

A Petrol Scented Spring

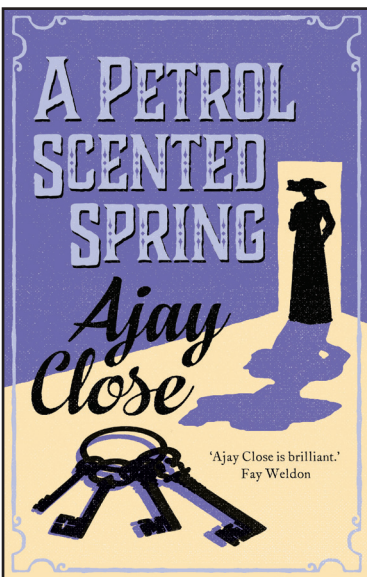
Ajay Close

'An astonishingly aware writer...' -TLS

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'Ajay Close is brilliant.'
- Fay Weldon

Praise for *Forspoken*
'Dense vigorous prose, alive with observation and shrewd intelligence.'
-Literary Review

Praise for *Trust*
'The toughness and the edge that her prose achieves are perfect reflections of the content.'
-The Scotsman

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ABOUT THIS BOOK

Arabella Scott, suffragette and hunger striker, is held in solitary confinement for five weeks, force-fed by the prison doctor, Hugh Ferguson Watson. Two years later, his wife, Donella, is trapped in a sexless marriage with a man haunted by the past. What happened between the doctor and his prisoner patient? Fifty years on, Donella is still trying to find out. *A Petrol Scented Spring* is a riveting novel of repression, jealousy and love, and the struggle for women's emancipation.

SALES & MARKETING HIGHLIGHTS

- *A Petrol Scented Spring* will be supported with a UK campaign by Ruth Killick Publicity
- Ajay Close is the author of 'Official and Doubtful', which was long-listed for the Orange Prize
- Her second play, 'The Sma Room Séance', was performed at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Born in Sheffield, Ajay Close took an English degree at Cambridge. She worked as a newspaper journalist, winning several awards, before becoming a full time author and playwright. Her first play, *The Keekin Gless*, was staged at Perth Theatre in July 2009. Her second, *The Sma Room Séance*, was performed at the 2014 Edinburgh Fringe. She is the author of *Forspoken* (Secker & Warburg, 1998) and *Trust* (Blackfriars), which was published in February 2014. All three books collected rave reviews.



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