

Damage Josephine Hart Ebook And Free

"A passionate, elegant, ruthless story." --Iris Murdoch The "New York Times" bestselling novel "Damage" is the gripping story of a man's desperate obsession and scandalous love affair. He is a man who appears to have everything: wealth, a beautiful wife and children, and a prestigious political career in Parliament. But his life lacks passion, and his aching emptiness drives him to an all-consuming, and ultimately catastrophic, relationship with his son's fiancée. Chilling and brilliant, "Damage" is a masterpiece--a daring look at the dangers of obsession and the depth of its shattering consequences.

A dark, suspenseful novel about a fifty-something man who loses his way, and his incendiary relationship with a younger woman. The classic apocalyptic novel that stunned the world.

Covers United States history from the Great Depression to the present.

A man's obsession with his late wife takes a new turn when he meets an uncompromising, manipulative playwright whose favored theme is death

Obsessed with the vision of a man's face, a young artist and teacher risks a blasphemous act and enrages her turn-of-the-century village community, in a provocative novel by the author of *Damage*, *Sin*, and *Oblivion*.

Bethesda Grant is an artist and a teacher. Her village life is order-ed and calm, until one day the sudden vision of a man's face sears itself onto her mind's eye, an imprint of sensual, hypnotic power. She begins to paint fragmented images of Mathew Pearson, secretly and obsessively. But Mathew Pearson has a wife, a small, laughing, pregnant creature, whom Bethesda's mother befriends. On the stillest day Bethesda performs an act so bold and violent that it shatters all their lives - she performs a very bloody and risky emergency caesarean on Mathew's wife, using a piece of mirror glass, to deliver a baby daughter, leaving the mother dead. *THE STILLEST DAY* is an exquisitely taut and shocking novel about a young woman at the turn of the century who transgresses - both in life and in art - the limits set down for her.

Coolly and compellingly narrated by a man dedicated to the examination of other people's pasts and the reconstruction of their lives, this is a brilliant, dark and gripping new novel that surpasses even Hart's masterpiece, *Damage*. A psychiatrist, Jack is divorced. His own past and that of his beautiful, enigmatic sister Kate certainly bear scrutiny. Then he gets a phone call telling him that their family house in Ireland is for sale - and when he finally returns to the house, terrible truths emerge about what happened there years ago in a family tragedy that left indelible marks on those who survived it. The facts have been reconstructed many times, but the shocking truth has not.

The Breakstone family arrange themselves around their daughter Heather, and the world seems to follow: beautiful, compassionate, entrancing, she is the greatest blessing in their lives of Manhattan luxury. But as Heather grows - and her empathy sharpens to a point, and her radiance attracts more and more dark interest - their perfect existence starts to fracture. Meanwhile a very different life, one raised in poverty and in violence, is beginning its own malign orbit around Heather. Matthew Weiner - the creator of *Mad Men* - has crafted an extraordinary first novel of incredible pull and menace. Heather, *The Totality* demonstrates perfectly his forensic eye for the human qualities that hold modern society together, and pull it apart.

The author of *Damage* and *The Stillest Day* returns with a chilling and powerful psychological novel about one man's attempt to confront the terrors of his past living on a small farm in Ireland. Reprint.

Asta's Book is a classic double-detective story by crime master Barbara Vine For a good, absorbing, well-told story, you could hardly better the unveiling of Asta's secret' Sunday Times It is 1905. Asta and her husband Rasmus have come to East London from Denmark with their two little boys. With Rasmus constantly away on business, Asta keeps loneliness and isolation at bay by writing a diary. These diaries, published over seventy years later, reveal themselves to be more than a mere journal. For they seem to hold the key to an unsolved murder and to the mystery of a missing child. It falls to Asta's granddaughter Ann to unearth the buried secrets of nearly a century before. 'A dazzling domestic thriller' Guardian 'Obsessively readable' Sunday Telegraph 'Engrossing . . . a mixture of biography, true crime and romance people with vivid minor players and red with herrings' Independent on Sunday 'Absolutely enthralling ... the best yet from the Vine/Rendell bureau. Essential reading' Literary Review 'Simply put, Vine is one of the greatest writers ever' Scott Turow *Asta's Book* is a modern crime masterpiece and will be enjoyed by readers of P.D. James, Ian Rankin and Scott Turow. Barbara Vine is the pen-name of Ruth Rendell. She has written fifteen novels using this pseudonym, including *A Fatal Inversion* and *King Solomon's Carpet* which both won the Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger Award. Her other books include: *A Dark Adapted Eye*; *The House of Stairs*; *Gallowglass*; *Asta's Book*; *No Night Is Too Long*; *In the Time of His Prosperity*; *The Brimstone Wedding*; *The Chimney Sweeper's Boy*; *Grasshopper*; *The Blood Doctor*; *The Minotaur*; *The Birthday Present* and *The Child's Child*.

