigmatic ever written In Bloch s shimmering portrait of Belle poque Paris Mallarm stands as the spiritual giant of the era gathering around him every Tuesday a luminous cast of characters including mile Zola Victor Hugo Claude Monet Andr Gide Claude Debussy Oscar Wilde and even the future French prime minister Georges Clemenceau A simple schoolteacher whose salons and prodigious literary talent won him the adoration of Paris s elite Mallarm achieved the reputation of France s greatest living poet He was so beloved that mourners crowded along the Seine for his funeral in 1898 many refusing to depart until late into the night leaving Auguste Renoir to ponder How long will it take for nature to make another such a mind Over a century later the allure of Mallarm s linguistic feat continues to ignite the imaginations of the world s greatest thinkers Featuring a new authoritative translation of the French poem by J D McClatchy *One Toss of the Dice* reveals how a literary masterpiece launched the modernist movement contributed to the rise of pop art influenced modern Web design and shaped the perceptual world we now inhabit And as Alex Ross remarks in *The New Yorker* If you can crack Mallarm s poems it seems you can crack the riddles of existence In *One Toss of the Dice* Bloch finally and brilliantly dissects one of literary history s greatest mysteries to reveal how a poem made us modern **Aimlessness** Tom Lutz,2021-01-26 Our culture values striving purpose achievement and accumulation This book asks us to get sidetracked along the way It praises aimlessness as a source of creativity and an alternative to the

demand for linear efficient instrumentalist thinking and productivity Aimlessness collects ideas and stories from around the world that value indirection wandering getting lost waiting meandering lingering sitting laying about daydreaming and other ways to be open to possibility chaos and multiplicity Tom Lutz considers aimlessness as a fundamental human proclivity and method one that has been vilified by modern industrial societies but celebrated by many religious traditions philosophers writers and artists He roams a circular path that snakes and forks down sideroads traipsing through modernist art nomadic life slacker comedies drugs travel nirvana and oblivion The book is structured as a recursive disjunctive spiral of short sections a collage of narrative anecdotal analytic and lyrical passages intended to be read aimlessly to wind up someplace unexpected

Gabriel Fauré: The Songs and their Poets Graham Johnson, 2017-07-05 The career of Gabriel Fauré a composer of songs for voice and piano traverses six decades 1862 1921 almost the whole history of French music is contained within these parameters In the 1860s Fauré the lifelong protégé of Camille Saint-Saëns was a suavely precocious student he was part of Pauline Viardot's circle in the 1870s and he nearly married her daughter Pointed in the direction of symbolist poetry by Robert de Montesquiou in 1886 Fauré as the favoured composer from the early 1890s of Winifred Maitland Singer later Princesse de Polignac and his songs were revered by Marcel Proust In 1905 he became director of the Paris Conservatoire and he composed his most profound music in old age His existence steadily productive and outwardly imperturbable was undermined by self-doubt an unhappy marriage and a tragic loss of hearing In this detailed study Graham Johnson places the vocal music within twin contexts Fauré's own life story and the parallel lives of his many poets We encounter such giants as Charles Baudelaire and Paul Verlaine the patrician Leconte de Lisle the forgotten Armand Silvestre and the Belgian symbolist Charles Van Lerberghe The chronological range of the narrative encompasses Fauré's first poet Victor Hugo who railed against Napoleon III in the 1850s and the last Jean de La Ville de Mirmont killed in action in the First World War In this comprehensive and richly illustrated study each of Fauré's 109 songs receives a separate commentary Additional chapters for the student singer and serious music lover discuss interpretation and performance in both aesthetical and practical terms Richard Stokes provides parallel English translations of the original French texts In the twenty-first century musical modernity is evaluated differently from the way it was assessed thirty years ago Fauré's no longer merely a Master of Charms circumscribed by the belle époque His status as a great composer of timeless

Sisters of Salome Toni Bentley, 2005-01-01 Sisters of Salome explores how four influential dancers embraced the persona of the femme fatale transformed the misogynist image of a dangerously sexual woman into a form of personal liberation

In Bed With Sherlock Holmes Christopher Redmond, 2002-10-02 In Bed with Sherlock Holmes provides a witty and well-researched discussion of the sexual elements in the Sherlock Holmes stories and in Conan Doyle's own life An expert commentator on all things Victorian Doyle also reflects that period's attitudes toward sex and erotic love This commentary will make the Sherlock Holmes stories even more interesting and intriguing since Redmond uses published and unpublished articles books and letters as well as quotes

from speeches given at meetings to enliven the text and give a broad out look to this unusual assessment of Doyle s best known stories Each chapter opens with one of the original Sidney Paget illustrations Bibliography Index **The Sphinx**

