



49 Books

30 Countries

1 Winner

69 Libraries

10 Languages

DUBLIN LITERARY AWARD 2021





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Clap When You Land

Elizabeth Acevedo

Nominated by:

Rede de Bibliotecas de Lisboa-Portugal



In a novel-in-verse that brims with grief and love, National Book Award-winning and New York Times bestselling author Elizabeth Acevedo writes about the devastation of loss, the difficulty of

forgiveness, and the bittersweet bonds that shape our lives.

Camino Rios lives for the summers when her father visits her in the Dominican Republic. But this time, on the day when his plane is supposed to land, Camino arrives at the airport to see crowds of crying people...In New York City, Yahaira Rios is called to the principal's office, where her mother is waiting to tell her that her father, her hero, has died in a plane crash. Separated by distance—and Papi's secrets—the two girls are forced to face a new reality in which their father is dead and their lives are forever altered. And then, when it seems like they've lost everything of their father, they learn of each other.

Elizabeth Acevedo is the author of *The Poet X*—which won the National Book Award for Young People's Literature, the Michael L. Printz Award, the Pura Belpré Award, the Boston Globe–Horn Book Award, and the Walter Award—as well as *With the Fire on High* and *Clap When You Land*. She is a National Poetry Slam champion and holds an MFA in creative writing from the University of Maryland. Acevedo lives with her partner in Washington, DC.



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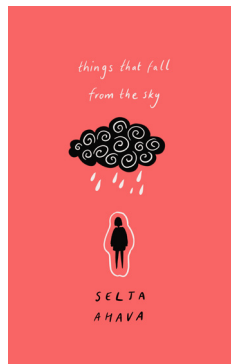
Things That Fall From The Sky

Selja Ahava

Translated from the Finnish by Emily Jeremiah and Fleur Jeremiah

Nominated by:

Tampere City Library, Finland



One quirk of fate can send life spiralling in the most unexpected direction...

A young girl loses her mother when a block of ice falls from the sky. A woman wins the jackpot twice. A man is struck by

lightning four times. Coincidence? Or something more?

Things That Fall from the Sky is the tale of three lives that are changed forever by random events. But it is also a meditation on the endurance of love, the passage of time and the pain of loss. Selja Ahava, one of Finland's best-loved novelists, weaves these stories together in an unforgettable, one-of-a-kind fable about the twists and turns that can define a lifetime.

Selja Ahava is a novelist and a scriptwriter. Her acclaimed debut novel *The Day the Whale Swam through London* (2010) was nominated for the Helsingin Sanomat Literary Prize, and won the Laura Hirvisaari Prize (the Bookseller's Literary Prize) in 2010. Her second novel, *Things that Fall from the Sky* (2015) won the EU Prize for Literature in 2016, and was nominated for the Finlandia Prize and the Tulenkantajat Prize.

Emily Jeremiah and **Fleur Jeremiah** are the translators of Aki Ollikainen's *White Hunger* (Peirene Press, 2015), which was longlisted for the 2016 Man Booker International Prize. Their other co-translations include Asko Sahlberg's *The Brothers* (Peirene Press, 2012).



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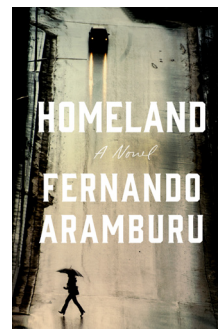
Homeland

Fernando Aramburu

Translated from the Spanish by Alfred McAdam

Nominated by:

Universitäts-und Landesbibliothek Bonn, Germany




In the heart of Spain's Basque Country, two friends, Miren and Bittori, find their worlds upended by violence. When Bittori's husband runs afoul of the separatist organization ETA,

a terrorist group of which Miren's son, Joxe Mari, is a member, both women must choose between their friendship and their families. Moving back and forth in time and told through the eyes of a rich cast of characters from all walks of life, Fernando Aramburu's dazzling novel probes the lasting legacy of conflict. A work of nearly unbearable suspense, *Homeland* is a searing examination of truth, reconciliation, and coming to terms with history.

Fernando Aramburu, born in San Sebastián, Spain, in 1959 is considered one of the most remarkable writers in the Spanish language. He won the Ramón Gómez de la Serna Prize in 1997, the Euskadi Prize in 2001, and, for his short story collection *Los peces de la amargura*, the Mario Vargas Llosa NH Short Story Award, the Dulce Chacón Prize, and the Prize of the Spanish Royal Academy in 2008. Among his most recent novels, *Años lentos* won the Premio Tusquets de Novela in 2011 and was named Book of the Year in 2012 by the booksellers of Madrid. But it is his novel *Patria* (*Homeland*), a stunning success among readers and winner of unanimous acclaim (National Prize for Literature, National Critics Prize, Euskadi Prize, Francisco Umbral Prize, Strega European Prize, Tomasi di Lampedusa Prize, among many others) that has distinguished him as a writer who will leave his mark on our era.

Alfred MacAdam is professor of Latin American literature at Barnard College-Columbia University. He has translated works by Carlos Fuentes, Mario Vargas Llosa, Juan Carlos Onetti, José Donoso, and Jorge Volpi among others. He recently published an essay on the Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa included in *The Cambridge Companion to Autobiography*.

 Available to borrow on Borrowbox from DublinCity Libraries/Public Libraries Ireland.

The Vanishing Half
Brit Bennett

Nominated by:
[Richland Library, United States](#)



From The New York Times-bestselling author of *The Mothers*, a stunning new novel about twin sisters, inseparable as children, who ultimately choose to live in two very different worlds, one black and one white.

The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect?


Weaving together multiple strands and generations of this family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett

riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing.

Looking well beyond issues of race, *The Vanishing Half* considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires, and expectations, and explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins.

Brit Bennett, born and raised in Southern California, graduated from Stanford University and later earned her MFA in fiction at the University of Michigan, where she won a Hopwood Award in Graduate Short Fiction as well as the 2014 Hurston/Wright Award for College Writers. Her work is featured in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *The Paris Review*, and *Jezebel*. She is one of the National Book Foundation's 2016 5 Under 35 honorees.

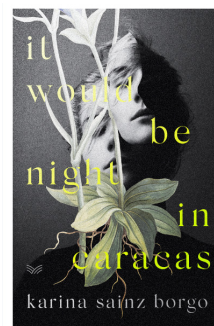
Writing, and shortlisted for the 2020 Miles Franklin Literary Prize; *Ghost River*, winner of the 2016 Victorian Premier's Literary Award for Indigenous Writing; and *Blood*, which was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Award in 2012. He is also the author of *Shadowboxing* and three short story collections, *Father's Day*, *The Promise* and *Common People*. In 2017 he was awarded the Patrick White Literary Award. In 2021 he will release two new books, a poetry collection, *Whisper Songs*, and a new short story collection, *Dark as Last Night*. Tony Birch is also an activist, historian and essayist.

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It Would Be Night In Caracas
Karina Sainz Borgo

Translated from the Spanish by Elizabeth Bryer

Nominated by:
[Coordenação-Geral do Sistema Nacional de Bibliotecas Públicas](#)



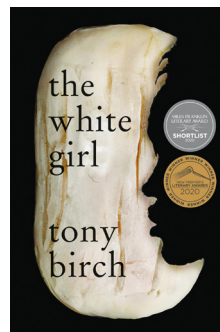
In Caracas, Venezuela, Adelaida Falcón stands over an open grave. Alone, she buries her mother—the only family she has ever known—and worries that when night falls thieves will rob the grave.

Even the dead cannot find peace here.

Adelaida had a stable childhood in a prosperous Venezuela that accepted immigrants in search of a better life, where she lived with her single-mother in a humble apartment. But now? Every day she lines up for bread that will inevitably be sold out by the time she reaches the registers. Every night she tapes her windows to shut out the tear gas raining down on protesters. When looters masquerading as revolutionaries take over her apartment, Adelaida must make a series of gruesome choices in order to

The White Girl
Tony Birch

Nominated by:
[State Library of Queensland, Australia](#)



Odetta Brown has lived her whole life on the fringes of a small country town. Raising her granddaughter Sissy on her own, Odetta has managed to stay under the radar of the welfare authorities who are removing Aboriginal children from their communities. When the menacing Sergeant Lowe arrives in town, determined to fully enforce the law, any freedom that Odetta and Sissy enjoy comes under grave threat. Odetta must make an impossible choice to protect her family.

Tony Birch is the author of three novels: the bestselling *The White Girl*, winner of the 2020 NSW Premier's Award for Indigenous

survive in a country disintegrating into anarchy, where citizens are increasingly pitted against each other. But just how far is she willing to go?

A bold new voice from Latin America, Karina Sainz Borgo's touching, thrilling debut is an ode to the Venezuelan people and a chilling reminder of how quickly the world we know can crumble.

Karina Sainz Borgo was born and raised in Caracas. She began her career in Venezuela as a journalist for *El Nacional*. Since immigrating to Spain ten years ago, she has written for *Vozpópuli* and collaborates with the literary magazine *Zenda*. She is the author of two nonfiction books, *Tráfico y Guaire* (2008) and *Caracas Hip-Hop* (2008). *It Would Be Night in Caracas* is her first work of fiction.

Elizabeth Bryer is the author of a book and the translator of a few of them. Her debut novel *From Here On, Monsters* is out now with Picador Australia. It was joint winner of the 2020 Norma K Hemming Award. She has translated novels from Spanish by Peruvian-, Chilean-, Colombian-, Venezuelan-, Mallorcan- and Polish-born authors, including Aleksandra Lun's *The Palimpsests*, awarded a PEN/Heim Translation fund grant from PEN America in 2017; Claudia Salazar Jiménez's Americas Prize-winning *Blood of the Dawn*, described in the *New York Times Book Review* as a 'brave, breviloquent debut novel'; and José Luis de Juan's *Napoleon's Beekeeper*. María José Ferrada's *How to Order the Universe* is forthcoming from Tin House Books in early 2021.

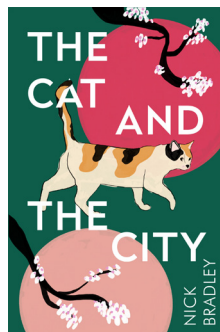


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The Cat and The City

Nick Bradley

Nominated by:
Norfolk Library and Information Service,
United Kingdom



In Tokyo – one of the world's largest megacities – a stray cat is wending her way through the back alleys. And, with each detour, she brushes up against the seemingly disparate lives of the city-dwellers, connecting them in unexpected ways. But the city is changing. As it does, it pushes her to the margins where she chances upon a series of apparent strangers – from a homeless man squatting in an abandoned hotel, to a shut-in hermit afraid to leave his house, to a convenience store worker searching for love. The cat orbits Tokyo's denizens, drawing them ever closer.

Nick Bradley is a graduate of the UEA Creative Writing MA who is currently completing a PhD in Creative & Critical Writing, focussing on the figure of the cat in Japanese literature.

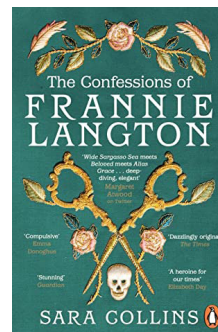


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The Confessions of Frannie Langton

Sara Collins

Nominated by:
Jamaica Library Service, Jamaica
The Seattle Public Library, United States



'They say I must be put to death for what happened to Madame, and they want me to confess. But how can I confess what I don't believe I've done?'

