
Download Ebook The Honey Thief Najaf Mazari

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THE HONEY THIEF

FICTION

[Penguin](#) This enchanting novel of interwoven legends burns with both gentle intelligence and human warmth This extraordinary book, derived from the long oral tradition of storytelling in Afghanistan, presents a mesmerizing portrait of a people who triumph with intelligence and humor over the oppressions of political dictators and an unforgiving landscape. A musician conjures stones to rise in the air and teaches his art to a mute child. Master Poisoner, Ghorooob of Mashad, has so perfected his craft that it is considered an honor to die from his meals. These are stories of magic and wonder in which ordinary people endure astonishing extremes in a world of bloodshed and brotherhood, miracles and catastrophes. With lyrical wit and profound simplicity, The Honey Thief reveals an Afghanistan of greater richness and humanity than is conveyed in newspaper headlines; an Afghanistan not of failure and despair, but of resilience and fulfillment.

THE HONEY THIEF

[Viking Press](#) A culturally evocative collection of tales inspired by the legends and storytelling traditions of Afghanistan features characters who use intelligence and humor to overcome the oppressions of political dictators and an unforgiving landscape, from a musician who teaches magic to a mute child to a master poisoner who honors others by serving them deadly meals.

THE RUGMAKER OF MAZAR-E-SHARIF

[Wild Dingo Press](#) This moving and poignant work gives the reader a rare insight into the contented 'milk and honey' life of a simple Afghan family before the civil war ripped their country apart. The lives and centuries-old livelihood of farmers, craftsmen and small business owners were destroyed in just weeks and months. As a member of the Hazara tribe, hated and targeted by the Taliban, Najaf was forced to flee the brutal attacks on his people when the Northern Alliance fell to the advancing Taliban insurgents. His flight to Pakistan, from there to Indonesia, then by boat to Australia, ends with incarceration in Woomera, where the story begins. From the compelling opening sentence to the beautiful final chapter, Najaf's integrity, his extraordinary optimism and his generosity of spirit will win the hearts and minds of all readers.

THE HONEY THIEF

Caught shop-lifting after her father's death, 11-year-old Eva and her mother have moved out of Manhattan to start a new life. She is befriended by Burl, a local beekeeper who shares his bee lore and throws light on the the deepest of family secrets.

THE BOOKSHOP OF THE BROKEN HEARTED

A NOVEL

[Penguin](#) Can one unlikely bookshop heal two broken souls? "Beautifully written . . . Full of insight into the nature of tragedy, love, and redemption."--Garth Stein "A poignant journey of unthinkable loss, love, and the healing capacity of the written word."--Ellen Keith It is 1968 in rural Australia and lonely Tom Hope can't make heads or tails of Hannah Babel. Newly arrived from Hungary, Hannah is unlike anyone he's ever met--she's passionate, artistic, and fiercely determined to open sleepy Hometown's first bookshop. Despite the fact that Tom has read only one book in his life, the two soon discover an astonishing spark. Recently abandoned by an unfaithful wife, Tom dares to believe that he might make Hannah happy. But Hannah is a haunted woman. Twenty-four years earlier, she had been marched to the gates of Auschwitz. Perfect for fans of The Little Paris Bookshop and We Were the Lucky Ones, The Bookshop of the Broken Hearted cherishes the power of love, literature, and forgiveness to transform our lives, and--if we dare allow them--to mend our broken hearts.

THE BRIDE OF ALMOND TREE

[Text Publishing](#) A love story about loyalty, belief and idealism, set against the epic sweep of twentieth-century history.

MY LIFE AS A TRAITOR

[A&C Black](#) It was part youthful zeal and part teen crush that led Zarah Ghahramani to join a student protest movement. But dabbling in student politics was to lead to disaster when one day she was bundled into a car and taken to Tehran's most notorious prison: Evin. Far from her comfortable middle-class home, Zarah had to find refuge from her ruthless interrogators in a windowless concrete cell. Day after day she was humiliated and viciously beaten until all she wanted was simply to die, her spirit broken. In My Life as a Traitor, Zarah tells the story of her horrifying ordeal and her eventual release, and describes the ways it changed the naïve nineteen-year-old she once was into a woman of courage and determination.

