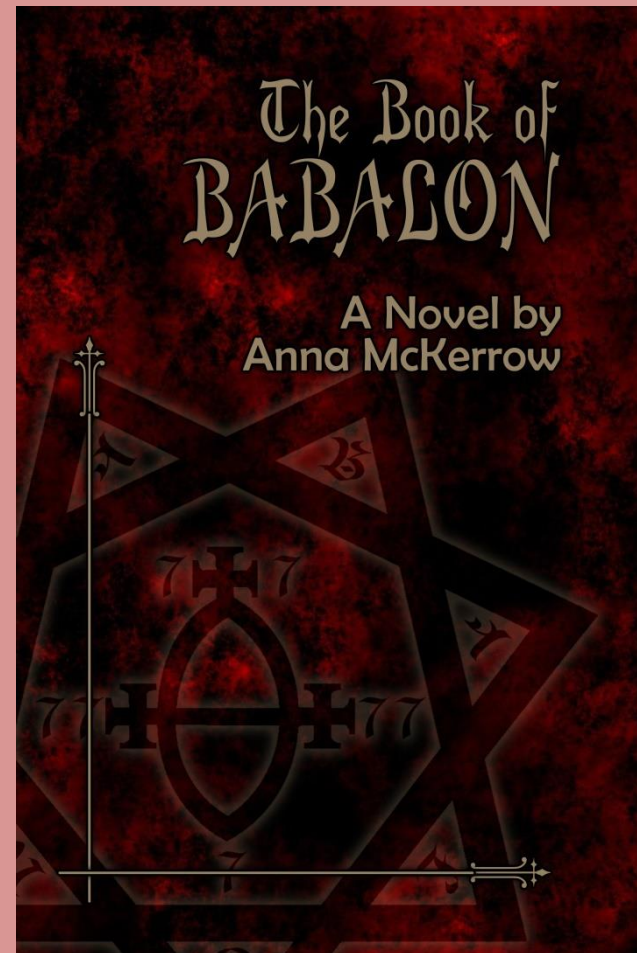
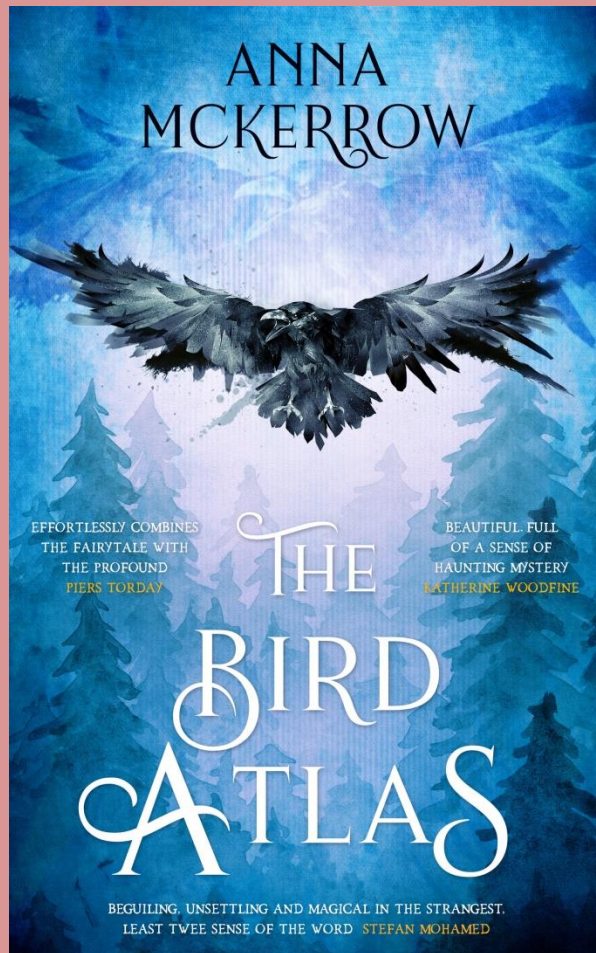


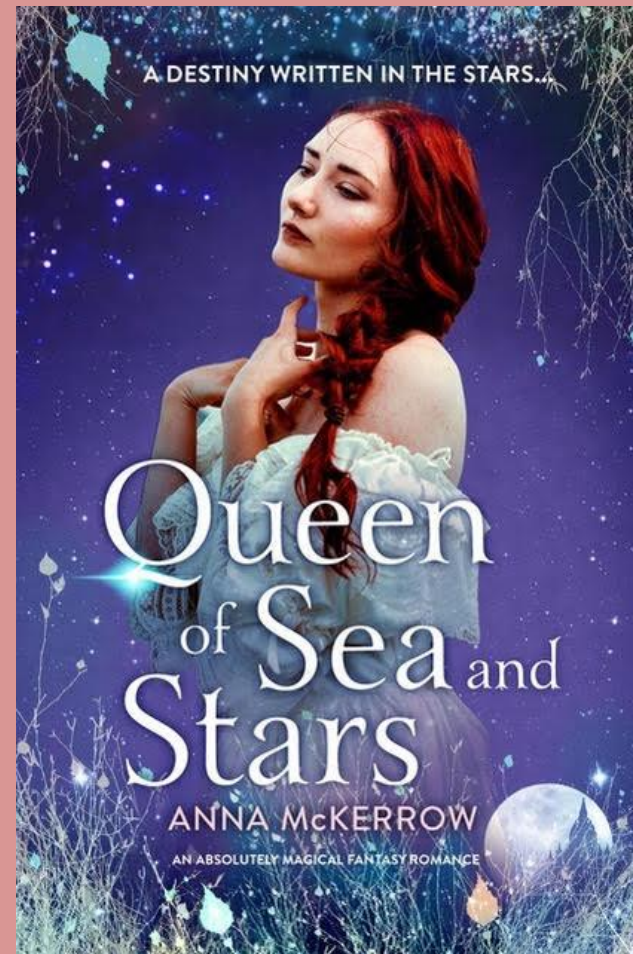
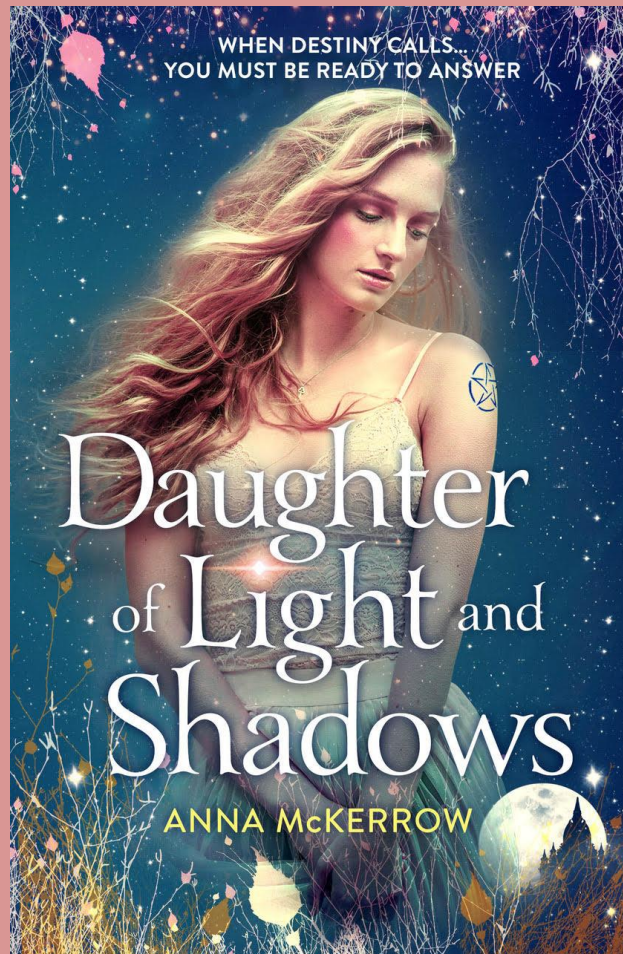
# **Anna McKerrow**

