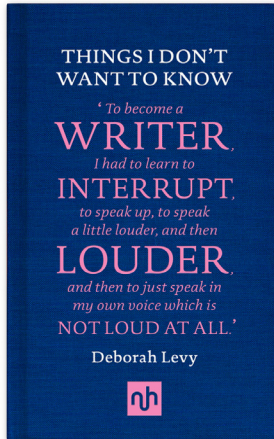




Notting Hill Editions



THINGS I DON'T WANT TO KNOW

BY DEBORAH LEVY

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NOTTING HILL EDITIONS

A response to George Orwell's *Why I Write*

“To become a writer, I had to learn to interrupt, to speak up, to speak a little louder, and then louder, and then to just speak in my own voice which is not loud at all.”

“Perhaps when Orwell described sheer egoism as a necessary quality for a writer, he was not thinking about the sheer egoism of a female writer. Even the most arrogant female writer has to work over time to build an ego that is robust enough to get her through January, never mind all the way to December.” **Deborah Levy**

Deborah Levy trained at Dartington College of Arts, leaving in 1981 to write a number of plays, highly acclaimed for their “intellectual rigour, poetic fantasy and visual imagination”. She wrote and published her first novel *Beautiful Mutants*, when she was 27 years old. The experience of not having to give her words to a director, actors and designer to interpret was so exhilarating, she wrote a few more. Her most recent novel, *Swimming Home*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize 2012. Levy has just published *Black Vodka: Ten Stories* with *And Other Stories*.



‘Levy’s strength is her originality of thought and expression.’ Jeanette Winterson

“One of the most exciting voices in contemporary British fiction.” *TLS*

“One of the few contemporary British writers comfortable on a world stage.” *New Statesman*

“Levy’s prose throbs its way into the imagination.” *The Observer*

“A major contemporary writer who never pulls her punches.” *Independent*

“An exciting writer, sharp and shocking as the knives her characters wield.” *Sunday Times*

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