1826, and all of London is in a frenzy. Crowds gather at the gates of the Old Bailey to watch as Frannie Langton, maid to Mr and Mrs Benham, goes on trial for their murder. The testimonies against her are damning - slave, whore, seductress. And they may be the truth. But they are not the whole truth. For the first time Frannie must tell her story.

It begins with a girl learning to read on a plantation in Jamaica, and it ends in a grand house in London, where a beautiful woman waits to be freed. But through her fevered confessions, one burning question haunts Frannie Langton: could she have murdered the only person she ever loved?

A haunting tale about one woman's fight to tell her story, *The Confessions of Frannie Langton* leads you through laudanum-laced dressing rooms and dark-as-night alleys, into the heart of Georgian London.

Sara Collins studied law at the London School of Economics and worked as a lawyer for seventeen years. In 2014 she embarked upon the Creative Writing Masters at Cambridge University, where she won the 2015 Michael Holroyd Prize of Re-creative Writing and was shortlisted for the 2016 Lucy Cavendish Prize for a book inspired by her love of gothic fiction. This turned into her first novel, *The Confessions of Frannie Langton*.



Available to borrow as an eBook on Borrowbox from DublinCity Libraries/Public Libraries Ireland.

The Innocents
Michael Crummey

Nominated by:
Ottawa Public Library, Canada
Newfoundland & Labrador Public Libraries, Canada



A brother and sister are orphaned in an isolated cove on Newfoundland's northern coastline. Still children with only the barest notion of the outside world, they have nothing but the family's boat

and the little knowledge passed on haphazardly by their mother and father to keep them alive.

Still, they muddle through the severe round of the seasons, through years of meagre catches and storms and ravaging illness, their fierce loyalty to each other motivates and sustains them. But as seasons pass and they wade deeper into the mystery of their own natures, even that loyalty will be tested.

Richly imagined and compulsively readable, prizewinning author Michael Crummey's *The Innocents* is a riveting story of hardship and survival, and an unflinching exploration of the bond between brother and sister. By turns electrifying and heartbreaking, it is a testament to the bounty and barbarity of the world, to the wonders and strangeness of our individual selves.

Michael Crummey is author of the memoir *Newfoundland: Journey into a Lost Nation*; three books of poetry, including *Arguments with Gravity*, winner of the Writers' Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador Book Award for Poetry; and the short fiction collection *Flesh & Blood*. His first novel, *River Thieves*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, and his second novel, *The Wreckage*, was a finalist for the Rogers Writers' Trust

His fourth novel, *Sweetland*, was also a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award. His most recent novel, *The Innocents*, was a finalist for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award. Michael Crummey lives in St. John's, Newfoundland.

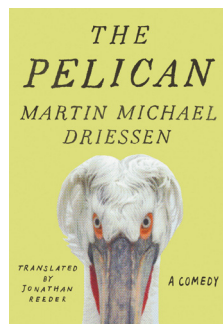


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The Pelican: a comedy
Martin Michael Driessen

Translated from the Dutch by Jonathan Reeder

Nominated by:
Utrecht Public Library, Netherlands
KB National Library of the Netherlands,



In a quiet coastal town in Yugoslavia, two men seeking more than the Communist regime can offer find their lives deceitfully entwined. Andrej is a postman in complete denial of his existence.

He yearns for respect and fame but commits petty crimes for reasons he doesn't fully comprehend. Josip is an increasingly irrelevant cable car operator and unfaithfully married. Life was so much simpler when neither one knew the other's secrets. Now that they do—discovered quite by accident—each man has resorted to blackmailing the other. As their anonymous misdeeds escalate, a farce of mutual dependency begins. So does the unlikeliest of friendships when Andrej and Josip finally meet face-to-face .

In a tale set against the impending wars, Martin Michael Driessen ingeniously explores the foibles of two painfully ordinary men boldly staking their claims on life.

Martin Michael Driessen is a Dutch opera and theatre director, translator, and writer. He made his debut in 1999 with the novel *Gars*, followed by *Vader van God* (Father of God, 2012) and *Een ware held* (A True Hero, 2013), both of which were broadly reviewed and nominated for literary prizes. In 2015 his novel *Lizzie*, written with the highly acclaimed and award-winning poet Liesbeth Lagemaat, was published under the pseudonym *Eva Wanjek*. *Rivieren* (Rivers, 2016) was awarded the prestigious ECI Literature Prize (formerly the AKO), the Readers Prize, and the Inktaap Prize, shortlisted for the Fintro Literature Prize, and nominated for the Halewijn Prize. His latest novel, *De pelikaan* (The Pelican, 2017), was shortlisted for the Libris Prize. His work has been translated into English, Italian, German, Spanish, Slovenian, and Hungarian.

Jonathan Reeder - a native of upstate New York and longtime resident of Amsterdam, I enjoy a dual career as a literary translator and performing musician. Alongside my work as a professional bassoonist I translate opera libretti and essays on classical music, as well as contemporary Dutch and Flemish fiction and non-fiction. I am endorsed by Flanders Literature, the Dutch Foundation for Literature, and the Expertise Center for Literary Translation.



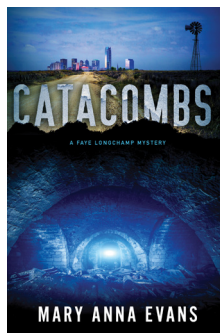
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Catacombs

Mary Anna Evans

Nominated by:
Oklahoma Department of Libraries,
United States



What secrets lie deep beneath the surface? A deafening explosion rocks a historic Oklahoma City hotel, sending archaeologist Faye Longchamp-Mantooth crashing to the marble floor

of the lobby. She's unhurt but shaken—after all, any time something blows up in Oklahoma City, the first word on everyone's lips is the same: bomb.

Faye is in town for a conference celebrating indigenous arts, but is soon distracted by the aftermath of the explosion, which cracks open the old hotel's floor to reveal subterranean chambers that had housed Chinese immigrants a century before. Faye is fascinated by the tunnels, which are a time capsule back to the early 20th century—but when the bodies of three children are discovered deep beneath the city, her sense of discovery turns to one of dread...Winner of the 2020 Oklahoma Book Award.

Mary Anna Evans is the author of the Faye Longchamp archaeological mysteries, which have received recognition including the Benjamin Franklin Award, the Mississippi Author Award, and three Florida Book Awards bronze medals. She is an assistant professor at the University of Oklahoma, where she teaches fiction and nonfiction

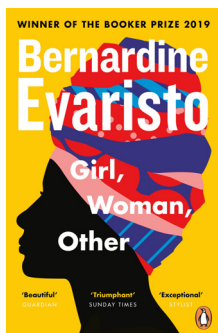


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Girl, Woman, Other

Bernardine Evaristo

Nominated by:
Zentral-und Landesbibliothek Berlin,
Germany
Waterford City & County Libraries,
Ireland



This is Britain as you've never read it. This is Britain as it has never been told. From Newcastle to Cornwall, from the birth of the twentieth century to the teens of the twenty-first, *Girl, Woman, Other*

follows a cast of twelve characters on their personal journeys through this country and the last hundred years. They're each looking for something - a shared past, an unexpected future, a place to call home, somewhere to fit in, a lover, a missed mother, a lost father, even just a touch of hope . . .

Bernardine Evaristo, MBE, is the award-winning author of eight books of fiction and verse fiction that explore aspects of the African diaspora. Her novel *Girl, Woman, Other* made her the first black woman to win the Booker Prize in 2019, as well winning the Fiction Book of the Year Award at the British Book Awards in 2020, where she also won Author of the Year, and the Indie Book Award. She also became the first woman of colour and black British writer to reach No.1 in the UK paperback fiction chart in 2020. Her writing spans reviews, essays, drama and radio, and she has edited and guest-edited national publications, including *The Sunday Times* Style magazine. Her other awards and honours include an MBE in 2009. Bernardine is Professor of Creative Writing at Brunel University, London, and Vice Chair of the Royal Society of Literature. She lives in London with her husband.



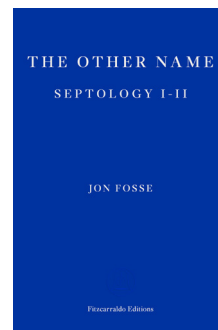
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The Other Name: Septology 1-11

Jon Fosse

Translated from the Norwegian by Damion Searles

Nominated by:
Sølvberget Library & Culture Centre,
Norway



The Other Name follows the lives of two men living close to each other on the west coast of Norway. The year is coming to a close and Asle, an aging painter and widower, is reminiscing

about his life. He lives alone, his only friends being his neighbor, Åsleik, a bachelor and traditional Norwegian fisherman-farmer, and Beyer, a gallerist who lives in Bjørgvin, a couple hours' drive south of Dylgja, where he lives. There, in Bjørgvin, lives another Asle, also a painter. He and the narrator are doppelgangers—two versions of the same person, two versions of the same life. Written in hypnotic prose that shifts between the first and third person, *The Other Name* calls into question concrete notions around subjectivity and the self. What makes us who we are? And why do we lead one life and not another?

Jon Fosse's remarkably prolific career began in 1983 with his first novel, *Red, Black*, and since then he has published numerous novels, stories, books of poetry, children's books, and essay collections. He began writing plays in 1993, with *Someone Is Going to Come*, and since the mid-nineties his plays have had unparalleled international success, being performed over a thousand times all over the world; his works have been translated into more than fifty languages. Today, Fosse is one of the most performed living playwrights, but he has continued to write novels, stories, and poetry of exceptional quality. In 2015 he received the Nordic Council Literature Prize for his work *Trilogy*, consisting of *Wakefulness*, *Olav's Dreams*, and *Weariness*.

Fosse has been awarded numerous prizes both in Norway and abroad, and in recent years he has often been mentioned as a frontrunner for the Nobel Prize in Literature. The three books that comprise his magnum opus, *Septology*, will be published by Transit Books, beginning with *The Other Name* (tr. Damion Searls) in April 2020.

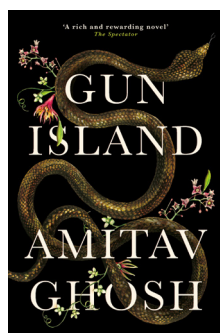
Damion Searls has translated several books and a libretto by Jon Fosse—*Septology*, *Melancholy* (co-translated with Grethe Kvernes), *Aliss at the Fire*, *Morning and Evening* (novel and libretto), and *Scenes from a Childhood*—and books by many other classic modern writers, including Proust, Rilke, Nietzsche, Walser, Bachmann, Jelinek, Modiano, and Uwe Johnson. His own books include *What We Were Doing* and *Where We Were Going*, *The Inkblots*, and *The*



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Gun Island Amitav Ghosh

Nominated by: [Biblioteca Nazionale Di Napoli Vittorio Emmanuele 111, Italy](#)



Bundook. Gun. A common word, but one which turns Deen Datta's world upside down. A dealer of rare books, Deen is used to a quiet life spent indoors, but as his once-solid beliefs begin to shift, he is

forced to set out on an extraordinary journey; one that takes him from India to Los Angeles and Venice via a tangled route through the memories and experiences of those he meets along the way.

There is Piya, a fellow Bengali-American who sets his journey in motion; Tipu, an entrepreneurial young man who opens Deen's eyes to the

realities of growing up in today's world; Rafi, with his desperate attempt to help someone in need; and Cinta, an old friend who provides the missing link in the story they are all a part of.

It is a journey which will upend everything he thought he knew about himself, about the Bengali legends of his childhood and about the world around him. *Gun Island* is a beautifully realised novel which effortlessly spans space and time. It is the story of a world on the brink, of increasing displacement and unstoppable transition. But it is also a story of hope, of a man whose faith in the world and the future is restored by two remarkable women.