**Occult fiction and writing  
about witches**

# Some of my books

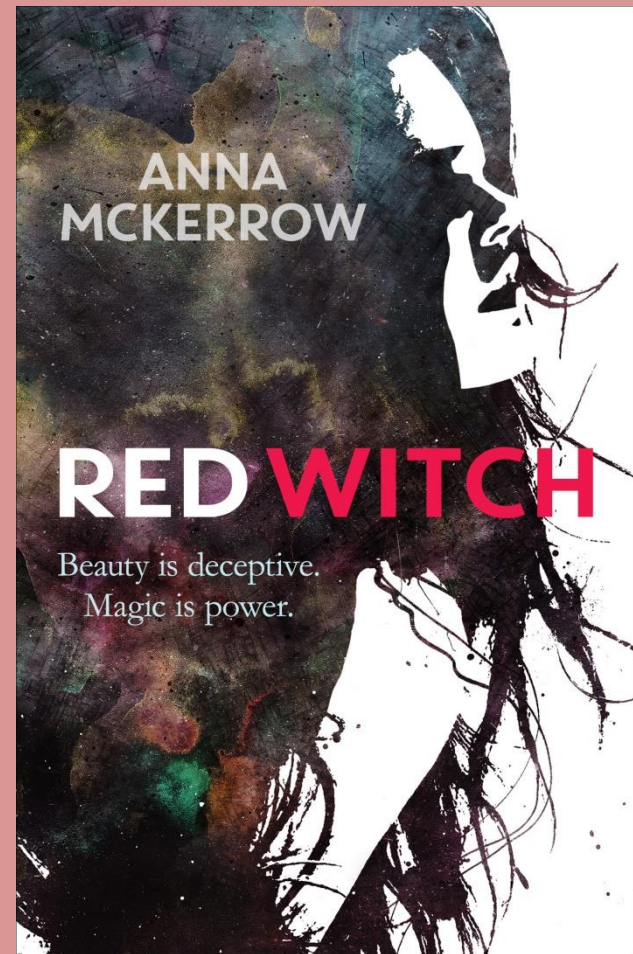
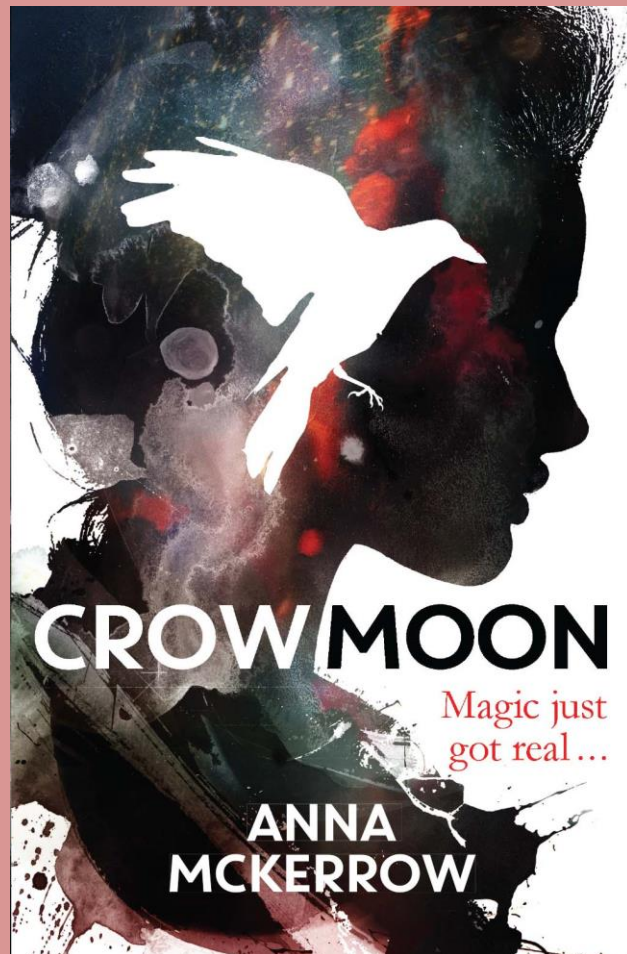


