

Life&Style beauty

For your eyes only

THE beauty industry would have us believe eye creams are essential because the skin under the eyes is thinner than the rest of the face. While that may be true, many argue that eye creams are simply a variation on good old facial moisturiser. But there are a few that stand out from the crowd when it comes to dealing with the puffiness and dark circles ordinary moisturisers can't help with.

As one of the best-selling eye treatments in the UK, **Clinique's Even Better Eyes Dark Circle Corrector** (£28, www.clinique.co.uk) has a cooling massage tip that feels blissful on puffy skin. As well as hydrating, optical brighteners instantly refresh tired eyes. Dark circles diminish in the long term but bear in mind the product to make them disappear for good is yet to exist.

French brand Talika has made eyes its area of expertise: the **Eye Detox Contour Gel** (£30, www.spacenk.co.uk) makes some pretty impressive claims. Expect to see eye puffiness disappear and dark circles greatly reduced after four weeks.

Optical diffusers are cosmetic and

Eye creams can do more than ordinary moisturisers. *Jane Cunningham* selects some of the best

concealer or make-up. **Sarah Chapman Skinesis Eye Recovery** (£39, www.sarahchapman.net) is a feather-light formula that also blurs fine lines.

Very few eye creams contain SPF, making **Clarins Sun Wrinkle Control Eye Contour Care SPF30** (£17.50, www.clarins.co.uk) something special. If you can't get to your nearest Clarins, lightly textured mineral filters worn under make-up should do the trick.

A fast fix for those who like natural skincare is **Oxygen Eye Serum** (£23, www.harveynichols.com) – it tightens immediately. But heading way up the luxury ladder, there's much excitement about **ReVive Les Yeux Presse** (£110, www.spacenk.co.uk) as a pre-party fix for tired peepers. It hauls sagging skin back into shape with polysaccharides



2012 MUST-READ

YOU CAN'T READ THIS BOOK BY NICK COHEN
(Fourth Estate)



With the complexity of multimedia increasing pace and any number of voices pleading for curbs on freedom of speech, Nick Cohen's polemic is a reminder of what's at stake. The journalist presents evidence of the forces threatening to silence citizens at every level of society. The threshold was the fatwa that followed Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses* and although there were echoes in the rage against the Danish cartoons, Cohen warns us of different kinds of threat. Britain's libel laws have turned London into a destination for the powerful, where those who would criticise oligarchs and scientist writers facing corporate interests have suffered in the courts. As for new technology, the freedom of the web veils the ability of the state to manipulate and block traffic. Cohen sugars the pill with wit, but this is a bleak final warning. **Ben Folds**