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Paperbacks

"Splash". Drama and Comedy in a Newspaperman's Career, by Charles Orr (Merlin Books; £5.95) is one of those books, full of anecdotes, which are impossible to put down once looked into. Orr has had an interesting life as a journalist, working in the North, Dublin and London for a wide variety of newspapers. And there are many in Dublin who will still remember him. He gives us quick glimpses into his work as reporter and interviewer, drawing lightning thumb-nail sketches of some of the people he met — Kavanagh, for example, comes across effortlessly. But enough — read it and enjoy it.

The Power of Dreams, by Brian Inglis (Paladin; £3.95) asks why we dream, what dreams mean and how they benefit us. Inglis has looked into the most recent scientific

research to compile a book which will fascinate those many people who believe that dreams do play a part in our lives.

Abduction, by Jenny Randles (Headline; £2.99) is a scientific exploration of reports of alleged kidnappings by alien beings. The author is an authority on UFOs. If you believe in them then you will have no trouble with this book. If you don't — you still have a good read.

Mare's Milk and Wild Honey. A Shropshire Boyhood, by Peter Davies (Deutsch; £4.95) is one of those lovely, nostalgic accounts of growing up in the English countryside which English authors seem to have no trouble in writing. The time is 1939 and the writer was then 11 years of age. Lovely.

—KIERAN NALLY