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NEVERHOME

A NOVEL

Little, Brown **NEW YORK TIMES BOOK REVIEW EDITOR'S CHOICE** Inaugural winner of the Grand Prix de la Littérature Américaine She calls herself Ash, but that's not her real name. She is a farmer's faithful wife, but she has left her husband to don the uniform of a Union soldier in the Civil War. NEVERHOME tells the harrowing story of Ash Thompson during the battle for the South. Through bloodshed and hysteria and heartbreak, she becomes a hero, a folk legend, a madwoman and a traitor to the American cause. Laird Hunt's dazzling new novel throws a light on the adventurous women who chose to fight instead of stay behind. It is also a mystery story: why did Ash leave and her husband stay? Why can she not return? What will she have to go through to make it back home? In gorgeous prose, Hunt's rebellious young heroine fights her way through history, and back home to her husband, and finally into our hearts.

NEVERHOME

Random House I was strong and he was not so it was me went to war to defend the Republic. I stepped across the border out of Indiana into Ohio. Twenty dollars, two salt-pork sandwiches, and I took jerky, biscuits, six old apples, fresh underthings and a blanket too. There was a conflagration to come; I wanted to lend it my spark. Meet Gallant Ash: hero, folk legend and master of war. Ash is a leader of men and a brutal and fearless soldier. Will look you dead in the eye and kill for no reason. But Ash has a secret. Gallant Ash is a woman. This is her story.

NEVERHOME

A NOVEL

Hachette UK She calls herself Ash, but that's not her real name. She is a farmer's faithful wife, but she has left her husband to don the uniform of a Union soldier in the Civil War. Neverhome tells the harrowing story of Ash Thompson during the battle for the South. Through bloodshed and hysteria and heartbreak, she becomes a hero, a folk legend, a madwoman and a traitor to the American cause. Laird Hunt's dazzling novel throws a light on the adventurous women who chose to fight instead of stay behind. It is also a mystery story: why did Ash leave and her husband stay? Why can she not return? What will she have to go through to make it back home? In gorgeous prose, Hunt's rebellious young heroine fights her way through history, and back home to her husband, and finally into our hearts.

NEVERHOME

La Nave di Teseo Editore spa Si fa chiamare Ash, ma questo non è il suo vero nome. In realtà è una moglie fedele, che ha lasciato suo marito a casa. A lui, soldato destinato alla Guerra civile americana, ha sottratto l'uniforme dell'Unione per la battaglia decisiva alla conquista del Sud. Neverhome racconta l'appassionante storia di questa eroina travestita che affronta la battaglia con determinazione assoluta, con ferocia persino, con un unico obiettivo: tornare viva a casa. Così Ash si immerge nelle situazioni più atroci, ai limiti dell'umanità, rimanendo fedele al suo mandato di soldato. Ma Neverhome nasconde anche un mistero: perché una giovane donna abbandona suo marito e va in guerra? Laird Hunt ci consegna un romanzo superbo, in cui si intrecciano avventura, amore, odio, compassione. E in questa trama di sentimenti primari, emerge il ritratto di una donna che rimarrà nel cuore dei lettori. "Vi presento Gallant Ash: leggenda popolare, eroe di guerra. Ash è un capo e un soldato brutale e senza paura. È capace di guardarti fisso negli occhi e ucciderti senza ragione. Ma Ash ha un segreto. Gallant Ash è una donna. E questa è la sua storia."

THE EVENING ROAD

Little, Brown "A strange, dazzling novel, as audacious as it is lyrical, The Evening Road hauls up insight, sorrow, and even--somehow--wit from the well of American history." - Emma Donoghue, bestselling author of Room and The Wonder "Illuminates its time better than any staid sepia period piece ever could." -- New York Two women, two secrets: one desperate and extraordinary day. In the high heat of an Indiana summer, news spreads fast. When Marvel, the local county seat, plans to lynch three young black men, word travels faster. It is August, 1930, the height of the Jim Crow era, and the prospect of the spectacle sends shockwaves rumbling through farm country as far as a day's wagon-ride away. Oattie Lee Henshaw, a fiery small-town beauty, sets out with her lecherous boss and brooding husband to join in whatever fun there is to be had. At the opposite end of the road to Marvel, Calla Destry, a young African-American woman determined to escape the violence, leaves home to find the lover who has promised her a new life. As the countryside explodes in frenzied revelry, the road is no place for either. It is populated by wild-eyed demagogues, marauding vigilantes, possessed bloodhounds, and even by the Ku Klux Klan itself. Reminiscent of the works of Louise Erdrich, Edward P. Jones, and Marilynne Robinson, The Evening Road is the story of two remarkable woman on the move through an America riven by fear and hatred, and eager to flee the secrets they have left behind.

