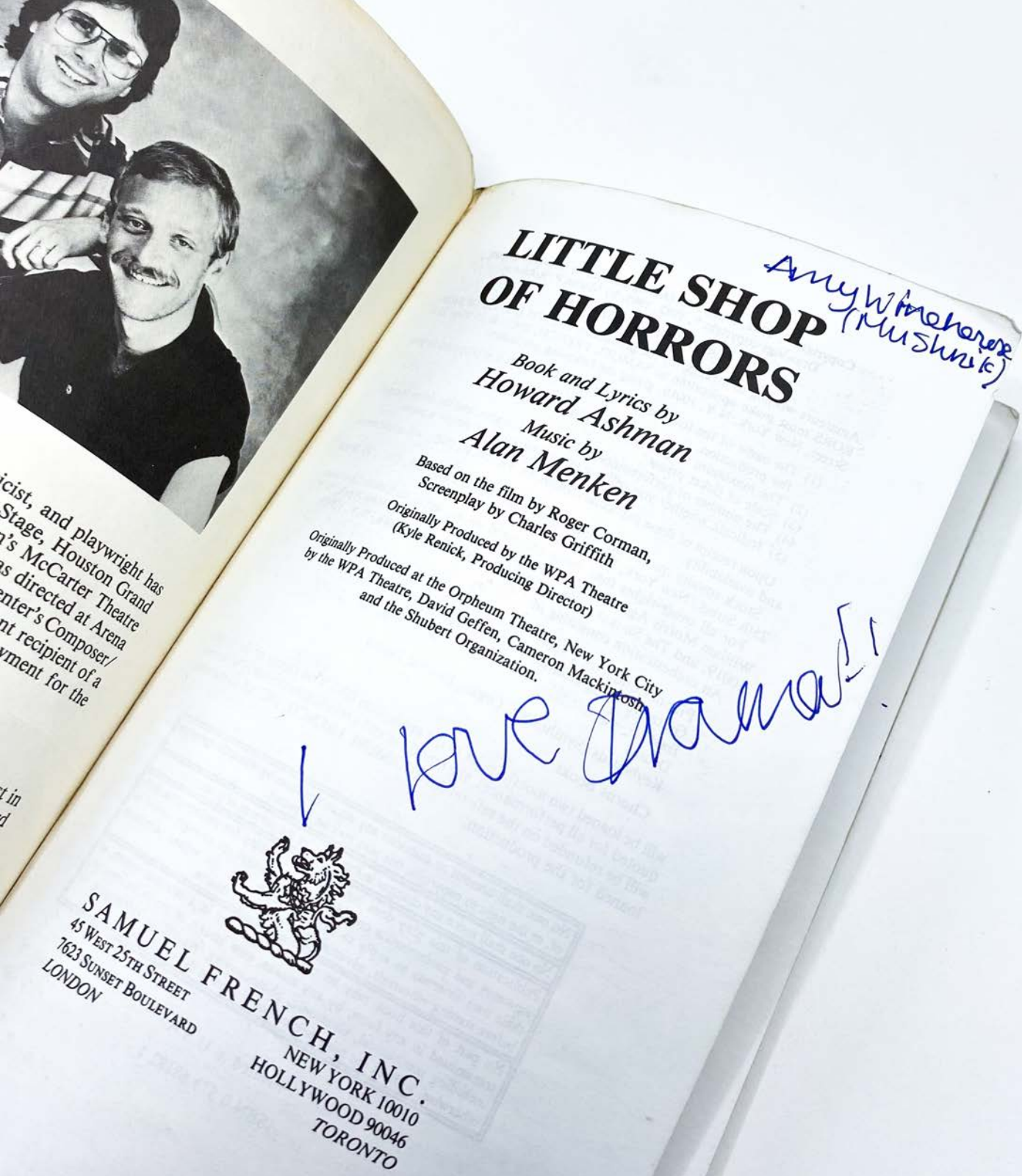


TYPE PUNCH MATRIX



Catalogue #8

The Amy Winehouse Collection



Inquiries:
info@typepunchmatrix.com

***“I could spend a lot of time
in bookshops.”***

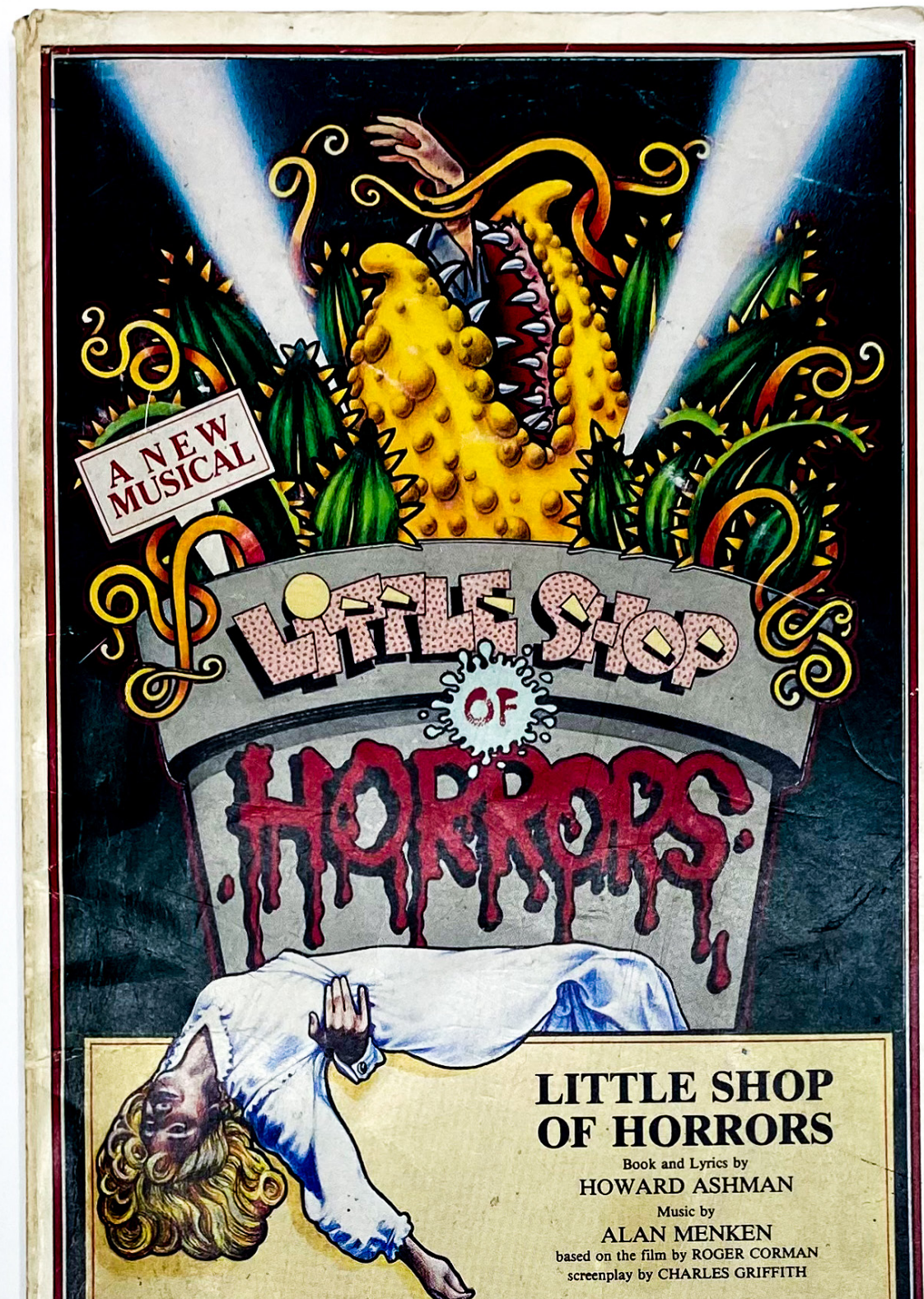
Type Punch Matrix is pleased to offer almost 230 books from the library of legendary singer and songwriter Amy Winehouse, a collection that offers an intimate narrative of her life and career through her personal reading — from her school days through her rise to fame and career.

Winehouse’s books were acquired in 2021 at an auction held by the singer’s estate to raise funds for the Amy Winehouse Foundation. The collection offered here reassembles approximately 75% of all of the books on offer that day. A complete inventory is available.



Winehouse was a known reader; both she and her family commented on this aspect of her personality over the years in interviews. These, her own copies of her books, make it easy to recognize the teenager who loved Salinger, the nerd who acquired numerous graphic novels, the training vocalist reading multiple Frank Sinatra biographies, and the touring musician just looking for a good read to pass the time on the road.

Among the books are well-read favorites (like Jackie Collins) and gifts from friends (such as a photobook inscribed by Dave LaChapelle, who directed her music video "Tears Dry on Their Own"). Winehouse's annotated copy of *LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS*, in which she starred for a school production, shows the 1960s roots of a music and style that would go on to deeply influence her, especially on *BACK TO BLACK*. Fragments of lyrics and rhymes to an unfinished song are written into a copy of Allen Ginsberg's *HOWL*; her beloved grandmother's email is penned on a bookmark; the guest list for a party is written on the last page of one book; in another, there is an ownership stamp of one of the hospitals where Winehouse was once admitted. There are books from schools she attended (some with her annotations), books inscribed to her (including one from ex-husband Blake Fielder-Civil), and books about or by other musicians who struggled with addictions (Jimi Hendrix, Boy George, Alex James, Anthony Kiedis).



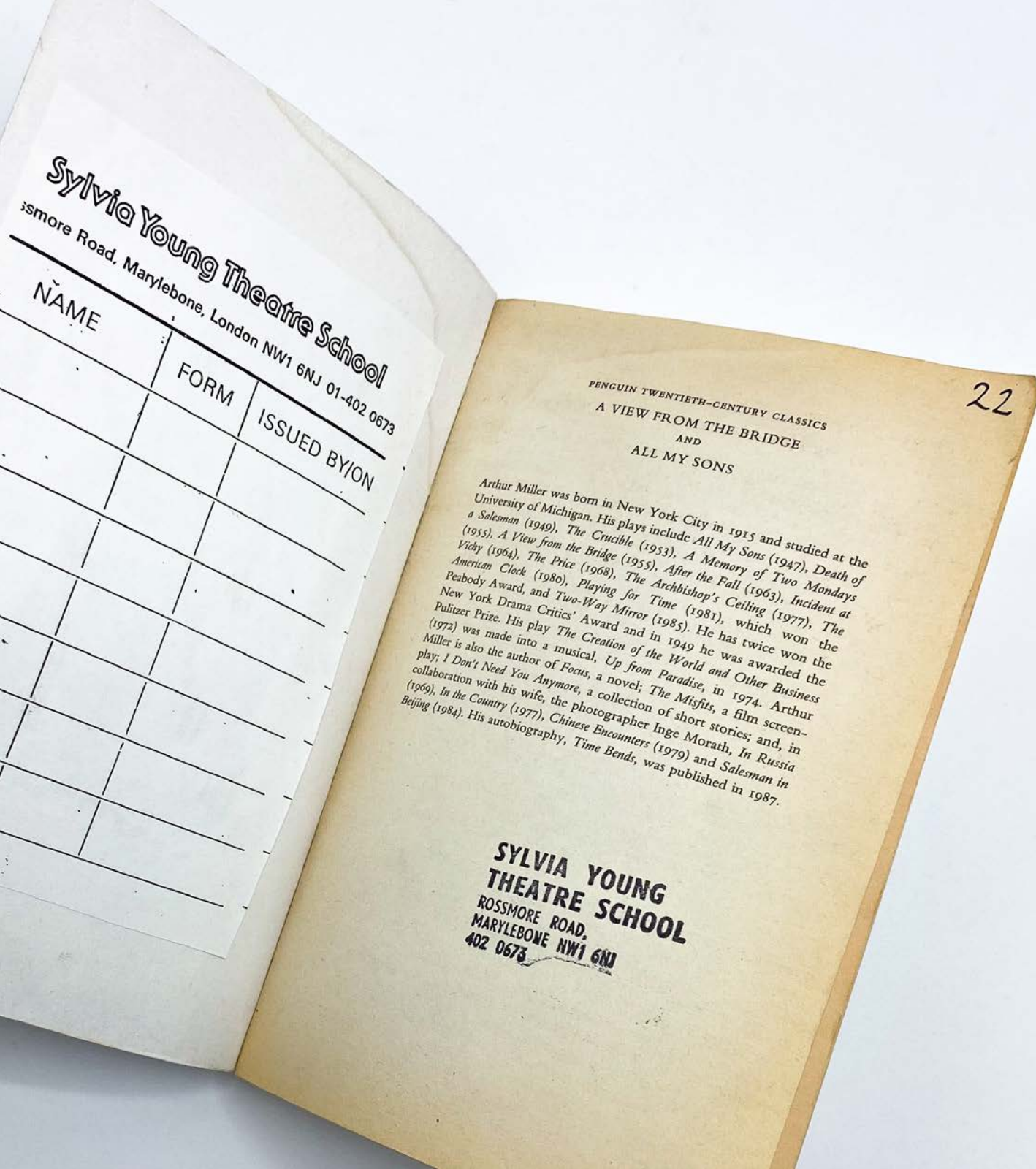


More than merely biographical, however, the collection also suggests how her reading influenced her songwriting. Too often lost in discussions of Winehouse and too easily missed in the shadow of her amazing voice is just how great a songwriter she was — a talent arguably the equal of her singing.