Amitav Ghosh was born in Calcutta and grew up in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and India. He studied at the universities of Delhi and Oxford, has taught at a number of institutions and written for many magazines. The first novel in the Ibis trilogy, *Sea of Poppies*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize in 2008. In 2015, Amitav Ghosh was named as a finalist of the Man Booker International Prize.

When All Is Said Anne Griffin

Nominated by: [Wojewódzka Biblioteka Publiczna im. Marszałka Józefa Piłsudskiego w Łodzi, Łódź, Poland](#)



I'm here to remember – all that I have been and all that I will never be again.'

At the bar of a grand hotel in a small Irish town sits 84-year-old Maurice Hannigan.

He's alone, as usual -though tonight is anything but. Pull up a stool and charge your glass, because Maurice is finally ready to tell his story. Over the course of this evening, he will raise five toasts to the five people who have meant the most to him.

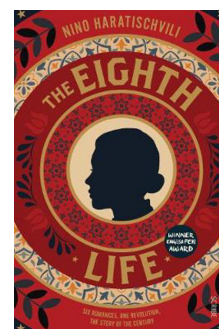
Through these stories – of unspoken joy and regret, a secret tragedy kept hidden, a fierce love that never found its voice – the life of one man will be powerfully and poignantly laid bare. Heart-breaking and heart-warming all at once, the voice of Maurice Hannigan will stay with you long after all is said.

Anne Griffin's first novel, *When All is Said* was a Number One Irish bestseller in 2019 and chosen as the Sunday Independent Newcomer of the Year in the An Post Irish Book Awards. It was also shortlisted for the John McGahern Annual Book and the RSL Christopher Bland prizes. She lives in Co. Westmeath, Ireland.

The Eighth Life: (for Brilka) Nino Haratischwili

Translated from the German by [Charlotte Collins and Ruth Martin](#)

Nominated by: [Openbare Bibliotheek Brugge \(Bruges Public Library \), Belgium](#)



That night Stasia took an oath, swearing to learn the recipe by heart and destroy the paper. And when she was lying in her bed again, recalling the taste with all her senses, she was sure that


this secret recipe could heal wounds, avert catastrophes, and bring people happiness. But she was wrong. At the start of the twentieth century, on the edge of the Russian Empire, a family prospers. It owes its success to a delicious chocolate recipe, passed down the generations with great solemnity and caution. A caution which is justified: this is a recipe for ecstasy : this is a recipe for ecstasy that carries a very bitter aftertaste ...Stasia learns it from her Georgian father and takes it north, following her new husband, Simon, to his posting at the centre of the Russian Revolution in St Petersburg. Stasia's is only the first in a symphony of grand but all too often

doomed romances that swirl from sweet to sour in this epic tale of the red century. Tumbling down the years, and across vast expanses of longing and loss, generation after generation of this compelling family hears echoes and sees reflections.

Nino Haratischvili was born in Georgia in 1983, and is an award-winning novelist, playwright, and theatre director. At home in two different worlds, each with their own language, she has been writing in both German and Georgian since the age of twelve. In 2010, her debut novel *Ju* was nominated for the German Book Prize, as was her most recent *Die Katze und der General* in 2018. In its German edition, *The Eighth Life* was a bestseller, and won the Anna Seghers Prize, the Lessing Prize Stipend, and the Bertolt Brecht Prize 2018. It is being translated into many languages, and has already been a major bestseller on publication in Holland, Poland, and Georgia.

Charlotte Collins studied English Literature at Cambridge University, and worked as an actor and radio journalist in Germany and the UK before becoming a literary translator. She received the Goethe-Institut's Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator's Prize in 2017 for Robert Seethaler's *A Whole Life*, which was also shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize and the International Dublin Literary Award. Her other translations include Seethaler's *The Tobacconist* and *The End of Loneliness* by Benedict Wells.

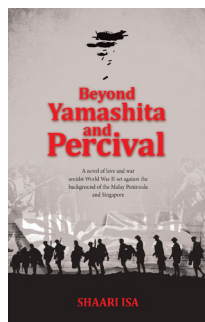
Ruth Martin has a PhD in German literature and philosophy from the University of London. Her recent translations include Volker Weidermann's *Dreamers*, Michael Köhlmeier's novels *Two Gentlemen on the Beach* and *Yiza*, short fiction by Joseph Roth, and essays by Hannah Arendt. She has taught translation to undergraduates at Birkbeck and the University of Kent, and is currently co-chair of the Society of Authors Translators Association.

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Beyond Yamashita and Percival

Translated from the Malay by Shaari Isa

Nominated by:
Perpustakaan Negara Malaysia, Malaysia



This novel is set against the background of the Malay Peninsula and Singapore during the Second World years of 1941 to 1945. As implied from the title, is not merely a story about two generals,

Yamashita and Percival, but also the effect of their decisions upon the lives of people who were caught in the war the British residents and the locals of diverse cultures.

The novel focuses on the theme of love and war. It discusses the frailties of human emotion that led to both. It portrays the lives of the various societies there at the time before, during and after the outbreak of the war: first the British, the elite society during the colonial years with their comfortable life, quite ignorant of Japanese clandestine activities, which were to have such a profound effect on their lives soon after. Amidst all these the novel also portrays the love, illicit and otherwise that inevitably grew out the events related to the war.

In addition, the novel also looks at other parts of the social environment, at the effects of the war on the local population: the Malays who saw the war as an opportunity to prepare themselves towards self-government and independence; the Chinese who looked upon the Japanese as their bitter enemies for invading their homeland, China, and who must opposed at all costs; the Indians who were indifferent to all events around them; their main concern being to earn just enough for themselves and for their families back home in India.

This is a novel dominated by historical facts related to the war period interlaced with fictional events related to the life and the loves of the fictional characters during the war. It carries a message about the meaninglessness of war; that pride of the victor is just temporary and trivial but the human suffering caused by the war is unfathomable and simply unforgivable.

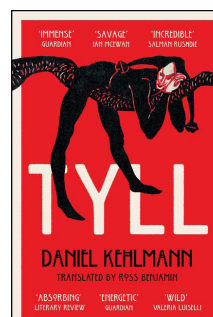
Shaari Isa has equal love for academic and creative writings. He began his career as a teacher and subsequently became a professional accountant and a university lecturer. His writings reflects his deep concern for social order, clear thinking and human happiness. He lives in Kuala Lumpur.

Tyll

Daniel Kehlmann

Translated from the German by Ross Benjamin

Nominated by:
Münchener Stadtbibliothek, Germany
Stadtbibliothek Bremen, Germany



He's a trickster, a player, a jester. His handshake's like a pact with the devil, his smile like a crack in the clouds; he's watching you now and he's gone when you turn. Tyll Ulenspiegel is here! In a

village like every other village in Germany, a scrawny boy balances on a rope between two trees. He's practising. He practises by the mill, by the blacksmiths; he practises in the forest at night, where the Cold Woman whispers and goblins roam. When he comes out, he will never be the same. Tyll will escape the ordinary villages. In the mines he will defy death. On the battlefield he will run faster than cannonballs. In the courts he will trick the heads of state. As a travelling entertainer, his journey will take him across the land and into the heart of a never-ending war. A prince's doomed acceptance of the Bohemian throne

has European armies lurching brutally for dominion and now the Winter King casts a sunless pall.

Between the quests of fat counts, witch-hunters and scheming queens, Tyll dances his mocking fugue; exposing the folly of kings and the wisdom of fools. With macabre humour and moving humanity, Daniel Kehlmann lifts this legend from medieval German folklore and enters him on the stage of the Thirty Years' War.

When citizens become the playthings of politics and puppetry, Tyll, in his demonic grace and his thirst for freedom, is the very spirit of rebellion – a cork in water, a laugh in the dark, a hero for all time.

Daniel Kehlmann was born in Munich in 1975 and lives in Vienna, Berlin and New York. He has published six novels: *Measuring the World*, *Me & Kaminski*, *Fame, F, You Should Have Left* and *Tyll* and has won numerous prizes, including the *Candide Prize*, the *Literature Prize of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation*, the *Doderer Prize*, the *Kleist Prize*, the *WELT Literature Prize*, and the *Thomas Mann Prize*. *Measuring the World* was translated into more than forty languages and is one of the biggest successes in post-war German literature.

Ross Benjamin is a translator of German-language literature and a writer living in Nyack, New York. His translations include Friedrich Hölderlin's *Hyperion* (Archipelago Books, 2008), Kevin Vennemann's *Close to Jedeneu* (Melville House, 2008), Joseph Roth's *Job* (Archipelago, 2010), Clemens J. Setz's *Indigo* (Liveright/Norton, 2014), and Daniel Kehlmann's *You Should Have Left* (Pantheon, 2017) and *Tyll* (Pantheon, 2020).

He is currently at work on a translation of Franz Kafka's complete Diaries, to be published by Schocken Books. He is a 2015 Guggenheim Fellow. His translation of Tyll has been shortlisted for the 2020 International Booker Prize. He was awarded the 2010 Helen and Kurt Wolff Translator's Prize for his rendering of Michael Maar's *Speak*, Nabokov (Verso Books, 2009), a 2012 National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship to translate Clemens J. Setz's

The Frequencies, and a commendation from the judges of the 2012 Schlegel-Tieck Prize for his translation of Thomas Pletzinger's *Funeral for a Dog* (W.W. Norton & Company, 2011). His literary criticism has appeared in *The Times Literary Supplement*, *Bookforum*, *The Nation*, and other publications. He was a 2003–2004 Fulbright Scholar in Berlin and is a graduate of Vassar College.

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The Ditch

Herman Koch

Translated from the Dutch by Sam Garrett

Nominated by:
OBA-Amsterdam Public Library,
Netherlands



When Robert Walter, the popular mayor of Amsterdam, sees his wife toss her head back with laughter while chatting to one of his aldermen at a New Year's reception, he immediately suspects she is cheating on him.


Though happily married, he has always wondered why Sylvia, born and raised in a distant country, chose him. Soon afterwards, a journalist unearths an old photograph of a police officer being beaten up by three Vietnam War protesters, one of whom she claims is Robert. Just as unexpectedly, Robert's ninety-four-year-old father announces that he and his wife would rather end their lives than burden their son with their deteriorating health.

Once stable and successful, Robert becomes entangled in his fears and suspicions, consumed by jealousy and paranoia. Nothing is what it seems, or is Robert finally beginning to see the world - and his life - as they are, for the first time? Written with Herman Koch's trademark originality, playfulness and edge and translated from Dutch, *The Ditch* is a wildly clever - and guttingly familiar - story of a man whose

sadistic skill for undermining himself and his marriage comes to cost him nearly everything.

Herman Koch was born in 1953. He is the author of a number of novels - including *The Dinner*, *Dear Mr. M* and *Summer House with Swimming Pool* - short stories, has acted for radio, television, and film, and was a co-creator of the long-running Dutch TV comedy series *Jiskefet* (1990-2005). *The Dinner* has sold over 2.5 million copies worldwide and spent a year on the New York Times bestseller list. Richard Gere, Steve Coogan, Laura Linney, and Chloë Sevigny also star in the film adaptation.

Sam Garrett is the translator of some thirty novels and works of non-fiction. He is the only translator to have twice won the British Society of Authors' Vondel Prize for Dutch-English translation. In 2012, his translation of *The Dinner* by Herman Koch spent two months on the New York Times bestseller list and became the most popular Dutch novel ever translated into English. His work has been shortlisted for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Award, the PEN Translation Prize and the Best Translated Book Award. He divides his time between Amsterdam and the French Pyrenees.