ZORRIE

Bloomsbury Publishing USA Finalist for the 2021 National Book Award (Fiction) "A virtuosic portrait." -New York Times Book Review "A tender, glowing novel." -Anthony Doerr, Guardian, "Best Books of the Year" "Pages that are polished like jewels." -Scott Simon, NPR, "Books We Love" "Lit from within." -Mark Athitakis, Los Angeles Times, "Best Fiction Books of the Year" "A touching, tightly woven story from an always impressive author." -Kirkus (starred review), "Best Fiction of the Year" "Radiates the heat of a beating heart." -Vox "A poignant, unforgettable novel." -Hernan Diaz From prize-winning, acclaimed author Laird Hunt, a poignant novel about a woman searching for her place in the world and finding it in the daily rhythms of life in rural Indiana. "It was Indiana, it was the dirt she had bloomed up out of, it was who she was, what she felt, how she thought, what she knew." As a girl, Zorrie Underwood's modest and hardscrabble home county was the only constant in her young life. After losing both her parents, Zorrie moved in with her aunt, whose own death orphaned Zorrie all over again, casting her off into the perilous realities and sublime landscapes of rural, Depression-era Indiana. Drifting west, Zorrie survived on odd jobs, sleeping in barns and under the stars, before finding a position at a radium processing plant. At the end of each day, the girls at her factory glowed from the radioactive material. But when Indiana calls Zorrie home, she finally finds the love and community that have eluded her in and around the small town of Hillisburg. And yet, even as she tries to build a new life, Zorrie discovers that her trials have only begun. Spanning an entire lifetime, a life convulsed and transformed by the events of the 20th century, Laird Hunt's extraordinary novel offers a profound and intimate portrait of the dreams that propel one tenacious woman onward and the losses that she cannot outrun. Set against a harsh, gorgeous, quintessentially American landscape, this is a deeply empathetic and poetic novel that belongs on a shelf with the classics of Willa Cather, Marilynne Robinson, and Elizabeth Strout.

KIND ONE

Random House "An unforgettable tale of slavery in the American South Once I lived in a place where demons dwelled. I was one of them. Ginny lives on her husband's pig farm ninety miles from nowhere. Far from the paradise she was promised, this is a bleak place and her husband, Linus, a cruel master. His girls, Cleome and Zinnia, are Ginny's only friends, but when Linus' attentions turn to them, Ginny is torn. When Linus dies, things change for everyone. They helped me, but I never helped them."

INDIANA, INDIANA

A mesmerizing, poignant saga of love and loss firmly grounded in the Midwestern landscape by National Book Award finalist Laird Hunt. On a dark and lovely winter night, Noah Summers sits before a roaring fire, drifting between sleep and recollection, trying to make sense of a lifetime of psychic visions and his family's tumultuous history on an Indiana farmstead. Decades have passed since Noah first fell in love with Opal, a brilliant but unstable young woman whose penchant for flames separated the couple after just forty-two idyllic days of married life. Despite the challenges they each faced, their love never wavered in the long years that followed, sustained by letters, memories, and the bonds of family. Indiana, Indiana established the world that Laird Hunt returned to in his 2021 novel *Zorrie*, which was a finalist for the National Book Award for Fiction, and introduced the character of Zorrie Underwood from the perspective of Noah and his father Virgil. Written in a masterful elegiac style reminiscent of William Faulkner and Marilynne Robinson, Indiana, Indiana is a beautiful and surreal story that illuminates the heart of rural America.

AMERICAN MIDNIGHT

TALES OF THE DARK

Pushkin Collection A chilling collection of classic weird and supernatural tales from the dark heart of American literature A masquerade ball cut short by a mysterious plague; a strange nocturnal ritual in the woods; a black bobcat howling in the night: these ten tales are some of the most strange and unsettling in all of American literature, filled with unforgettable imagery and simmering with tension. From Edgar Allan Poe to Shirley Jackson, Nathaniel Hawthorne to Zora Neale Hurston, the authors of these classics of supernatural suspense have inspired generations of writers to explore the dark heart of the land of the free. The stories in this collection have been selected and introduced by Laird Hunt, an author of seven acclaimed novels which explore the shadowy corners of American history. Contains: 'The Masque of the Red Death', Edgar Allan Poe 'Young Goodman Brown', Nathaniel Hawthorne 'The Eyes', Edith Wharton 'The Mask', Robert Chambers 'Home', Shirley Jackson 'A Ghost Story', Mark Twain 'Spunk', Zora Neale Hurston 'The Yellow Wallpaper', Charlotte Perkins Gilman 'An Itinerant House', Emma Frances Dawson

IN THE HOUSE IN THE DARK OF THE WOODS

Pushkin Press A dark fairytale, full of witchcraft, where nothing is as it seems Once upon a time there was and there wasn't a woman who went to the woods. In this dark fairy tale, a young woman sets off to pick berries in the depths of the forest, but can't find her way home again. Or perhaps she has fled or abandoned her family. Or perhaps she's been kidnapped, and set loose to wander in the wilderness. Alone and possibly lost, she meets another woman who offers her help. Then everything changes. On a journey that will take her to the depths of the witch-haunted woods, through a deep well wet with the screams of men, and on a living ship made of human bones, our heroine may find that the evil she flees has been inside her all along. Laird Hunt is an American writer and translator. He has written seven novels, including *Neverhome*, which was a New York Times Book Review Editor's Choice selection, an IndieNext selection, winner of the Grand Prix de Littérature Américaine and The Bridge prize, and a finalist for the Prix Femina Étranger. His *In the House in the Dark of the Woods* is also available from Pushkin Press. A resident of Boulder, CO, he is on the faculty in the creative writing PhD program at the University of Denver.