Hugo Vickers,2020-01-09 The Times and Sunday Times Books of the Year 2020 The Times Best Biography Audiobook of the Year 2021 Vickers gives breathing alarming life to a woman who puzzled and thrilled her contemporaries SUNDAY TIMES Best Paperbacks of 2021 A continuously astonishing and ultimately moving account of a unique figure the stuff of great literature Simon Callow SUNDAY TIMES Gripping jaw dropping story brilliantly told Ysenda Maxtone Graham THE TIMES Mr Vickers with his sharp eye for detail splendidly captures the drama of Gladys s life and the amazing cast of characters she encountered WALL STREET JOURNAL This biography is truly wonderful a masterclass in storytelling SUNDAY TIMES The most extraordinary rackety life William Boyd DAILY TELEGRAPH Richly anecdotal and oddly captivating Miranda Seymour FINANCIAL TIMES At the end of the book the reader can only say Whew What a story Anne de Courcy SPECTATOR Hugo Vickers s life of Gladys Marlborough is an extraordinary and tragic story with special resonance today EVENING STANDARD One of the most beautiful and brilliant women of her time Gladys Deacon dazzled and puzzled the glittering social circles in which she moved Born in Paris to American parents in 1881 Gladys emerged from a traumatic childhood her father having shot her mother s lover dead when Gladys was only eleven to captivate and inspire some of the greatest literary and artistic names of the Belle Epoque Marcel Proust wrote of her I never saw a girl with such beauty such magnificent intelligence such goodness and charm Berenson considered marrying her Rodin and Monet befriended her Boldini painted her and Epstein sculpted her She inspired love from diverse Dukes and Princes and the interest of women such as the Comtesse Greffulhe and Gertrude Stein In 1921 when Gladys was forty she achieved the wish she had held since the age of fourteen to marry the 9th Duke of Marlborough then freshly divorced from fellow American Consuelo Vanderbilt Gladys s circle now included Lady Ottoline Morrell Lytton Strachey and Winston Churchill who described her as a strange glittering being But life at Blenheim was not a success when the Duke evicted her in 1933 the only remaining signs of Gladys were two sphinxes bearing her features on the west terraces and mysterious blue eyes in the grand portico She became a recluse and the wax injections she d had to straighten her nose when she was 22 had by now ravaged her beauty Gladys was to spend her last years in the psycho geriatric ward of a mental hospital where she was discovered by a young Hugo Vickers Intrigued and compelled to unmask the truth of her mysterious life Vickers visited her over the course of two years eventually publishing Gladys Duchess of Marlborough a biography of her life and his first book in 1979 two years after Gladys s death Forty years on Vickers has now completely rewritten and revised his original biography updating it with previously unavailable material and drawing on his own personal research all over Europe and America He once asked Gladys Where is Gladys Deacon She answered him slowly Gladys Deacon She never existed The Sphinx is a fascinating portrait of this elusive but brilliant woman who was at the centre of a now bygone era of wealth and privilege and a tribute to one of the brightest stars of her age *Théophile*

Delcassé and the Making of the Entente Cordiale C. Andrew, 1968-06-18 **Twilight of the Belle Epoque** Mary McAuliffe, 2014-03-16 Mary McAuliffe's *Dawn of the Belle Epoque* took the reader from the multiple disasters of 1870-1871 through the extraordinary re-emergence of Paris as the cultural center of the Western world. Now in *Twilight of the Belle Epoque* McAuliffe portrays Paris in full flower at the turn of the twentieth century where creative dynamos such as Picasso, Matisse, Stravinsky, Debussy, Ravel, Proust, Marie Curie, Gertrude Stein, Jean Cocteau, and Isadora Duncan set their respective circles on fire with a barrage of revolutionary visions and discoveries. Such dramatic breakthroughs were not limited to the arts or sciences as innovators and entrepreneurs such as Louis Renault, André Citroën, Paul Poiret, François Coty, and so many others including those magnificent men and women in their flying machines emphatically demonstrated. But all was not well in this world remembered in hindsight as a golden age and wrenching struggles between Church and state as well as between haves and have-nots shadowed these years underscored by the ever more ominous drumbeat of the approaching Great War, a cataclysm that would test the mettle of the City of Light even as it brutally brought the Belle Epoque to its close. Through rich illustrations and evocative narrative, McAuliffe brings this remarkable era from 1900 through World War I to vibrant life.