"Meet me downstairs in the bar and hurt / Your rolled up sleeves and your skull t-shirt," she wrote with a novelist's eye for detail in "You Know I'm No Good." In that same song, the lines are almost cinematic: "Then you notice little carpet burn / My stomach drop and my guts churn / You shrug and it's the worst / Who truly stuck the knife in first" — an attention to physical characterization that would not feel out of place in a screenplay. Such influences are present throughout the books in the collection: Charles Bukowski's alcoholic ambivalence, echoed so effectively in her biggest hit "Rehab"; the Nabokovian self-awareness of lines like "I'll be some next man's other woman soon"; or Salinger's finely tuned adolescent empathy heard in the heartbreak throughout the entirety of BACK TO BLACK.

An intimate, tender, and revealing look into the intersection of the public, private, and creative lives of one of the most indelible musical artists of the early 21st century.

Beginnings



This copy of Miller's famous play is annotated by Winehouse while she was a student at the Sylvia Young Theatre School.

LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

MUSHNIK. (shouting from Forestage) Seymour, what is he on back there?
SEYMOUR. (offstage) Very little, Mr. Mushnik!
MUSHNIK. (quickly moving back into the shop) Audrey, better go back there and see what he's... (He gets a good look at her for the first time.) Audrey. Where'd you get that thing?
AUDREY. (evasively grabbing some roses from the window) and crossing to the down R. work table to arrange them) Seymour, beating up on you again? (She doesn't answer.) Look, I know it's none of my business, but I'm beginning to think he's not such a nice boy.
AUDREY. You don't meet nice boys when you live on Row, Mr. Mushnik.

(SEYMOUR enters up R. with several trays of plants.)
SEYMOUR. I got these plants repotted for you, Mr. Mushnik. trips over his feet and falls, sending trays and pots flying across the room.)
MUSHNIK. (shouting as SEYMOUR tumbles) Seymour! Look what you done to the inventory!

AUDREY. Don't yell at Seymour, Mr. Mushnik.
SEYMOUR. (looking up from the floor) Hi, Audrey—you look radiant today. (beat) Is that new eye makeup?
AUDREY. (rising to exit up R. workroom) I'll clean it up before any of the customers get here.

MUSHNIK. Well that ought to give you plenty of time. (He steps outside the shop.) Look, God, what an existence I lead! Misfit employees, bums on the sidewalk, business is lousy! TAL & CHIFFON fighting over a magazine. MUSHNIK moved down L., toward them.) You! Urchins! Off the stoop! It ain't bad enough I got the winos permanently decorating the storefront? I need three worthless ragamuffins to complete the picture?
RONNETTE. Aw, we ain't bothering nobody.
CRYSTAL. No we're not, Ronnette.
MUSHNIK. You ought to be in school.
RONNETTE. Right. We want to go to school.

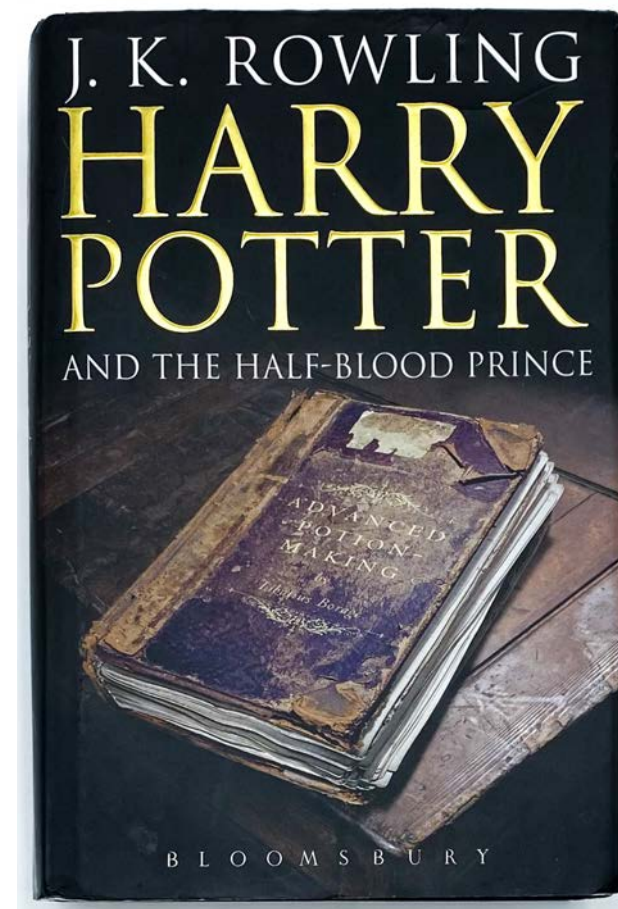
MUSHNIK
CRYSTAL
ain't no such a Girl Group imitate.)

CRYSTAL.
ALARM GOES
AND YOU STAY
YOU PUT IN Y
FOR THE POW
RONNETTE. Sing
CRYSTAL.
TIL IT'S FIVE P.M.
Wino #1. (sitting
THEN YOU GO
(He collapses again.)
GIRLS.
DOWNTOWN
WHERE THE FOLKS
YOU GO
DOWNTOWN
WHERE YOUR LIFE'S A
YOU GO
DOWNTOWN
WHEN YOU BUY YOUR T
HOME TO SKID ROW!
(moving c. with
HOME T

Winehouse starred in a production of "Little Shop" at the Susi Earnshaw Theatre School. While she only attended the school for three years, the show would go on to have an enduring influence on the singer, from the doo-wop of the score to the style of the back-up-singing of Crystal, Ronnette, and Chiffon — all named in honor of musical figures who would also become touchstones for Winehouse. This copy — marked "AMY'S COPY!" on the back cover and with an ownership signature inside (something she rarely did) — is extensively annotated by Winehouse (in the role of Mushnik), who additionally notes "I LOVE DRAMA!" on the first page.



Winehouse's teen years coincided with the height of the Harry Potter phenomenon. This penultimate installment is the "adult" version, with a more mature cover design, published in 2005.



Two books carrying stamps from schools Winehouse attended. It was during grade school at Ashmore that Winehouse started her first musical group, Sweet 'N' Sour (inspired by Salt-N-Pepa). She enrolled at The Mount School for her final years of high school after her alleged expulsion from Sylvia Young (see previous page).

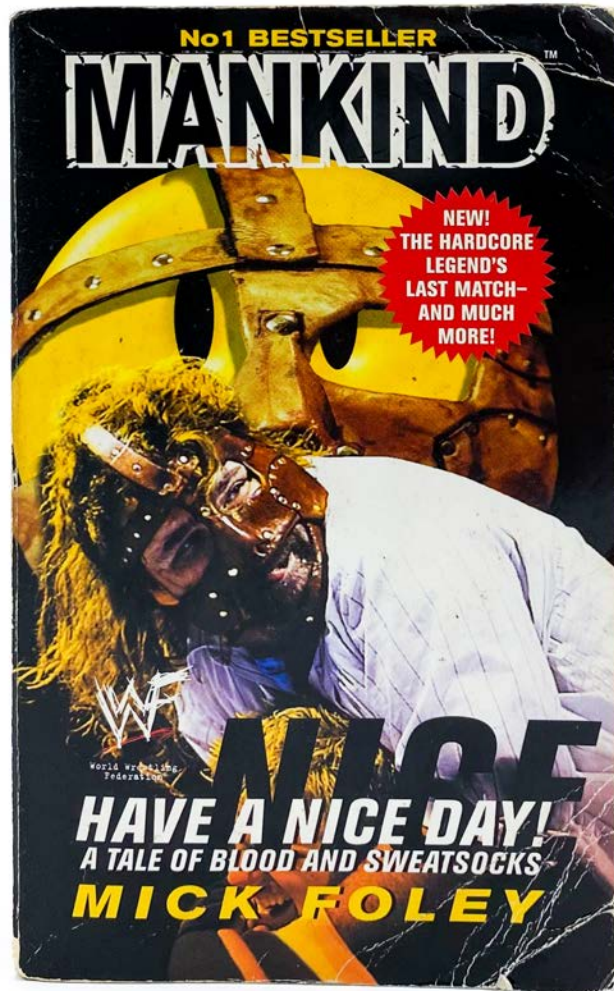


Salinger was one of Winehouse's favorite writers. Not only did she own all of his books (sometimes more than one copy), but according to biographer Susana Monteagudo, Winehouse had read CATCHER by the time she was 12.

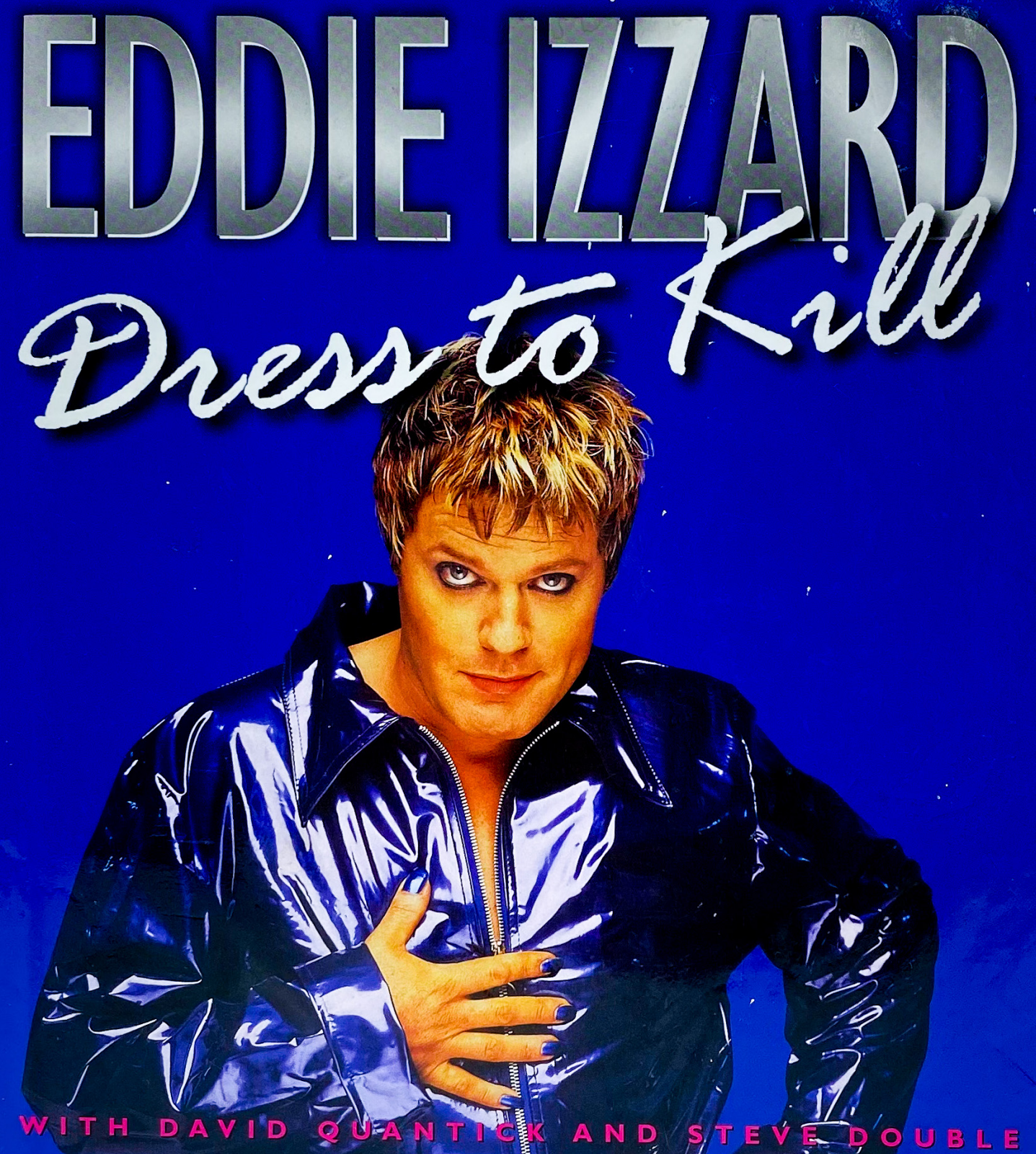


"I listened to Madonna's Immaculate Collection every day until I was about 11," Winehouse once told an interviewer. But she also later told THE MIRROR: "[Madonna]'s an old lady. She can't shock any more. She should get a nice band, just stand in front of them and fucking sing."