A FRIEND OF MR. LINCOLN

Vintage "The novel opens in 1832 in the Black Hawk War, when Micajah (Cage) Weatherby--an imaginary character--and Lincoln meet. Afterwards Cage musters out to Springfield, Illinois, where he becomes part of the group of ambitious young men, which includes Lincoln, in this frontier town on the make. And it is through Cage that we come to know his friend Lincoln in his twenties and early thirties, the Lincoln who is already a circuit-riding lawyer and a member of the state legislature, filled with an almost ungovernable ambition. But to Cage and to others with big dreams in this group--which includes Joshua Speed, Billy Herndon, Ninian Edwards, Stephen Douglas, Jim Reed--he is also a beloved, hypnotic figure, physically powerful, by turns charmingly awkward and mesmerizingly self-possessed, and a supremely gifted story teller, a man of whom they expect big things. Cage, a poet, both admires and clashes with Lincoln, as Lincoln's legal ethics allow him to take a murderer's case, or clients on both sides of the slavery issue. And Cage, himself engaged in a long affair with an independent young widow, charts Lincoln's never easy path, from his high spirits and earthy jokes to his soul-hollowing sadness and bouts with the hypo (depression), from his disastrous courtship of another Mary to finally marriage with beautiful, capricious, politically savvy, Mary Todd, who at the close of the novel in 1847 has presented him one son and some stability, although it leads to conflict with Cage, and sends the two men on very different paths into the future"--

SWEET LAMB OF HEAVEN: A NOVEL

W. W. Norton & Company Longlisted for the National Book Award for Fiction: Blending domestic thriller and psychological horror, this compelling page-turner follows a mother fleeing her estranged husband. Lydia Millet's previous work has been shortlisted for the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize. Likewise greeted with rapturous praise, *Sweet Lamb of Heaven* is a first-person account of a young mother, Anna, fleeing her cold and unfaithful husband, a businessman who's just launched his first campaign for political office. When Ned chases Anna and their six-year-old daughter from Alaska to Maine, the two go into hiding in a run-down motel on the coast. But the longer they stay, the less the guests in the dingy motel look like typical tourists—and the less Ned resembles a typical candidate. As his pursuit of Anna and their child moves from threatening to criminal, Ned begins to alter his wife's world in ways she never could have imagined. A double-edged and satisfying story with a strong female protagonist, a thrilling plot, and a creeping sense of the apocalyptic, *Sweet Lamb of Heaven* builds to a shattering ending with profound implications for its characters—and for all of us.

THE IMPOSSIBLY

A NOVEL

Coffee House Press The book that launched the literary noir movement--in paperback for the first time.

TRENTON MAKES

A NOVEL

Anchor In 1946, in the hardscrabble industrial city of Trenton, New Jersey, a woman kills her army veteran husband in a domestic brawl—and then assumes his identity. As Abe Kunstler, he secures a factory job, buys a car, and successfully woos a young woman with whom he makes a home. But for Abe, this is not enough: to complete his transformation, he needs a son. Fast-forward to 1971, and the certainties of midcentury triumphalism are a distant, bitter memory, Trenton's heyday as a factory town is long past, and the family life Abe has so carefully constructed is crumbling under the intolerable pressures of his long ruse. Written in brilliantly stylized prose, *Trenton Makes* is the indelibly told story of a woman determined to carve out her share of the American Dream.

SKIN TAX

Heyday The author's poetry is immersed in themes of love, desire, male sexuality, violence, and machismo. It mixes the sharp, taut sounds of a performance poet with a lyricism grounded in the realities of California's Great Central Valley.

IN THE HOUSE IN THE DARK OF THE WOODS

Little, Brown The eerie, disturbing story of one of our perennial fascinations--witchcraft in colonial America--wrapped up in a lyrical novel of psychological suspense. "Once upon a time there was and there wasn't a woman who went to the woods." In this horror story set in colonial New England, a law-abiding Puritan woman goes missing. Or perhaps she has fled or abandoned her family. Or perhaps she's been kidnapped, and set loose to wander in the dense woods of the north. Alone and possibly lost, she meets another woman in the forest. Then everything changes. On a journey that will take her through dark woods full of almost-human wolves, through a deep well wet with the screams of men, and on a living ship made of human bones, our heroine may find that the evil she flees has been inside her all along. In the House in the Dark of the Woods is a novel of psychological horror and suspense told in Laird Hunt's characteristically lyrical prose style. It is the story of a bewitching, a betrayal, a master huntress and her quarry. It is a story of anger, of evil, of hatred and of redemption. It is the story of a haunting, a story that makes up the bedrock of American mythology, but told in a vivid way you will never forget.

THE FIRE BY NIGHT

A NOVEL

HarperCollins The International Bestseller! A powerful and evocative debut novel about two American military nurses during World War II that illuminates the unsung heroism of women who risked their lives in the fight—a riveting saga of friendship, valor, sacrifice, and survival combining the grit and selflessness of *Band of Brothers* with the emotional resonance of *The Nightingale*. In war-torn France, Jo McMahon, an Italian-Irish girl from the tenements of Brooklyn, tends to six seriously wounded soldiers in a makeshift medical unit. Enemy bombs have destroyed her hospital convoy, and now Jo singlehandedly struggles to keep her patients and herself alive in a cramped and freezing tent close to German troops. There is a growing tenderness between her and one of her patients, a Scottish officer, but Jo's heart is seared by the pain of all she has lost and seen. Nearing her breaking point, she fights to hold on to joyful memories of the past, to the times she shared with her best friend, Kay, whom she met in nursing school. Half a world away in the Pacific, Kay is trapped in a squalid Japanese POW camp in Manila, one of thousands of Allied men, women, and children whose fates rest in the hands of a sadistic enemy. Far from the familiar safety of the small Pennsylvania coal town of her childhood, Kay clings to memories of her happy days posted in Hawaii, and the handsome flyer who swept her off her feet in the weeks before Pearl Harbor. Surrounded by cruelty and death, Kay battles to maintain her sanity and save lives as best she can . . . and live to see her beloved friend Jo once more. When the conflict at last comes to an end, Jo and Kay discover that to achieve their own peace, they must find their place—and the hope of love—in a world that's forever changed. With rich, superbly researched detail, Teresa Messineo's thrilling novel brings to life the pain and uncertainty of war and the sustaining power of love and friendship, and illuminates the lives of the women who risked everything to save others during a horrifying time.

