

As a child, Lucy Mangan was reading all the time, using books to navigate the challenges and complexities of this world and many others. As an adult, she uses her new relationship with literature to seize upon the most important question: (how) do books prepare us for life?

*Bookish* vividly tells the story of a reader's life from the cusp of teenagehood, when everything—including the way we read—undergoes a not-so-subtle transformation. Lucy vividly recounts her metamorphosis from young bookworm to bookish adult, from the way school curricula impact our relationship with literature, to the growing pains of swapping the pleasures of rereading for those of book-hoarding.

Revisiting the books of all genres (from literary novels and historical saga fiction to apocalyptic zombie novels) that ferried her through each important stage of life—falling in love, finding a job, becoming a mother, and navigating grief—*Bookish* is a coming of age story told through books. It's an ode to our favorite bookish spaces (from the smallest secondhand bookstalls to our favorite libraries, mega-bookshops, and our own bookshelves) and a love story to how books not only shelter our souls through hard times, but also how they help us connect with the people we love through shared stories.

**Lucy Mangan** is a columnist for *Stylist* magazine and a features writer and reviewer for the *Guardian*, the *Telegraph*, and many other publications. She broadcasts frequently on radio and occasionally on television, and is the author of *My Family and Other Disasters*, *The Reluctant Bride*, *Hopscotch and Handbags*, and *Inside Charlie's Chocolate Factory*. Lucy lives in London.

Read by the Author



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