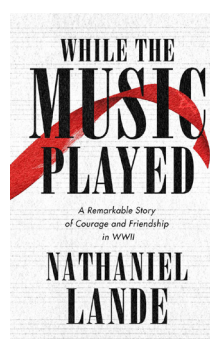
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While The Music Played

Nathaniel Lande

Nominated by:
Katona József Library of Bács-Kiscun
County, Hungary



Beginning in 1939 prewar Prague, *While the Music Played* focuses on the story of young Max Mueller, a curious bright romantic—a budding musician, piano tuner, and nascent journalist. Max is on the cusp of adolescence when the Nazi influence invades Prague's tolerant

spirit with alarming speed as he struggles to understand the changing world around him. When his father, noted German conductor Viktor Mueller, is conscripted into the German army and finds himself increasingly promoting the Nazi message, Viktor's best friend, noted Czech composer Hans Krása, protests the occupation in every way he can.

As everyone Max loves is compromised by intolerable conditions, he becomes increasingly isolated, and is forced to find his own way. With each step, Max's journey grows more conflicted. Music is the one constant connecting him to both the lost childhood he cherishes and the man he still hopes to become. But will it be enough to sustain him against the relentless Nazi threat?

With a seamless blend of historical and fictional characters, told from multiple points of view, and sweeping across the capitals of Prague, London, and Berlin as World War II ravages Europe, this meticulously researched book is unique with its diverse and interweaving narratives, threaded with news accounts, and encompassing some of the most triumphant and devastating moments of the war—from the opera houses of Berlin to the music halls of London and the making of the famous children's opera *Brundibár*.

Nathaniel Lande is a journalist, filmmaker, and the author of twelve books, including *Cricket* and *Dispatches from the Front: A History of the American War Correspondent*. A full listing of his works can be found at www.NathanielLande.com. He was creative director for the Magazine Group at Time, Inc.; director of Time World News Service; director of Time-Life Films, where his documentaries won over ten international awards; and executive producer at CBS and NBC Television. Lande was educated at Oxford University; earned his doctorate at Trinity College Dublin, where he was a Distinguished Scholar; and held appointments as professor of journalism at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He lives in Santa Barbara, California.



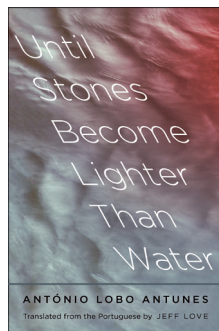
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Until Stones Become Lighter Than Water

António Lobo Antunes

Translated from the Portuguese by Jeff Love

Nominated by:
Porto Public Libraries, Portugal



Award-winning author António Lobo Antunes returns to the subject of the Portuguese colonial war in Angola with a vigorous account of atrocity and vengeance. Drawing on his

own bitter experience as a soldier stationed for twenty-seven months in Angola, Lobo Antunes tells the story of a young African boy who is brought to Portugal by one of the soldiers who destroyed the child's village, and of the boy's subsequent brutal murder of this adoptive father figure at a ritual pig killing.

Deftly framing the events through an assembly of interwoven narratives and perspectives, this is one of Lobo Antunes's most captivating and experimental books. It is also a timely consideration of the lingering wounds that remain from the conflict between European expansionism and its colonized victims who were forced to accept the norms of a supposedly superior culture.

António Lobo Antunes is the author of more than thirty books, including *Fado Alexandrino*, *The Inquisitors' Manual*, and *The Splendor of Portugal*. He lives in Lisbon.

Jeff Love, Research Professor of German and Russian at Clemson University, has published three monographs, edited two collections of articles and translated three books, two philosophical treatises, one German, the other Russian, and a novel by renowned Portuguese author António Lobo Antunes. Professor Love's primary research fields are German and Russian philosophy

and theory of the novel. He has given talks at universities throughout Europe as well as in China and contributed to the Philosophical Salon at the LA Review of Books. He has been awarded, among others, the John E. Sawyer Fellowship at the National Humanities Center (2014-2015), the University Research Scholarship and Artistic Achievement Award (2018) at Clemson University and the Whiting Fellowship in the Humanities (1997-1998) while at Yale University.

Lost Children Archive

Valeria Luiselli

Nominated by:
Biblioteca Vila de Gràcia, Spain



In Valeria Luiselli's fiercely imaginative follow-up to the American Book Award-winning *Tell Me How It Ends*, an artist couple set out with their two children on a road trip from New York to Arizona in the


heat of summer. As the family travels west, the bonds between them begin to fray: a fracture is growing between the parents, one the children can almost feel beneath their feet.

Through ephemera such as songs, maps and a Polaroid camera, the children try to make sense of both their family's crisis and the larger one engulfing the news: the stories of thousands of kids trying to cross the southwestern border into the United States but getting detained—or lost in the desert along the way.

A breath-taking feat of literary virtuosity, *Lost Children Archive* is timely, compassionate, subtly hilarious, and formally inventive—a powerful, urgent story about what it is to be human in an inhuman world.

Valeria Luiselli was born in Mexico City and grew up in South Korea, South Africa and India. An acclaimed writer of both fiction and nonfiction, she is the author of the

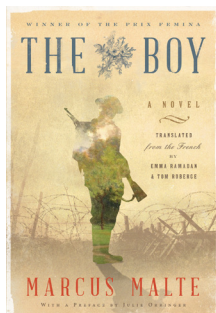
essay collection *Sidewalks*; the novels *Faces in the Crowd* and *The Story of My Teeth*; and, most recently, *Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in Forty Questions*. She is the winner of two Los Angeles Times Book Prizes and an American Book Award, and has twice been nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Kirkus Prize. She has been a National Book Foundation “5 Under 35” honoree and the recipient of a Bearing Witness Fellowship from the Art for Justice Fund. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Granta*, and *McSweeney’s*, among other publications, and has been translated into more than twenty languages. She lives in New York City.

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The Boy Marcus Malte

Translated from the French by Emma Ramadan and Tom Roberge

Nominated by:
Bibliothèque municipale de Colmar,
France



The boy does not speak. The boy has no name. The boy, raised half-wild in the forests of southern France, sets out alone into the wilderness and the greater world beyond. Without experience of

another person aside from his mother, the boy must learn what it is to be human, to exist among people, and to live beyond simple survival.

As this wild and naive child attempts to join civilization, he encounters earthquakes and car crashes, ogres and artists, and, eventually, all-encompassing love and an inescapable war. His adventures take him around the world and through history on a mesmerizing journey, rich with unforgettable characters. A hamlet of farmers fears he’s a werewolf, but

eventually raise him as one of their own. A circus performer who toured the world as a sideshow introduces the boy to showmanship and sanitation. And a chance encounter with an older woman exposes him to music and the sensuous pleasures of life. The boy becomes a guide whose innocence exposes society’s wonder, brutality, absurdity, and magic.

Beginning in 1908 and spanning three decades, *The Boy* is as an emotionally and historically rich exploration of family, passion, and war from one of France’s most acclaimed and bestselling authors.

Marcus Malte was born in 1967 in Seyne-sur-Mer, a small harbor city in the south of France, along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. As a child, Malte immersed himself in literature, discovering the novels of John Steinbeck, Albert Cohen, Louis-Ferdinand Céline and Jean Giono. He began writing in elementary school and chose to major in film studies after graduating from high school. At twenty-three, Malte became a projectionist in Seyne-sur-Mer’s historical movie theater and soon wrote his first short stories. Later in the 1990s he began reaching broader audience with a series of novels, a couple of hard-boiled detective stories where Malte created the recurrent character of Mister, a jazz pianist. Marcus Malte’s fiction includes *Garden of Love* his first real success (rewarded with a dozen literary prizes, including the Grand Prix of the readers of *Elle*, police category, 2007) *Les Harmoniques* (Prix Mystère de la Critique, 2012) and more recently *Le Garçon* (*The Boy*) for which he received the famous Prix Femina (2016). *The Boy* is his first novel to be translated into English.

Emma Ramadan is a literary translator based in Providence, RI, where she is the co-owner of Riffraff, a bookstore and bar. She is the recipient of an NEA Translation Fellowship, a PEN/Heim grant, and a Fulbright scholarship.

Tom Roberge is co-owner of Riffraff bookstore and bar in Providence, Rhode Island. He learned French as a Peace Corps volunteer in Madagascar and was formerly the Deputy Director of Albertine Books, a French language bookstore in New York.



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Auē Becky Manawatu

Nominated by:
Christchurch city Libraries, New Zealand
Auckland Libraries, New Zealand



Taukiri was born into sorrow. Auē can be heard in the sound of the sea he loves and hates, and in the music he draws out of the guitar that was his father’s. It spills out of the gang violence that killed

his father and sent his mother into hiding, and the shame he feels about abandoning his eight-year-old brother to a violent home.

But Ārama is braver than he looks, and he has a friend and his friend has a dog, and the three of them together might just be strong enough to turn back the tide of sorrow. As long as there’s aroha to give and stories to tell and a good supply of plasters.

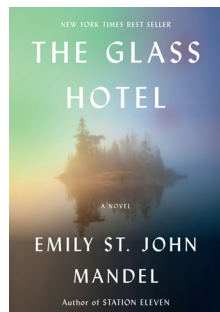
Becky Manawatu (Ngāi Tahu) was born in Nelson, raised in Waimangaroa and has returned there to live with her family, working as a reporter for *The News* in Westport. Becky’s short story ‘Abalone’ was long-listed for the 2018 Commonwealth Short Story Prize, her essay ‘Mothers Day’ was selected for the *Landfall* anthology *Strong Words*. *Auē* is her first novel.



The Glass Hotel

Emily St. John Mandel

Nominated by:
Limerick City and County Library,
Ireland



Vincent is the beautiful bartender at the Hotel Caiette, a five-star glass-and-cedar palace on the northernmost tip of Vancouver Island. New York financier Jonathan Alkaitis owns the hotel.

When he passes Vincent his card with a tip, it's the beginning of their life together.

That same day, a hooded figure scrawls a note on the windowed wall of the hotel: 'Why don't you swallow broken glass.' Leon Prevant, a shipping executive for a company called Neptune-Avramidis, sees the note from the hotel bar and is shaken to his core. Thirteen years later, just after a massive Ponzi scheme implodes in New York, Vincent mysteriously disappears from the deck of a Neptune-Avramidis ship.

Weaving together the lives of these characters, Emily St. John Mandel's *The Glass Hotel* moves between the ship, the towers of Manhattan, and the wilderness of remote British Columbia, painting a breathtaking picture of greed and guilt, fantasy and delusion, art and the ghosts of our pasts.

Emily St. John Mandel was born in Canada and studied dance at The School of Toronto Dance Theatre. Her novels are *Last Night in Montreal*, *The Singer's Gun*, *The Lola Quartet*, *Station Eleven* and *The Glass Hotel*. She lives in New York City with her husband and daughter.

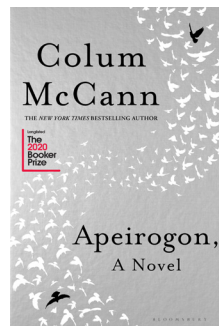


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Apeirogon

Colum McCann

Nominated by:
South Dublin Libraries, Ireland



Rami Elhanan and Bassam Aramin live near one another – yet they exist worlds apart. Rami is Israeli. Bassam is Palestinian. Rami's license plate is yellow. Bassam's license plate is green. It takes Rami

fifteen minutes to drive to the West Bank. The same journey for Bassam takes an hour and a half.