# The Elemental Kingdoms

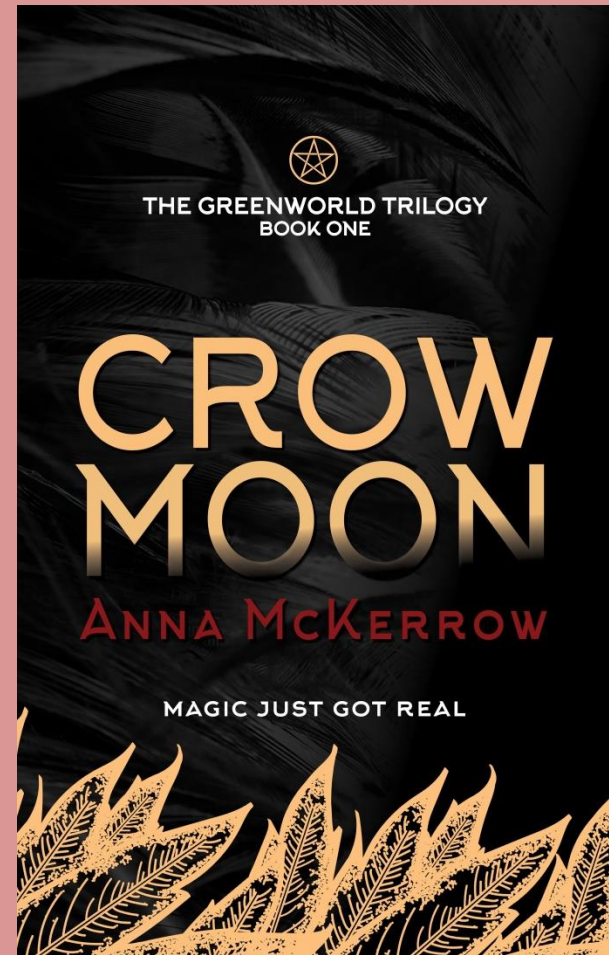
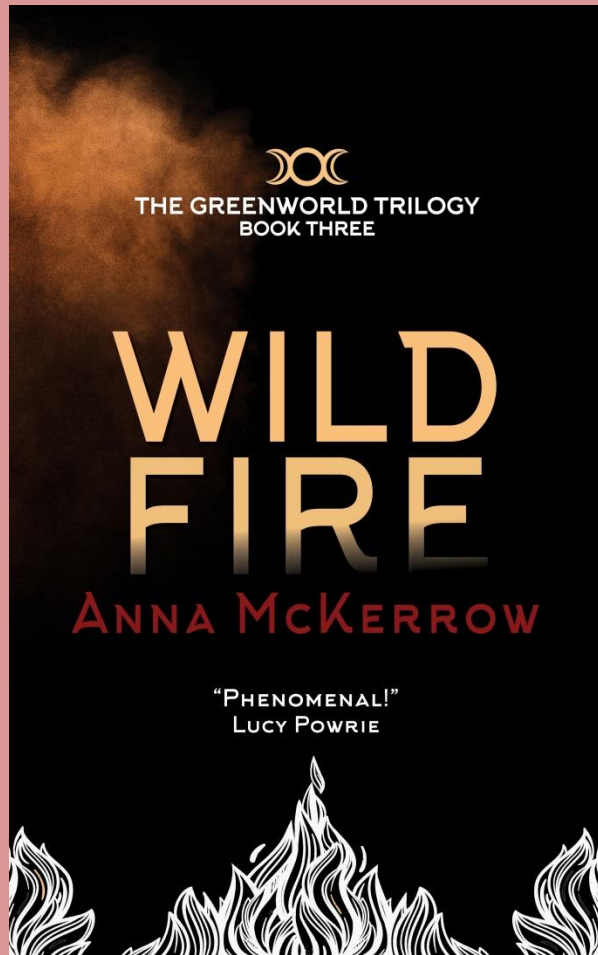




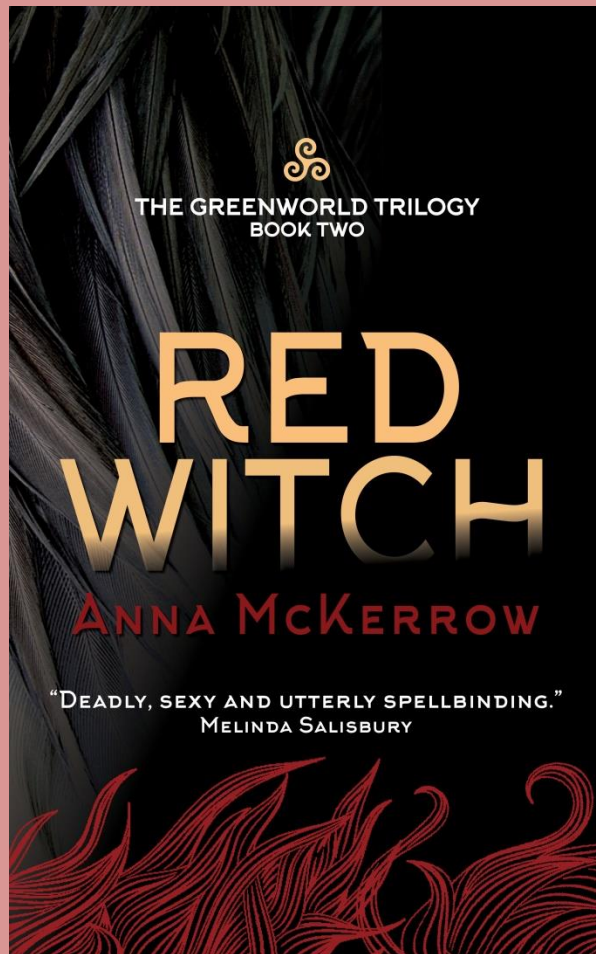
# The Greenworld



# Greenworld trilogy with new covers



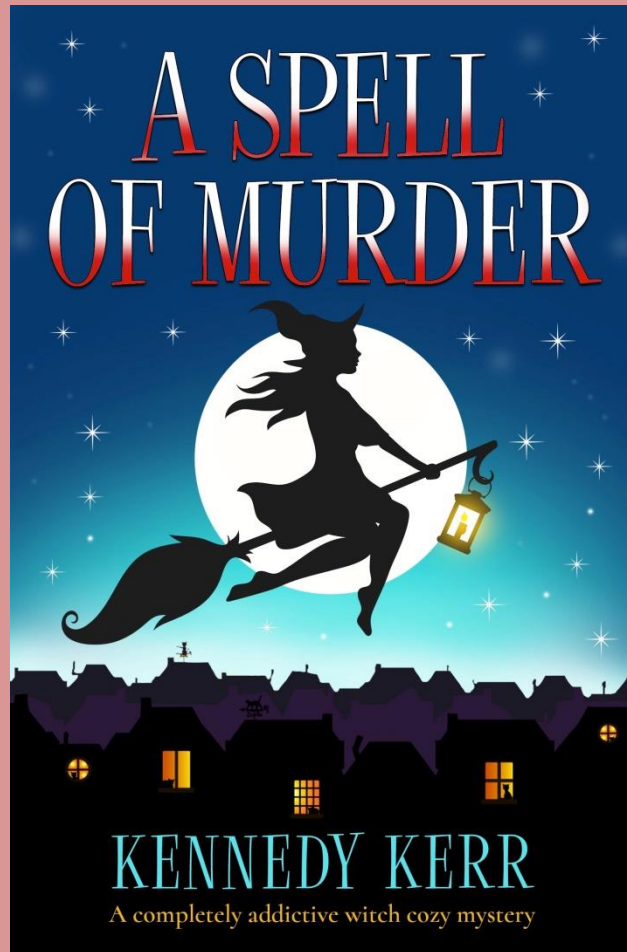
# Themes in the Greenworld trilogy



- Separate communities vs union
- Environmental concerns
- Utopia vs dystopia
- Real magic
- Coming of age
- Flawed adults, flawed teens
- Healing
- Feminism