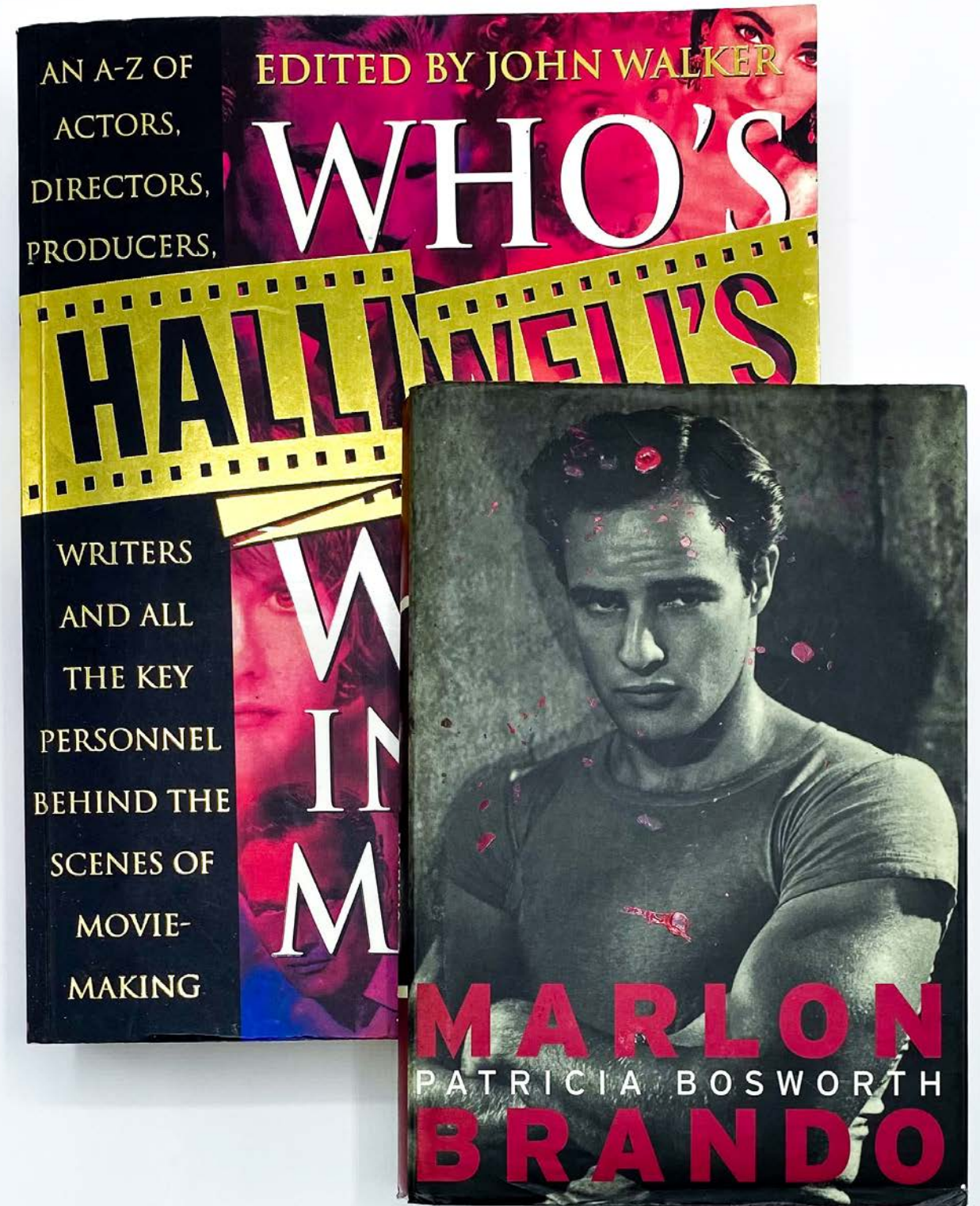
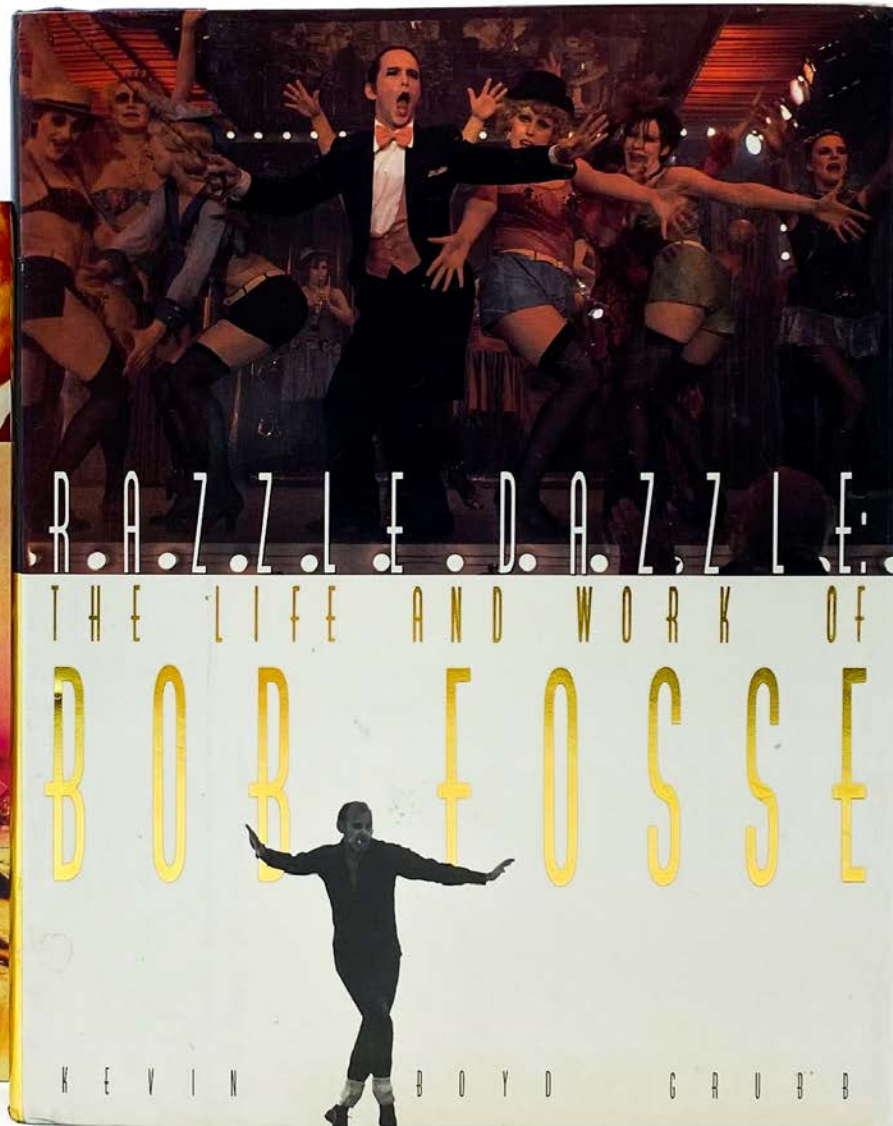
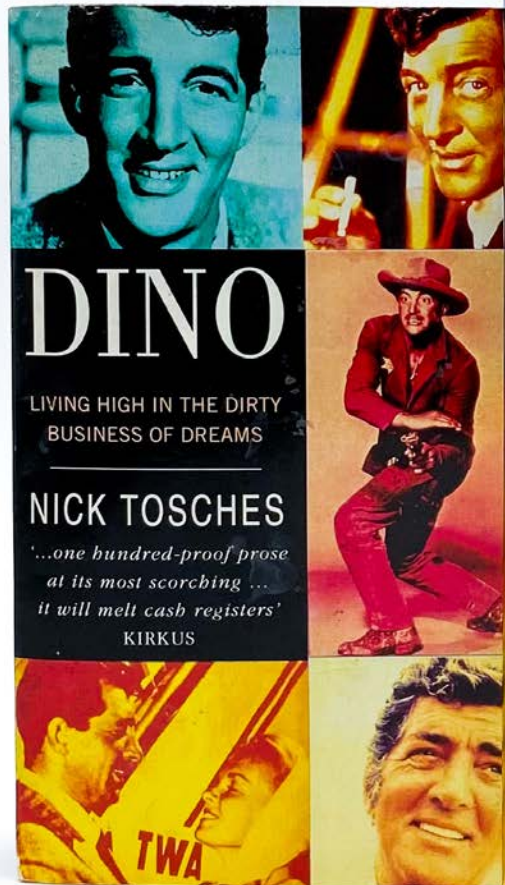
Winehouse's Yahoo profile ("bunnycaress") when she was 17 listed Izzard as a "favorite," along with James Stewart, Frank Sinatra, Steve Buscemi, Ben Folds, and Dean Martin (below).

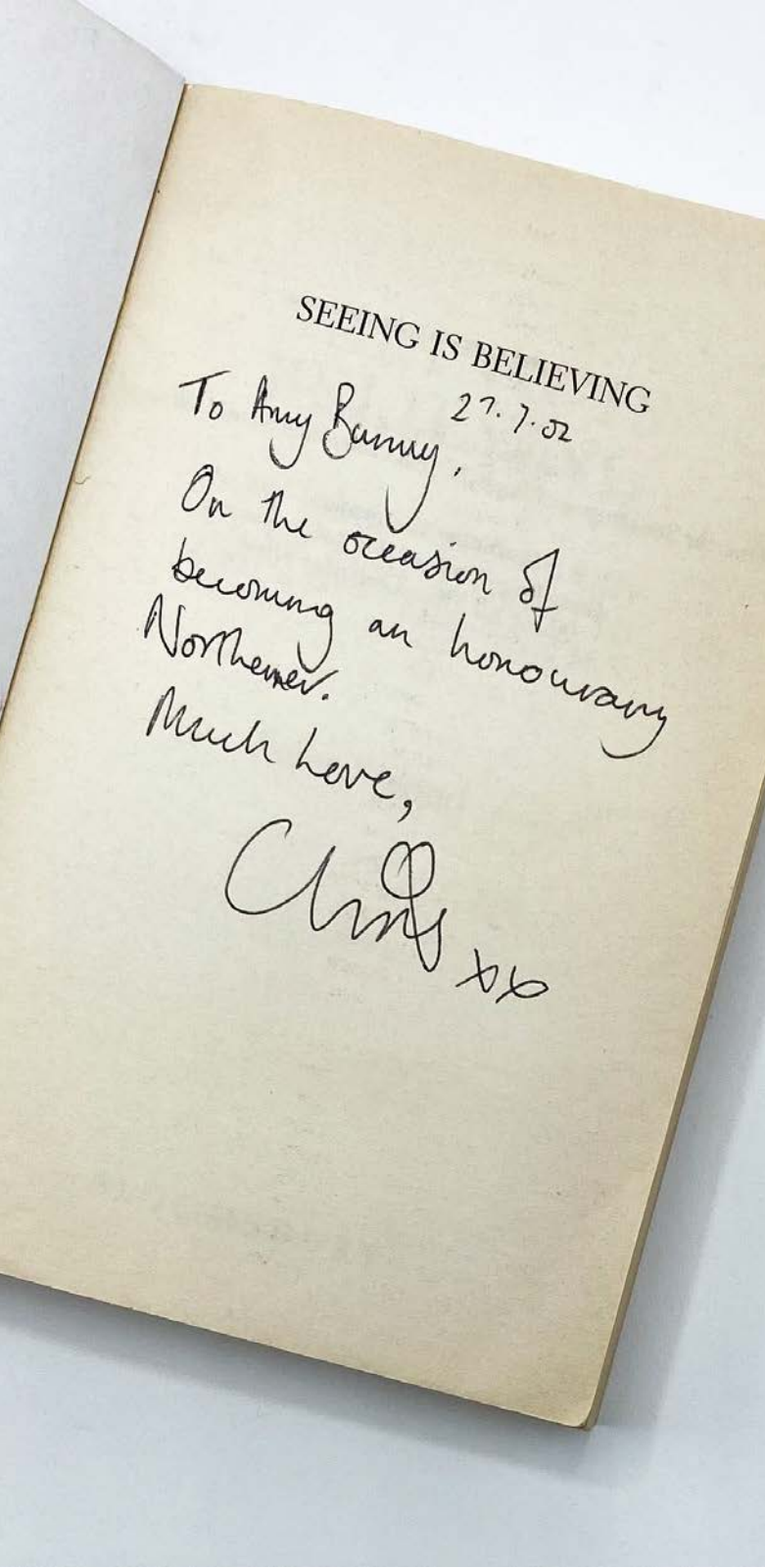


As a child, Winehouse was a huge fan of professional wrestling, even once meeting her hero Chris Jericho. The interest continued into adulthood. In an outtake from AMY, she can be heard speaking favorably about NYC's WWE-themed restaurant.