THE SLEEPING WORLD

A NOVEL

Simon and Schuster In this “astonishing and haunting debut” (Publishers Weekly), a young woman searching for her lost brother is willing to risk everything amidst the riots, protests, and uprisings of post-Franco Spain. Spain, 1977. Military rule is over. Bootleg punk music oozes out of illegal basement bars, uprisings spread across towns, fascists fight anarchists for political control, and students perform protest art in the city center, rioting against the old government, the undecided new order, against the universities, against themselves... Mosca is an intelligent, disillusioned university student, whose younger brother is among the “disappeared,” taken by the police two years ago, now presumed dead. Spurred by the turmoil around them, Mosca and her friends commit an act that carries their rebellion too far and sends them spiraling out of their provincial hometown. But the further they go, the more Mosca believes her brother is alive and the more she is willing to do to find him. The Sleeping World is a “searing, beautifully written” (Cristina Garcia, author of *Dreaming in Cuban*) and daring novel about youth, freedom, and our most visceral need: to keep our loved ones safe.

WE THAT ARE LEFT

A NOVEL

HMH A saga of a British family and the Great War from “one of those writers who can see into the past and help us feel its texture” (Hilary Mantel). Growing up at Ellinghurst, their crumbling family estate, all three Melville children dream of escape. Headstrong Jessica yearns for the glitter and glamour of London, while Phyllis longs to attend university. The adored Theo, meanwhile, eclipses everyone around him. But none of the children take much notice of Oskar Grunewald, their mother's science-obsessed godson, who seeks refuge in Ellinghurst's enormous library. Then the cataclysm of the Great War devastates the Melvilles' lives and reshapes their futures, and Jessica and Phyllis must forge new paths in a world that no longer plays by the old rules. As Oskar is drawn reluctantly back into the Melville family fold, his life entwines with theirs in ways that will transform them forever. One of the Washington Post's Notable Fiction Books of 2015 and a New York Times Editor's Choice, *We That Are Left* is “[a] lavishly detailed historical novel that doesn't just recreate the past but alters your perception of it” (The New York Times Book Review).

THE BLOOD OF HEAVEN

Atlantic Books Ltd It is 1861, and Angel Woolsack is a Confederate about to breathe his last, as the Union forces make their inexorable approach. Rejected by his wife, his wealth no longer useful to him, he sets about recording his testament. His story is that of a preacher's son, who flees the hardscrabble life of his itinerant father and falls in with a charismatic highwayman. The novel moves from the bordellos of Natchez to the Mississippi plantations, and finally to the back rooms of New Orleans where would-be revolutionaries are plotting to break away from the young United States. The Blood of Heaven is a remarkable portrait of a young man seizing his place in a violent new world.

UNDERGROUND AIRLINES

Mulholland Books The bestselling book that asks the question: what would present-day America look like if the Civil War never happened? A New York Times bestseller; a Goodreads Choice finalist; named one of the Best Books of the Year by NPR, Slate, Publishers Weekly, Hudson Bookseller, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Kirkus Reviews, AudioFile Magazine, and Amazon A young black man calling himself Victor has struck a bargain with federal law enforcement, working as a bounty hunter for the US Marshall Service in exchange for his freedom. He's got plenty of work. In this version of America, slavery continues in four states called "the Hard Four." On the trail of a runaway known as Jackdaw, Victor arrives in Indianapolis knowing that something isn't right--with the case file, with his work, and with the country itself. As he works to infiltrate the local cell of a abolitionist movement called the Underground Airlines, tracking Jackdaw through the back rooms of churches, empty parking garages, hotels, and medical offices, Victor believes he's hot on the trail. But his strange, increasingly uncanny pursuit is complicated by a boss who won't reveal the extraordinary stakes of Jackdaw's case, as well as by a heartbreaking young woman and her child--who may be Victor's salvation. Victor believes himself to be a good man doing bad work, unwilling to give up the freedom he has worked so hard to earn. But in pursuing Jackdaw, Victor discovers secrets at the core of the country's arrangement with the Hard Four, secrets the government will preserve at any cost. *Underground Airlines* is a ground-breaking novel, a wickedly imaginative thriller, and a story of an America that is more like our own than we'd like to believe.