Both men have lost their daughters. Rami's thirteen-year-old girl Smadar was killed by a suicide bomber while out shopping with her friends. Bassam's ten-year-old daughter Abir was shot and killed by a member of the border police outside her school. There was a candy bracelet in her pocket she hadn't had time to eat yet. The men become the best of friends.

In this epic novel – named for a shape with a countably infinite number of sides – Colum McCann crosses centuries and continents, stitching time, art, history, nature and politics into a tapestry of friendship, love, loss and belonging. Musical, muscular, delicate and soaring, *Apeirogon* is the novel for our times.

Colum McCann, originally from Dublin, Ireland, is the author of six novels and two collections of stories. His most recent novel, the New York Times bestseller *Let the Great World Spin*, won the National Book Award, the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award and several other major international awards. His fiction has been published in thirty-five languages. He lives



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Hurricane Season

Fernanda Melchor

Translated from the Spanish by Sophie Hughes

Nominated by:
Winnipeg Public Library, Canada
Biblioteca Daniel Cosío Villegas, Mexico
Los Angeles Public Library, United States



The Witch is dead. And the discovery of her corpse – by a group of children playing near the irrigation canals – propels the whole village into an investigation of how and why this murder occurred.

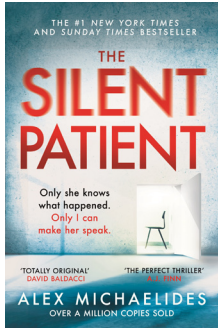
Rumors and suspicions spread. As the novel unfolds in a dazzling linguistic torrent, with each unreliable narrator lingering details, new acts of depravity or brutality, Melchor extracts some tiny shred of humanity from these characters that most would write off as utterly irredeemable, forming a lasting portrait of a damned Mexican village.

Fernanda Melchor, born in Veracruz, Mexico, in 1982, is widely recognized as one of the most exciting new voices of Mexican literature. Her novel *Hurricane Season* and collection *This Is Not Miami* are both forthcoming from New Directions..

Sophie Hughes is a literary translator from Spanish, known for her translations of writers such as Laia Jufresa, Rodrigo Hasbún, Fernanda Melchor and José Revueltas. In 2019 she was shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize for her translation of Alia Trabucco Zerán's *The Remainder*.

The Silent Patient
Alex Michaelides

Nominated by:
Veria Central Public Library, Greece



Alicia Berenson's life is seemingly perfect. A famous painter married to an in-demand fashion photographer, she lives in a grand house with big windows overlooking a park

in one of London's most desirable areas.

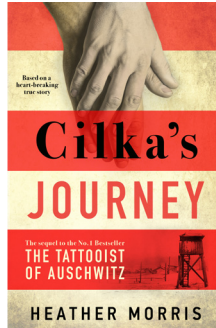
One evening her husband Gabriel returns home late from a fashion shoot, and Alicia shoots him five times in the face, and then never speaks another word. Alicia's refusal to talk, or give any kind of explanation, turns a domestic tragedy into something far grander, a mystery that captures the public imagination and casts Alicia into notoriety. The price of her art skyrockets, and she, the silent patient, is hidden away from the tabloids and spotlight at the Grove, a secure forensic unit in North London.

Theo Faber is a criminal psychotherapist who has waited a long time for the opportunity to work with Alicia. His determination to get her to talk and unravel the mystery of why she shot her husband takes him down a twisting path into his own motivations—a search for the truth that threatens to consume him.

Alex Michaelides was born in Cyprus to a Greek-Cypriot father and an English mother. He studied English literature at Cambridge University and got his MA in screenwriting at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. He is the author of the international bestseller *The Silent Patient*.

Cilka's Journey
Heather Morris

Nominated by:
State Library Victoria, Australia



In 1942 Cilka is just sixteen years old when she is taken to Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp. The Commandant at Birkenau, Schwarzhuber, notices her long beautiful hair, and forces her separation from the other women prisoners. Cilka learns quickly that power, even unwillingly given, equals survival.

After liberation, Cilka is charged as a collaborator for sleeping with the enemy and sent to a desolate, brutal prison camp in Siberia known as Vorkuta, inside the Arctic Circle. Innocent and imprisoned once again, Cilka faces challenges both new and horribly familiar. When she makes an impression on a female doctor, Cilka is taken under her wing and begins to tend to the ill in the camp, struggling to care for them under unimaginable conditions.

Cilka finds endless resources within herself as she confronts death and faces terror, each day a battle for survival. And when she nurses a man called Aleksandr, Cilka finds that despite everything that has happened to her, there is room in her heart for love.

Based on what is known of Cilka's time in Auschwitz, and on the experience of women in Siberian prison camps, *Cilka's Journey* is the breathtaking sequel to *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*. A powerful testament to triumph of the human will in adversity, *Cilka's Journey* will make you weep, but it will also leave you with the remarkable story of one woman's fierce determination to survive, against all odds.

Heather Morris is a native of New Zealand, now resident in Australia. For several years, while working in a large public hospital in Melbourne, she studied and wrote screenplays, one of which was optioned by an Academy Award-winning screenwriter in the US.

In 2003, Heather was introduced to an elderly gentleman who 'might just have a story worth telling'. The day she met Lale Sokolov changed both their lives, as their friendship grew and he embarked on a journey on self-scrutiny, entrusting the innermost details of his life during the Holocaust to her. Heather originally wrote Lale's story as a screenplay – which ranked high in international competitions – before reshaping it into her debut novel, *The Tattooist of Auschwitz*.



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Dark Mother Earth
Kristian Novak

Translated from the Croatian by Ellen Elias-Bursac

Nominated by:
Gradska knjižnica Rijeka, Croatia



An amnesiac writer's life of lies and false memories reaches a breaking point in this stunning English-language debut from an award-winning Croatian author. As a novelist, Matija

makes things up for a living. Not yet thirty, he's written two well-received books. It's his third that is as big a failure as his private life. Unable to confine his fabrications to fiction, he's been abandoned by his girlfriend over his lies. But all Matija has is invention. Especially when it comes to his childhood and the death of his father. Whatever happened to Matija as a young boy, he can't remember. He feels rightened, angry, and responsible...

Now, after years of burying and reinventing his past, Matija must confront it. Longing for connection, he might even win back the love of his life. But discovering the profound fears he has suppressed has its risks. Finally seeing the real world he emerged from could upend it all over again.

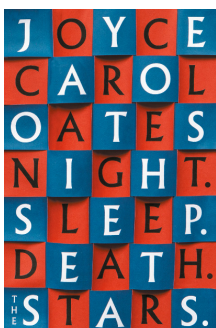
Kristian Novak is a Croatian writer, linguist, and university professor. His novel *Dark Mother Earth* was awarded the Tportal Prize for Croatian Novel of the Year and was named one of the ten best Croatian novels in the last fifty years by Večernji list. The novel was successfully adapted for the stage, and a film adaptation is in the works. Novak is also the author of *The Hanged and Gypsy, Yet So Beautiful*, which was the recipient of the Gjalski Prize. *Dark Mother Earth* is his English-language debut.

Ellen Elias-Bursac has been translating fiction and non-fiction by Bosnian, Croatian, and Serbian writers since the 1980s. The AATSEEL translation award was given to her translation of David Albahari's short-story collection *Words Are Something Else*, ALTA's National Translation Award was given to her translation of Albahari's novel *Götz and Meyer* in 2006. Her book *Translating Evidence and Interpreting Testimony at a War Crimes Tribunal: Working in a Tug-of-War* was given the Mary Zirin Prize in 2015.



Night. Sleep. Death. The Stars.
Joyce Carol Oates

Nominated by:
Stadt Bücherei Frankfurt am Main, Germany



The bonds of family are tested in the wake of a profound tragedy, providing a look at the darker side of our society. *Night. Sleep. Death. The Stars.* is a gripping study of contemporary America through the prism of a family tragedy: when a powerful parent dies, each of his adult children reacts in startling and unexpected ways, and his grieving widow in the most surprising way of all.

Stark and penetrating, Joyce Carol Oates's latest novel is a vivid exploration of race, psychological trauma, class warfare, grief, and eventual healing, as well as an intimate family novel in the tradition of the author's bestselling *We Were the Mulvaney's*.

Joyce Carol Oates is a novelist, critic, playwright, poet and author of short stories and one of America's most highly respected literary figures. She has written some of the most enduring fiction of our time, including *We Were the Mulvaney's*, which was an Oprah Book Club Choice, and *Blonde*, which was nominated for the National Book Award. She is the Roger S. Berlind Distinguished Professor of Humanities at Princeton University and a recipient of the National Book Award and the PEN/Malamud Award for Excellence in Short Fiction.



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Inland
Téa Obreht

Nominated by:
San Diego Public Library, United States



In the lawless, drought-ridden lands of the Arizona Territory in 1893, two extraordinary lives unfold. Nora is an unflinching frontierswoman awaiting the return of the men in her life—her husband, who has gone in search of water for the parched household, and her elder sons, who have vanished after an explosive argument. Nora is biding her time with her youngest son, who is convinced that a mysterious beast is stalking the land around their home.

Meanwhile, Lurie is a former outlaw and a man haunted by ghosts. He sees lost souls who want something from him, and he finds reprieve from their

longing in an unexpected relationship that inspires a momentous expedition across the West. The way in which Lurie's death-defying trek at last intersects with Nora's plight is the surprise and suspense of this brilliant novel.

Mythical, lyrical, and sweeping in scope, *Inland* is grounded in true but little-known history. It showcases all of Téa Obreht's talents as a writer, as she subverts and reimagines the myths of the American West, making them entirely—and unforgettably—her own.

Téa Obreht is the author of *The Tiger's Wife*, a finalist for the National Book Award. She was born in Belgrade, in the former Yugoslavia, in 1985 and has lived in the United States since the age of twelve. She currently lives in New York City and teaches at Hunter College.

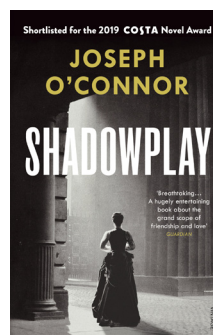


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Shadowplay
Joseph O'Connor

Nominated by:
Bibliothèques municipales de Genève, Switzerland




London, 1878. Three extraordinary people begin their life together - and the idea for *Dracula* is born. Fresh from life in Dublin, Bram Stoker - now manager of the Lyceum Theatre - is wrestling with dark demons in a new city, in a new marriage, and with his own literary aspirations.

As he walks the streets at night, streets haunted by the Ripper and the gossip which swirls around his friend Oscar Wilde, he finds new inspiration. Soon, the eerie tale of *Dracula* begins to emerge.

But Henry Irving, volcanic leading man and impresario, is determined that nothing will get in the way of Bram's dedication to the Lyceum.

Joseph O'Connor was born in Dublin. His books include eight previous novels: *Cowboys and Indians* (Whitbread Prize shortlist), *Desperadoes*, *The Salesman*, *Inishowen*, *Star of the Sea* (American Library Association Award, Irish Post Award for Fiction, France's Prix Millepages, Italy's Premio Acerbi, Prix Madeleine Zepter for European novel of the year), *Redemption Falls*, *Ghost Light* (Dublin One City One Book Novel 2011) and *The Thrill of it All*. His fiction has been translated into forty languages. He received the 2012 Irish PEN Award for outstanding achievement in literature and in 2014 he was appointed Frank McCourt Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Limerick.