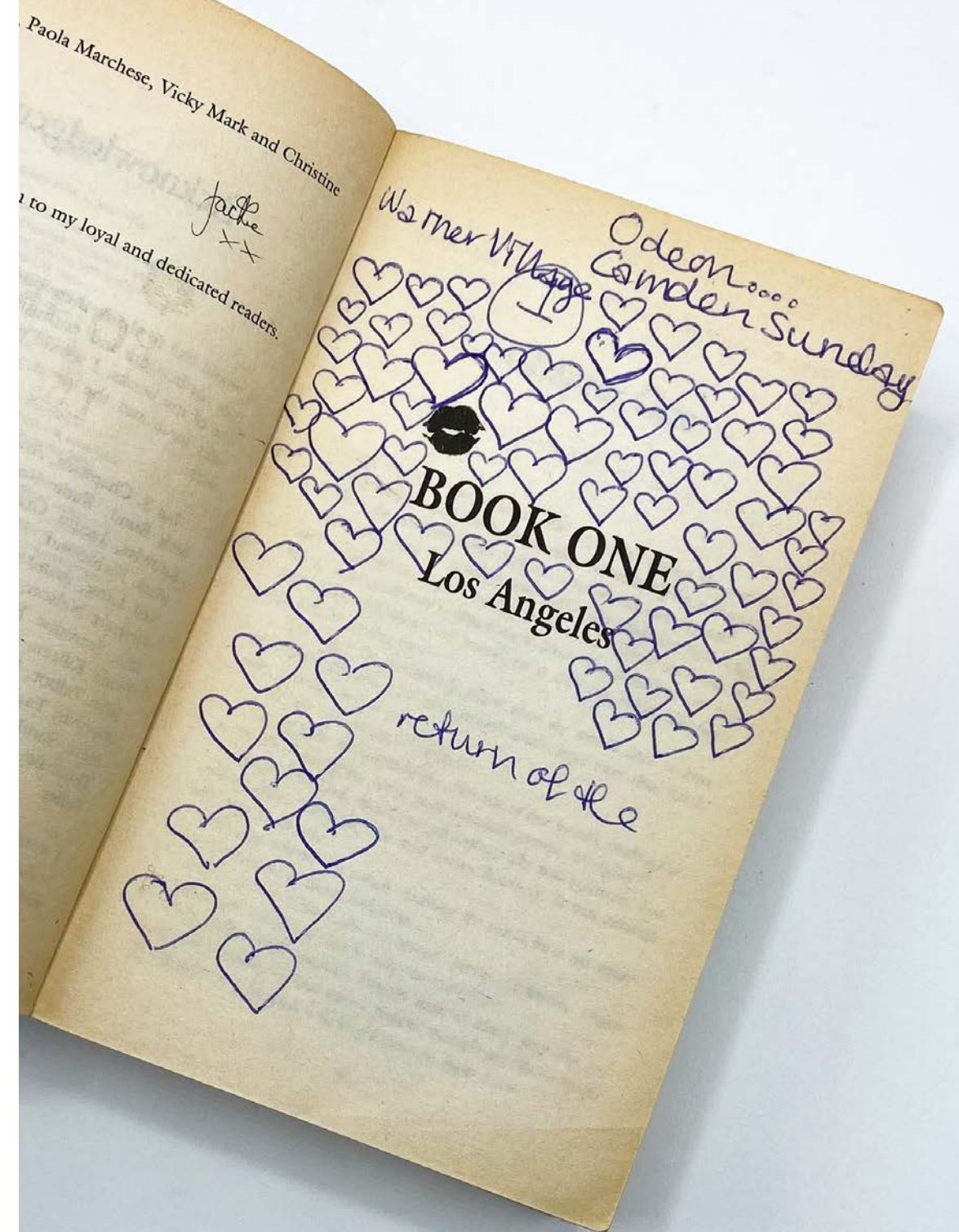
From 2000 (when she was 16) until about 2002 (when she began having her first real professional successes), Winehouse ran a Yahoo group called "bunnysvintagemovies" devoted to classic MGM films — like the ones Bob Fosse directed for the studio. Note too the candle wax on the Marlon Brando biography (right).

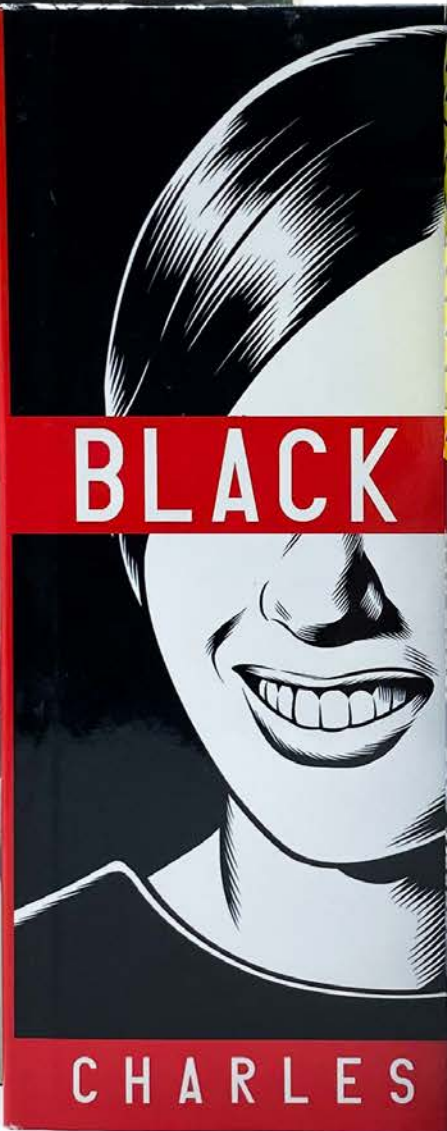




Winehouse doodling (hearts were a favorite) in her copy of a Jackie Collins novel. She seems to be making plans to see a movie, likely "RETURN OF THE [KING]." The Warner and Odeon are both London movie theaters.

This inscription is probably from Winehouse's "first serious boyfriend" Chris Taylor, whom she was dating at the time of the inscription when Amy had just moved into a new apartment in the northern London neighborhood of Finchley. Chris was reportedly the subject of Winehouse's hit "Stronger Than Me" from her debut album. "Bunny" was a nickname of Winehouse's, one she often used online.

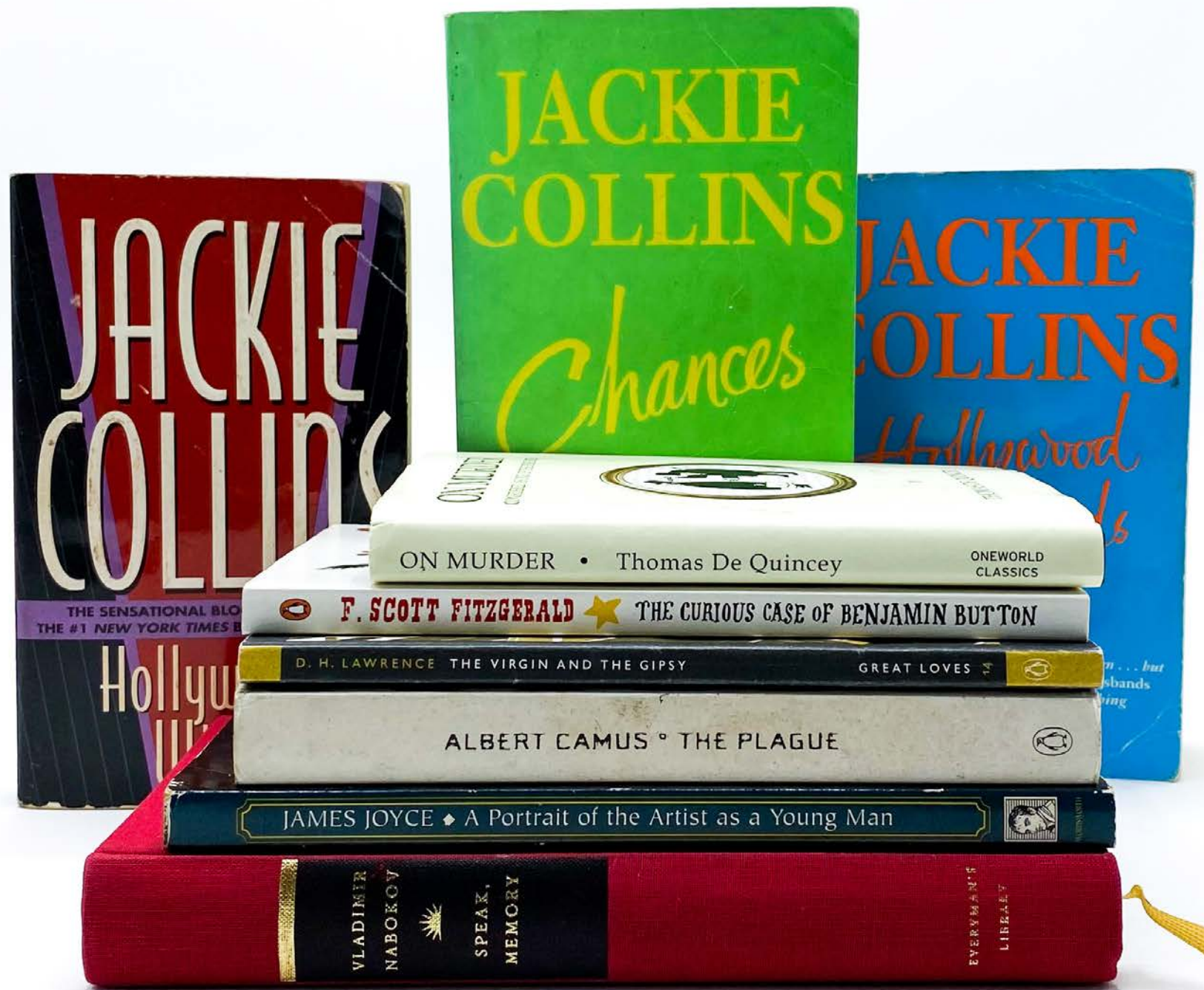


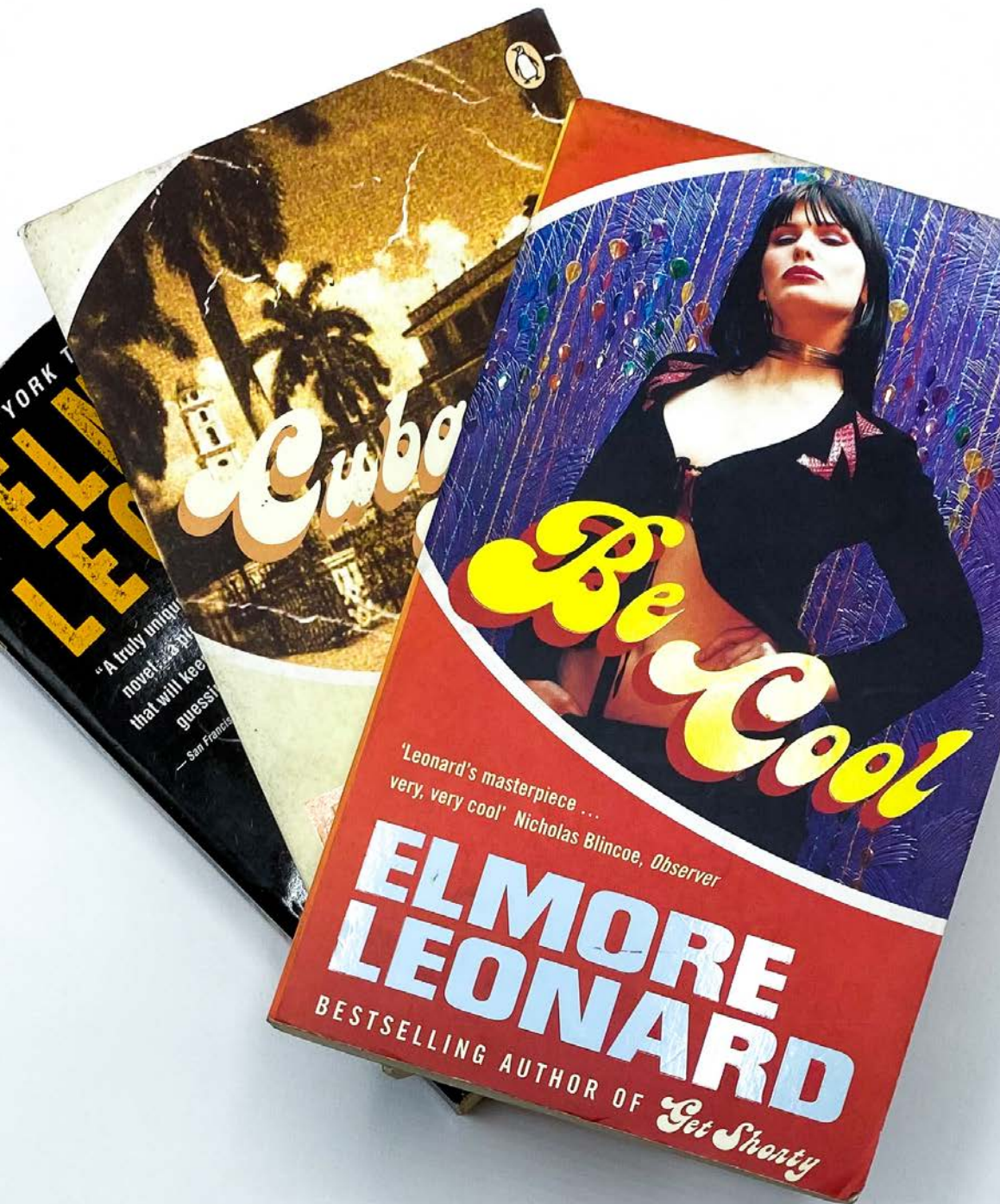


Faves

"I love graphic novels
and cartoons."