EVERLASTING SUNDAY

[Univ. of Queensland Press](#) England, 1962. Seventeen-year-old Radford arrives at Goodwin Manor, a home for boys who have 'been found by trouble'. Watched over by the enigmatic Teddy, life at the Manor offers a fragile peace at best, as the coldest winter in three centuries sets in. Radford learns that the boys are to care for each other, since their families and the law have been unable to do so. But will this be enough when tragedy strikes? At once both beautiful and brutal, The Everlasting Sunday is an unforgettable debut novel about growing up, growing wild and the shifting nature of friendship.

I AM CHINA

A NOVEL

[Anchor](#) Rock 'n' roll, revolution, and romance are seductively woven together in this intense and moving novel from the author of Twenty Fragments of a Ravenous Youth In her flat in north London, Iona Kirkpatrick sets to work on a new project translating a collection of

letters and diaries by a Chinese musician. With each letter and journal entry, Iona becomes more and more intrigued with the unfolding story of two lovers: Jian, a punk rocker who believes there is no art without political commitment, and Mu, the young woman he loves as fiercely as his ideals. Iona cannot possibly know that Jian is mere miles away in Dover, awaiting the uncertain fate of a political exile. Mu is still in Beijing, writing letters to London and desperately trying to track Jian down. As Iona charts the course of their twenty-year relationship, from its early beginnings at Beijing University to Jian's defiant march in the Jasmine Revolution, her own empty life takes on an urgent purpose: to bring Jian and Mu together again before it's too late.

THE BOY IN THE GREEN SUIT

A MEMOIR

[Scribe Publications](#) Here is an unusual and beautifully written Australian memoir destined to become a classic that captures the vulnerability and ardour of youth, and the fragility and strength of parental love. It is 1965. Robert Hillman, a mere 16 years old, is planning an extraordinary adventure. Deserted by his mother, disliked by his stepmother, and puzzled by his father, Bobby needs comforting. His life in rural Victoria has offered no solace; his job at Melbourne's Myer Emporium, selling ladies' slippers, offers no prospects. So he does what any confused and lonely teenager would do: he escapes. Boarding a ship bound for Ceylon, he begins his search for paradise, inspired by his father's stories of a fabled island in the Indian Ocean. Bobby sets sail in a green suit, carrying a suitcase full of books and a typewriter. He has no money, no return ticket and, seemingly, no worries. He imagines the island he is heading for to be inhabited by beautiful, full-breasted women who will caress him while he writes prize-winning stories in the style of Chekhov. What follows is an account by turns heart-breakingly tender and side-splittingly funny of an innocent abroad. Put ashore not in Ceylon but in Athens, Bobby barter his way to Istanbul, Tehran, and Kuwait, lurching from slums and brothels to an implausible job at a ritzy hotel in Shiraz. Finally, a long haul through the desert ends in a jail term on the Pakistan border where, ironically, he finds the affection and acceptance that have always been the true objects of his quest. All the while, Hillman's odyssey has been part of a larger family drama. Woven through his story is his father's tale of struggle and sorrow. As the mature writer now realises, 'I booked a ticket on a ship to install myself in a story my father had begun in his imagination.' The Boy in the Green Suit is an unforgettable, bitter-sweet tale of the artist as a bewildered young man.

AN IDEAL MARRIAGE?

[Harlequin](#) The trophy wife When Gabbi married Benedict Nicols, it was the wedding of the decade, uniting two prominent, wealthy families. To the outside world, it seemed the perfect match. No one would guess Gabbi's secret heartache: that she loved her husband, but to him she was simply a social accessory.... Benedict also expected Gabbi to provide him with a son and heir. If she didn't, her glamorous stepsister was only too eager to give Benedict everything he wanted! Suddenly, Gabbi had a fight on her hands to save her marriage.... And Benedict was definitely a man worth fighting for! Helen Bianchin creates "tantalizing sexual tension." —Romantic Times

MALINI: THROUGH MY EYES

[Allen & Unwin](#) Malini lives with her parents and young sister, Banni, in northern Sri Lanka. As the civil war heads towards its catastrophic end, Malini and her family are herded by Tamil Tiger troops towards the coast where they will act as human shields, along with thousands of other Tamil civilians. When Malini's father pushes a mobile phone into her hands and tells her to run off into the forest with Banni, Malini does as she is told. But then the shelling begins, and Malini has no way of finding her mother and father...With the role of parent thrust upon her, Malini has no choice but to travel to her grandfather's village a long way inland. She and Banni will need to keep off the highways and stay alert for soldiers from all sides. But where will the next meal come from? Who can they trust? Where will they shelter? And will they ever be reunited with their parents again?..The uplifting story of one girl's odyssey through war-torn Sri Lanka.