WOMAN IN BATTLE DRESS

City Lights Publishers Finalist for the 2016 PEN Center USA Award for Translation In 1809, at the age of eighteen, Henriette Faber enrolled herself in medical school in Paris—and since medicine was a profession prohibited to women, she changed her name to Henri in order to matriculate. She would spend the next fifteen years practicing medicine and living as a man. Drafted to serve as a surgeon in Napoleon's army, Faber endured the horrors of the 1812 retreat across Russia. She later embarked to the Caribbean and set up a medical practice in a remote Cuban village, where she married Juana de León, an impoverished local. Three years into their marriage, de León turned Faber in to the authorities, demanding that the marriage be annulled. A sensational legal trial ensued, and Faber was stripped of her medical license, forced to dress as a woman, sentenced to prison, and ultimately sent into exile. She was last seen on a boat headed to New Orleans in 1827. In this, his last published work, Antonio Benítez Rojo takes the outline provided by historical events and weaves a richly detailed backdrop for Faber, who becomes a vivid and complex figure grappling with the strictures of her time. *Woman in Battle Dress* is a sweeping, ambitious epic, in which Henriette Faber tells the story of her life, a compelling,

entertaining, and ultimately triumphant tale. Praise for *Woman in Battle Dress* "Woman in Battle Dress by Antonio Benítez-Rojo, which has been beautifully translated from the Spanish by Jessica Ernst Powell, is the extraordinary account of an extraordinary person. Benítez-Rojo blows great gusts of fascinating fictional wind onto the all but forgotten embers of the actual Henriette Faber, and this blazing tale of her adventures as a military surgeon and a husband and about a hundred other fascinating things is both something we want and need to hear."—Laird Hunt, author of *Neverhome* "A picaresque novel starring an adventurous heroine, who caroms from country to country around the expanding Napoleonic empire, hooking up with a dazzling array of men (and women) as she goes. A wild ride!"—Carmen Boullosa, author of *Texas: The Great Theft* "As detailed as any work of history and as action filled as any swashbuckler, *Woman in Battle Dress* is not only Antonio Benítez Rojo's last and most ambitious book, but also his masterpiece. In this graceful English translation of Henriette Faber's autobiography—more than fiction, less than fact—American readers will have access to one of the most engaging novels to come out of Latin America in recent years."—Gustavo Pérez-Firmat, Columbia University Antonio Benítez-Rojo (1931-2005) was a Cuban novelist, essayist and short-story writer. He was widely regarded as the most significant Cuban author of his generation. His work has been translated into nine languages and collected in more than 50 anthologies. One of his most influential publications, *La Isla que se Repite*, was published in 1989 by Ediciones del Norte, and published in English as *The Repeating Island* by Duke University Press in 1997. Jessica Powell has translated numerous Latin American authors, including works by César Vallejo, Jorge Luis Borges, Ernesto Cardenal, María Moreno, Ana Lidia Vega Serova and Edmundo Paz Soldán. Her translation (with Suzanne Jill Levine) of Adolfo Bioy Casares and Silvina Ocampo's novel *Where There's Love, There's Hate*, was published by Melville House in 2013. She is the recipient of a 2011 National Endowment for the Arts Translation Fellowship in support of her translation of Antonio Benítez Rojo's novel *Woman in Battle Dress*.

THE NEW INHERITORS

A NOVEL

Grove Press **The acclaimed author of *The Blood of Heaven* and *Secessia* “delivers a lyrical, emotionally charged study of life along the Gulf Coast a century past” (Kirkus Reviews). In 1914, with the world on the brink of war, Isaac, a nature-loving artist whose past is mysterious to all, including himself, meets Kemper, a defiant heiress caught in the rivalry between her brothers. Kemper’s older brother Angel is hiding a terrible secret about his sexuality, and her younger brother Red possesses a capacity for violence that frightens even the members of his own brutal family. Together Isaac and Kemper build a refuge on their beloved, wild, Gulf Coast. But their paradise is short-lived; as the coast is rocked by the storms of summer, the country is gripped by the furor preceding World War I, and the Woolsack family’s rivalries come to a bloody head. From the breathtaking beauty of the Gulf to the bloody havoc wreaked by the United States in Latin America, *The New Inheritors* explores the beauty and burden of what is handed down to us all. At once a love story and a family drama, a novel of nature and a novel of war, *The New Inheritors* traces a family whose life is intimately tied to the Gulf, that most disputed, threatened, and haunted part of this country we call America. “One of the darkest, most compelling writerly imaginations around.”—*New Orleans Advocate* “The third mesmerizing historical novel by Kent Wascom . . . His style and subjects echo great Southern writers like William Faulkner and Harry Crews, continuing a tradition of recounting terrible things in deliriously beautiful language.”—*Tampa Bay Times***

THE GIFT OF RAIN

A NOVEL

Hachette Books **In the tradition of celebrated wartime storytellers Somerset Maugham and Graham Greene, Tan Twan Eng's debut novel casts a powerful spell. The recipient of extraordinary acclaim from critics and the bookselling community, Tan Twan Eng's debut novel casts a powerful spell and has garnered comparisons to celebrated wartime storytellers Somerset Maugham and Graham Greene. Set during the tumult of World War II, on the lush Malayan island of Penang, *The Gift of Rain* tells a riveting and poignant tale about a young man caught in the tangle of wartime loyalties and deceptions. In 1939, sixteen-year-old Philip Hutton—the half-Chinese, half-English youngest child of the head of one of Penang's great trading families—feels alienated from both the Chinese and British communities. He at last discovers a sense of belonging in his unexpected friendship with Hayato Endo, a Japanese diplomat. Philip proudly shows his new friend around his adored island, and in return Endo teaches him about Japanese language and culture and trains him in the art and discipline of aikido. But such knowledge comes at a terrible price. When the Japanese savagely invade Malaya, Philip realizes that his mentor and sensei—to whom he owes absolute loyalty—is a Japanese spy. Young Philip has been an unwitting traitor, and must now work in secret to save as many lives as possible, even as his own family is brought to its knees.**

