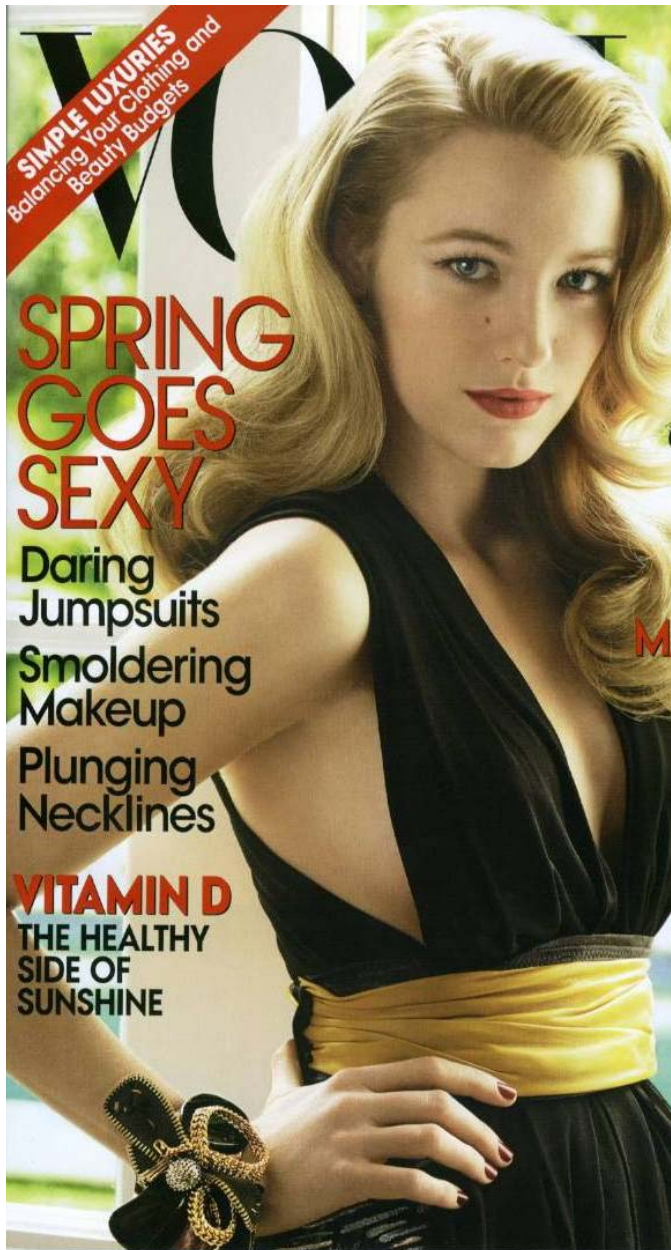


# As seen in VOGUE

February 2009



## BOOKS

### 7. a tale of romance

**T**C. Boyle's **The Women** (Viking) reconstructs the unconventional private life of Frank Lloyd Wright through the women who loved him. Set against China's democratic awakening, Yiyun Li's **The Vagrants** (Random House) is a Balzacian look at one community's suppressed loves and betrayals. Two heartfelt debuts illuminate World War II's lesser-known chapters: the fate of Jewish gallerists in the occupied Paris of Sara Houghteling's **Pictures on an Exhibition** (Knopf), and the demise of the Hong Kong beau monde of Janice Y. K. Lee's **The Piano Teacher** (Viking). For love in a more cynical way, Jesse Ball's **The Way**

**Through Doors** (Vintage) explores the relationship between a comely amnesiac and her self-appointed boyfriend, while Antonya Nelson's **Nothing Right** (Bloomsbury) and Ali Smith's **The First Person and Other Stories** (Pantheon) target the romantic poseurs in all of us. Finally, **Love Stories** (Everyman's Library) encompasses everything from the unabashedly erotic (Colette) to the sardonically doomed (Dorothy Parker). In literature, as in love, there's something for everyone.—MEGAN O'GRADY