FOCUS ON ENGLISH 9 STUDENT BOOK

THE STORYTELLER'S DAUGHTER

ONE WOMAN'S RETURN TO HER LOST HOMELAND

[Anchor](#) Imagine that a jewel-like garden overlooking Kabul is your ancestral home. Imagine a kitchen made fragrant with saffron strands and cardamom pods simmering in an authentic pilau. Now remember that you were born in London, your family in exile, and that you have never seen Afghanistan in peacetime. These are but the starting points of Saira Shah's memoir, by turns inevitably exotic and unavoidably heartbreaking, in which she explores her family's history in and out of Afghanistan. As an accomplished journalist and documentarian-her film *Beneath the Veil* unflinchingly depicted for CNN viewers the humiliations forced on women under Taliban rule-Shah returned to her family's homeland cloaked in the burqa to witness the pungent and shocking realities of Afghan life. As the daughter of the Sufi fabulist Idries Shah, primed by a lifetime of listening to her father's stories, she eagerly sought out, from the mouths of Afghan refugees in Pakistan, the rich and living myths that still sustain this battered culture of warriors. And she discovered that in Afghanistan all the storytellers have been men-until now.

THE BOOKSELLER OF KABUL

[Back Bay Books](#) The Norwegian journalist provides a portrait of a committed Muslim man and his family living in post-Taliban Kabul, Afghanistan.

THE TUSK THAT DID THE DAMAGE

A NOVEL

[Vintage](#) From the critically acclaimed author of *Atlas of Unknowns* and *Aerogrammes*, a tour de force set in South India that plumbs the moral complexities of the ivory trade through the eyes of a poacher, a documentary filmmaker, and, in a feat of audacious imagination, an infamous elephant known as the Gravedigger. Orphaned by poachers as a calf and sold into a life of labor and exhibition, the Gravedigger breaks free of his chains and begins terrorizing the countryside, earning his name from the humans he kills and then tenderly buries. Manu, the studious younger son of a rice farmer, loses his cousin to the Gravedigger's violence and is drawn, with his wayward brother Jayan, into the sordid, alluring world of poaching. Emma is a young American working on a documentary with her college best friend, who witnesses the porous boundary between conservation and corruption and finds herself in her own moral gray area: a risky affair with the veterinarian who is the film's subject. As the novel hurtles toward its tragic climax, these three storylines fuse into a wrenching meditation on love and betrayal, duty and loyalty, and the vexed relationship between man and nature. With lyricism and suspense, Tania James animates the rural landscapes where Western idealism clashes with local reality; where a farmer's livelihood can be destroyed by a rampaging elephant; where men are driven to poaching. In James' arrestingly beautiful prose, *The Tusk That Did the Damage* blends the mythical and the political to tell a wholly original, utterly contemporary story about the majestic animal, both god and menace, that has mesmerized us for centuries. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

THE SHADOW OF THE CRESCENT MOON

A NOVEL

[Penguin](#) Long-listed for the Baileys Women's Prize for Fiction, a lyrical novel set over the course of one morning in a small town in Pakistan Fatima Bhutto's stunning debut novel chronicles the lives of five young people trying to live and love in a world on fire. Set during the American invasion of Afghanistan, *The Shadow of the Crescent Moon* begins and ends one rain-swept Friday morning in Mir Ali, a small town in Pakistan's Tribal Areas close to the Afghan border. Three brothers meet for breakfast. Soon after, the eldest, Aman Erum, recently returned from America, hails a taxi to the local mosque. Sikandar, a doctor, drives to the hospital where he works, but must first stop to collect his troubled wife, who has not joined the family that morning. No one knows where Mina goes these days. Sikandar

is exhausted by Mina's instability and by the pall of grief that has enveloped his family. But when, later in the morning, the two are taken hostage by members of the Taliban, Mina will prove to be stronger than anyone could have imagined. The youngest of the three leaves for town on a motorbike. An idealist, Hayat holds strong to his deathbed promise to their father—to free Mir Ali from oppressors. Seated behind him is a beautiful, fragile girl whose life and thoughts are overwhelmed by the war that has enveloped the place of her birth. Three hours later their day will end in devastating circumstances. In this beautifully observed novel, individuals are pushed to make terrible choices. And as the events of this single morning unfold, one woman is at the center of it all. Praise for *The Shadow of the Crescent Moon* "Bhutto writes of an extraordinary place where beauty lives alongside brutality, with superb poise and a kind of defiant lyricism." —The Times (UK) "[The Shadow of the Crescent Moon] is... a human story, with love as well as ideology - Bhutto blends the two adroitly (and) writes with great poignancy, keeping the emotional pitch high." —Financial Times