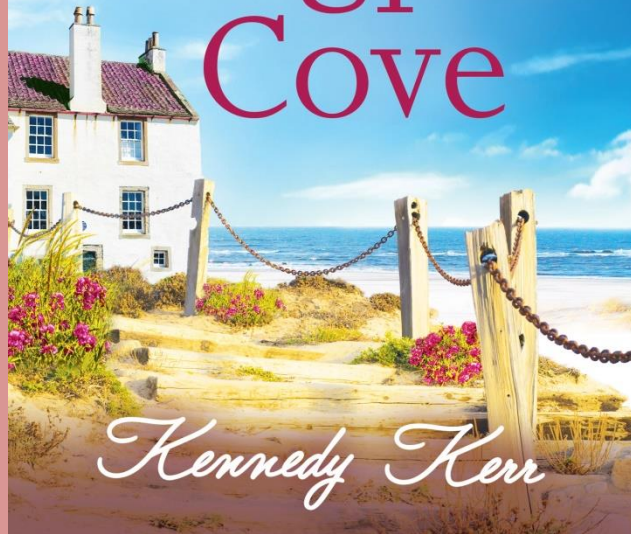


# As Kennedy Kerr



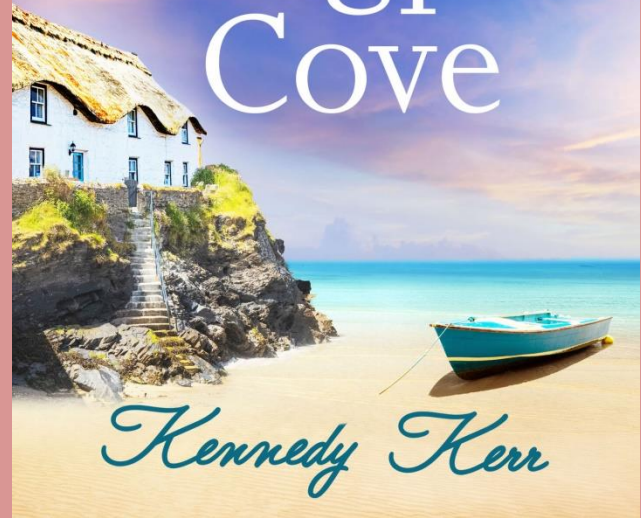
An unputdownable page-turner full of family secrets

# Secrets of Magpie Cove



An emotional and gripping novel full of secrets and family drama

# Daughters of Magpie Cove





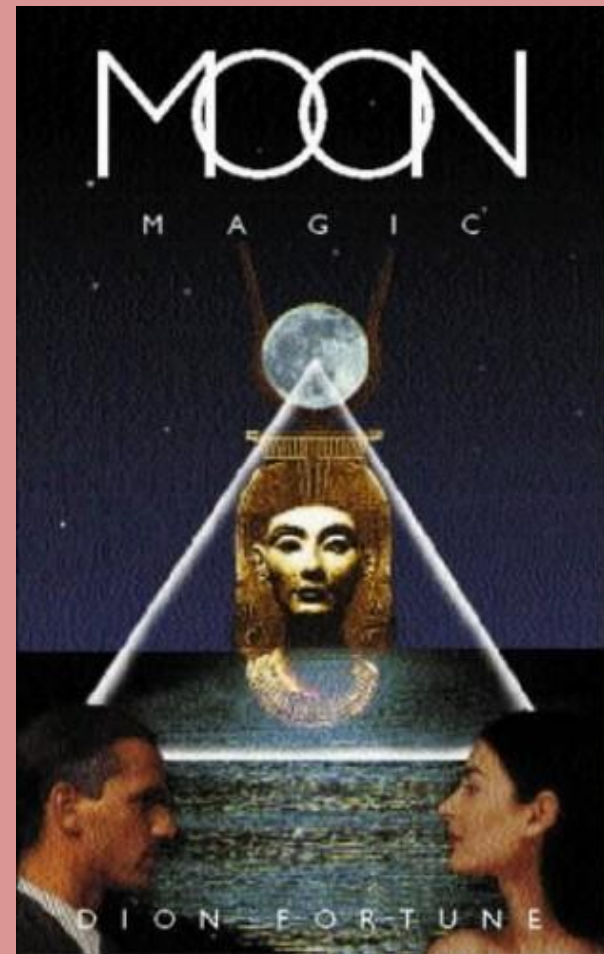
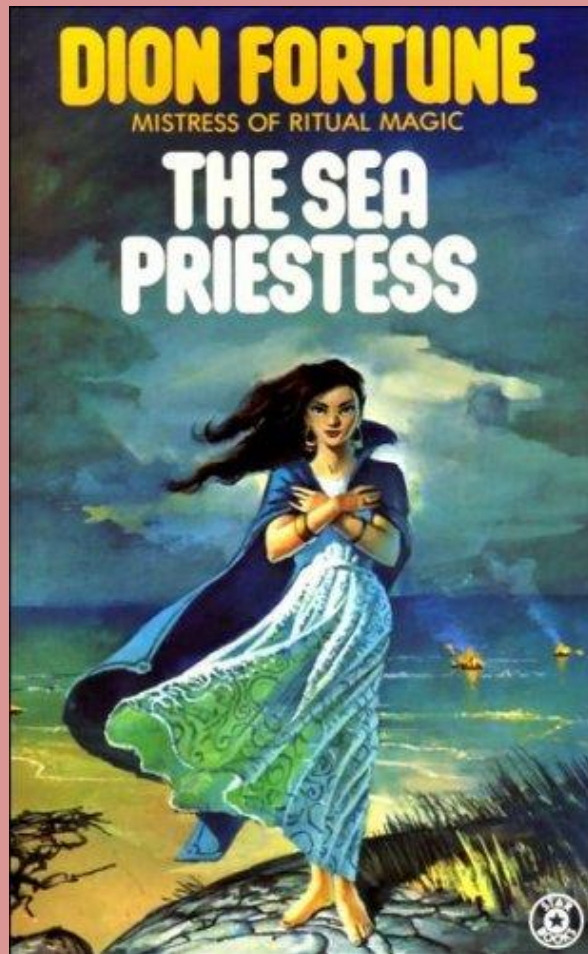
# Lets play: Witch bingo!

