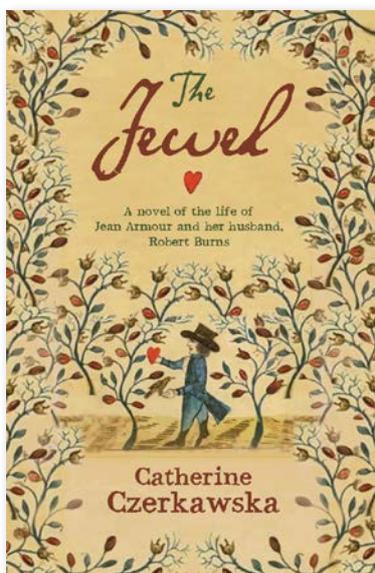


## The Jewel



Author **Catherine Czerkawska**  
 Publication Date **05/05/2016**  
 ISBN **9781910192238**  
 Retail Price **£8.99**  
 Extent **336 pages**  
 Format **Paperback, 198mm x 129mm**  
 Subject **Historical fiction**

### Press, publicity & keynotes

- \* A major novel on a subject of huge interest, nationally & worldwide, by a well-established author with a strong track record in dramatisations and radio adaptations.
- \* Numerous appearances at literary festivals and events.
- \* Press and media expected to run features on the first major novel to focus on the life of Jean Armour.



### PRaise FOR THE PHYSIC GARDEN:

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CALLY PHILLIPS, *IEBR REVIEW*

*"Elegant, restrained prose...compelling."*

– *SUNDAY TIMES PICK OF HISTORICAL FICTION*

*"Historical fiction at its most luxurious."*

AUTHORS ELECTRIC

*"A powerful story of love and obligation."*

JOHN BURNSIDE

*"Moving, poetic and quietly provocative."*

THE INDEPENDENT

*"Heart-warming, realistic and page-turning."* – LORRAINE KELLY

*"Beautiful – lyrical and sensual."*

– HILARY ELY

*"Blisteringly eloquent."*

THE SCOTSMAN

A luscious historical novel about Robert Burns' wife, Jean Armour, *The Jewel* is set largely during the dramatic years of their courtship in Mauchline, their married life at Ellisland and in Dumfries, and Robert's early death, all against a background simmering with political intrigue and turmoil.

Jean – a beautiful young woman with the voice of a nightingale – has been inexplicably neglected by biographers and historians. At first, her stonemason father tried to protect the young Jean from the advances of the mercurial ploughman-poet, whose roving eye and even delusions of grandeur were notorious. Nevertheless, she fell for him and accepted his proposal.

Their extraordinary marriage was passionate, tempestuous, and enduring against all odds, and its rocky course reveals Jean's indomitable strength and character. How she lived with, and frequently without, Scotland's most famous son tells us much about the life and times of Burns himself, but makes a compelling story that is sure to find a worldwide audience.

### About the author

Catherine Czerkawska is a multi-award-winning novelist and playwright based in Scotland. She has written plays for the stage, ITV and BBC Radio 4, and has published numerous short stories. Her eight novels include *The Curiosity Cabinet*, shortlisted for the Dundee International Book Prize and serialised on BBC radio in 2013.

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