"Amy gave off a feeling of being slightly ashamed about how intelligent she really was. She'd have tons of Jackie Collins novels lying around the flat, but would hide her Dostoyevsky collection in a cupboard." — her brother, Alex Winehouse





The only novelist with more titles in the collection than Armistead Maupin was Jackie Collins. The interest apparently went two ways: Maupin would write references to Winehouse into his 2010 novel MARY ANN IN AUTUMN.



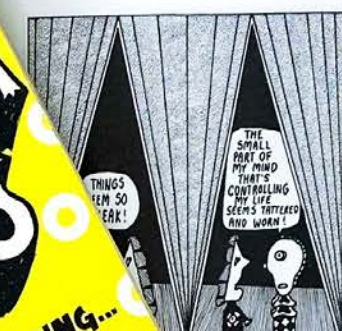
Winehouse clearly loved popular novels. Harlan Coben, Tom Wolfe, Candice Bushnell, James Ellroy, Sidney Sheldon, Carl Hiaasen, and Elmore Leonard are all represented in the collection. However, BE COOL, Leonard's followup to GET SHORTY and set in the music industry, would likely have been of particular interest.



"I love graphic novels and cartoons," Winehouse once said in an interview. Indeed, at almost a quarter of all the titles in the collection, no single genre is more strongly represented than graphic novels. And no writer has more titles in her library than the Hernandez Brothers, authors of the long-running series LOVE AND ROCKETS.

Many of Winehouse's books were well loved, showing evidence of multiple readings, coffee and tea stains, pages torn out and used as notes, etc. Here, this book was likely read in the bathtub (something the collection suggests she did regularly); the book below it shows candlewax on the spine. In many ways, her library reflects how she lived: fiercely, passionately.





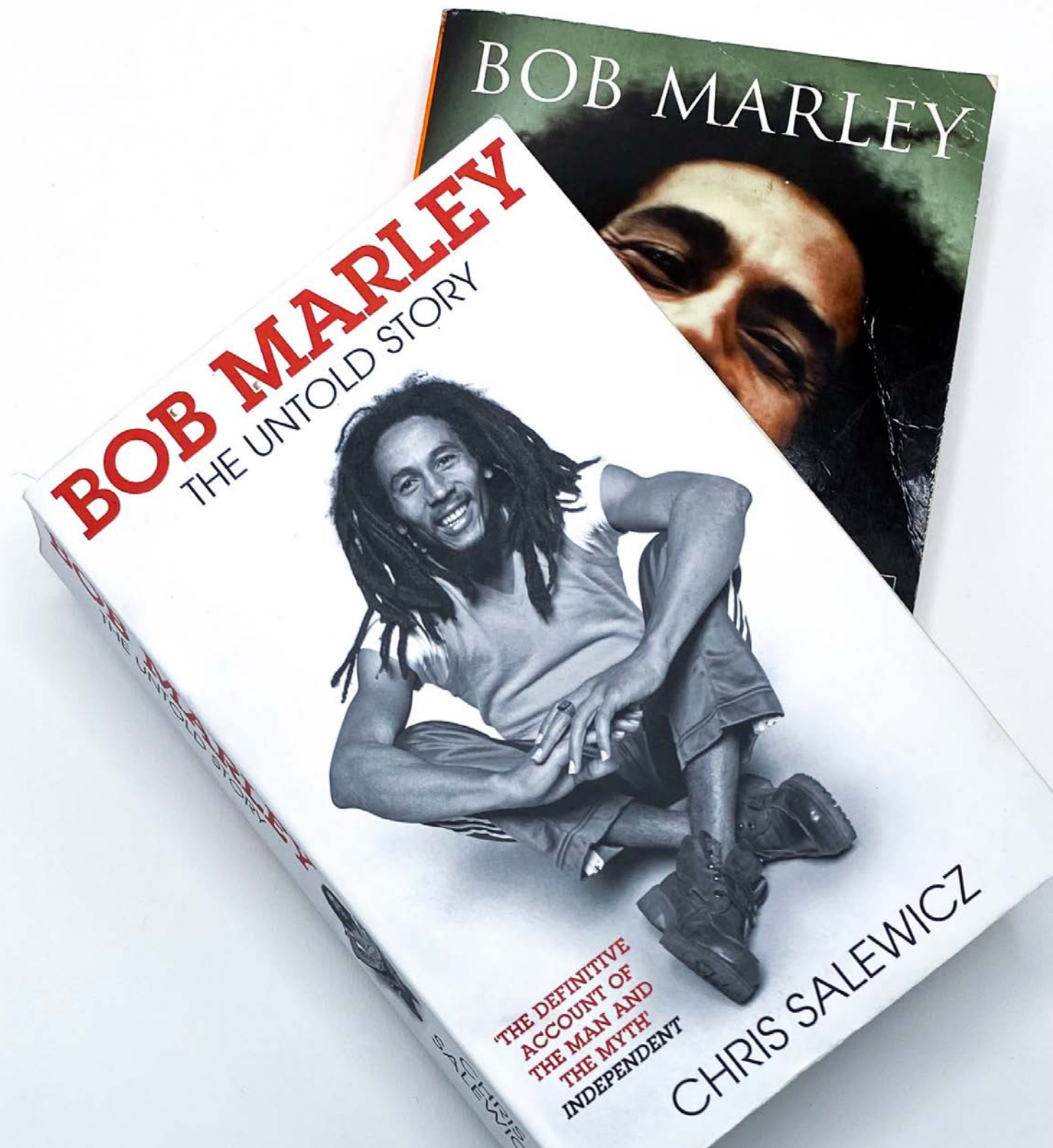
Alexei Sayle

BARCELONA PLATES

'ARCH, DESICCATED AND MENACING...
BRILLIANT' THE TIMES

"I read all sorts of stuff, but this week I bought an anthology of graphic fiction [...] I also bought Alexei Sayle's Barcelona Plates, which I'm looking forward to reading. I could spend a lot of time in bookshops just browsing." — interview with THE GUARDIAN, 2007.

Career



Winehouse was a huge fan of reggae and ska, often including covers in her live sets. She worked with one of Bob Marley's guitarists (Earl Chinna Smith) on her debut album, FRANK. She was reportedly hoping to record her followup to BACK TO BLACK in Jamaica with Marley's son Damian as producer.

Reinventing Music Video

Next-generation directors,
their inspiration and work

Matt Hanson

REINVENTING MUSIC VIDEO came out the same year as BACK TO BLACK. Winehouse would go on to release six videos for the album between late 2006 and early 2008. Phil Griffin directed three of these. A fourth directed by Griffin was planned ("Love Is A Losing Game"), but Winehouse failed to show for the scheduled shooting and two alternate videos were released instead, using live performance footage and photographs. The final video, for "Tears Dry On Their Own," was directed by famed photographer Dave LaChapelle, who inscribed his 2006 photobook (right) to the singer and her then-husband, Blake Fielder-Civil.

LACHAPELLE HEAVEN TO HELL

To Blake
+ my love to
you and a
gorgeous future



ANCIENT MARKS

THE SACRED ORIGINS OF TATTOOS AND BODY MARKING

CHRIS RAINIER

26th February 2007
Hey Amy
us on tour. love
Simon x x x Jim x Jay x
check the tats on this! Many thanks for having
Cherry Ghost

ANCIENT MARKS

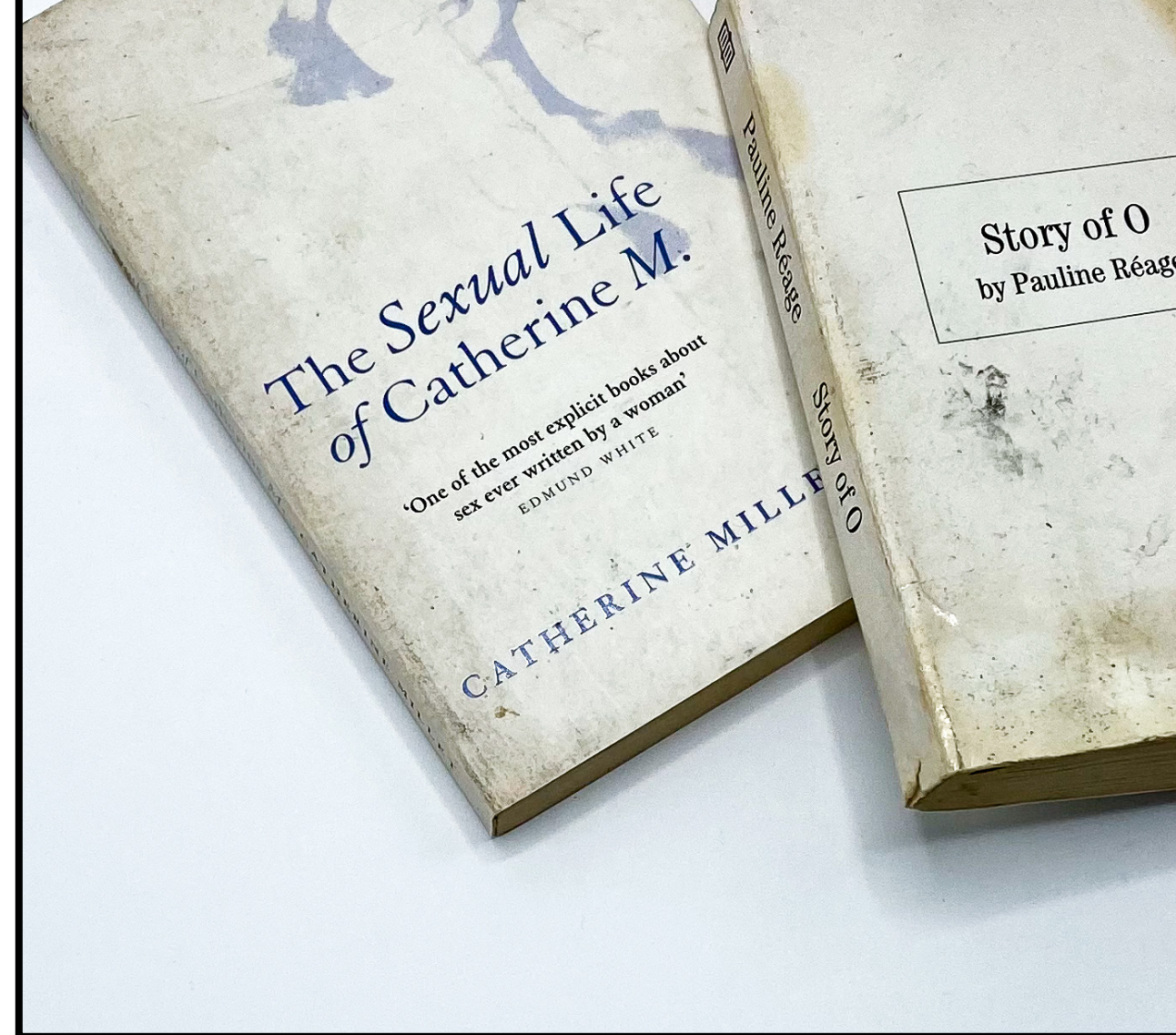
The Sacred Origins of Tattoos and Body Marking

by CHRIS RAINIER

Foreword by WADE DAVIS




Winehouse's tattoos were almost as famous as the singer herself. This title was inscribed as a gift to Winehouse by members of the band Cherry Ghost, who opened several dates for her in early 2007.



"I like pin-up girls. I'm more of a boy than a girl. I'm not a lesbian, though — not before a Sambuca anyway."
— quote originally published on Winehouse's official website.