Little Demon in the City of Light Steven Levingston, 2015-03-17 A delicious true crime account of a murder most Gallic: think CSI Paris meets Georges Simenon whose lurid combination of sex, brutality, forensics, and hypnotism riveted first a nation and then the world. In 1889 the gruesome murder of a lascivious court official at the hands of a ruthless con man and his pliant mistress launched the trial of the century. When Toussaint Augustin Gouff entered 3 rue Tronson du Coudray expecting a delightful assignation with the comely Gabrielle Bompard, he was instead murdered by Gabrielle and her lover Michel Eyraud. An international manhunt chased the infamous couple from Paris to America's West Coast, culminating in a sensational trial that investigated the power of hypnosis to possess, control, and even kill. As the inquiry into the guilt or innocence of the woman, the French tabloids dubbed the Little Demon, intensified, the most respected minds in France vehemently debated: Was Gabrielle Bompard the pawn of her mesmerizing lover or simply a coldly calculating murderess capable of killing a man in cold blood?

Brooklyn Before, 2018-09-15 Before Brooklyn rose to international fame, there existed a vibrant borough of neighborhoods rich with connections and traditions. During the 1970s and 1980s, photographer Larry Racioppo, a South Brooklynite with roots three generations deep, recorded Brooklyn on the cusp of being the trendy borough we know today. In *Brooklyn Before*, Racioppo lets us see the vitality of his native Brooklyn stretching from historic Park Slope to the beginnings of Windsor Terrace and Sunset Park. His black and white photographs pull us deep into the community, stretching our memories back more than forty years and teasing out the long-lost recollections of life on the streets and in apartment homes. Racioppo has the fascinating ability to tell a story in one photograph, and because of his native bona fides, he depicts an intriguing set of true Brooklyn stories from the inside in ways that an outsider simply cannot. On the pages of *Brooklyn Before*, the intimacy and roughness of life in a working-class community of Irish-American Italian

American and Puerto Rican families is shown with honesty and insight Racioppo's 128 photographs are paired with essays from journalist Tom Robbins and art critic and curator Julia Van Haaften Taken together the images and words of Brooklyn Before return us to pre gentrification Brooklyn and immerse us in a community defined by work family and ethnic ties

The Josephine Baker Story Wise Publications, 2000-06-22 This is the story of no ordinary life Josephine Baker emerged from sordid poverty and racial intolerance in early 20th century St Louis to delight audiences across the world becoming a genuine star of the stage *Living in the Limelight: Dynamics of the Celebrity Experience* Kylo-Patrick R. Hart, 2019-07-22 This volume was first published by Inter Disciplinary Press in 2014 For the typical celebrity living in the limelight has never been particularly easy and it seems to be getting harder every day Although celebrity in the current century is similar to how it has been experienced in the past the widespread availability of the Internet and its endless innovative potentialities have certainly brought about changes and new challenges Today it is not uncommon for this seemingly desirable cult of personality to at times take on an unexpected life of its own sweeping unprepared celebrities along for the ride To enable readers to grasp the cumulative complexity of contemporary celebrity culture this book explores dynamics of the celebrity experience in recent centuries and up to the present day In doing so it explicitly analyses ever changing phenomena of relevance to the celebrity experience the importance and impact of fans and fandom's and the various pleasures and pitfalls that celebrities regularly encounter **Sumner Welles: FDR's Global Strategist** Benjamin Welles, 2022-07-11 Sumner Welles 1892-1961 ranks among the half dozen most influential American career diplomats of this century And among high officials brought down by sexual scandal he has no rivals This long awaited biography by his son Benjamin blends an adequate narrative of diplomatic achievement with a candid and painful description of the subject's alcohol fueled bisexual excess in an era when unconventional sexual behavior was often a matter of criminal prosecution As a diplomat and shaper of foreign policy Welles like Roosevelt showed an appreciation of the importance of power a liberal commitment to the Good Neighbor policy toward Latin America cautious support for the establishment of the United Nations and a belief that difficult problems with the Soviet Union could be worked out He wrote and spoke with educated precision and was able to do more work in a day than most people could do in a week as a candid sympathetic portrait of a great and tragic figure in a bygone era of aristocratic privilege the biography succeeds admirably The New York Times An absorbing study of an enigmatic character who for nearly a decade after 1933 as Franklin Roosevelt's trusted adviser wielded great influence over American foreign policy While the author treats convincingly the diplomatic episodes in which his father played a significant role it is as a study in character that the book makes its most important contribution Foreign Affairs Affectionate yet scrupulously candid this biography by his son is an act of homage Publishers Weekly This is one of the saddest stories of a good soldier that I have ever read Until 1943 Sumner Welles an often arrogant patrician who had attended Groton School and Harvard College a decade after Franklin Delano Roosevelt was one of the most distinguished members of the interwar foreign service