With the wit of Marina Lewycka, the piercing observation of Jane Gardam, and the bittersweet charm of Mary Wesley, this will appeal to all who loved *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand* or *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. Cecilia Banks has a great deal on her plate. But when her son Ian turns up on her doorstep with the unexpected consequence of a brief fling, she feels she has no choice but to take the baby into her life. Cephas's arrival is the latest of many challenges Cecilia has to face. There is the matter of her cancer, for a start, an illness shared with her novelist friend Helen. Then there is Helen herself, whose observations of Cecilia's family life reveal a somewhat ambivalent attitude to motherhood. Meanwhile Tim, Cecilia's husband, is taking self-effacement to extremes, and Ian, unless he gets on with it, will throw away his best chance at happiness. Cecilia, however, does not have to manage alone. In a convent in Hastings sits Sister Diana Clegg who holds the ties that bind everyone not only to each other, but to strangers as yet unmet. As events unfold, and as the truth about Cephas is revealed, we are invited to look closely at madness, guilt, mortal dread and the gift of resilience. No one will remain unchanged. 'Frank, courageous and entertaining. I felt better for reading it' Margaret Drabble

From "the poet laureate of the D.C. crime world" (*Esquire*) comes this powerful early novel--the noirish story of how a Washington, D.C., liquor store heist shows a drifter named Constantine what it means to be a shoedog.

Josephine Hart, author of the bestselling novel *Damage*, had what she called 'a long love affair' with poetry. It was an affair that started as a child and lasted until her untimely death at the age of sixty-nine in 2011. She said 'I was a word child' growing up in Ireland 'a country of word children where life was language before it was anything else'. As a teenager and later she found the poetry of Eliot, Larkin, Yeats and others a lifeline, 'a route map through life'. In the late 1980s, Hart, by now a successful West End theatre producer, began a hugely popular event in which actors read the words of the great poets to an enraptured audience. In 2004, *The Josephine Hart Poetry Hour* moved to the British Library, where it remains today. By her own admission, Josephine

Hart gave 'dead poets society' . But she also gave them intelligent and exciting introductions; all of which are now collected here in this volume. They are insightful, even great, works in their own right. Life Saving leaves us an inspiring legacy. It takes us on a journey of the imagination to some of the greatest poems written in the English language and allows us to understand, intuitively and deeply, why poetry matters.