Green faces /warts / cackling	Threat to children	Salem/Pendle witch trials etc	Broomsticks or modern versions of, eg vacuum cleaners	Witches as supernatural beings, akin to fairies, vampires, ghouls etc
“Natural gift”	“Don’t mess with the occult, kids!”	Medieval contexts eg iron shackles, ducking etc	Family curses / prophecies	Strangely conventional schools for witches
Pointy hats, stripy tights	General evil	Devil worship / black mass	Ooooooh lala sexy dress up Halloween witches	Misguided use of ouija/tarot etc for sensational effect

# I wanted to write about real witches

- Real people in the real world
- Relationship to environment & ecology/eco themes
- Magic is real – depicting real ritual & activities
- Belief – gods, not just POW magic
- Power and empowerment & how that relates to real life & society
- Learnt magic, not “natural gift”

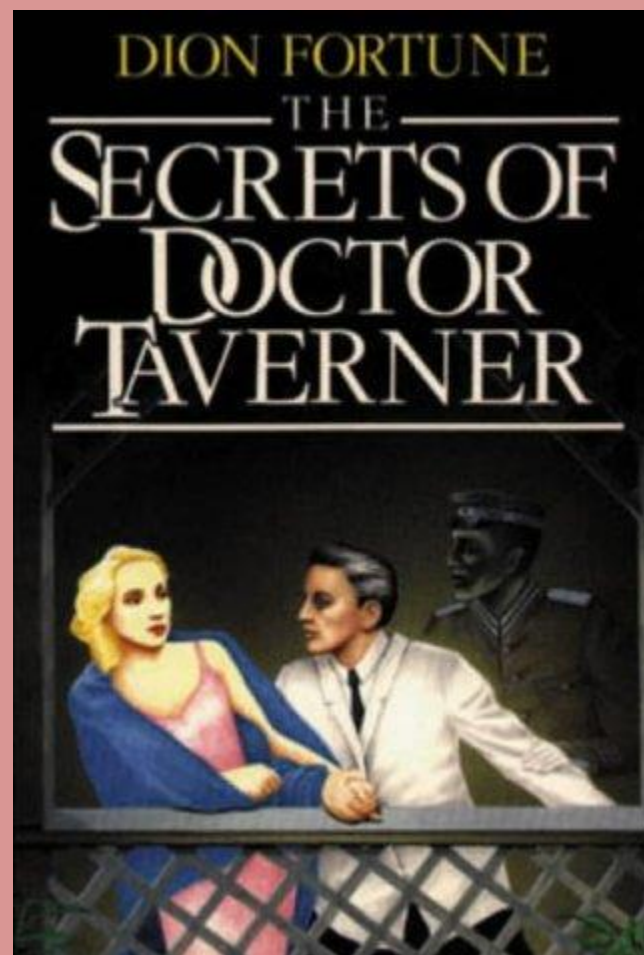
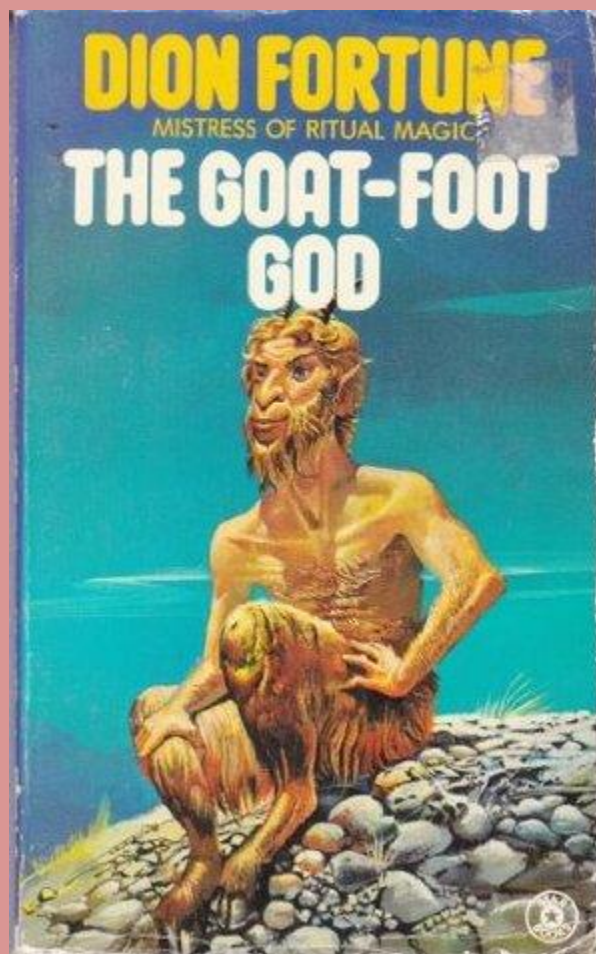
# What inspired me?