THE LOVE SONG OF MISS QUEENIE HENNESSY

A NOVEL

Random House **From the New York Times bestselling author of *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* comes an exquisite love story about Queenie Hennessy, the remarkable friend who inspired Harold's cross-country journey. “This lovely book is full of joy. Much more than the story of a woman's enduring love for an ordinary, flawed man, it's an ode to messy, imperfect, glorious, unsung humanity.”—The Washington Post A runaway international bestseller, *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* followed its unassuming hero on an incredible journey as he traveled the length of England on foot—a journey spurred by a simple letter from his old friend Queenie Hennessy, writing from a hospice to say goodbye. Harold believed that as long as he kept walking, Queenie would live. What he didn't know was that his decision to walk had caused her both alarm and fear. How could she wait? What would she say? Forced to confront the past, Queenie realizes she must write again. In this poignant parallel story to Harold's saga, acclaimed author Rachel Joyce brings Queenie Hennessy's voice into sharp focus. Setting pen to paper, Queenie makes a journey of her own, a journey that is even bigger than Harold's; one word after another, she promises to confess long-buried truths—about her modest childhood, her studies at Oxford, the heartbreak that brought her to Kingsbridge and to loving Harold, her friendship with his son, the solace she has found in a garden by the sea. And, finally, the devastating secret she has kept from Harold for all these years. A wise, tender, layered novel that gathers tremendous emotional force, *The Love Song of Miss Queenie Hennessy* underscores the resilience of the human spirit, beautifully illuminating the small yet pivotal moments that can change a person's life.**

HEADS OF THE COLORED PEOPLE

STORIES

Simon and Schuster ***Winner of the PEN Open Book Award* *Winner of the Whiting Award* *Longlisted for the 2018 National Book Award and Aspen Words Literary Prize* *Nominated for the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize* *Finalist for the Kirkus Prize and Los Angeles Times Book Prize* Included in Best Books of 2018 Lists from Refinery29, NPR, The Root, HuffPost, Vanity Fair, Bustle, Chicago Tribune, PopSugar, and The Undeclared. In one of the season's most acclaimed works of fiction—longlisted for the National Book Award and winner of the PEN Open Book Award—Nafissa Thompson-Spires offers “a firecracker of a book...a triumph of storytelling: intelligent, acerbic, and ingenious” (Financial Times). Nafissa Thompson-Spires grapples with race, identity politics, and the contemporary middle class in this “vivid, fast, funny, way-smart, and verbally inventive” (George Saunders, author of *Lincoln in the Bardo*) collection. Each captivating story plunges headfirst into the lives of utterly original characters. Some are darkly humorous—two mothers exchanging snide remarks through notes in their kids' backpacks—while others are devastatingly poignant. In the title story, when a cosplayer, dressed as his favorite anime character, is mistaken for a violent threat the consequences are dire; in another story, a teen struggles between her upper middle class upbringing and her desire to fully connect with so-called black culture. Thompson-Spires fearlessly shines a light on the simmering tensions and precariousness of black citizenship. Boldly resisting categorization and easy answers, Nafissa Thompson-Spires “has taken the best of what Toni Cade Bambara, Morgan Parker, and Junot Díaz do plus a whole lot of something we've never seen in American literature, blended it all together...giving us one of the finest short-story collections” (Kiese Laymon, author of *Long Division*).**

UNDERGROUND FUGUE

A NOVEL

Melville House **Esther, an American recovering from the death of her adolescent son and seeming dissolution of her marriage moves to London to care for her dying mother; Lonia, Esther's mother, is haunted by memories of fleeing Czechoslovakia on the eve of World**

War II; Javad, their next-door neighbour and an Iranian neuroscientist, struggles to connect with his college-aged son; and Javad's son, Amir, a self-defined urban explorer seeks identity and escape from his parents' bickering. As Esther settles into her new life in London, she becomes fascinated by her neighbours - attracted to Javad and reminded of her own son by Amir. After the 7/7 terrorist attack, Esther 'betrays' Amir to the local police. But Amir is no terrorist, and ultimately Esther must confront the consequences of her actions, and their connection to the story of her mother's past. A powerful and moving novel set against the 7/7 London bombings, *Underground Fugue* skillfully weaves the stories of four very different characters to f

