

COLLAGES *by* MARTHA HAVERSHAM

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PROTAGONISTS AND PERFUME

Whether shopping for a Christmas present or looking for a new signature scent for yourself, let your favourite literary character inspire your choice

BY A NOSE
Scent doesn't have a sex, but it *does* have a personality



THE MAVERICK
IFEMELU

from AMERICANAH by CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE

She doesn't have a second name, but if she did, it would be Tough, or maybe even Stubborn. But then, being mononymous suits her better.

Think Madonna or Rihanna or someone equally outspoken. She definitely takes the road less travelled, makes her own way in life and doesn't suffer fools. Her strength is nothing short of inspirational. *Her scent:* Definitely unique, definitely impactful, and if it offends your nostrils, then so be it. That said, a cologne-esque fougère isn't likely to bother anyone, but it will make people stand up and take notice.

Try: Atelier Cologne Philtre Ceylan, £225 for 200ml; Les Indémoudables Fougère Emeraude, £170 for 75ml; Anima Vinci Jasmine Yang (exclusive to Les Senteurs), £150 for 100ml



THE FREE SPIRIT

**EMMA
WOODHOUSE**

from EMMA by JANE AUSTEN

The most social of butterflies, Emma is a perseverant matchmaker and all round girls' girl. She knows how to get the party started and she don't need no man (though she ultimately kind of wants one). She's strong-willed, witty and self-deprecating to a fault.

Her scent: You'd expect Emma to wear something floral and pretty, but actually she likes to rewrite the perfume etiquette rules; classically 'feminine' isn't on the table. Still, she's drawn to brands that'll impress on display. What, this old thing?

Try: Dior J'Adore L'Absolu, £105 for 75ml; Ralph Lauren Woman, £69 for 50ml; Marc Jacobs Daisy Love, £84 for 100ml



THE SCORPIO

**AMY
ELLIOT-DUNNE**

from GONE GIRL by GILLIAN FLYNN

Amazing Amy definitely has a dark side. Who are we kidding? She's a stone-cold sociopath, but a very sexy and intriguing one. Popular, smart, funny and, um, willing to go the extra mile to get what she wants.

Her scent: The perfect juxtaposition of sassy and soft is not an easy thing to find in perfume form. She needs something that talks to her passionate side, but with a soothing edge. The complexity of a chypre (fresh top notes contrasting with a mossy base) sounds like it has its own dual personality. Apt, that.

Try: Alexander McQueen Vetiver Moss, £175 for 75ml; Bulgari Goldea The Roman Night, £82 for 75ml; Hermès Citron Noir, £48 for 50ml



THE SOPHISTICATE

**MRS
ROBINSON**

from THE GRADUATE by CHARLES WEBB

Yes, we know of her outward traits – sexy, cynical, sophisticated, sometimes intimidating – but it's what's inside that counts. She's quite vulnerable, actually; seeking comfort but disguising it as confidence. She's not interested in trivialities; she'd rather get straight down to business, as it were. Here's to you, Mrs R.

Her scent: It's got to be classy and elegant. Maybe something you'd wear instead of any clothes. While there is an argument for a sexy classic like Chanel No.5, there's another for jasmine: singular, potent and extra-alluring.

Try: Tom Ford Jasmin Rouge, £162 for 50ml; Sana Jardin Sauvage Jasmine, £180 for 100ml; Dolce & Gabbana Sicily, £175 for 50ml >



THE ROMANTIC
BRIDGET JONES

from BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY
by HELEN FIELDING

'Wanton sex goddess with a very bad man between her thighs.' Sometimes. Has internet, will date. Her life revolves around it, in fact. Bridget is a great friend, that person everyone is drawn to for chats and cuddles and, yes, sometimes bad behaviour.

Her scent: She's read about that Iso E Super molecule that's supposed to attract the opposite sex, but forget what's 'attractive' to anyone else and think what's attractive to her. That would be ice cream, then. It suits her adorable side to wear something delicious.

Try: Jimmy Choo Fever, £79 for 100ml; Escentric Molecules OI, £72 for 100ml; Acqua Di Parma Colonia Vaniglia, £178 for 100ml



THE IDEALIST
DAISY BUCHANAN

from THE GREAT GATSBY by F SCOTT FITZGERALD

She might seem frivolous (she'd have 11 pairs of the same heels in every colour), but there's more to Daisy than meets the eye. She is idealistic and ambitious, but at the same time risk-averse, and always ends up going back to her old favourites (husband included). *Her scent:* There have to be two in her repertoire: a strong, stable classic – her signature – and a surprising niche option. She'll wear the latter for special occasions, but her nostalgic original scent will always be The One.

Try: Guerlain Shalimar Souffle De Lumière, £74 for 50ml; Le Labo AnOther 13, £125 for 100ml; Bottega Veneta Parco Palladiano XI Castagno (exclusive to Harrods), £190 for 100ml



THE INSIGHTFUL
RACHEL CHU

from CRAZY RICH ASIANS
by KEVIN KWAN

Mo' money. Mo' problems. Rachel is a down-to-earth soul in a sea of high drama, the sweetheart who tries to be everything to everyone. Yes, people try to take advantage, but she's smarter than they know. Being wealthy isn't the thing, her own self-worth is the only currency that matters.

Her scent: She's opposed to hobnobbing with the rich kids – that's the super-expensive Clive Christian off the table – preferring an unexpected niche offering that's as much of an outsider as she is.

Try: Laboratory Perfumes Atlas, £65 for 100ml; Byredo Mojave Ghost, £160 for 100ml; Eight & Bob The Original, £140 for 100ml



THE FEARLESS
OFFRED

From THE HANDMAID'S TALE
by MARGARET ATWOOD

Resilient and defiant, Offred takes knocks but comes back fighting. She's a strategist, an activist, a closed book and wildly attractive because of it. And she looks great in red.

Her scent: What better way for a quiet rebellion than wearing a 'masculine' scent? In her own words, 'A small defiance of rule, so small as to be undetectable.' Still, a more and more popular notion (outside the Republic of Gilead, obv), and good for the sexy muskiness they afford.

Try: Chanel Paris – Deauville, £97 for 125ml; Jo Malone x Huntsman Assam and Grapefruit Cologne, £120 for 100ml; Frederic Malle Musc Ravageur, £170 for 100ml