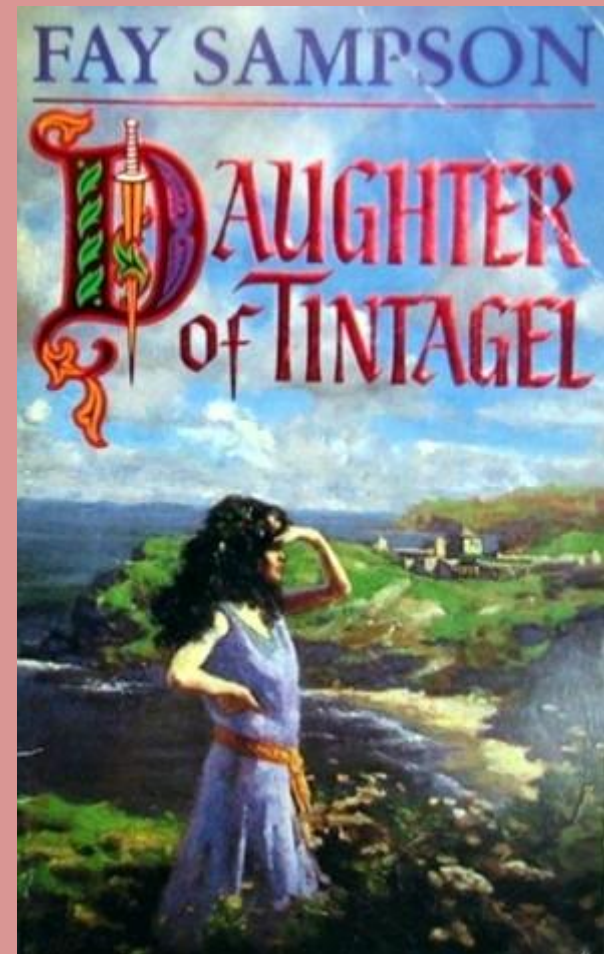
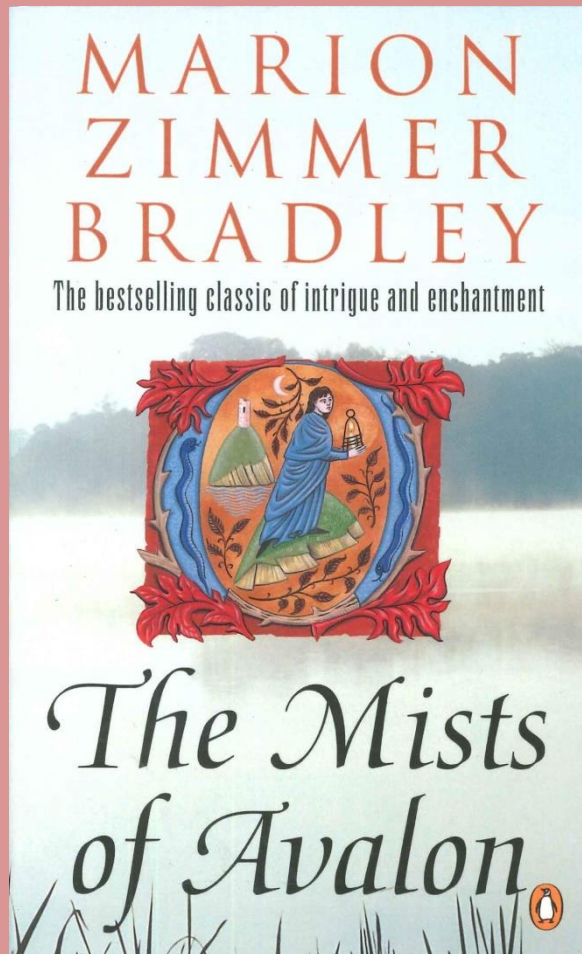


# What is occult fiction?

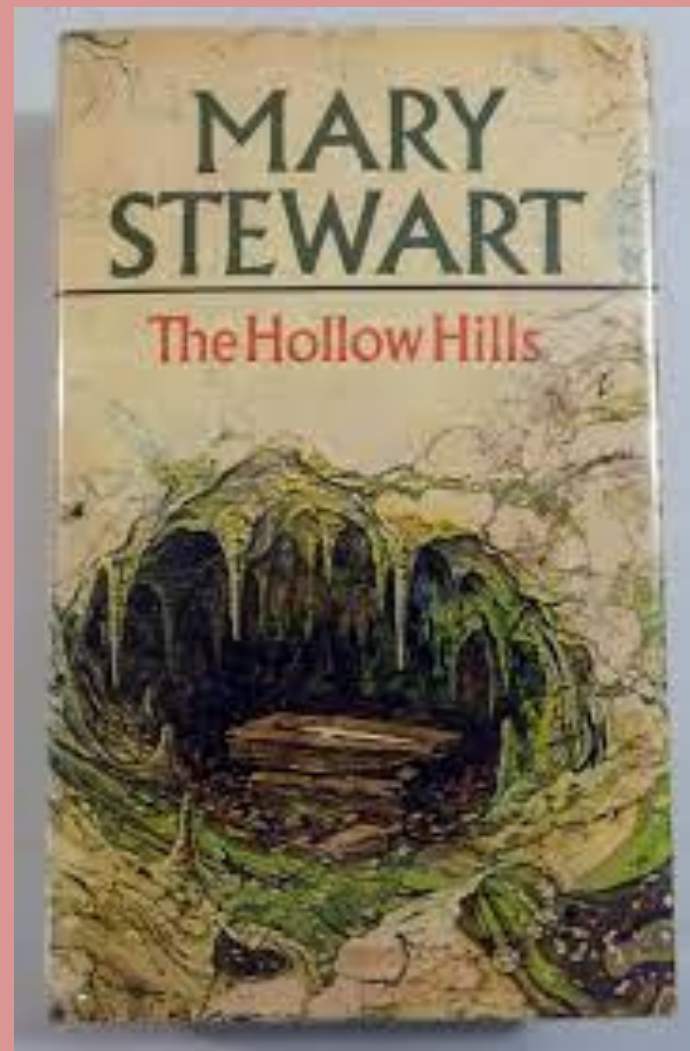
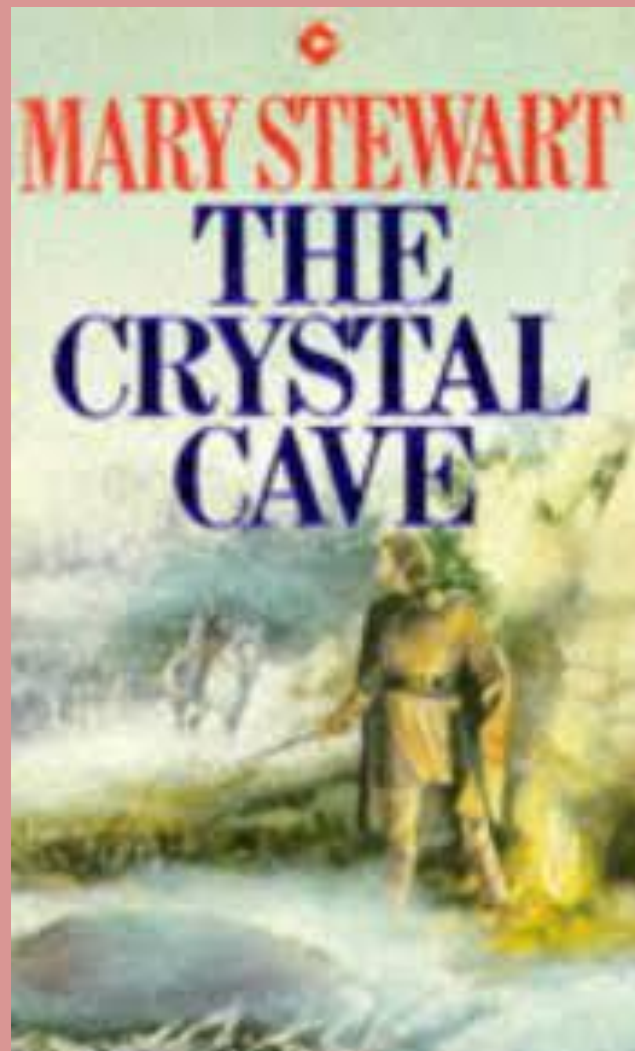
- “Those who study *The Mystical Qabalah* with the help of the novels get the keys of the Temple put into their hands,” Dion Fortune
- Contains specific occult teaching with fiction as the vehicle
- Can be sensational with the occult as a topic eg Dennis Wheatley, where the magick/occult is not sensitively or accurately rendered