Two shocking novels of destructive obsession from a New York Times–bestselling author and “a remarkable talent” (The Washington Post Book World). Sin: Ruth calls herself a malevolent creature, ruled since childhood by hatred and envy for her adopted sister, Elizabeth. She grew up in Elizabeth’s shadow, always falling short of her goodness and generosity, constantly resenting her very presence in the family. As they grow older, Ruth sets out to destroy her without guilt or hesitation. Ruth will strike Elizabeth where she’s most vulnerable: She will steal her husband and send her collapsing into ruin. Written in Hart’s concise, striking prose, Sin is a powerful and compulsively readable exploration of hate—and the destruction and tragedy it begets. “The reader looks on with mingled shock and fascination . . . a tour de force.” —The New York Times Damage: Hart’s debut novel, a New York Times bestseller, is “a taut, sinister tale” of a man’s desperate obsession and scandalous love affair (Vanity Fair). He is a man who appears to have everything: wealth, a beautiful wife and children, and a prestigious political career in Parliament. But his life lacks passion, and his aching emptiness drives him to an all-consuming—and ultimately catastrophic—relationship with his son’s fiancée. “A passionate, elegant, ruthless story.” —Iris Murdoch “Damage is a masterpiece.” —The Washington Post 'The next Single White Female or Damage' Glamour 'Arresting and haunting' Sunday Telegraph 'I was gripped by Briscoe's creepy tale of sexual obsession' Marie Claire 'Will keep you up at night' Erica Wagner, The Times 'Dark, modern, sexy stuff' Mail on Sunday Richard and Lelia's child is conceived in a moment of giggling chaos as they dress for a Christmas party. They arrive rudely late and still glowing, and barely register a slight, drab woman in the hall. Sylvie. As their baby grows, so does the presence of Sylvie - she seems to be nowhere, yet everywhere, harmless yet sinister. Richard is seduced by her subtle, inexplicable charm, while Lelia, struggling with Richard's sudden ambivalence towards their baby, finds that she is haunted by painful memories. And Sylvie remains as invisible as she wants to be - that is the source of her power. Beware of mice ... Adapted into a major ITV series by Andrew Davies: an exquisitely dark emotional thriller about marriage, desire and sexual obsession 'Seductive, scary and frighteningly readable' Julie Myerson 'Horribly, grippingly pleasurable ... A classic summer page-turner' Observer 'A beautifully written and emotionally candid novel which also happens to be a page-turner' Jonathan Coe, Guardian 'Works in much the same way as an obsession ... you wish to escape, but have already become addicted' Daily Telegraph 'Be warned: there's no putting it away afterwards. It gets right under your skin' Guardian 'One of those books that you find yourself thinking about even when you are not reading it' The Times Joanna Briscoe's brand new novel The Seduction is available for pre-order now...

* Second anthology of poems following CATCHING LIFE BY THE THROAT

The story of a young Parisian woman, the daughter of a famous conductor and a high-fashion model, follows her struggle to survive the aftermath of her parents' turbulent divorce

Roman om en bitter kærlighedshistorie fra victoriatiden

A romantic triangle in the age of divorce. The heroine is Olivia Beckett, 15, daughter of divorced parents. The mother takes a lover, he becomes interested in Olivia, she in him, and the inevitable follows. A first novel.

Spider is gaunt, threadbare, unnerved by everything from his landlady to the smell of gas. He tells us his story in a storm of beautiful language that slowly reveals itself as a fiendishly layered construction of truth and illusion. With echoes of Beckett, Poe, and Paul Bowles, Spider is a tale of horror and madness, storytelling and skepticism, a novel whose dizzying style lays bare the deepest layers of subconscious terror.

When Katia leaves her native Poland for the more permissive world of 1960s London, she finds herself trying to cope with situations she had never dreamed of—a dreary job at a women’s magazine, a solitary friendship with an embittered homosexual, and a strange relationship with Harry and Don, old friends who are entirely different from each other. Peculiarly attracted to both, Katia tries to sort out her tangled emotions and arrange her life in a way that will satisfy two men at once.

The narrator's erotic obsession with a woman who wields a dominant sexual and psychological power over him draws him into a headlong plunge toward tragedy for his family and his own self-destruction

'Brave and beautiful.' Stylist Magazine 'Social media's answer to Carol Ann Duffy' Sunday Times STYLE 'Divine.' Cecelia Ahern

Damaged people are dangerous. They know they can survive.' Damage, Josephine Hart's debut novel, an international bestseller, filmed with Jeremy Irons and Juliette Binoche, now takes its proper place as a Virago Modern Classic. Here is one of the most chilling explorations of physical passion and dark, obsessive love ever written. 'A remarkable first novel of awesome accomplishment and quite startling psychological insight' Ruth Rendell

1686, Iceland. A cold, windswept land where they talk of witches and fear strangers . . . 'Gripped me in a cold fist. Beautiful' Sara Collins, author of The Confessions of Frannie Langton 'A perfect, gripping winter read. I loved it' Sophie Mackintosh, author of The Water Cure