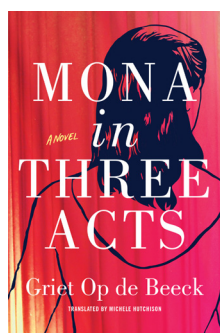
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Mona in Three Acts

Griet Op de Beeck

Translated from the Dutch by Michele Hutchison

Nominated by:
Bibliotheek Eindhoven, Netherlands



Mona's demanding mother ruled their home until a car crash took her life and changed their family forever. Left to tend to a distant father and a needy younger brother, Mona finds her new role almost

too much to bear. And when a new stepmother, troubled and depressed, adds yet another crack to the family portrait, Mona's forced to shoulder an even greater share of the emotional burden.

Somewhere between her responsibility to her family and to her own life, Mona finds a route of escape: in a theater

career she craves. ut for every challenge ahead—romantic, professional, sexual, and familial—Mona wonders how much of her future has already been defined by the challenges of her past.

An emotional, funny, and universal novel about the people, experiences, and choices that make us who we are, *Mona in Three Acts* is a revelatory journey of a woman's self-discovery, forgiveness, and courage to finally speak her truth.

Griet Op de Beeck (b. 1973) worked as a drama teacher in the theater for ten years. She went on to write for Humo and for De Morgen. This, her second novel since the appearance of *Many Heavens Above the Seventh*, has been eagerly awaited.

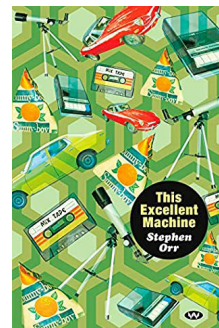
Michele Hutchison (b. 1972) is a literary translator from Dutch and French into English. As a former commissioning editor at various top publishing houses, she has translated more than twenty books from Dutch and one from French. Recent literary translations include 'La Superba' by Ilja Leonard Pfeijffer, 'Roxxy' by Esther Gerritsen, and *Fortunate Slaves* by Tom Lanoye. In 2020, Michele won the Vondel Translation Prize for her translation of 'Stage Four' by Sander Kollaard and the International Booker Prize together with author Marieke Lucas Rijneveld for 'The Discomfort of Evening'. She is also co-author of *The Happiest Kids in the World: What We Can Learn from Dutch Parents*.



This Excellent Machine

Stephen Orr

Nominated by:
State Library of South Australia, Australia



Clem Whelan's got a problem: trapped in the suburbs in the Sunnyboy summer of 1984 he has to decide what to do with his life. Matriculation? He's more than able, but not remotely interested. Become

a writer? His failed lawyer neighbour Peter encourages him, but maybe it's just another dead end?

To make sense of the world, Clem uses his telescope to spy on his neighbours. From his wall, John Lennon gives him advice; his sister (busy with her Feres Trabilis hairdressing apprenticeship) tells him he's a pervert; his best friend, Curtis, gets hooked on sex and Dante and, as the year progresses and the essays go unwritten, he starts to understand the excellence of it all.

His Pop, facing the first dawn of dementia, determined to follow an old map into the desert in search of Lasseter's Reef. His old neighbour, Vicky, returning to Lanark Avenue - and a smile is all it takes. Followed by a series of failed driving tests; and the man at his door, claiming to be his father. ...

Stephen Orr was born in Adelaide in 1967 and grew up in Hillcrest. He studied teaching and spent his early career in a range of country and metropolitan schools. One of his early plays, *Attempts to Draw Jesus*, became his first Australian/Vogel shortlisted novel, published in 2002. Since then he has published seven novels, a volume of short stories (*Datsunland*) and two books of non-fiction (*The Cruel City* and *The Fierce Country*).

He has won or been nominated for awards such as the Commonwealth Writers' Prize, the Miles Franklin Award and the

International Dublin Literary Award. This *Excellent Machine* is the first volume in an anticipated trilogy of childhood novels.

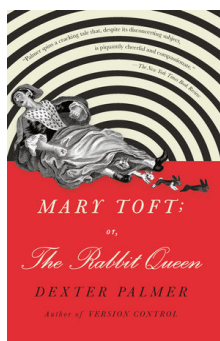
Stephen Orr is married and lives in Adelaide.



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Mary Toft; or, The Rabbit Queen Dexter Palmer

Nominated by: [Free Library of Philadelphia, United States](#)



In 1726, in the town of Godalming, England, a woman confounded the nation's medical community by giving birth to seventeen rabbits. This astonishing true story is the basis for Dexter Palmer's stunning, powerfully evocative new novel.

Surgeon's apprentice Zachary Walsh knows that his master, John Howard, prides himself on his rationality. But John cannot explain how or why Mary Toft, the wife of a local journeyman, has managed to give birth to a dead rabbit. When this singular event becomes a regular occurrence, John and Zachary realize that nothing in their experience as rural physicians has prepared them to deal with a situation like this—strange, troubling, and possibly miraculous. John contacts several of London's finest surgeons, three of whom soon arrive in Godalming to observe, argue, and perhaps use the case to cultivate their own fame.

When King George I learns of Mary's plight, she and her doctors are summoned to London, where Zachary experiences a world far removed from his small-town existence and is exposed to some of the darkest corners of the human soul. All the while Mary lies in bed, as doubts begin to blossom among her caretakers and a group of onlookers waits with impatience for another birth, another miracle.

Dexter Palmer is the author of two previous novels: *Version Control*, which was selected as one of the best novels of 2016 by *GO*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and other publications, and *The Dream of Perpetual Motion*, which was selected as one of the best fiction debuts of 2010 by *Kirkus Reviews*. He lives in Princeton, New Jersey.

The Pine Islands Marion Poschmann

Translated from the Dutch by Jen Calleja

Nominated by: [Leipziger Städtische Bibliotheken, Germany](#)



When Gilbert wakes one day from a dream that his wife has cheated on him, he flees - immediately and inexplicably - for Tokyo, where he meets a fellow lost soul: Yosa, a young Japanese student

clutching a copy of *The Complete Manual of Suicide*. Together, Gilbert and Yosa set off on a pilgrimage to see the pine islands of Matsushima, one looking for the perfect end to his life, the other for a fresh start.

Playful and profound, *The Pine Islands* is a beautiful tale of friendship, transformation and acceptance in modern Japan.

Marion Poschmann was born in Essen in 1969. A prize-winning poet and novelist, she has won both of Germany's premier poetry prizes and the Berlin Prize for Literature. Poschmann has been shortlisted for the German Book Prize on three occasions and won the 2013 Wilhelm Raabe Literature Prize.

Jen Calleja is a writer and literary translator based in London. Her fiction, creative non-fiction and poetry have appeared in *The London Magazine*, *Ambit*, *Another Gaze*, *3:AM*, *Somesuch Stories*, *Hotel*, and in the anthologies *On Relationships* (3 of Cups, 2020) and *Spells: 21st Century Occult Poetry* (Ignota, 2018). Her reviews and articles have

been published by the *TLS*, *History Today*, *Modern Poetry in Translation* and the *New Statesman*, and she has had long-running columns on literature in translation in *The Quietus* and the *Brixton Review of Books*.

She has translated over a dozen works of German-language literature, specialising in contemporary literary fiction and literary non-fiction. She was the inaugural Translator in Residence at the British Library, and her translations have featured in *The New Yorker*, *Granta*, *The White Review*, *Literary Hub* and elsewhere. She was shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize 2019 for her translation of Marion Poschmann's *The Pine Islands* (*Serpent's Tail*), and for the Schlegel-Tieck Prize 2018 for Kerstin Hensel's *Dance by the Canal* (Peirene Press).

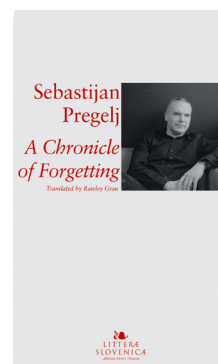


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A Chronicle of Forgetting Sebastijan Pregelj

Translated from the Slovene by Rawley Grau

Nominated by: [Ljubljana City Library, Slovenia](#)



Every morning the memories are a little different. The world of Sebastijan Pregelj's novel *A Chronicle of Forgetting* is governed by dementia. In his previous novels and stories Pregelj has taken us to

incredible, fantastic worlds, to worlds of the past, and once even into space, but the most incredible world is the world hidden in the human brain.

Here, he gives us a remarkable, deeply humanistic story about pondering life and looking for meaning, for that happiness which we do not know how to find in the privileged part of the world and which people from other continents would like to have, but most of all this is a novel about accepting the end of life.

It speaks of last things with a light that inspires and awakens. Pregelj is a writer with a keen ear for a story, for structuring plot, for gradual intensification, and for unexpected, sometimes extremely minute, but never unimportant reversals. He confirms anew that he is in command of his craft and one of Slovenia's finest writers.

Sebastijan Pregelj was born in Ljubljana in 1970 and studied history at the Faculty of Arts of the University of Ljubljana. In the 1990s, he began writing short stories, which appeared in various literary magazines. In addition to four short story collections, he has published six novels: *Leta milosti* (Years of Mercy, 2004), *Na terasi babilonskega stolpa* (On the Terrace of the Tower of Babel, 2008), *Mož, ki je jahal tigra* (The Man Who Rode a Tiger, 2010), *Pod srečno zvezdo* (Under a Lucky Star, 2013), *Kronika pozabljanja* (A Chronicle of Forgetting, 2014), *Vdih. Izdih.* (Breathe In. Breathe Out, 2017), and, most recently, *V Elvisovi sobi* (Dear Ali. Dear Elvis, 2019).

He also writes books for children. Four of his novels have been nominated for the Kresnik Award for Best Slovene Novel, and his stories have appeared in anthologies in German, Czech, Polish, and English. Three of his novels have been published by the Drava Verlag (Klagenfurt, Austria) in Erwin Köstler's German translation: *Auf der Terrasse des Turms von Babel* (2013), *Unter einem glücklichen Stern* (2015), and *Chronik des Vergessens* (2017).

He is co-author, with Gašper Troha, of the guide *Ljubljana Literary Trail*, which exists in both English and Slovene. Pregelj lives and works in Ljubljana and is a member of the Slovene Writers' Association.

Rawley Grau is originally from Baltimore, USA and has lived in Ljubljana since 2001. His translations from Slovene include the novels *Biljard v Dobrayu* (Billiards at the Hotel Dobray) and *Panorama*, both by Dušan Šarotar; the novel *Kronosova žetev* (The Harvest of Chronos) and the short-prose collection *Fragma*, both by Mojca Kumerdej; the novels *Sušna doba* (Dry Season) by Gabriela Babnik and *Sukub* (The Succubus) by Vlado Žabot (the latter co-translated with Nikolai Jeffs); the short fiction collection *Družinske parabole* (Family Parables), by Boris Pintar; and the essay collection *The Hidden Hand of*

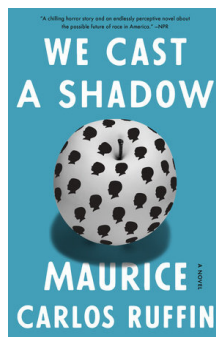
shake by Aleš Debeljak. He has also translated two plays – Ivan Cankar's *Pohujšanje v dolini šentflorjanski* (Scandal in St. Florian's Valley) and Slavko Grum's *Dogodek v mestu Gogi* (An Event in the Town of Goga, co-translated with Nikolai Jeffs) – as well as poetry by Tomaž Šalamun, Miljana Cunta, Miklavž Komelj, Janez Ramoveš, Andrej Rozman Roza, and others.

