

THE WEST END'S ANSWER TO WHITNEY

Whitney Houston's belting performance in '90s romantic thriller The Bodyguard is a hard act to follow, but Heather Headley, 37, is more than up to the challenge as

she steps into the heels of Whitney's character, Rachel Marron, in the stage show this month.

The Trinidadian-American has been waiting a long time to play her dream

role: "When the movie came out. I was in high school and I saved up to go and see it," she says.

Breaking off from her intense rehearsals, she tells GLAMOUR that years of singing Whitney songs in the bathroom have been great prep. "To an extent, she taught me how to sing," Heather says. "I didn't have a lesson 'til college; before then, I just listened to her music, so I know every riff."

With two musicals - The Lion King and Aida - already under her belt, she knows her way around a stage,

> but the inevitable comparisons must be a bit daunting? "I have some very high heels to step into, yes. I watched the movie again one last time when I was offered the role,

then left it alone - I've had to figure out how to make her my Rachel." But Heather's biggest challenge is more practical: there are 15 costume changes. "My dresser is going to have the worst job ever!" she laughs.

The Bodyguard opens at the Adelphi Theatre in London on November 6

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66 I have

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Glamreads

Mince pie? Good book? It must be Christmas



A CAT, A HAT AND A PIECE OF STRING

Joanne Harris Harris's second volume of short stories is just as wickedly imaginative as her first, Jigs & Reels. From the man who decides every day will

be Christmas, to the baby conjured of sugar and spice, these fantastical tales still speak volumes about everyday life.



WINTER GAMES

Rachel Johnson Boris's sister takes a detour from yummymummy lit into more Mitfordian territory. When journalist Francie Fitzsimon explores her grandmother's past, her

investigations lead her back to the Winter Games in Nazi Germany before the war, unearthing dark family secrets en route.



OH DEAR SILVIA Dawn French

Silvia Shute is a woman who's always done as she pleases, but now she's locked in a coma and the only

way we can get to know her is through the eyes of the people who visit. Trouble is, no two people seem to see her the same way.



THE PERFECT PRESENT

Karen Swan Introverted jeweller Laura specialises in making personalised charm bracelets and necklaces for wealthy clients. When Cat AREN SWAN Blake's husband, Rob,

commissions a necklace, Laura is drawn into their extravagant world, until it threatens to engulf and consume her. >

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