When Rósa is betrothed to Jón Eiríksson, she is sent to a remote village. There she finds a man who refuses to speak of his recently deceased first wife, and villagers who view her with suspicion. Isolated and disturbed by her husband's strange behaviour, her fears deepen. What is making the strange sounds in the attic? Who does the mysterious glass figure she is given represent? And why do the villagers talk of the coming winter darkness in hushed tones? A mysterious and captivating tale of love, fear and superstition, perfect for readers of The Miniaturist, The Silent Companions, and The Bear & The Nightingale. Venture to the wild, beautiful and spellbinding Orkney islands in THE METAL HEART, the compelling new story of freedom and love from Caroline Lea. _____ 'ENTHRALLING' Stacey Halls, author of The Familiars & The Foundling 'CRACKLES WITH TENSION. MOVING AND ATMOSPHERIC, I COULDN'T PUT IT DOWN' Laura Purcell, author of The Silent Companions & Bone China 'MEMORABLE AND COMPELLING. A NOVEL ABOUT WHAT HAUNTS US - AND WHAT SHOULD' Sarah Moss, author of Ghost Wall 'EVOCATIVE, COMPELLING, WITH A BRILLIANT TWIST' Daily Express 'AN ICELANDIC JANE EYRE . . . COMPELLING, ATMOSPHERIC' Sunday Times 'INTENSELY WRITTEN AND ATMOSPHERIC, WITH AN UNUSUAL SETTING' Daily Mail 'A CHILLING TALE' Good Housekeeping 'LIKE A GHOST STORY TOLD AROUND A WINTER FIRE' Tim Leach, author of Smile of the Wolf SHORTLISTED FOR THE HISTORICAL WRITERS ASSOCIATION DEBUT AWARD

This audiobook is an anthology of poems by WH Auden, TS Eliot, Philip Larkin, Emily Dickinson, Marianne Moore, Rudyard Kipling, Sylvia Plath and W B Yeats, introduced by Josephine Hart and read by a cast of famous actors: Ralph Fiennes, Edward Fox, Ian McDiarmid, Helen McCrory, Sir Roger Moore, Harold Pinter, Elizabeth McGovern, Harriet Walter, Sir Bob Geldof, Sinéad Cusack, Grey Gowrie, Rupert Graves and Juliet Stevenson. 'The idea is simple,' says Josephine Hart as she introduces the poets and takes us through their life and writings, 'an understanding of the life and philosophy of the poet illuminates the poetry and therefore makes the experience of reading or listening

to each poem more intense. Whether you believe, like Robert Frost, that poetry is a way of catching life by the throat or, like Eliot, it is one person talking to another, nobody does it better than the poets whose work and life will feature in this publication.

The most exquisite passions are also the most dangerous... The heroine of *Never the Face* is searching. Dissatisfied with love, bored with sex; in her experience, all lovers are predictably dull – and she longs for more, for an intensity she knows exists and has yet to discover. Then, just after her thirty-third birthday, she runs into David, an old flame who's now married. He invites her to dinner. And then he invites her to his bed. Before long, unable to resist the allure of sexual submission, she falls into an addictive affair that is both violent and stunningly intimate. As she opens herself up more and more to David's appetites, she is taken to new heights of pleasure. But the more time they spend together, the more their bond both deepens and unravels. How far will David take it? And how far will she be willing to go? Written in beautiful, savage prose, *Never the Face* takes its characters and readers on a dark erotic journey, where closed doors are opened and the most shocking secrets are laid bare...