From Russian, he has translated a collection of poems and letters by Yevgeny Baratynsky, *A Science Not for the Earth*, for which he was awarded the 2016 prize for Best Scholarly Translation from the American Association of Teachers Slavic and Eastern European Languages (AATSEEL). In 2017, his translation of Dušan Šarotar's *Panorama* was shortlisted for the Oxford-Weidenfeld Translation Prize.

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We Cast a Shadow Maurice Ruffin

Nominated by:
Chicago Public Library, United States



“You can be beautiful, even more beautiful than before.” This is the seductive promise of Dr. Nzinga’s clinic, where anyone can get their lips thinned, their skin bleached,

and their nose narrowed. A complete demelanization will liberate you from the confines of being born in a black body—if you can afford it.

In this near-future Southern city plagued by fenced-in ghettos and police violence, more and more residents are turning to this experimental medical procedure.

Like any father, our narrator just wants the best for his son, Nigel, a biracial boy whose black birthmark is getting bigger by the day. The darker Nigel becomes, the more frightened his father feels. But how far will he go to protect his son? And will he destroy his family in the process? This electrifying, hallucinatory

novel is at once a keen satire of surviving racism in America and a profoundly moving family story. At its center is a father who just wants his son to thrive in a broken world. Maurice Carlos Ruffin’s work evokes the clear vision of Ralph Ellison, the dizzying menace of Franz Kafka, and the crackling prose of Vladimir Nabokov. *We Cast a Shadow* fearlessly shines a light on the violence we inherit, and on the desperate things we do for the ones we love.

Maurice Carlos Ruffin is the author of *We Cast a Shadow*, which was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and the PEN/ Open Book Award and longlisted for the Center for Ficiton First Novel Prize. A recipient of an Iowa Review Award in fiction, his work has appeared in *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *AGNI*, *Kenyon Review*, *Massachusetts Review*, and *Unfathomable City: A New Orleans Atlas*. A native of New Orleans, he is a graduate of the University of New Orleans Creative Writing Workshop and a member of the Peauxdunque Writers Alliance.

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Beside Myself Sasha Marianna Salzmann

Translated from the Dutch by Jen Calleja

Nominated by:
Zentralbibliothek Zürich, Switzerland



Beside Myself is the disturbing and exhilarating story of a family across four generations. At its heart is one woman's search for her twin brother. When Anton goes missing and the only clue is a postcard sent from Istanbul, Alissa leaves her life in Berlin to find him.

Without her twin, the sharer of her memories and the mirror of her own self, Ali is lost. In a city steeped in political and social changes, where you can buy gender-changing drugs on the street, Ali's search—for her missing brother, for her identity—will take her

on a journey for connection and belonging. *Beside Myself* is a brilliant literary debut about belonging, about family and love, and about the enigmatic nature of identity.

Sasha Marianna Salzmann was born in Volgograd in 1985 and grew up in Moscow. In 1995 she emigrated with her family to Germany and studied literature, theatre and media at the University of Hildesheim. She has been awarded multiple accolades for her plays, and *Beside Myself* was shortlisted for the German Book Prize in 2017. Salzmann now teaches creative writing in Germany, Turkey, Moldova, Spain, Italy and the USA.

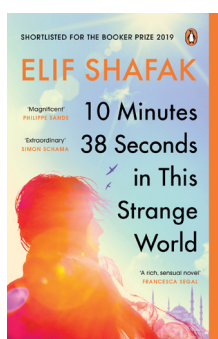
Imogen Taylor is a translator who has lived in Berlin since 2001. Her translations include *Promise Me You'll Shoot Yourself* by Florian Huber, *Fear* by Dirk Kurbjuweit and *The Truth and Other Lies* by Sasha Arango.



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10 Minutes 38 Seconds in This Strange World
Elif Shafak

Nominated by:
Dunedin Public Libraries, New Zealand
City of Cape Town Library & Information Services, South Africa



'In the first minute following her death, Tequila Leila's consciousness began to ebb, slowly and steadily, like a tide receding from the shore...' For Leila, each minute after her death recalls a sensuous memory:

spiced goat stew, sacrificed by her father to celebrate the birth of a yearned-for son; bubbling vats of lemon and sugar to wax women's legs while men are at prayer; the cardamom coffee she shares with a handsome student in the brothel where she works. Each fading memory brings back the friends she made in her bittersweet life - friends who are now desperately trying to find her ...

Elif Shafak is an award-winning British-Turkish novelist and the most widely read female author in Turkey. She writes in both Turkish and English, and has published seventeen books, eleven of which are novels. Her work has been translated into fifty languages. Shafak holds a PhD in political science and she has taught at various universities in Turkey, the US and the UK, including St Anne's College, Oxford University, where she is an honorary fellow.

She is a member of World Economic Forum Global Agenda Council on Creative Economy and a founding member of the European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR). An advocate for women's rights, LGBT rights and freedom of speech, Shafak is an inspiring public speaker and twice a TED global speaker, each time receiving a standing ovation.

Shafak contributes to many major publications around the world and she has been awarded the title of Chevalier des Arts et des Lettres. In 2017 she was chosen by Politico as one of the twelve people who would make the world better. She has judged numerous literary prizes and is chairing the Wellcome Prize 2019. Find out more about Elif Shafak on her website: www.elifshafak.com



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The Subtweet: A Novel
Vivek Shraya

Nominated by:
Vancouver Public Library, Canada



Celebrated multidisciplinary artist Vivek Shraya's second novel is a no-holds-barred examination of the music industry, social media, and making art in the modern era, shining a light on the promise and peril of being seen. Indie musician Neela Devaki has built a career writing the songs she wants to

hear but nobody else is singing. When one of Neela's songs is covered by internet artist RUK-MINI and becomes a viral sensation, the two musicians meet and a transformative friendship begins. But before long, the systemic pressures that pit women against one another begin to bear down on Neela and RUK-MINI, stirring up self-doubt and jealousy. With a single tweet, their friendship implodes, a career is destroyed, and the two women find themselves at the centre of an internet firestorm.

Vivek Shraya is an artist whose body of work crosses the boundaries of music, literature, visual art, theater, and film. Her bestselling book *I'm Afraid of Men* was heralded by Vanity Fair as "cultural rocket fuel," and her album with Queer Songbook Orchestra, *Part-Time Woman*, was nominated for the Polaris Music Prize. She is one half of the music duo *Too Attached* and the founder of the publishing imprint VS. Books. A five-time Lambda Literary Award finalist, Vivek has also received honors from the Writers' Trust of Canada and the Publishing Triangle. She is a director on the board of the Tegan and Sara Foundation and an assistant professor of creative writing at the University of Calgary.



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Crossing
Patjimm Statovci

Translated from the Finnish by David Hackston

Nominated by:
Helsinki City Library, Finland



Bujar's world is collapsing. His father is dying and his homeland, Albania, bristles with hunger and unrest. When his fearless friend Agim is discovered wearing his mother's red dress and beaten with

his father's belt, he persuades Bujar that there is no place for them in their country. Desperate for a chance to shape their own lives, they flee.

This is the beginning of a journey across cities, borders and identities, from the bazaars of Tirana to the monuments of Rome and the drag bars of New York. It is also a search through shifting gender and social personae, for acceptance and love. But faced with marginalization at home and only precarious means of escape and survival, what chance do the young pair have of forging a new life? Pursued by memories of home and echoes of folk tales, they risk losing themselves in the struggle to leave their pasts behind.

Pajtim Statovci (b. 1990) is a Finnish-Kosovan novelist. He moved from Kosovo to Finland with his family when he was two years old. He is currently a Ph.D candidate at the University of Helsinki. His first novel, *My Cat Yugoslavia*, also published by Pushkin Press, won the prestigious Helsingin Sanomat Literature Prize. Crossing won the Toisinkoinen Literature Prize in 2016 and, Statovci also won the 2018 Helsinki Writer of the Year Award.

David Hackston is a British translator of Finnish and Swedish literature and drama. He graduated from University College London with a degree in Scandinavian Studies and now lives in Helsinki where he works as a freelance translator. Notable recent publications include the Anna Fekete trilogy by Kati Hiekkapelto, Katja Kettu's wartime epic *The Midwife*, four novels by 'Helsinki noir' author Antti Tuomainen, and Pajtim Statovci's enigmatic *My Cat Yugoslavia* and *Crossing*. His drama translations include three plays by Heini Junkkaala, most recently *Play it, Billy!* (2012) about the life and times of jazz pianist Billy Tipton.



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On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous

Ocean Vuong

Nominated by:
 Deichman Oslo Public Library, Norway
 University Library of Bern, Switzerland
 Richmond Public Library, United States
 DC Public Library, United States



This is a letter from a son to a mother who cannot read. Written when the speaker, Little Dog, is in his late twenties, the letter unearths a family's history that began before he was born. It tells of Vietnam, of the lasting impact of war, and of his family's struggle to forge a new future.

And it serves as a doorway into parts of Little Dog's life his mother has never known - episodes of bewilderment, fear and passion - all the while moving closer to an unforgettable revelation.

Ocean Vuong is the author of the critically acclaimed poetry collection *Night Sky with Exit Wounds*, winner of the Whiting Award and the T.S. Eliot Prize. His writings have also been featured in *The Atlantic*, *Harper's*, *The Nation*, *New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, and *The New York Times*. In 2019 he was awarded a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. Born in Saigon, Vietnam, he currently lives in Northampton, Massachusetts, where he serves as an Assistant Professor of English at UMass-Amherst. *On Earth We're Briefly Gorgeous* is his first novel.

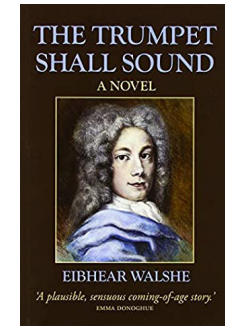


Available to borrow on Borrowbox

The Trumpet Shall Sound

Eibhear Walshe

Nominated by:
 Cork City Libraries, Ireland



It is 1742 and the celebrated composer Georg Handel is in Dublin for the first performance of his new work *Messiah*. Once the most successful composer of opera in London, and fêted by aristocracy and royalty alike, Handel is now nearly penniless, recovering from a debilitating illness and out of favour and his exile in Dublin a sign of his fall from grace.

With him and due to sing in his *Messiah* is the celebrated young actress, Susannah Cibber, the subject of scandal and public disgrace, on the run from an abusive husband and considered with suspicion by the musical elite of Dublin.

In this exciting new historical novel, Eibhear Walshe recounts Handel's time in Dublin, retracing his golden youth in Rome, his sometimes shady role as emissary and spy for the Elector of Hanover, who in 1714 would become George I of Great Britain and Ireland, and his doomed first love affair. With energy and insight, this novel leads up to the first performance of the most celebrated work of sacred music, with failure and loss transformed in a moment by the genius of Handel's musical imagination.

Eibhear Walshe was born in Waterford, studied in Dublin, and now lives in Cork, where he lectures in the School of English at University College Cork and is Director of Creative Writing. He has published in the area of memoir, literary criticism and biography, and his books include *Kate O'Brien: A Writing Life*, (2006), *Oscar's Shadow: Wilde and Ireland*, (2012), and *A Different Story: the Writings of Colm Tóibín*, (2013). His childhood memoir, *Cissie's Abbatoir*, (2009) was broadcast on RTÉ's



'Book on One'. His novel, *The Diary of Mary Travers*, (2014), was shortlisted for the Kerry Group Novel of the Year Award in 2015 and longlisted for the 2016 International Dublin Literary Award. He was associate editor, with Catherine Marshall, of *Modern Ireland in 100 Artworks*, (2016), edited by Fintan O'Toole and shortlisted for the Bord Gais Energy Irish Book Awards.