THE STORY OF A BRIEF MARRIAGE

A NOVEL

Flatiron Books Shortlisted for the Dylan Thomas Prize “Brave...Brilliant...This is a book that makes one kneel before the elegance of the human spirit and the yearning that is at the essence of every life.” —The New York Times Book Review "One of the best books I have read in years." —Colm Toibin Two and a half decades into a devastating civil war, Sri Lanka's Tamil minority is pushed inexorably towards the coast by the advancing army. Amongst the evacuees is Dinesh, whose world has contracted to a makeshift camp where time is measured by the shells that fall around him like clockwork. Alienated from family, home, language, and body, he exists in a state of mute acceptance, numb to the violence around him, till he is approached one morning by an old man who makes an unexpected proposal: that Dinesh marry his daughter, Ganga. Marriage, in this world, is an attempt at safety, like the beached fishing boat under which Dinesh huddles during the bombings. As a couple, they would be less likely to be conscripted to fight for the rebels, and less likely to be abused in the case of an army victory. Thrust into this situation of strange intimacy and dependence, Dinesh and Ganga try to come to terms with everything that has happened, hesitantly attempting to awaken to themselves and to one another before the war closes over them once more. Anuk Arudpragasam's *The Story of a Brief Marriage* is a feat of extraordinary sensitivity and imagination, a meditation on the fundamental elements of human existence—eating, sleeping, washing, touching, speaking—that give us direction and purpose, even as the world around us collapses. Set over the course of a single day and night, this unflinching debut confronts marriage and war, life and death, bestowing on its subjects the highest dignity, however briefly.

LIAR, TEMPTRESS, SOLDIER, SPY

FOUR WOMEN UNDERCOVER IN THE CIVIL WAR

Harper Collins Karen Abbott, the New York Times bestselling author of *Sin in the Second City* and “pioneer of sizzle history” (*USA Today*), tells the spellbinding true story of four women who risked everything to become spies during the Civil War. Karen Abbott illuminates one of the most fascinating yet little known aspects of the Civil War: the stories of four courageous women—a socialite, a farmgirl, an abolitionist, and a widow—who were spies. After shooting a Union soldier in her front hall with a pocket pistol, Belle Boyd became a courier and spy for the Confederate army, using her charms to seduce men on both sides. Emma Edmonds cut off her hair and assumed the identity of a man to enlist as a Union private, witnessing the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. The beautiful widow, Rose O’Neale Greenhow, engaged in affairs with powerful Northern politicians to gather intelligence for the Confederacy, and used her young daughter to send information to Southern generals. Elizabeth Van Lew, a wealthy Richmond abolitionist, hid behind her proper Southern manners as she orchestrated a far-reaching espionage ring, right under the noses of suspicious rebel detectives. Using a wealth of primary source material and interviews with the spies’ descendants, Abbott seamlessly weaves the adventures of these four heroines throughout the tumultuous years of the war. With a cast of real-life characters including Walt Whitman, Nathaniel Hawthorne, General Stonewall Jackson, detective Allan Pinkerton, Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln, and Emperor Napoleon III, *Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy* draws you into the war as these daring women lived it. *Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy* contains 39 black & photos and 3 maps.

EAGLES AT WAR

Random House ONLY THE GODS CAN SAVE THE ROMANS NOW AD 9, Germania. East of the river Rhine, tribes hostile to Rome prepare a deadly ambush. Their leader is the charismatic chieftain and trusted ally of Rome, Arminius, whose dream is to drive out the brutal invaders of his land. Pitted against him are veteran centurion Lucius Tullus and the Roman provincial governor, Varus. Together with three local legions, they leave their summer camp to begin the march back to the Roman forts on the Rhine. They have no idea that in the forests and bog of the Teutoburg, mud, slaughter and bloody death await ... ‘This is historical fiction at its best’ *Sunday Express* ‘Held me spellbound to its spectacular bloody end’ Manda Scott ‘Gripping, brutal, brilliant’ Giles Kristian

THE STRIPED TUNIC TRILOGY

RAY OF THE STAR

A NOVEL

Coffee House Press Two lost souls searching for meaning in this moving, dreamlike novel of from “one of the most talented young writers on the American scene today” (Paul Auster). Determined to find his place in the world, Harry ventures to a vibrant European city that has roots both in the present and past. There, he is drawn to the boulevard—and especially to Solange, a silent, silver angel awash in Lucite tears and heartbreak. A love story related in the dark, stylish noir of continental cinema and overlaid with a patina of surrealism, this is a novel where friends are also informers, street theater is the lifeblood of culture, and refuge can be found in the belly of a yellow, papier-mâché submarine. As Harry and Solange reckon with seers offering answers to insoluble questions, neighbors who take evening strolls with the dearly departed, critics who control more than artistic fate, and shoes determined to lead their wearers astray, they come to understand the price of survival—and come to a reckoning with their tragic pasts.

ORION YOU CAME AND YOU TOOK ALL MY MARBLES

Milkweed Editions Immediately captivating, *Orion You Came and You Took All My Marbles* introduces readers to Finley, an investigator of indiscernible origins and prowess who is assigned to a mysterious Professor Uppal and his puppets. The nature of the investigation isn’t clear, but Finley nonetheless forges ahead, with occasional assistance from her colleagues Murphy, The Lamb, and Binelli, as well as the professor’s beautiful daughter and her sinister boyfriend. The investigation circles in on itself until Finley realizes that she may be close to discovering the truth about her forgotten life. Both whimsical and deeply serious, *Orion You Came and You Took All My Marbles* casts a shadow that touches on literary novels, noir, and philosophical pursuits, bringing them all into the singularity of existence itself.