The highly anticipated new thriller from internationally renowned author Sara Gran, author of *Come Closer* and the *Claire DeWitt* series. A mysterious book that promises unlimited power and unrivaled sexual pleasure. A down-on-her-luck book dealer hoping for the sale of a lifetime. And a twist so shocking, no one will come out unscathed. After a tragedy too painful to bear, former novelist Lily Albrecht has resigned herself to a dull, sexless life as a rare book dealer. Until she gets a lead on a book that just might turn everything around. *The Book of the Most Precious Substance* is a 17th century manual on sex magic, rumored to be the most powerful occult book ever written--if it really exists at all. And some of the wealthiest people in the world are willing to pay Lily a fortune to find it-if she can. Her search for the book takes her from New York to New Orleans to Munich to Paris, searching the dark corners of power where the world's wealthiest people use black magic to fulfill their desires. Will Lily fulfill her own desires, and join them? Or will she lose it all searching for a ghost? *The Book of the Most Precious Substance* is an addictive erotic thriller about the lengths we'll go to get what we need-and what we want.

Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize 'Good God, thought Oliver, as he saw the smile. She thinks I'm him! And all at once he knew it was so. He was Dr Norman Wilfred.' On the sunlit Greek island of Skios, the Fred Toppler Foundation's annual lecture is to be given by Dr Norman Wilfred, the world-famous authority on the scientific organisation of science. He turns out to be surprisingly young and charming - not at all the intimidating figure they had been expecting. The Foundation's guests are soon eating out of his hand. So, even sooner, is Nikki, the attractive and efficient organiser. Meanwhile, in a remote villa at the other end of the island, Nikki's old school-friend Georgie waits for the notorious chancer she has rashly agreed to go on holiday with, and who has only too characteristically failed to turn up. Trapped in the villa with her, by an unfortunate chain of misadventure, is a balding old gent called Dr Norman Wilfred, who has lost his whereabouts, his luggage, his temper and increasingly all normal sense of reality - everything he possesses apart from the flyblown text of a well-travelled lecture on the scientific organisation of science... And as the time draws ever nearer for one or other Dr Wilfred - or possibly both - to give the eagerly awaited lecture, so Skios - Greece - Europe - career off their appointed track. Longlisted for the Man Booker Prize, *Skios* is a story of mislaid identity, misdirected passion and miscalculated consequences. Michael Frayn is also the celebrated author of fifteen plays including *Noises Off*, *Copenhagen* and *Afterlife*. His other bestselling novels include *Headlong*, which was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize and *Spies*, which won the Whitbread Best Novel Award.

An intense, moving novel about obsessive love. K, a middle-aged painter, has returned from a hermit-like existence in Chile to attend the wedding of a girl he once loved to the point of obsession. He arrives at the English country church to find it empty and silent. The wedding has been postponed. He drives back to his hotel - a place he'd visited many years before - opens a bottle of champagne and with it, a door to the past. When K first saw Claudia fifteen years before, he fell instantly and dangerously in love. He managed to forget he had a wife and a life already full. It was a coup de foudre; he became consumed by her. But Claudia was little more than a child then, twenty-four years his junior, beautiful but unformed. Perhaps it was no surprise that their love proved to be so destructive and ultimately tragic. Now, years later, he returns to find this new bride, his old love, is on the verge of a very different future. But the past, inevitably, awaits them both - and he is determined to take her back there.

From former British barrister John Burdett comes a psychosexual novel in the tradition of *Damage* and *Presumed Innocent*. At the heart of *A Personal History of Thirst* is an ill-fated love triangle where all hunger for something and are willing to risk everything to get it, blurring the boundaries between right and wrong and love and hate to do so. *Thirst* tells a gripping tale of murder, revenge, infidelity, ambition, and deception that keeps shocking until the stunning courtroom climax. Ambitious London lawyer James Knight, a prosperous solicitor, has denied his lower-class background and carefully molded his public image in order to climb the social and professional ladder of the British legal system. He will soon "take silk"—become a Queen's counsel barrister, the highest rank a lawyer can obtain. More than a decade earlier, however, James had lived on the fringe of acceptable society and rigid British ethics during his years at university, experimenting with sex and drugs in a passionate love affair with a stunning and brilliant American named Daisy Smith. James's life takes an unexpected turn early in his career when he meets a client—an accused thief named Oliver Thirst—for a drink and a chat in a pub. Although they could not be more different, James is drawn to Thirst's high intelligence and wit. Soon their illicit friendship develops into a dark and erotic ménage à trois with Daisy at the center. Now, eleven years later, one is dead and two are suspected of murder. The murder investigation at the center of this impossible-to-put-down novel uncovers the bizarre love story between the barrister, the American, and the thief. And, in the end, *A Personal History of Thirst* answers the question: What happens when genuine love becomes mixed with perverse obsession?