HISTORY OF THE SIKHS: THE SIKH LION OF LAHORE, MAHARAJA RANJIT SINGH, 1799-1839

Munshirm Manoharlal Pub Pvt Limited

BROTHERS OF THE GUN

A MEMOIR OF THE SYRIAN WAR

One World A bracingly immediate memoir by a young man coming of age during the Syrian war, an intimate lens on the century's bloodiest conflict, and a profound meditation on kinship, home, and freedom. A NEW YORK TIMES NOTABLE BOOK • LONGLISTED FOR THE NATIONAL BOOK AWARD • "This powerful memoir, illuminated with Molly Crabapple's extraordinary art, provides a rare lens through which we can see a region in deadly conflict."—Bryan Stevenson, author of *Just Mercy* In 2011, Marwan Hisham and his two friends—fellow working-class college students Nael and Tareq—joined the first protests of the Arab Spring in Syria, in response to a recent massacre. Arm-in-arm they marched, poured Coca-Cola into one another's eyes to blunt the effects of tear gas, ran from the security forces, and cursed the country's president, Bashar al-Assad. It was ecstasy. A long-bottled revolution was finally erupting, and freedom from a brutal dictator seemed, at last, imminent. Five years later, the three young friends were scattered: one now an Islamist revolutionary, another dead at the hands of government soldiers, and the last, Marwan, now a journalist in Turkish exile, trying to find a way back to a homeland reduced to rubble. Marwan was there to witness and document firsthand the Syrian war, from its inception to the present. He watched from the rooftops as regime warplanes bombed soldiers; as revolutionary activist groups, for a few dreamy days, spray-painted hope on Raqqa; as his friends died or threw in their lot with Islamist fighters. He became a journalist by courageously tweeting out news from a city under siege by ISIS, the Russians, and the Americans all at once. He saw the country that ran through his veins—the country that held his hopes, dreams, and fears—be destroyed in front of him, and eventually joined the relentless stream of refugees risking their lives to escape. Illustrated with more than eighty ink drawings by Molly Crabapple that bring to life the beauty and chaos, *Brothers of the Gun* offers a ground-level reflection on the Syrian revolution—and how it bled into international catastrophe and global war. This is a story of pragmatism and idealism, impossible violence and repression, and, even in the midst of war, profound acts of courage, creativity, and hope. "A book of startling emotional power and intellectual depth."—Pankaj Mishra, author of *Age of Anger* and *From the Ruins of Empire* "A revelatory and necessary read on one of the most destructive wars of our time."—Angela Davis

THE MOUSE-PROOF KITCHEN

A NOVEL

Simon and Schuster Preparing to start over in idyllic Provence after learning she is pregnant, Anna and her easygoing musician partner, Tobias, embark on an unexpected journey of the heart when their daughter is born with severe disabilities.

DAY OF HONEY

A MEMOIR OF FOOD, LOVE, AND WAR

Simon and Schuster The author discusses her marriage to a man from Beirut, the bond she forged with her Lebanese in-laws, and how she found love, good food, and a meaningful life, despite dividing her time between wartorn Iraq and Lebanon.