TWO NOVELS: JEALOUSY AND IN THE LABYRINTH

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. Here, in one volume, are two remarkable novels by the chief spokesman of the so-called “new novel” which has caused such discussion and aroused such controversy. “Jealousy,” said the New York Times Book Review “is a technical masterpiece, impeccably contrived.” “It is an exhilarating challenge,” said the San Francisco Chronicle. The Times Literary Supplement of London called Robbe-Grillet an “incomparable artist” and the Guardian termed *Jealousy* “an extraordinary book.” In his native France, leading critic Maurice Nadeau wrote in *France-Observateur* that “In the Labyrinth is better than an excellent novel: it is a great work of literature,” and fellow novelist and critic Claude Roy judged the same work Robbe-Grillet’s “best book,” while here in America the “Parade of Books” column called *In the Labyrinth* “a highly emotional experience for the reader” and went on to predict: “Robbe-Grillet will take his place in world literature as a successor of Balzac and Proust.” This volume, which offers incisive essays on Robbe-Grillet by Professor Bruce Morrissette of the University of Chicago and by French critics Roland Barthes and Anne Minor, also contains a helpful bibliography of writings by and about the author.

KING DORK

Delacorte Press As John Green, New York Times bestselling author of *The Fault in Our Stars* said, “King Dork will rock your world.” The cult favorite from Frank Portman, aka Dr. Frank of the Mr. T. Experience, is a book like nothing ever done before--King Dork literally has something for everyone: At least a half-dozen mysteries, love, mistaken identity, girls, monks, books, blood, bubblegum, and rock and roll. This book is based on music--a passion most kids have--and it has original (hilarious) songs and song lyrics throughout. When Tom Henderson finds his deceased father’s copy of J. D. Salinger’s *The Catcher in the Rye*, his world is turned upside down. Suddenly high school gets more complicated: Tom (aka King Dork) is in the middle of at least half a dozen mysteries involving dead people,

naked people, fake people, a secret code, girls, and rock and roll. As he goes through sophomore year, he finds clues that may very well solve the puzzle of his father's death and—oddly—reveal the secret to attracting semi-hot girls (the secret might be being in a band, if he can find a drummer who can count to four. A brilliant story told in first person, *King Dork* includes a glossary and a bandography, which readers will find helpful and hilarious. Praise for *King Dork*: “Basically, if you are a human being with even a vague grasp of the English language, *King Dork*, will rock your world.”—John Green, author of *The Fault in Our Stars* “[No account of high school] has made me laugh more than *King Dork*. . . . Grade A.”—*Entertainment Weekly* “Impossibly brilliant.”—*Time* “Provides a window into what it would be like if Holden Caulfield read *The Catcher in the Rye*.”—*New York Post* [STAR] “Original, heartfelt, and sparkling with wit and intelligence. This novel will linger long in readers’ memories.”—*School Library Journal*, Starred [STAR] “A biting and witty high-school satire.”—*Kirkus Reviews*, Starred [STAR] “Tom’s narration is piercingly satirical and acidly witty.”—*The Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books*, Starred “Loaded with sharp and offbeat humor.”—*USA Today* “*King Dork* is smart, funny, occasionally raunchy and refreshingly clear about what it’s like to be in high school.”—*San Francisco Chronicle* “*King Dork*: Best Punk Rock Book Ever.”—*The Village Voice* “I love this book as much as I hated high school, and that’s some of the highest praise I can possibly give.”—*Bookslut.com*

LOQUELA

Open Letter Books Originally published in Spanish as 'Locuela.'

THE BOOK OF I

"In a French village, painter Teaston has witnessed a woman's fatal jump off a nearby cliff. Growing lost in the 'whiteness' of his schizophrenia, he paints out the faces on his canvases, searching for the 'holes where eyes could fall in'."--Page 4 of cover.

POISONED APPLES

POEMS FOR YOU, MY PRETTY

Harper Collins Every little girl goes through her princess phase, whether she wants to be Snow White or Cinderella, Belle or Ariel. But then we grow up. And life is not a fairy tale. Christine Heppermann's collection of fifty poems puts the ideals of fairy tales right beside the life of the modern teenage girl. With piercing truths reminiscent of Laurie R. King and Ellen Hopkins, this is a powerful and provocative book for every young woman. E. Lockhart, author of *We Were Liars*, calls it "a bloody poetic attack on the beauty myth that's caustic, funny, and heartbreaking." Cruelties come not just from wicked stepmothers, but also from ourselves. There are expectations, pressures, judgment, and criticism. Self-doubt and self-confidence. But there are also friends, and sisters, and a whole hell of a lot of power there for the taking. In fifty poems, Christine Heppermann confronts society head on. Using fairy tale characters and tropes, *Poisoned Apples* explores how girls are taught to think about themselves, their bodies, and their friends. The poems range from contemporary retellings to first-person accounts set within the original tales, and from deadly funny to deadly serious. Complemented throughout with black-and-white photographs from up-and-coming artists, this is a stunning and sophisticated book to be treasured, shared, and paged through again and again.

THE SECOND DETECTIVE

"The Second Detective is a deliriously entertaining reimagining of the hard-boiled detective novel, featuring a mysterious narrator, a missing husband, and a lascivious mountain goat with interspecies interests."--

THE PROCESSION OF MOLLUSKS

Fiction. "Murder is afoot, or aslither, in Newport Bay, the setting for Eric Olson's bracingly odd, darkly infolding tale of a Pacific Northwest hamlet where the shellfish have come up to take the air, the townspeople are turning very strange and the television cameras are rolling. *Twin Peaks* meets *The Living Planet* (with a dash of *Groundhog Day*) in this brilliant debut--Olson is off to an exciting start"--Laird Hunt.