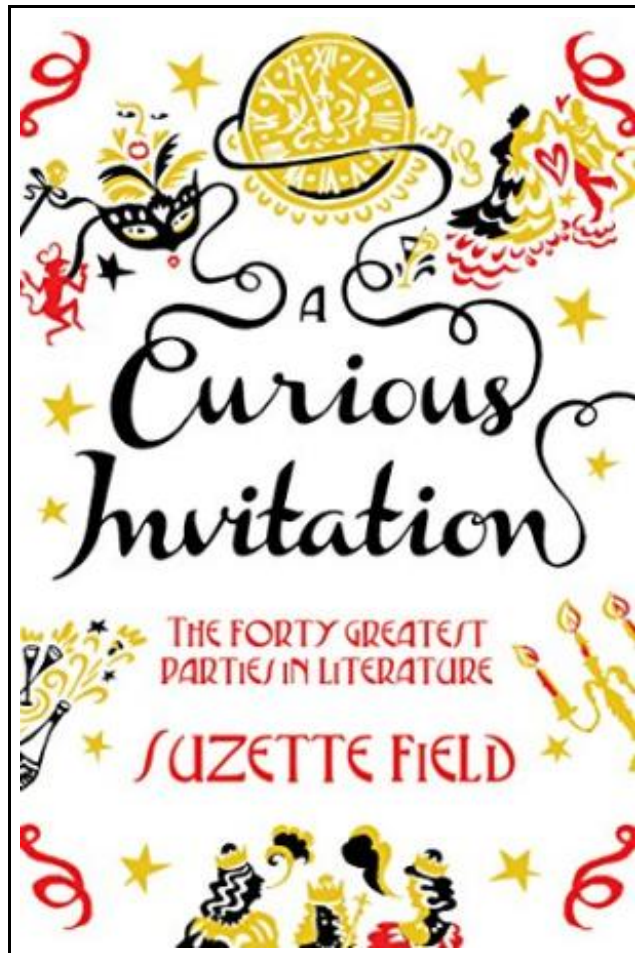


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Pan MacMillan, United Kingdom, 2014. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Main market ed.. 196 x 128 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. Since ancient times human beings have gathered together for social purposes. And since not very long after that writers have written about these occasions. The party is a useful literary device, not only for social comment and satire, but as an occasion where characters can meet, fall in love, fall out or even get murdered. A Curious Invitation features forty of the greatest fictional festivities. Some of these parties are depictions of real events, like the Duchess of Richmond's Ball on the eve of battle with Napoleon in Thackeray's *Vanity Fair*; others draw on the author's experience of the society they lived in, such as Lady Metroland's party in Evelyn Waugh's *Vile Bodies*; while yet others come straight from the writer's bizarre imagination, like Douglas Adams' flying party above an unknown planet from *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*. Suzette Field offers you the chance to gatecrash these parties, spanning most of the history of human civilization, seen through the eyes of the world's greatest writers.



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