rising to become undersecretary of state in Roosevelt's administration. He had elaborated the Good Neighbor Policy in the 1930s; he wrote the Atlantic Charter which Roosevelt and Winston Churchill endorsed in 1941; he drafted the United Nations charter and supported the creation of Israel as a national homeland for Jews. Unfortunately, scandal destroyed Welles' career, a compassionate but ruthlessly honest biography. Neither harsh nor apologetic, Benjamin Welles shows a deep understanding of his father's character. The Los Angeles Times: Benjamin Welles has provided a very complete portrait, a significant contribution to scholarship in its own right. The National Interest: A fascinating look at a little remembered contributor to 20th century history. Benjamin Welles is also to be commended for seeing his father's weaknesses and not pulling punches when discussing them. Kirkus: A detailed and sympathetic portrait that does not disguise the flaws of its subject. Benjamin Welles's book should stand as the definitive biography for a long time. Latin American Research Review: This is a graceful life and times summary as well as a look at the sometimes troubled personal life of an important figure, a personal life that did affect Welles's public life. A son's perspective is unique. The International History Review: Benjamin Welles has written the best biography and account of Sumner Welles and his diplomatic career; the scope of research is extensive and impressive; the author has conscientiously laid out his father's painful personal issues: alcoholism, adultery, and homosexuality, which adversely affected Welles's career. Welles: the author has written the best account about his father's diplomatic career. The Americas: The diplomat's son has done a remarkable job of seeking to present a balanced picture of his father's service. The book is an important one. Presidential Studies Quarterly: *Monsters under Glass* Jane Desmarais, 2018-08-15. *Monsters under Glass* explores our enduring fascination with hothouses and exotic blooms from their rise in ancient times through the Victorian vogue for plant collecting to the vegetable monsters of twentieth century science fiction and the movies, comics, and video games of the present day. Our interest in hothouses can be traced back to the Roman emperor Tiberius, but it was only in the early nineteenth century that a boom in exotic plant collecting and new glasshouse technologies stimulated the imagination of novelists, poets, and artists, and the hothouse entered the creative language in a highly charged way. Decadent writers in England and Europe, including Charles Baudelaire and Oscar Wilde, transformed the hothouse from a functional object to a powerful metaphor of metropolitan life, sexuality, and being replete with a dark underside of decay and death, and of consciousness itself nurtured and dissected under glass. In a study as wide-ranging, vivid, and beautiful as our beloved exotic blooms themselves, Jane Desmarais charts the history and influence of these humid tropical worlds and their creations, providing a steamy window onto our recent past. **Reframing Japonisme** Elizabeth Emery, 2020-09-17. Japonisme, the nineteenth century fascination for Japanese art, has generated an enormous body of scholarship since the beginning of the twenty-first century, but most of it neglects the women who acquired objects from the Far East and sold them to clients or displayed them in their homes before bequeathing them to museums. The stories of women shopkeepers, collectors, and artists rarely appear in memoirs left by those associated with the Japoniste movement. This volume brings to light the culturally

important yet largely forgotten activities of women such as Clémence d'Ennery 1823-1898 who began collecting Japanese and Chinese chimeras in the 1840s built and decorated a house for them in the 1870s and bequeathed the Musée d'Ennery to the state as a free public museum in 1893. A friend of the Goncourt brothers and a fifty-year patron of Parisian dealers of Asian art, d'Ennery's struggles to gain recognition as a collector and curator serve as a lens through which to examine the collecting and display practices of other women of her day. Travelers to Japan such as the Duchesse de Persigny, Isabella Stewart Gardner and Laure Durand Fardel returned with souvenirs that they shared with friends and family. Salon hostesses including Juliette Adam, Louise Cahen d'Anvers, Princesse Mathilde and Marguerite Charpentier provided venues for the discussion and examination of Japanese art objects as did well-known art dealers Madame Desoye, Madame Malinet, Madame Hatty and Madame Langweil. Writers, actresses and artists Judith Gautier, Thérèse Bentzon, Sarah Bernhardt and Mary Cassatt to name just a few took inspiration from the Japanese material in circulation to create their own unique works of art. Largely absent from the history of Japonisme, these women and many others actively collected Japanese art, interacted with auction houses and art dealers and formed collections now at the heart of museums such as the Louvre, the Musée Guimet, the Musée Cernuschi, the Musée Unterlinden and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Strapless Deborah Davis, 2004-05-03

The subject of John Singer Sargent's most famous painting was twenty-three-year-old New Orleans Creole Virginie Gautreau, who moved to Paris and quickly became the it girl of her day. A relative unknown at the time, Sargent won the commission to paint her. The two must have recognized in each other a like-minded hunger for fame. Unveiled at the 1884 Paris Salon, Gautreau's portrait generated the attention she craved but it led to infamy rather than stardom. Sargent had painted one strap of Gautreau's dress dangling from her shoulder, suggesting either the prelude to or the aftermath of sex. Her reputation irreparably damaged, Gautreau retired from public life, destroying all the mirrors in her home. Drawing on documents from private collections and other previously unexamined materials and featuring a cast of characters including Oscar Wilde and Richard Wagner, *Strapless* is a tale of art and celebrity obsession and betrayal.

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