THE DARK ROAD

A NOVEL

Penguin From one of world literature's most courageous voices, a novel about the human cost of China's one-child policy through the lens of one rural family on the run from its reach Far away from the Chinese economic miracle, from the bright lights of Beijing and Shanghai, is a vast rural hinterland, where life goes on much as it has for generations, with one extraordinary difference: "normal" parents are permitted by the state to have only a single child. The Dark Road is the story of one such "normal" family—Meili, a young peasant woman; her husband, Kongzi, a village schoolteacher; and their daughter, Nannan. Kongzi is, according to family myth, a direct lineal descendant of Confucius, and he is haunted by the imperative to carry on the family name by having a son. And so Meili becomes pregnant again without state permission, and when local family planning officials launch a new wave of crackdowns, the family makes the radical decision to leave its village and set out on a small, rickety houseboat down the Yangtze River. There is a dark road, and tragedy awaits them, and horror, but also the fierce beauty born of courageous resistance to injustice and inhumanity. The Dark Road is a haunting and indelible portrait of the tragedies befalling women and families at the hands of China's one-child policy and of the human spirit's capacity to endure even the most brutal cruelty. While Ma Jian wrote *The Dark Road*, he traveled through the rural backwaters of southwestern China to see how the state enforced the one-child policy far from the outside world's prying eyes. He met local women who had been seized from their homes and forced to undergo abortions or sterilization in the policy's name; and on the Yangtze River, he lived among fugitive couples who had gone on the run so they could have more children, that most fundamental of human rights. Like all of Ma Jian's novels, *The Dark Road* is also a celebration of the life force, of the often comically stubborn resilience of man's most basic instincts.

PARADISE PARK

A NOVEL

Dial Press Trade Paperback Allegra Goodman has delighted readers with her critically acclaimed collections *Total Immersion* and *The Family Markowitz*, and her celebrated first novel, *Kaaterskill Falls*, which was a national bestseller and a National Book Award finalist. Abandoned by her folk-dancing partner, Gary, in a Honolulu hotel room, Sharon realizes she could return to Boston—and her estranged family—or listen to that little voice inside herself. The voice that asks: "How come Gary got to pursue his causes, while all I got to pursue was him?" Thus, with an open heart, a soul on fire, and her meager possessions (a guitar, two Indian gauze skirts, a macramé bikini, and her grandfather's silver watch) Sharon begins her own spiritual quest. Ever the optimist, she is sure at each stage that she has struck it rich "spiritually speaking"—until she comes up empty. Then, in a karmic convergence of events, Sharon starts on the path home to Judaism. Still, even as she embraces her tradition, Sharon's irrepressible self tugs at her sleeve. Especially when she meets Mikhail, falls truly in love at last, and discovers what even she could not imagine—her destiny.

THE BOY IN THE GREEN SUIT

AN INNOCENT ABROAD IN THE MIDDLE EAST

Summersdale Publishers A funny and beautifully written travel memoir about the charmed life of an innocent. Robert Hillman, 16, lives a Walter Mitty-esque existence in rural Victoria, Australia. Disliked by his stepmother and misunderstood by his father, Bobby is bored

and lonely. He fantasizes about finding an island paradise in the Indian Ocean inhabited by half-naked women. Inspired by his impossible dream, Bobby sets sail for Ceylon dressed in his best suit, carrying a cardboard suitcase full of books and a typewriter. He has no money, no return ticket and, seemingly, no concerns for his future. Dropping anchor not in Ceylon but Athens, he barter his way through Istanbul, Tehran and Kuwait, lurching from slums to brothels to an implausible job at a hotel in Pakistan and even a fleeting jail term.

GURRUMUL

[HarperCollins Australia](#) This unique Indigenous man is one of the most inspiring music stories of our generation. From concert halls to recording studios and into Aboriginal heartlands, this is the story of Australia's Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu. This unique Indigenous man is one of the most inspiring music stories of our generation. Part road trip, part biography, Robert Hillman's account of Gurrumul's life and music offers rare insights into the sources of his inspiration. The book includes interviews with family and friends, song lyrics and exclusive photographs. His story is one of a great talent revealed and of an astonishing musical gift that has left audiences all over the world spellbound. Part road trip, part biography, Robert Hillman's account of Gurrumul's life and artistry takes you behind the scenes and offers rare insights into the sources of his inspiration. In interviews with family and friends, Gurrumul emerges as a man of his people, shaped by the beliefs, rites and ceremonies of a richly engaging culture.

NORTH OF DAWN

A NOVEL

[Penguin](#) A couple's tranquil life abroad is irrevocably transformed by the arrival of their son's widow and children, in the latest from Somalia's most celebrated novelist. For decades, Gacalo and Mugdi have lived in Oslo, where they've led a peaceful, largely assimilated life and raised two children. Their beloved son, Dhaqaneh, however, is driven by feelings of alienation to jihadism in Somalia, where he kills himself in a suicide attack. The couple reluctantly offers a haven to his family. But on arrival in Oslo, their daughter-in-law cloaks herself even more deeply in religion, while her children hunger for the freedoms of their new homeland, a rift that will have lifealtering consequences for the entire family. Set against the backdrop of real events, North of Dawn is a provocative, devastating story of love, loyalty, and national identity that asks whether it is ever possible to escape a legacy of violence—and if so, at what cost.