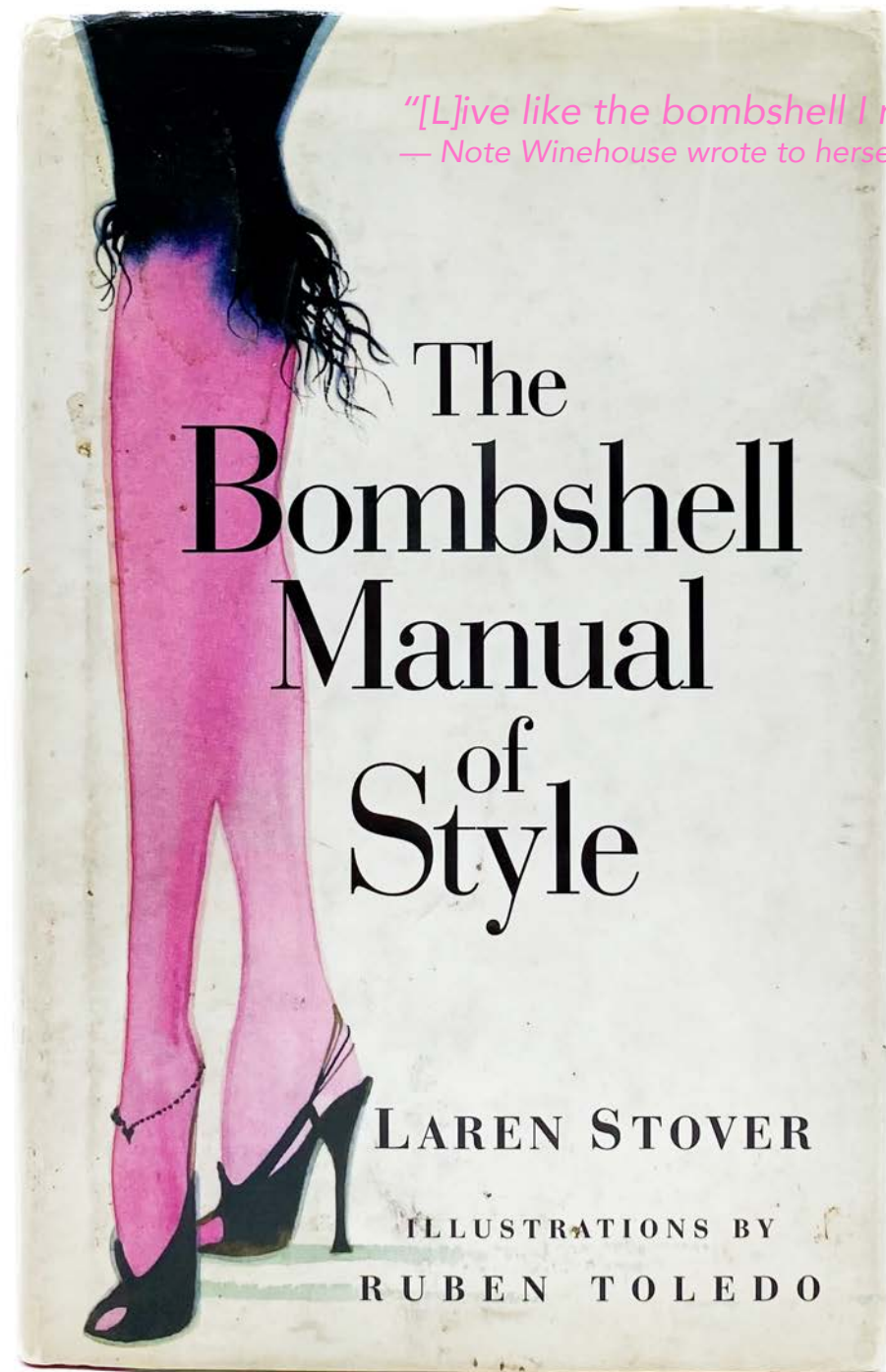
PETER CAREY
Theft: A Love Story

To the most precious,
glistening pile of
love wrapped up tight
in smooth skin and
topped of with the
coolest hair since
I had some,
With eternal love baby
I say "Read me -
bitch"


faber and faber

XX
XX

This book is inscribed to Winehouse from her then-husband/-boyfriend Blake Fielder-Civil referencing her famous beehive hairdo. It's the only book in the collection inscribed by Fielder-Civil.



Winehouse plans a party, likely circa 2006. The guest list includes Kelly Osborne, Nick Shmansky (her first manager), singer Corinne Bailey Rae, DJ Bioux Hayes, radio personality Steve Wright, husband Blake Fielder-Civil, Winehouse's father, numerous childhood friends, and others.

Damien Plummer + 1 Steve Wright + 1
 Jessica Ashby + 1 Dave Jackson + 1
 Juliette Ashby + 1 Matt Kinton + 1
 Lauren Gilbert + 1 Piers Miller + 1
 Gary Scottish + 5 Jesus + 1
 Ellie Brown + 1
 Russell Gilbert + 2
 John Lacey + 2
 Alex Claire + 1
 Fatty Mixer + 1
 Gilly Mixer + 1
 Pauly Mixer + 1
 Alfie Milner + 2
 Emony Rugg + 1
 Cat Grouley + 1
 Dad + 2
 Bioux Hayes + 2
 Blake
 Don Claire + 1
 Kelly O + 2
 Raphael Dawkins + 2
 Ken Gordon + 1
 Tino + 1
 Taylor + 2
 Margo + 1
 Ollie Hill + 4
 Ryan Meriman + 2
 Sarah
 Tommy Wright + 2
 Sarah Gregson + 1
 Ian Skinner + 1
 Sonia Skinner + 1
 Jessica
 Marco Holly Bush + 1
 Shymansky + 1
 113

Ronnie Kray

Laurie O'Leary

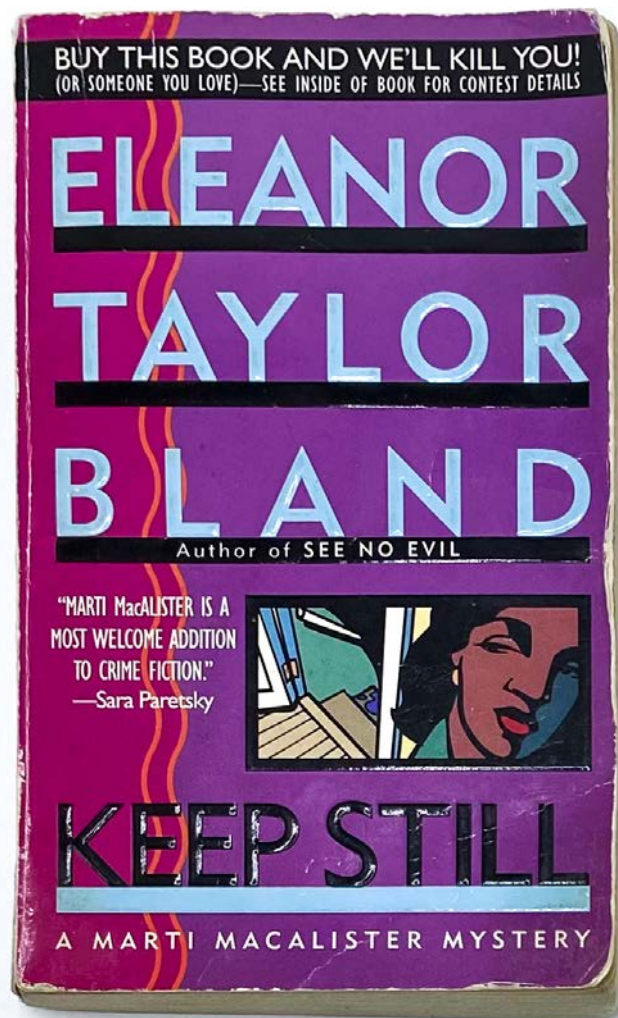
foreword by
Barbara Windsor

Hi Amy!

I hope you are fine and I think explaining my situation to you is not that difficult. In a short way, I would say - I'm your fan! But I stayed here for 12 days no matter what weather was coming and all I want is to meet you. I'm not angry if you don't want, because I respect your privacy and I want you to get well soon. When you were coming out today my lines were so long and I was so happy to see you!

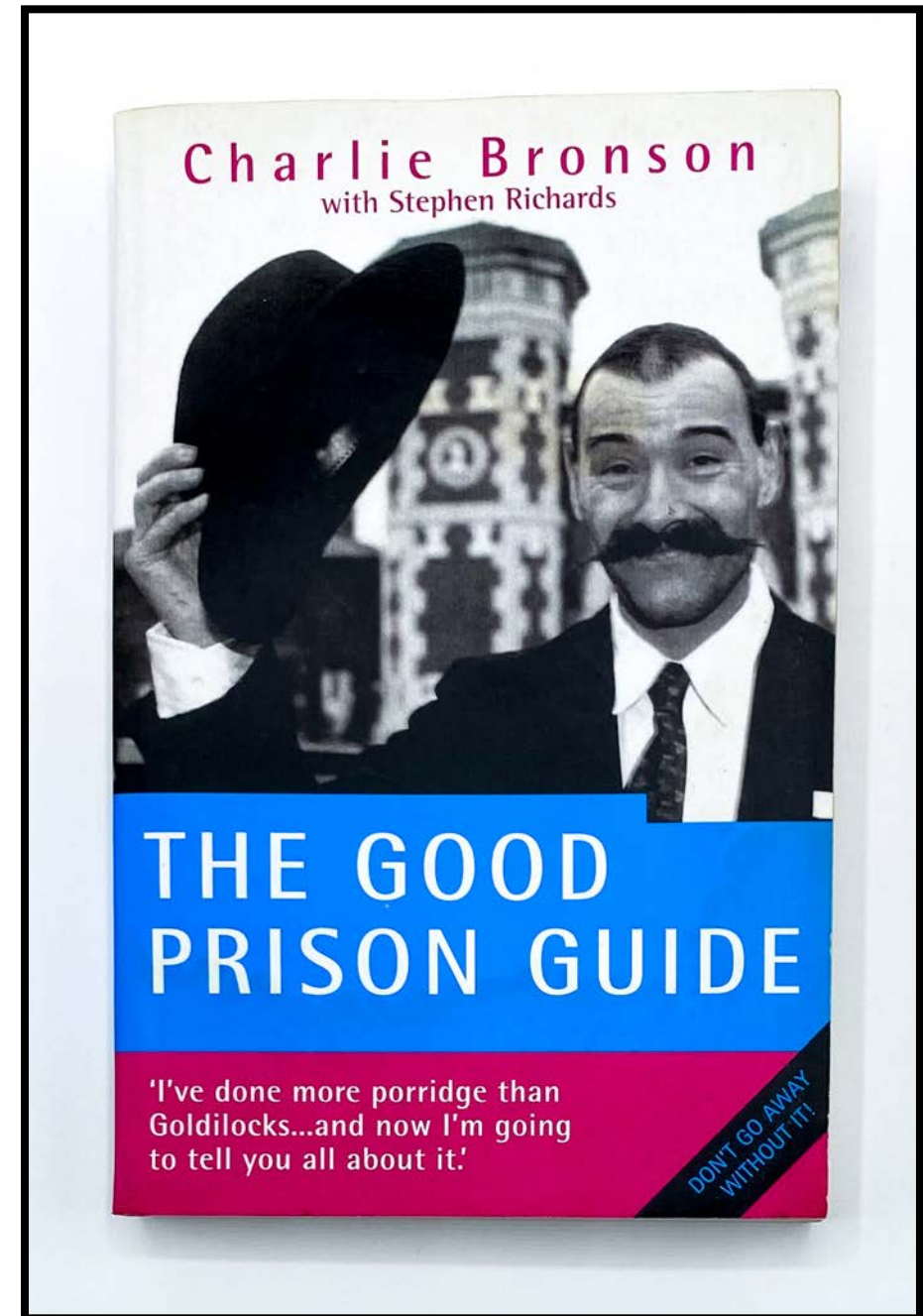
Laid into this biography of the notorious British mobster Ronnie Kray is an undated note from a German fan who apparently waited outside Winehouse's home for almost two weeks before leaving this note. "[G]et well soon," she writes.

