



GO / SIMON LEWIS

Global New Brit classic in the making with a pulp fiction plot revolving around Brixton, Goa and Hong Kong. Our Chancer heroes, Lee, a small-time dodgy dealer, rave photographer Sol and taffy karaoke hostess Vix career through an international underworld of the X generation in a desperate attempt at escapism. Lewis has captured the international back-pack set with wit, warmth and clarity, well worth the trip. + (MJ)

Pulp Books £8.99

WYOMING TRAIL / CHERYL MOSKOWITZ

Francine is a young girl growing up in Seattle in the late 60s with a sister she despises and parents who are at war. Her doctor father feels trapped by both job and family. After tripping out at Woodstock, he embraces fully the hippy counter culture and takes the family to London and a series of communes. Divorce is inevitable and father disappears, leaving Francine with a huge hole in her life and very being. *Wyoming Trail* is clearly a highly autobiographical work about a woman learning to love herself and discover a sense of place in the world. Written with a

dry humour and hallucinatory style that captures the hunger of Francine's anorexia, it is powerful and entertaining, marred only by an unwarranted leap in time towards the end. + (RW)

Granta, £9.99

THE LIFE + DEATH OF ANDY WARHOL / VICTOR BOCKRIS

From Bowie's *Hunky Dory* days to today's Dandy Warhols, the man who turned the can of Campbell's soup into a post-modern icon has been a source of inspiration for a wide range of musicians and artists who have borrowed from him as much as he took from the world around him. Andy Warhol

was a sickly child who grew up in a tough, immigrant neighbourhood of Pittsburgh, the Industrial armpit of the United States, then escaped through his talent to the bright lights of New York and iconic status as artist, filmmaker and godfather of The Factory. The rest is history, as they say. Or rumour. Warhol was an enthusiastic creator of myths about his life. But Victor Bockris knew him well and it is clear that Warhol would have trusted him to tell the true story — as near as that is possible. This is the definitive Warhol biography and a must for those who not only want to get a glimpse inside the man's head but also want to know what he ate for breakfast. + (RW)

PORNOCOPIA — PORN, SEX, TECHNOLOGY AND DESIRE / LAURENCE O'TOOLE

What's the difference between indecency and obscenity? How does it feel to be a porn star? Who uses porn, and how and why? How is new technology embracing porn? These are some of the questions O'Toole poses and sets out to answer in a work that is both a brave and accomplished attempt to drag that dirty word 'pornography' from out of the back alleys and from under the suburban beds of anally retentive Brits. Yes, most of us masturbate, but why is masturbation such a dirty word, and thus the material used as stimulation. A self-confessed fan of porn, O'Toole is a happy martyr in his research, heading off to the States and the set of a hardcore movie. He highlights how Britain's laws on porn are out of synch with the rest of the world's. He interviews male and female stars, the latter claiming that they are in no way exploited, making a good living from baring all to the camera. He provides convincing evidence that pornography, when created by consenting adults for consenting adults in a healthy environment need not be damaging either to performers or viewers. The thing is, we don't live in a perfect world and there's plenty of porn made under different conditions that isn't so wholesome. Which simply adds to the argument to stop pornography being forced into dark basements where the opportunity for abuse is all the greater. Because one thing is for sure: it ain't going to go away. But as old time porn director and producer Henri Pachard says of himself and fellow filmmakers and actors: "We wouldn't be in this business if we weren't somehow socially dysfunctional, fucked up." I guess it's a question of making your own mind up and for that reason, porn, like drugs, should be discussed in a reasonable and open-minded way. Just like mature adults are supposed to. This book goes a long way to achieving that. + (RW)

Serpent's Tail, £13.99

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