

## The Cutting Edge

The Story of the Beatles' Hairdresser Who Defined an Era  
by Leslie Cavendish

The Beatles' hair changed the world. As their increasingly wild, untamed manes grew, to the horror of parents everywhere, they set off a cultural revolution as the most tangible symbol of the Sixties' psychedelic dream of peace, love and playful rebellion. In the midst of this epochal change was Leslie Cavendish, hairdresser to the Beatles and some of the greatest stars of the music and entertainment industry.

But just how did a fifteen-year-old Jewish school dropout from an undistinguished North London suburb, with no particular artistic talent or showbusiness connections, end up literally at the cutting edge of Sixties' fashion in just four years? His story - honest, always entertaining and inspiring - parallels the meteoric rise of the Beatles themselves, and is no less astounding.

## Author Bio

Leslie Cavendish was born in East London and grew up in a large Jewish family in Burnt Oak, North London. He was apprenticed to Vidal Sassoon in 1962, becoming a stylist in his own right three years later. He became Paul McCartney's private hairdresser in 1966, and soon began to work on the image of all four Beatles, at the Apple offices and in their recording studios, and was even invited along as a friend and participant on the Magical Mystery Tour. In 1967, he opened his own salon, backed by Apple and the Beatles, at 161 King's Road, Chelsea.

After the official breakup of the Beatles, Leslie closed his salon and ran a clothing boutique in South London, while remaining a freelance hairdresser. In 1978, he entered the family footwear business and remained there until 1998 before moving to Spain. He now works for a major charity but also conducts occasional VIP Beatles Tours" of London, lectures on the Beatles and Sixties culture, and consults with the Beatles Fan Club. Leslie has two sons and divides his time between Britain and Spain. This is his first book.

Alma Books

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Biography / Entertainment & Performing Arts

## Notes

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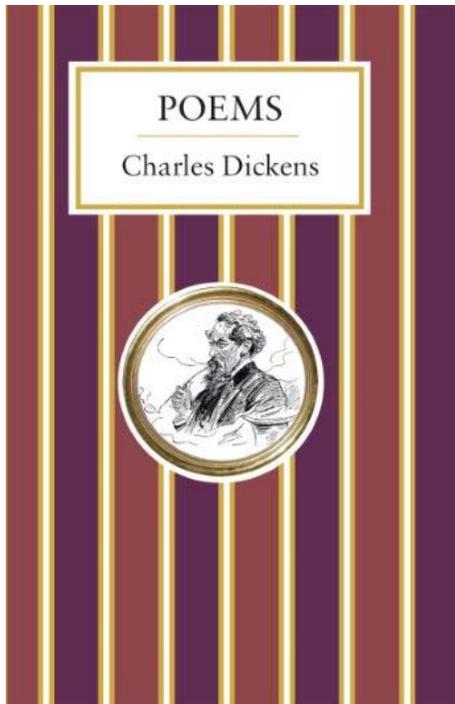


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## Poems

by Charles Dickens

While Charles Dickens is best known and celebrated for his prolific journalistic output and novelistic creations, he also devoted some of his creative energies to verse. At turns sentimental, melancholy, playful, humorous and satirical, and ranging considerably in tone and format - from songs to narrative prologues for novels and squibs for newspapers - the poems in this collection highlight Dickens's gift for language and his unfailing power to touch.

## Author Bio

Considered by many to be the greatest novelist of the English language, Charles John Huffam Dickens was born February 7, 1812, in Portsmouth, England. Some of his most popular works include *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations*.

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## Three Novellas

by Leo Tolstoy, translated by Kyril Zinovieff and April Fitzlyon

One of Tolstoy's last published works of fiction, *The Devil* revolves around the young landowner Yevgeny's irrepressible lust for Stepanida, a sensual peasant woman. Even when he gets married to a respectable upper-class lady, he finds himself unable to put an end to his encounters with Stepanida, and becomes increasingly consumed by guilt and helplessness in the face of his urges.

In some ways comparable to the controversial *Kreutzer Sonata*, *The Devil* shows Tolstoy at his most salacious, and addresses the conflicts between desire, social norms and personal conscience. Also included in this volume is *Family Happiness*, one of Tolstoy's earliest works, an entertaining and cynical account of marriage from the perspective of a disillusioned wife, and *A Landowner's Morning*.

## Author Bio

Leo Tolstoy (1828-1910) is regarded by some as the greatest novelist of all time. With such masterpieces as *Anna Karenina* and *War and Peace*, he influenced generations of writers and changed the course of world literature.

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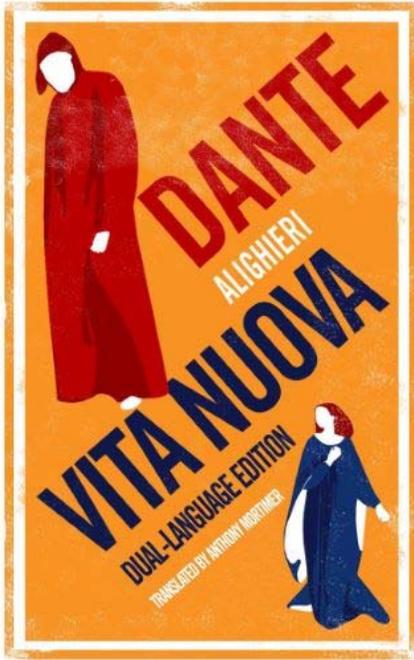


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## Vita Nuova

by Dante Alighieri, translated by Anthony Mortimer

The Vita Nuova, with its unusual blend of prose and poetry, is universally recognized as Dante's early masterpiece and provides an indispensable prequel to *The Divine Comedy*. Set in thirteenth-century Florence, part autobiography and part religious allegory, it traces Dante's quest to find a poetic idiom worthy of Beatrice, whom he had loved since boyhood. Her premature death plunges him into an emotional turmoil that finds release only through his faith in her continuing spiritual influence and through his determination to write of her what has never been written of any woman". The Vita Nuova remains a central document in European culture's examination of love and the self. It is a hundred and fifty years since Dante Gabriel Rossetti's groundbreaking version of the Vita Nuova. Now Anthony Mortimer, already acclaimed as translator of Cavalcanti, Petrarch and Michelangelo, produces a verse translation that avoids Rossetti's disturbing archaisms but preserves a lyric immediacy worthy of the original. This is a Vita Nuova for the twenty-first century.

## Author Bio

Dante Alighieri (c.1265-1321) is the author of *The Divine Comedy*, a masterpiece of world literature.

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