

book about graphic titillation for the reader. It's about what's going on in these new swingers' heads. Both hit mental brick walls and vacillate precariously between wanting commitment – and simply running away, as both have done in the past. But run to what? So they stay together and keep persevering.

Irvine Welsh has acclaimed fellow Scot's first novel as 'genuinely ground-breaking in its scope and insights', and another reviewer called it, 'that rare thing – a serious book about sex' – high praise indeed, and I wouldn't argue with any of it.

It is a novel, so I don't want to give away the plot – and once you start reading, any psychoanalysis of what's happening to David and Alice is redundant. 'Swung' is simply wonderfully written – the characters heart-achingly credible as, caught in the pathos of their situation, they are propelled through their sexual and mental explorations. It's a search for something that will convert their sense of failure, frustration and powerlessness into the modern 'feelgood' ideal. Their journey is mental, physical – absolutely compelling – and will resonate with anyone who's taken the first tentative forays into swinging, or who's confronted the pressures of modern life and emerged feeling they've been sucked dry, chewed up and spat out. Probably most people, then.

**'Swung' is entertaining, witty, thought-provoking and achingly real – I give it the full five stars.**

We've got three copies of 'Swung' to give away – check the Readers' Forum on page 90 for details.



# Turning her on to Anal Sex

PRICE £8.95

Author: Kim Powers  
Published by Carl Stephenson Verlag

Another self-help book? Well, 'Yes', really. The first problem with this offering is that it is written by someone who quite possibly doesn't exist. Is 'Kim' Austin's older brother or sister? We don't know. Kim being an androgynous name we could be reading the opinions of a Scandinavian referee, Ms. Basinger or an invention of Kipling.

I assume, from the German publisher, that the text was originally written in German and was then published in Denmark – so one can forgive the occasional stunted prose, typos and spelling mistakes.

What does the book really offer? I guess the answer is 'solace'. To those of us with great sexual experience it is affirmation that when we reached the stage of 'Greek love' then we achieved it in the right way. 'Softly, softly, catchy monkey' could be the sub-title to this book – indeed to life in general.

Without doubt, anal sex can be one of the most erotic experiences in life, for both women and men, and has been practised throughout the world for thousands of years.

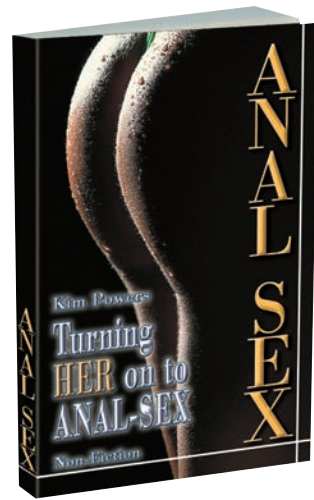
If you have not and are not indulging, then you could be missing out.

There are, however, hang-ups associated with it.

This book does well to explain this and, fundamentally, says, 'If it's good between you and you're happy with it, then do it.' Great advice. And if reading this book together helps you to achieve a new level of close awareness then it is worth its cover price.

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I was pleased that the book had the courage to highlight the condemnation of anal sex by the Catholic Church. For centuries, anal sex was used as a form of contraception and the doctrine of Catholicism opposed all forms of contraception, essentially to ensure



that more little Catholics were conceived. Also, a brief review of the rantings of the Marquis de Sade will make a lot of people rush out and buy *Justine*.

All in all, a useful little book that, if nothing else, offers reassurance to those of us who are already that way inclined, but that will also encourage the curious and uninitiated.

I give it 7 out of 10

# How to Dominate Him

PRICE £8.95

Author: Kim Powers  
Published by Carl Stephenson Verlag

Another book by the ubiquitous Kim Powers. (I have problems getting to grips with this name. It sounds like the dinner party game: 'What was the name of your first pet and what was your mother's maiden name?' My girlfriend's first pet was a rabbit called 'Bunch' and her mother's maiden name was 'Rogers' If you can come up with a better name for a