The Nickel Boys

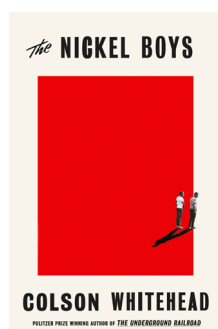
Colson Whitehead

Nominated by:

[Bibliotheek Gent, Belgium](#)

[New Hampshire State Library, United States](#)

[Cleveland Public Library, United States](#)



Author of *The Underground Railroad*, Colson Whitehead brilliantly dramatizes another strand of American history through the story of two boys sentenced to a hellish reform

school in 1960s Florida.

Elwood Curtis has taken the words of Dr Martin Luther King to heart: he is as good as anyone. Abandoned by his parents, brought up by his loving, strict and clear-sighted grandmother, Elwood is about to enroll in the local black college. But given the time and the place, one innocent mistake is enough to destroy his future, and so Elwood arrives at The Nickel Academy, which claims to provide 'physical, intellectual and moral training' which will equip its inmates to become 'honorable and honest men'.

In reality, the Nickel Academy is a chamber of horrors, where physical, emotional and sexual abuse is rife, where corrupt officials and tradesmen do a brisk trade in supplies intended for the school, and where any boy who resists is likely to disappear 'out back'. Stunned to find himself in this vicious environment, Elwood tries to hold on to

Dr King's ringing assertion, 'Throw us in jail, and we will still love you.' But Elwood's fellow inmate and new friend Turner thinks Elwood is naive and worse; the world is crooked, and the only way to survive is to emulate the cruelty and cynicism of their oppressors. The tension between Elwood's idealism and Turner's skepticism leads to a decision which will have decades-long repercussions.

Based on the history of a real reform school in Florida that operated for one hundred and eleven years and warped and destroyed the lives of thousands of children, *The Nickel Boys* is a devastating, driven narrative by a great American novelist whose work is essential to understanding the current reality of the United States.

Colson Whitehead is the Sunday Times bestselling author of *The Underground Railroad*, *The Noble Hustle*, *Zone One*, *Sag Harbor*, *The Intuitionist*, *John Henry Days*, *Apex Hides the Hurt*, and one collection of essays, *The Colossus of New York*. A Pulitzer Prize winner and a recipient of MacArthur and Guggenheim fellowships, he lives in New York City.



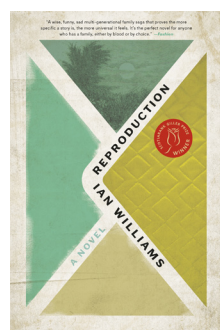
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Reproduction

Ian Williams

Nominated by:

[Saint John Free Public Library, Canada](#)



Felicia and Edgar meet as their mothers are dying. Felicia, a teen from an island nation, and Edgar, the lazy heir of a wealthy German family, come together only because their mothers share a

hospital room. When Felicia's mother dies and Edgar's "Mutter" does not, Felicia drops out of high school and takes a job as Mutter's caregiver.

While Felicia and Edgar don't quite understand each other, and Felicia recognizes that Edgar is selfish, arrogant, and often unkind, they form a bond built on grief (and proximity) that results in the birth of a son Felicia calls Armistice. Or Army, for short. Some years later, Felicia and Army (now 14) are living in the basement of a home owned by Oliver, a divorced man of Portuguese descent who has two kids--the teenaged Heather and the odd little Hendrix.

Along with Felicia and Army, they form an unconventional family, except that Army wants to sleep with Heather, and Oliver wants to kill Army. Then Army's fascination with his absent father--and his absent father's money--begins to grow as odd gifts from Edgar begin to show up. And Felicia feels Edgar's unwelcome shadow looming over them.

A brutal assault, a mortal disease, a death, and a birth reshuffle this group of people again to form another version of the family. *Reproduction* is a profoundly insightful exploration of the bizarre ways people become bonded that insists that family isn't a matter of blood.

Ian Williams is the author of *Reproduction*, winner of the Scotiabank Giller Prize; *Personals*, shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize and the Robert Kroetsch Poetry Book Award; *Not Anyone's Anything*, winner of the Danuta Gleed Literary Award for the best first collection of short fiction in Canada; and *You Know Who You Are*, a finalist for the ReLit Prize for poetry. He was named as one of ten Canadian writers to watch by CBC. Williams completed his Ph.D. in English at the University of Toronto, mentored by George Elliot Clarke, and is currently an assistant professor of poetry in the Creative Writing program at the University of British Columbia.



The Bird King
G.Willow Wilson


Nominated by:
Slemani Public Library, Slemani, Iraq



The Bird King is a fantastical journey set at the height of the Spanish Inquisition from the award-winning author of Alif the Unseen and writer of the Ms. Marvel series, G. Willow Wilson's The

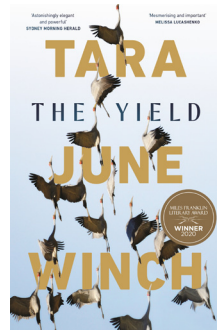
Bird King is a jubilant story of love versus power, religion versus faith, and freedom versus safety.

G. Willow Wilson is the author of the acclaimed novel *The Bird King* (2019), co-creator of the Hugo and American Book Award-winning series *Ms. Marvel* (2013-2018), and has written for some of the world's best-known superhero comic book series, including *The X-Men*, *Superman*, and *Wonder Woman*. Her first novel, *Alif the Unseen*, won the 2013 World Fantasy Award for Best Novel, was a finalist for the Center For Fiction's First Novel Prize, and was long-listed for the 2013 Women's Prize for Fiction. In 2015, she won the Graphic Literature Innovator Prize at the PEN America Literary Awards. Her work has been translated into over a dozen languages. She lives in Seattle.

 Available to borrow on Borrowbox from DublinCity Libraries/Public Libraries Ireland.

The Yield
Tara June Winch

Nominated by:
State Library NSW, Australia
National Library of Australia, Australia



The yield in English is the reaping, the things that man can take from the land. In the language of the Wiradjuri yield is the things you give to, the movement, the space between things: baayanha.

Knowing that he will soon die, Albert 'Poppy' Gondiwindi takes pen to paper.

His life has been spent on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River at Prosperous House, on Massacre Plains. Albert is determined to pass on the language of his people and everything that was ever remembered. He finds the words on the wind.


August Gondiwindi has been living on the other side of the world for ten years when she learns of her grandfather's death. She returns home for his burial, wracked with grief and burdened with all she tried to leave behind. Her homecoming is bittersweet as she confronts the love of her kin and news that Prosperous is to be repossessed by a mining company.

Determined to make amends she endeavours to save their land – a quest that leads her to the voice of her grandfather and into the past, the stories of her people, the secrets of the river.

Tara June Winch is a Wiradjuri author, born in Australia in 1983 and based in France. Her first novel, *Swallow the Air* was critically acclaimed. She was named a Sydney Morning Herald Best Young Australian Novelist, and has won numerous literary awards for *Swallow the Air*. A 10th Anniversary edition was published in 2016. In 2008, Tara was mentored by Nobel Prize winner Wole Soyinka as part of the

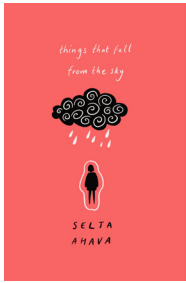
prestigious Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative. Her second book, the story collection *After the Carnage* was published in 2016. *After the Carnage* was longlisted for the Victorian Premier's Literary Award for fiction, shortlisted for the 2017 NSW Premier's Christina Stead prize for Fiction and the Queensland Literary Award for a collection.

She wrote the Indigenous dance documentary, *Carriberrie*, which screened at the 71st Cannes Film Festival and toured internationally. *The Yield* won the 2020 Miles Franklin Literary Award as well as the Christina Stead Prize for Fiction, the People's Choice Award and Book of the Year at the 2020 NSW Premier's Literary Awards.

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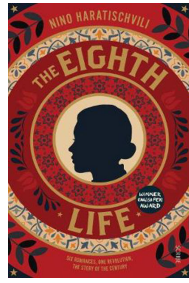


18 Translated Novels • 10 Languages



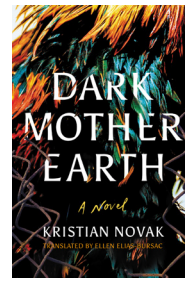
Things That Fall From The Sky
Selja Ahava

Translated from the Finnish by Emily Jeremiah and Fleur Jeremiah



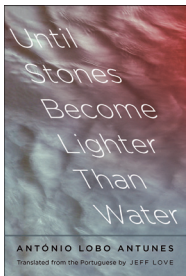
The Eighth Life: (for Brilka)
Nino Haratischwili

Translated from the German by Charlotte Collins and Ruth Martin



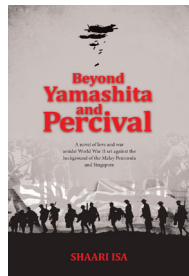
Dark Mother Earth
Kristian Novak

Translated from the Croatian by Ellen Elias-Bursac



Until Stones Become Lighter Than Water
António Lobo Antunes

Translated from the Portuguese by Jeff Love



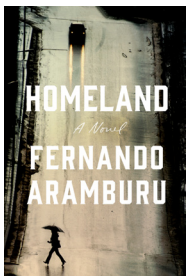
Beyond Yamashita and Percival
Shaari Isa

Translated from the Malay by Shaari Isa



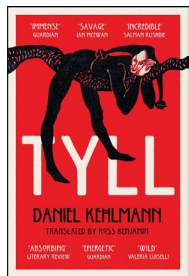
Mona in Three Acts
Griet Op de Beeck

Translated from the Dutch by Michele Hutchison



Homeland
Fernando Aramburu

Translated from the Spanish by Alfred McAdam



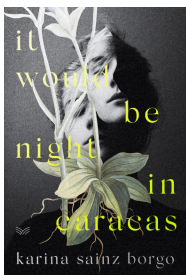
Tyll
Daniel Kehlmann

Translated from the German by Ross Benjamin



The Pine Islands
Marion Poschmann

Translated from the Dutch by Jen Calleja



It Would Be Night in Caracas
Karina Sainz Borgo

Translated from the Spanish by Elizabeth Bryer



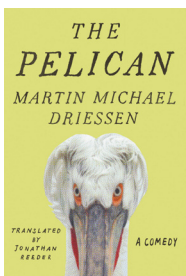
The Ditch
Herman Koch

Translated from the Dutch by Sam Garrett



A Chronicle of Forgetting
Sebastijan Pregelj

Translated from the Slovene by Rawley Grau



The Pelican: a comedy
Michael Martin Driessen

Translated from the Dutch by Jonathan Reeder



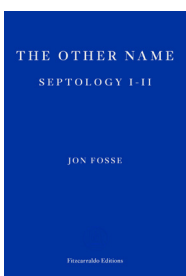
The Boy
Marcus Malte

Translated from the French by Emma Ramadan and Tom Roberge



Beside Myself
Sasha Marianna Salzmann

Translated from the German by Imogen Taylor



The Other Name: Septology 1-11
Jon Fosse

Translated from the Norwegian by Damion Searles



Hurricane Season
Fernanda Melchor

Translated from the Spanish by Sophie Hughes



Crossing
Patjim Statovci

Translated from the Finnish by David Hackston