ALEXANDER'S BRIDGE

[Library of Alexandria](#)

IN THE VALLEY

STORIES AND A NOVELLA BASED ON SERENA

[Anchor](#) In these ten stories, Rash spins a haunting allegory of the times we live in-- rampant capitalism, the severing of ties to the natural world in the relentless hunt for profit, the destruction of body and soul with pills meant to mute our pain. Yet within this world he illuminates acts of extraordinary decency and heroism. The novella, In the valley, is based on his 2009 novel, Serena. -- adapted from jacket

PANJAB NOTES AND QUERIES

HOW THEY CROAKED

THE AWFUL ENDS OF THE AWFULLY FAMOUS

[Bloomsbury Publishing USA](#) A look at the deaths of several famous people throughout history and the circumstances surrounding those deaths.

THE WASTED VIGIL

[Random House India](#) Marcus Caldwell, an English widower and Muslim convert, lives in an old perfume factory in the shadow of the Tora Bora mountains in Afghanistan. Lara, a Russian woman, arrives at his home one day in search of her brother, a Soviet soldier who disappeared in the area many years previously, and who may have known Marcus's daughter. In the days that follow, further people arrive there, each seeking someone or something. The stories and histories that unfold, interweaving and overlapping, span nearly a quarter of a century and tell of the terrible afflictions that have plagued Afghanistan—as well of the love that can blossom during war and conflict.

THE BLUE ROOM

[Peirene Press](#) A novel about a mother-daughter relationship that will send a chill down your spine. Johanne is a young woman in her twenties who lives with her mother. When she falls in love with Ivar, she finally feels ready to leave home. The couple plan a trip to America. But the morning of her departure, Johanne wakes up to find the door locked. Can she overcome her fears? Will she shout for help? Will she climb out of her fourth floor window? Why Peirene chose to publish this book: 'Everyone who has read Fifty Shades of Grey should read this book. Why? The Blue Room holds up a mirror to a part of the female psyche that yearns for submission. The story shows how erotic fantasies are formed by the relationship with our parents. It then delves further to analyse the struggle of women to separate from their mothers - a struggle that is rarely addressed in either literature or society.' Meike Ziervogel 'A masterpiece of unreliable narration.' Nicholas Lezard, Guardian 'A highly unusual, coolly daring psychological thriller that explores emotional pain and indifference with an unsettling detachment.' Eileen Battersby, Irish Times 'A work of chilling, masterly control.' Laura Profumo, Times Literary Supplement 'Nothing is certain, no motive is clear and no person is above suspicion in Ørstavik's perfectly pitched, tightly stitched and captivating brain-teaser.' Pam Norfolk, Lancashire Evening Post 'Ørstavik treats the everyday and existential with intensity.' Max Liu, Independent 'Psychologically astute and deftly translated . . . A brilliant examination of a woman struggling to own her sexuality, to break free from the guilt and forge her own identity.' Lucy Popescu, Tablet **GUARDIAN PAPERBACKS OF THE YEAR 2014**

ELEVEN DAYS

[Vintage](#) Powerful and lean, Eleven Days is an astonishing first novel full of suspense that addresses our most basic questions about war as it tells of the love between a mother and her son. When the story opens on May 11, 2011, Sara's son, Jason, has been missing for nine days from a Special Operations Forces mission on the same night as the Bin Laden raid. Smart, young, and bohemian, Sara had dreams of an Ivy League university for Jason that were not out of reach, followed by a job on the Hill where there were connections through his father. The events of 9/11 changed Jason's mind and Sara accepted that, steeping herself in all things military to better understand her son's days, while she works as a freelance editor for Washington policy makers and wonks. Now she knows nothing more about Jason's fate than the crowds of well-wishers and media camped out in the driveway in front of her small farmhouse in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania, waiting to hear news. In a series of flashbacks we learn about Jason's dashing absentee father, a man who said he was a writer but whose career seemed to involve being in faraway places. And through letters Jason writes home from his training and early missions, we get a picture of a strong, compassionate leader who is wise beyond his years and modest about his abilities. Those exceptional abilities will give Jason the chance to participate in a wholly different level of assignment, the most important and dangerous of his career. At the end Sara will find herself on an unexpected journey full of surprise. This is a haunting narrative about a mother's bond with her son; about life choices; about the military, war, and service to one's country. Lea Carpenter, a dazzling new talent with the kind of strong and distinctive voice that comes along all too rarely, has given us a thrilling and unforgettable story. This eBook edition includes a Reading Group Guide.