Already an international phenomenon sold to 23 publishers around the world, Marianne Power's *Help Me!* is the hilarious, thought-provoking, and unfailingly honest account of one woman's year-long, often madcap, quest to find out if self help books really can change your life

Iris Murdoch was an acclaimed novelist and groundbreaking philosopher whose life reflected her unconventional beliefs and values. But what has been missing from biographical accounts has been Murdoch's own voice—her life in her own words. *Living on Paper*—the first major collection of Murdoch's most compelling and interesting personal letters—gives, for the first time, a rounded self-portrait of one of the twentieth century's greatest writers and thinkers. With more than 760 letters, fewer than forty of which have been published before, the book provides a unique chronicle of Murdoch's life from her days as a schoolgirl to her last years. The result is the most important book about Murdoch in more than a decade. The letters show a great mind at work—struggling with philosophical problems, trying to bring a difficult novel together, exploring spirituality, and responding pointedly to world events. They also reveal her personal life, the subject of much speculation, in all its complexity, especially in letters to lovers or close friends, such as the writers Brigid Brophy, Elias Canetti, and Raymond Queneau, philosophers Michael Oakeshott and Philippa Foot, and mathematician Georg Kreisel. We witness Murdoch's emotional hunger, her tendency to live on the edge of what was socially acceptable, and her irreverence and sharp sense of humor. We also learn how her private life fed into the plots and characters of her novels, despite her claims that they were not drawn from reality. Direct and intimate, these letters bring us closer than ever before to Iris Murdoch as a person, making for an extraordinary reading experience.

On an expedition in the Canadian Rockies at the end of the nineteenth century, Dr Edward Byrne slips and falls almost 60 feet into a crevasse on the Arcturus Glacier. While trapped, hanging upside down and wary that the slightest movement could send him plunging deeper into the abyss, Byrne notices a mysterious winged figure embedded in the ice wall. The vision shakes his sanity, and after his recovery continues to haunt him until he abandons his fiancée and his medical practice in England and returns to a lonely vigil in a shack near the spot on the ice where he almost lost his life. His spirit trapped, he seeks the truth by questioning closely the strange characters that cross his path and meticulously recording the advance and decline of the myths and legends of an early settlement and is transformed by the coming of the railroad into a thriving tourist centre - with an impact as far away as the battlefields for the First World War.

Though she wounded me beyond pain, I too inflicted deep hurt. Not born to murder her, still I sought to break her . . . Her name was Elizabeth Ashbridge. And I even envied her that.' Sin is about a woman possessed by an obsessive envy, a woman who will stop at nothing to get what she wants. Sin, from the author of the bestselling *Damage*, now takes its proper place as a Virago Modern Classic. 'Stripped down to a single, inexorable storyline that centres on the destructive power of passion. As in *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, innocence and virtue are cruelly and deliberately betrayed, as the reader looks on with mingled shock and fascination . . . a tour de force' *New York Times*

It's dangerous . . . and that's the truth about love . . . A young man shields his terrible wounds from his mother; a husband believes he can love his grief-stricken wife back to life; a young girl puts her own life on hold until her family can find their way back from blinding pain; a man surrenders to the helplessness of obsessive love. Set in Ireland, this brilliant, intense story is about a family named O'Hara who chose to remain in the place of their loss, and the stranger from Germany who has run from his. It's about love - for another, for a country, for family - and survival, and it's remarkable.

"Hypnotic." *THE BOSTON GLOBE* He was a married M.P. with two grown children. On the surface, his life was what he wanted it to be. She was his son's fiancée, a shattered woman who had only known forbidden love. When they meet, their attraction is instantaneous, their obsession complete. And nothing, it seems, can tear them away from each other and their dangerous, damaging, illicit passion.... "Striking." *THE NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW* "From the Paperback edition.

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