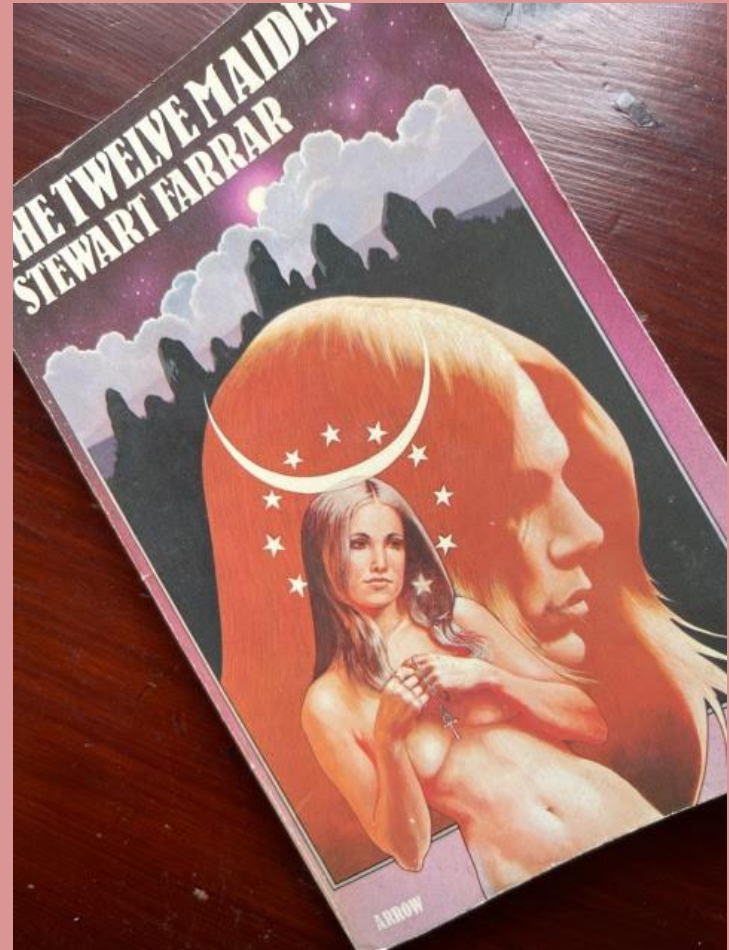
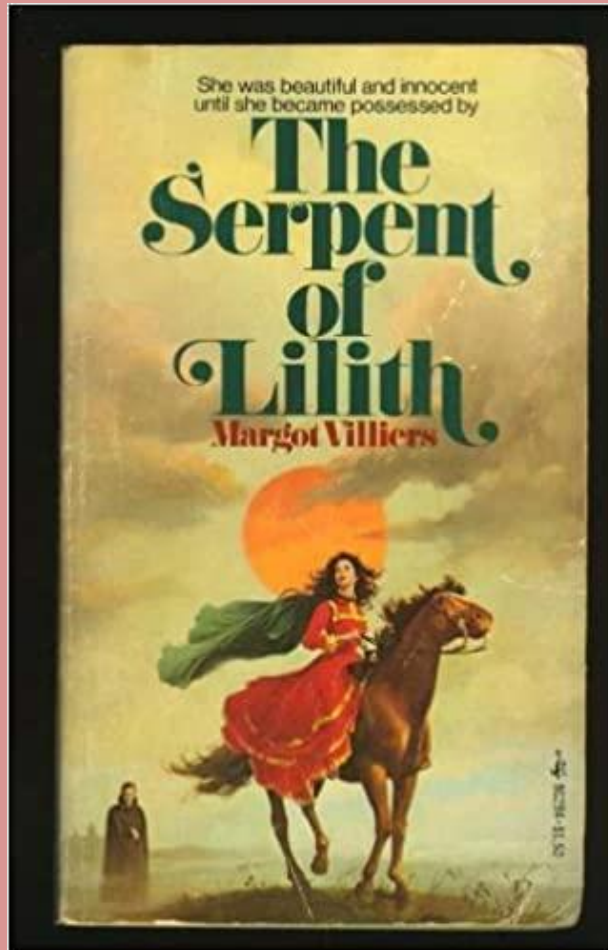
# King Arthur/Avalon



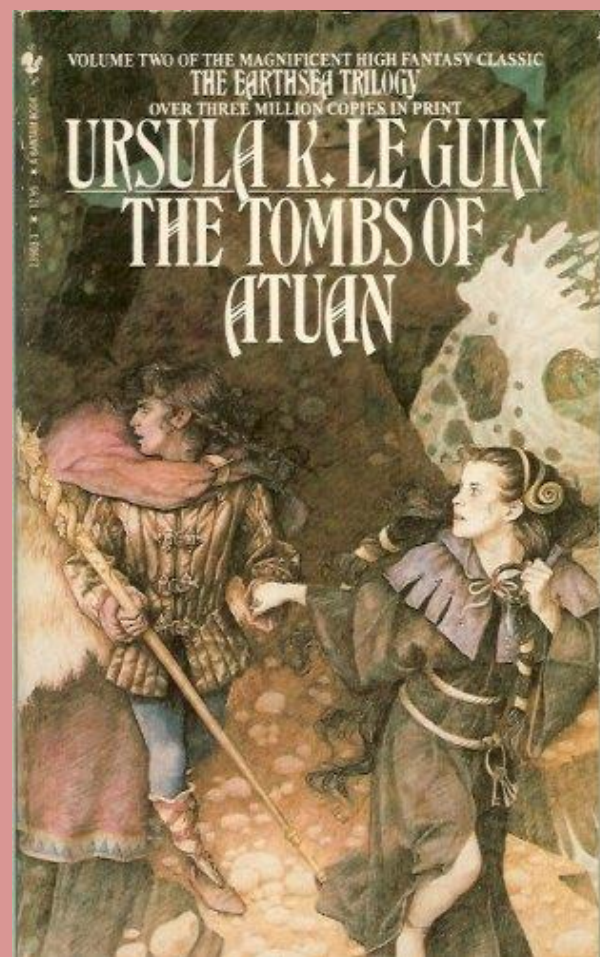
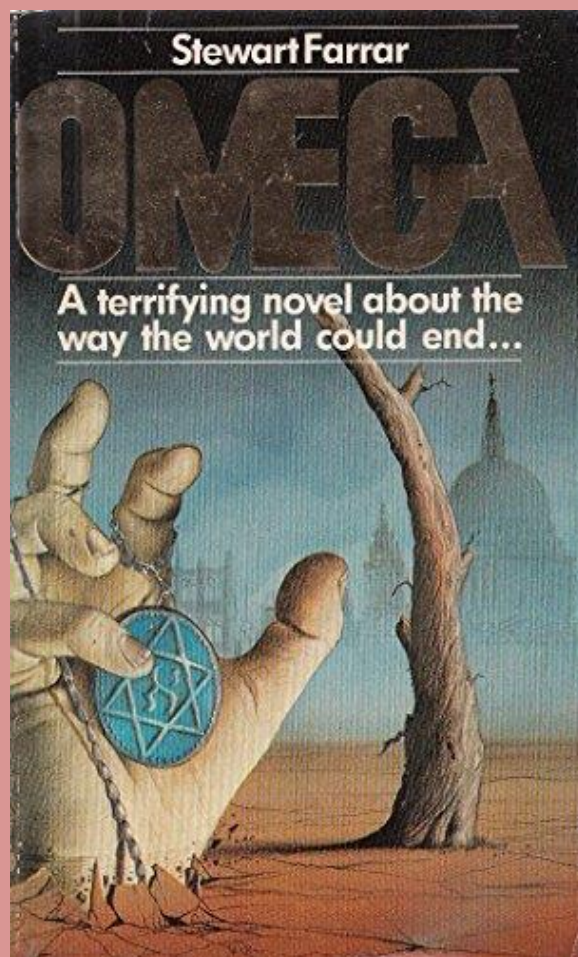




