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PRESS RELEASE

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RENARD PRESS ACQUIRES RELEARNING TO READ: ADVENTURES IN NOT KNOWING BY INTERNATIONALLY BESTSELLING AUTHOR ANN MORGAN

- A brilliantly original and fresh approach to reading by the internationally bestselling author of *Beside Myself* (Bloomsbury) and *Reading the World* (Vintage).
- Ties in with workshops run by the author and her previous book, recently republished in a ten-year anniversary edition.
- Publication will be supported by events – the author is active at literary festivals and author events.

Renard Press is delighted to announce that it has acquired World English rights to Ann Morgan's forthcoming guide to reading, *Relearning to Read: Adventures in Not Knowing*. Following on from the author's 'year of reading the world' – which saw her read a book from every country, and which became the subject of a TED talk, a popular blog and a book, *Reading the World* – this book invites the reader to embrace the gaps in their knowledge in order to get more from books and other cultures.

Synopsis

Relearning to Read: Adventures in Not Knowing invites you to turn the way you read upside down and see what falls out. Drawing on an approach to reading developed over more than a decade of interactions with stories and booklovers around the world through the author's hit blog ayearofreadingtheworld.com, the book puts not-knowing centre stage and plays with what examining the gaps in our understanding and the assumptions we use to plug them can teach us about ourselves and our world.

Many books about books celebrate the cosiness and consolation of reading; *Relearning to Read* does the opposite. Built on the realisation that to read widely we must make friends with incomprehension – because no one can be an expert in all the world's literatures – it explores how getting comfortable with discomfort and owning our limitations can take us further and deepen our appreciation of the world's complexity and richness.



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Each chapter uses a different story as a jumping-off point to explore a fresh challenge or opportunity that comes from letting go of having to be able to explain everything we read. From a Malayalam Dracula novel to a story written inside one of the world's most repressive regimes, these texts rarely seen in English – along with some of the people attached to them – help shine a light on issues including: how can we have a meaningful and rewarding interaction with stories we don't understand? What do we do when faced with texts that offend us or are written for people who hold very different views? What might you get out of reading a funny book that leaves you cold? And what's the point of footnotes anyway?

Playful, disruptive and warm, this anti-bibliomemoir will mean you never look at reading in quite the same way again.

Ann Morgan is an author, speaker and editor based in Folkestone. Ann's writing has been published widely, including in the *Guardian*, *Independent* and *Financial Times*, and by the BBC. In 2012, she set herself the challenge of reading a book from every country in a year – a project that led to a TED talk and to the non-fiction book *Reading the World: How I Read a Book from Every Country*. Her debut novel, *Beside Myself*, has been translated into eight languages. *Crossing Over*, her latest novel, draws on her experience living just a few minutes from where many of the small boats crossing the Channel land. Since 2021, she has been Literary Explorer in Residence of the Cheltenham Literature Festival.

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