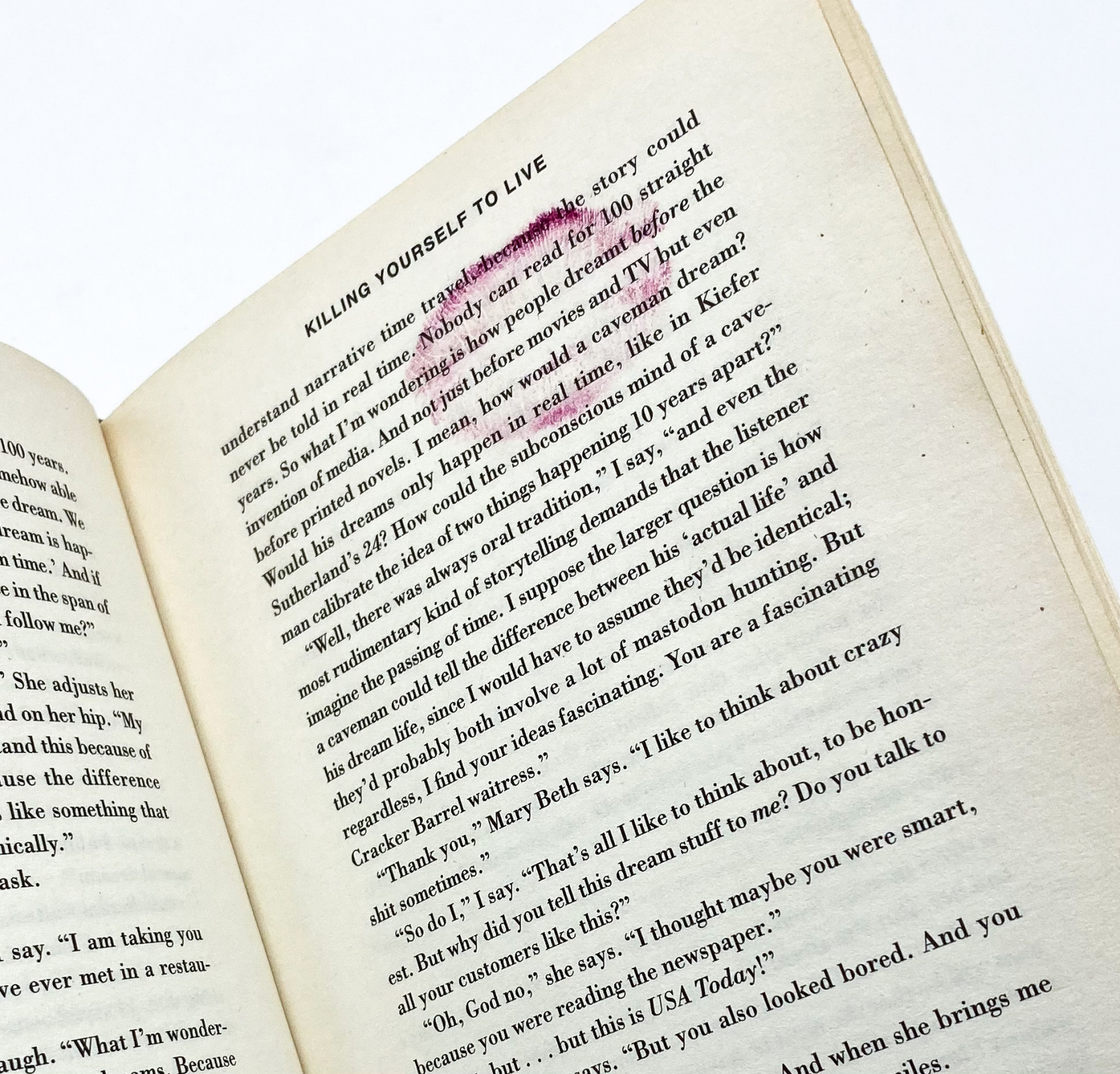
Fame



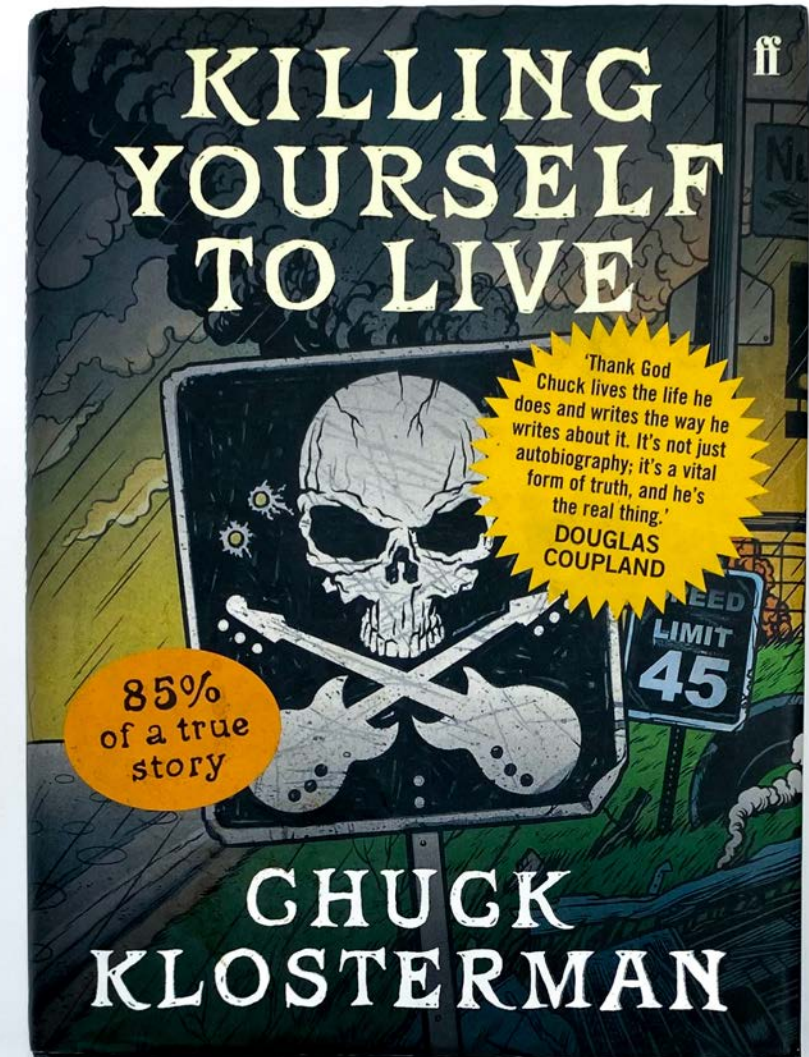
This book bears the stamp of "Tapion Hospital" on St. Lucia, where Winehouse was reportedly admitted several times during her 2008-2009 stay on the island with friend Blake Wood.

While there are a number of true crime books in Winehouse's library, this one (published in 2007) was likely much more personal. Her then-husband, Blake Fielder-Civil, was sentenced in 2008 to more than two years in prison for assault and bribery, an event that was particularly hard on the singer.





Chuck Klosterman's third book, *KILLING YOURSELF TO LIVE*, originally released in 2005 but not published in the UK until 2006 (the same year as *BACK TO BLACK*), follows the writer as he travels across the US visiting "the most famous rock-n-roll death sites." Winehouse's copy appears not only well read, but contains an unmistakable red lipstick SWAK on page 71.

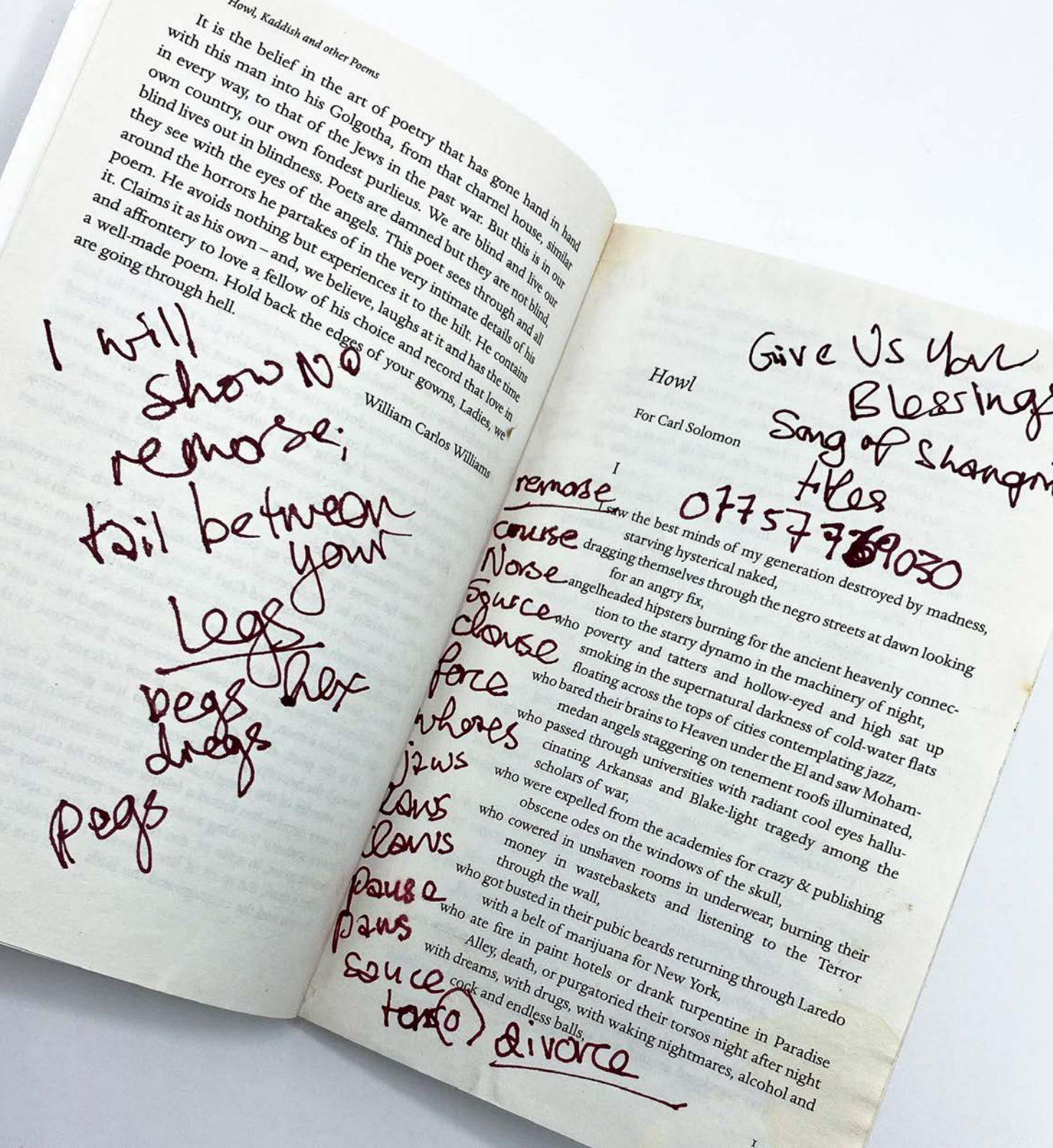




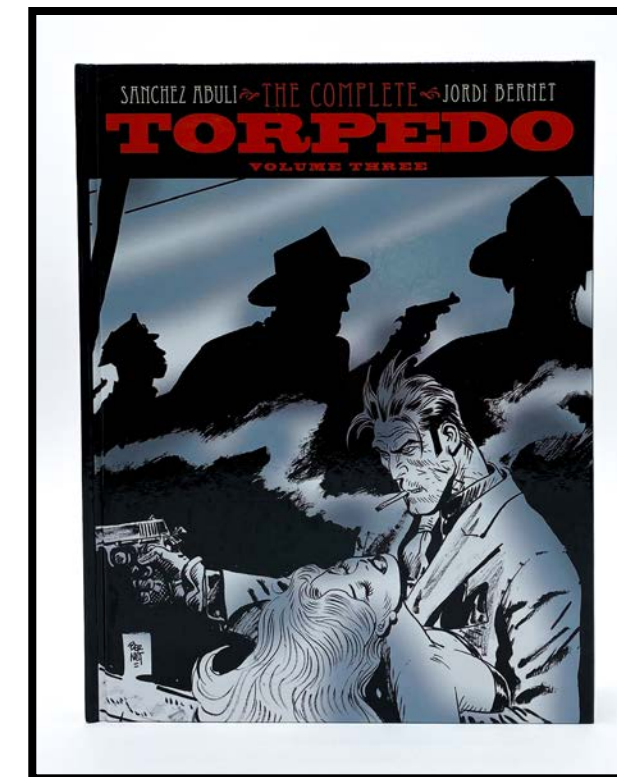
Both Boy George and Blur's Alex James, who each battled their own addictions, publicly reached out to Winehouse during her lifetime. Boy George even penned in 2009 a song for her ("Your Pain Makes a Beautiful Sound"). Indeed, as many of the books in the collection suggest — like many of her songs — Winehouse was under no illusions about her demons.

According to a posthumous profile and interview in THE GUARDIAN with Winehouse's brother Alex, "Many of her problems predated her sudden rise to fame. She developed bulimia in her late teens and the eating disorder dogged her for the rest of her life. Alex remembers her at the age of 17 hanging out with a group of girls who 'were all doing it. They'd put loads of rich sauces on their food, scarf it down and throw it up. They stopped doing it, but Amy never really did... We all knew she was doing it, but it's almost impossible [to tackle] especially if you're not talking about it. It's a real dark, dark issue.'" In a separate interview her brother elaborated: "She suffered from bulimia very badly. That's not, like, a revelation — you knew just by looking at her [...] She would have died eventually, the way she was going, but what really killed her was the bulimia."