# Stewart Farrar



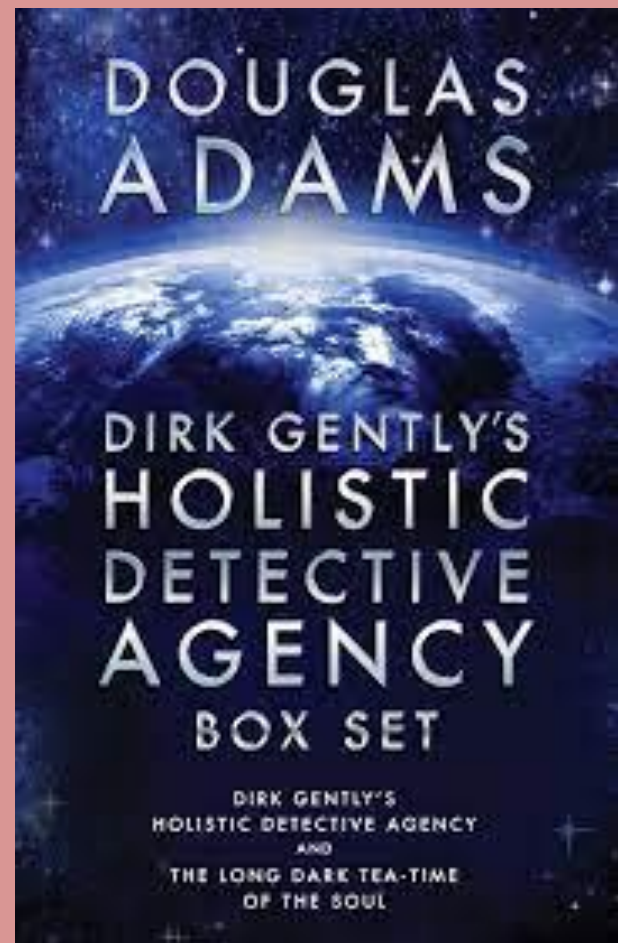


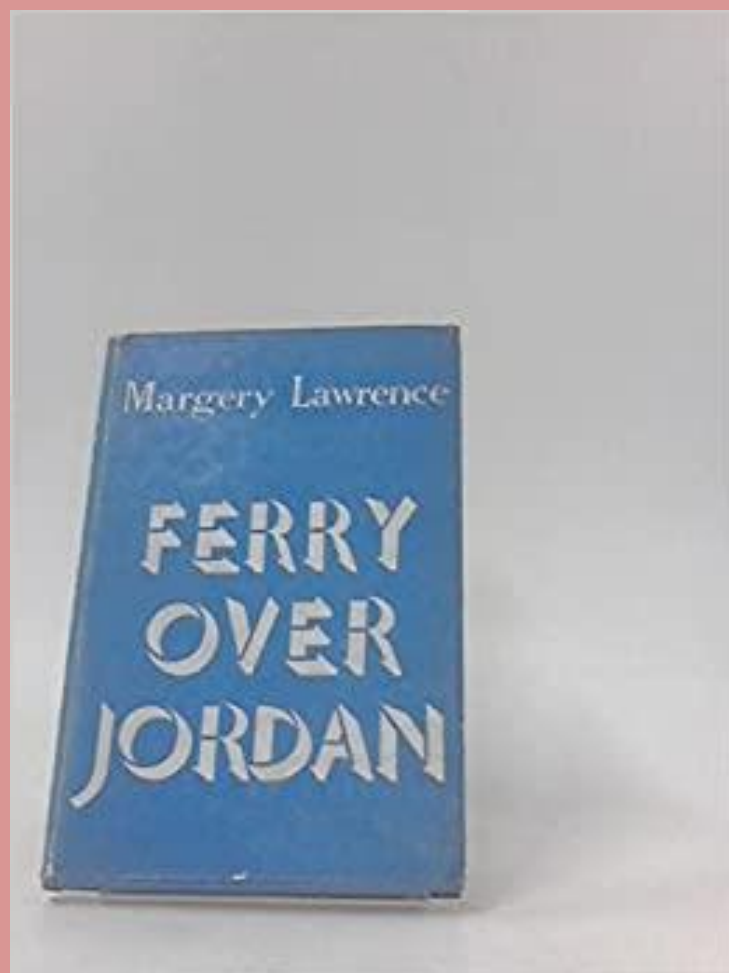




# Occult detective fiction

- Occult detective fiction is a sub-genre of detective fiction that combines the tropes of the main genre with those of supernatural, fantasy and/or horror fiction. Unlike the traditional detective who investigates murder and other common crimes, the occult detective solves cases involving ghosts, demons, curses, magic, vampires and other supernatural elements. Some occult detectives are portrayed as being psychic or in possession of other paranormal or magical powers.







**Thanks for listening!**

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