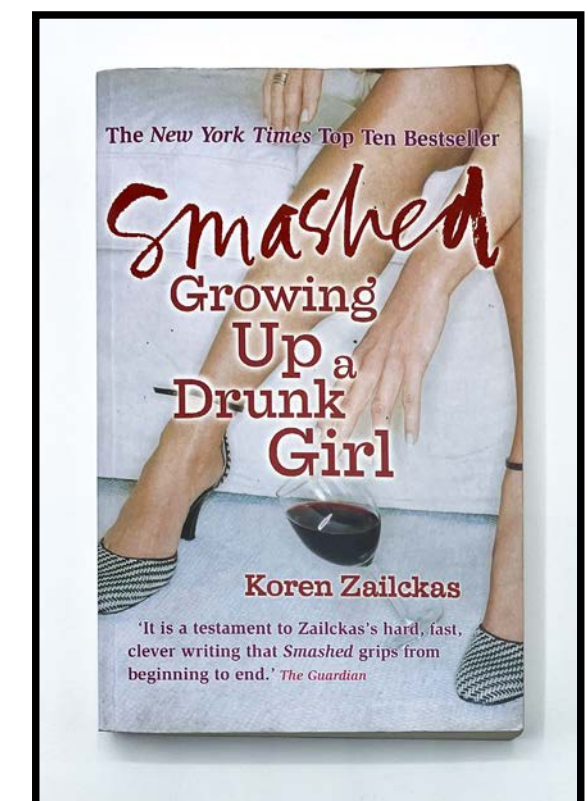




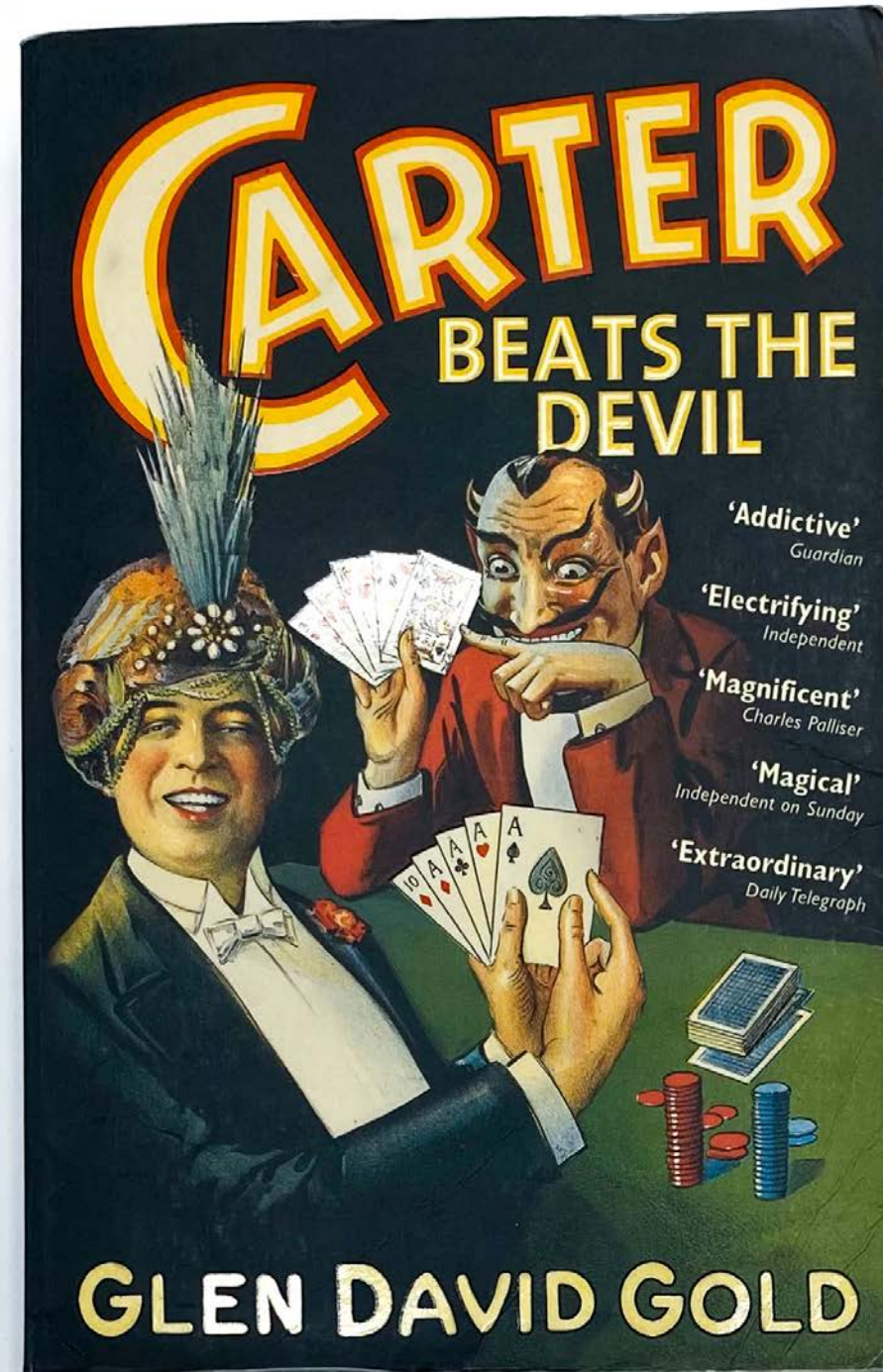
This copy of Allen Ginsberg's HOWL contains several pages of Winehouse's notes, lines, and a list of rhyming words — all apparently for a never-realized song. Winehouse probably read the book on her 2008/09 trip to St. Lucia with friend and photographer Blake Wood. Wood mentions having the title with them in the photobook dedicated to Winehouse published in 2018 by Taschen.



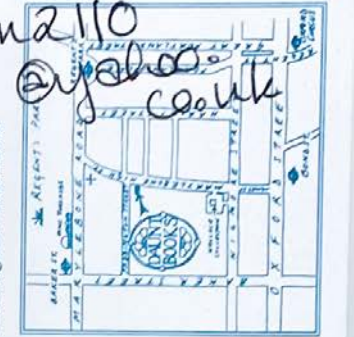
Published in 2011, TORPEDO would have been one of the last books Winehouse purchased. Released in the UK around April, Winehouse would die at her home on July 23rd. Unlike most books in the collection, it appears unread.



In an interview with *THE GUARDIAN*, Winehouse said, "I never travel without a good book. I read a lot when I'm traveling and always have a couple of books on the go [...] this week I bought [...] another copy of *Carter Beats the Devil* by Glen David Gold — a great novel." A bookmark from London's travel bookshop Daunt Books is laid in — on which Winehouse has written her beloved grandmother's email. Cynthia Gordon Winehouse would pass away in 2006; afterwards, Winehouse would get one of her most iconic tattoos, a classic pin-up inspired by her grandmother. Winehouse was buried beside her grandmother in 2011.



reach of Oxford Street and a short walk from Bond Street, Baker Street and Regent's Park tubes.





AFTERWORD

Much of the power of Asif Kapadia's 2015 Oscar-winning biopic *AMY* originated from how well it restored the person of Amy Winehouse — not just the talent or the drama — but the humor, the ferocity, the mischievousness, the delicacy. The documentary was so moving less for any salacious details (which were by then all too well known) and more for how smaller and more intimate moments allowed the tragedy and loss to be so keenly felt anew. It restored Winehouse's humanity, wrenching it back from rumors and tabloids.

Six years later, scrolling through the lots of the Amy Winehouse charity auction at Julien's Auctions in Los Angeles (Property From The Life And Career Of Amy Winehouse, November 6th and 7th, 2021), one could find a similar feeling. But it didn't come from the dresses, audio equipment, or even CDs that were on offer across the auction's more than 800 lots. Instead it came from the relatively small number of offerings featuring her books — her library.

They revealed a human Amy Winehouse, a life size one, and not the caricature too-frequently remembered. And the more we considered the lots, the more we saw that even beyond their totemic appeal, this was a collection that deserved to stay together — not only because they spoke biographically about Winehouse's life, but also because they spoke artistically to what a skilled writer she was.

Yet despite their importance, the auction's catalogue descriptions often seemed to overlook these books' significances. Her annotated copy

of "Little Shop of Horrors" failed to mention that a clip from that performance was featured in Kapadia's documentary. A group of Frank Sinatra biographies (which were displayed at London's Design Museum's 2021-22 exhibition "Amy: Beyond the Stage") missed that Winehouse's first album, *FRANK*, was in no small part named for the singer. And a David LaChapelle photobook inscribed to Winehouse omitted its most salient fact: that LaChapelle had directed the music video for one of her best songs, "Tears Dry on Their Own."

Such oversights also suggested that there might be discoveries to be made among the lots. (And indeed, as this catalogue shows, there were.) So in hopes of seeing these materials placed and maintained in their fullest context, we embarked to keep as much of the library intact as possible.

In the end we won the vast majority of the lots we thought most important, and the collection highlighted above represents approximately 2/3rds of the lots and 75% of all of the books offered that day. Even this probably does not represent all of the books from Winehouse's library. There are a number of books she mentioned in interviews that were not present in any of the lots. Nevertheless, while it is not entirely comprehensive, it is certainly representative — and therefore important.

— Brian Cassidy &
Rebecca Romney.

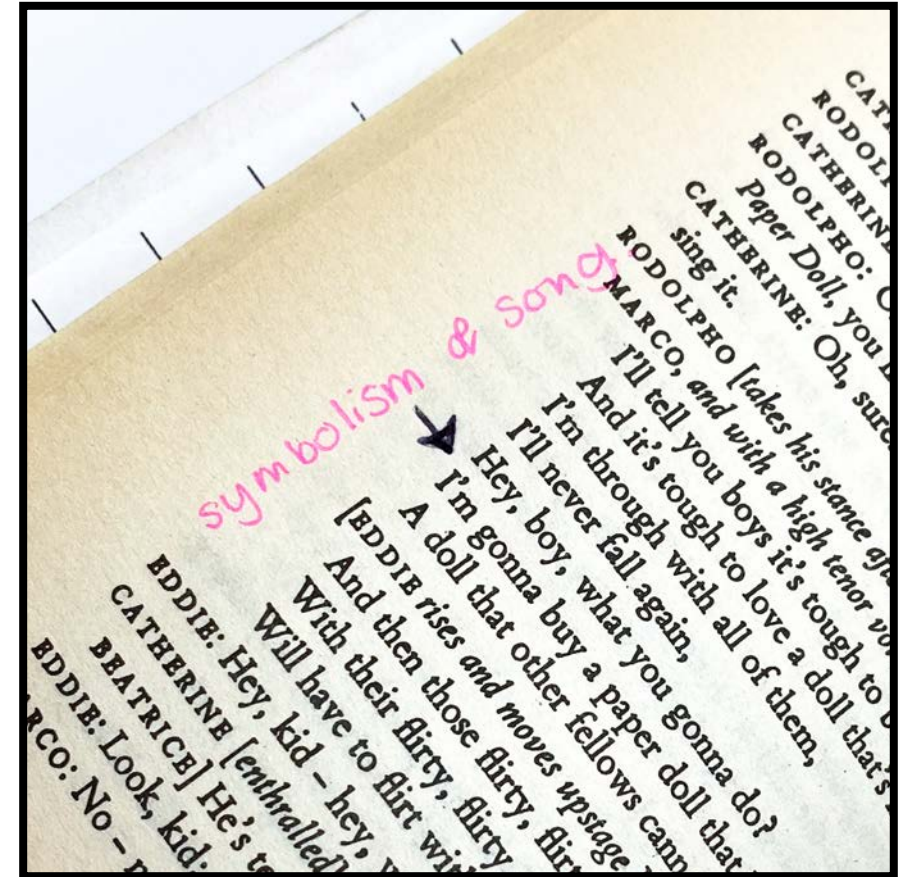
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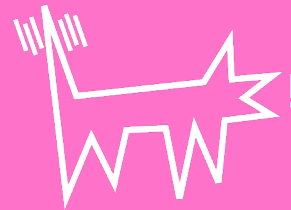
Design: Brian Cassidy

Photography: Rebecca Romney

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Print. Culture.



About:

Type Punch Matrix is a rare book firm founded by booksellers Rebecca Romney and Brian Cassidy. TPM sells a mixture of beloved classics and innovative texts from throughout print history, for collectors and institutions alike. Handpress and modern books, archives and manuscripts, letterpress and ephemera: TPM aims to make collecting both more accessible and more diverse, and supports the mindful acquisition, preservation, understanding, and celebration of the printed legacies of our artistic and historical heritages. We strive to be inclusive and accurate in our cataloguing. If you encounter descriptions you feel misrepresent or omit important perspectives, or use language that could be improved, please email us.

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All items are are guaranteed as described. Prices in US dollars. All material subject to prior sale. Returnable for any reason within 30 days, with notification and prompt shipment. Payment by check, money order, or wire; Visa, Amex, MasterCard, Discover, and PayPal also accepted. Domestic ground shipping is free. International shipping will be billed. Sales tax added to applicable purchases. Reciprocal courtesies to the trade.