THE GIRL FROM FOREIGN

[Penguin Books India](#) Sadia Shepard Grew Up Just Outside Of Boston, In A Home Where Cultures Intertwined—Her Father A White American Protestant And Her Mother, A Muslim From Pakistan. One Day, When She Was Thirteen, She Learned That Nana, Her Beloved Maternal Grandmother, Was Not A Muslim Like The Rest Of Her Pakistani Family But Had Begun Her Life As Rachel Jacobs, A Member Of A Tiny Jewish Community In India That Believes It Is Descended From One Of The Lost Tribes Of Israel, Shipwrecked In India Over Two Thousand Years Ago. Before Nana Died, Sadia Promised Her Grandmother That She Would Return To Her Birthplace To Learn About The Life And The Faith That Nana Had Left Behind. Armed With A Suitcase Of Camera Equipment, Sadia Arrives In Bombay, Where She Finds Herself Struggling To Document The Bene Israel’s Unique Traditions And Make Sense Of Her Complicated Cultural Inheritance. In The Course Of Her Remarkable Journey She Unearths Long-Buried Family Secrets, Learns That Love Is Sometimes Found In Unusual Places, And Is Forced To Examine What It Means To Both Lose And Seek A Homeland.

WHAT THE BODY REMEMBERS

[Vintage Canada](#) Introducing an eloquent, sensual new Canadian voice that rings out in a first novel that is exquisitely rich and stunningly original. Roop is a sixteen-year-old village girl in the Punjab region of undivided India in 1937 whose family is respectable but poor -- her father is deep in debt and her mother is dead. Innocent and lovely, yet afraid she may not marry well, she is elated when she learns she is to become the second wife of a wealthy Sikh landowner, Sardarji, whose first wife, Satya, has failed to bear him any children. Roop trusts that the strong-willed Satya will treat her as a sister, but their relationship becomes far more ominous and complicated than expected. Roop's tale draws the reader immediately into her world, making the exotic familiar and the family's story startlingly universal, but What the Body Remembers is also very much Satya's story. She is mortified and angry when Sardarji takes Roop for a wife, a woman whose low status Satya takes as an affront to her position, and she adopts desperate measures to maintain her place in society and in her husband's heart. Yet it is also Sardarji's story, as the India he knows and understands -- the temples, cities, villages and countryside, all so vividly evoked -- begins to change. The escalating tensions in his personal life reflect those between Hindu and Muslim that lead to the cleaving of India and trap the Sikhs in a horrifying middle ground. Deeply imbued with the languages, customs and layered history of colonial India, What the Body Remembers is an absolute triumph of storytelling. Never before has a novel of love and partition been told from the point of view of the Sikh minority, never before through Sikh women's eyes. This is a novel to read, treasure and admire that, like its two compelling heroines, resists all efforts to be put aside.

CARROTS AND JAFFAS

[Hybrid Publishers](#) Carrots and Jaffas tells the story of two red-headed identical twins whose oneness is ruptured when one of them is kidnapped. Their startling intimacy is both a strength and a fault line in their being, and once separated, their individuality emerges. In the course of this exhilarating domestic tale set in Melbourne and the Flinders Ranges, the reader encounters the twins' parents - emotional, scripture-quoting Luisa and calm Bernard - as well as two remarkable storytellers, Doc, an eccentric outback doctor and Greta, an Aboriginal elder. Trauma is followed by recovery through the unexpected agency of story and 'country' (in the Australian Aboriginal meaning of that term). Howard Goldenberg is a doctor, writer, marathon runner and Olympic torch bearer. He has written two non-fiction books, My Father's Compass (2007) and Raft (2009). This is his first novel.

THE IN-BETWEEN WORLD OF VIKRAM LALL

[Anchor Canada](#) Giller Prize-winner M.G. Vassanji's The In-Between World of Vikram Lall is a haunting novel of corruption and regret that brings to life the complexity and turbulence of Kenyan society in the last five decades. Rich in sensuous detail and historical insight, this is a powerful story of passionate betrayals and political violence, racial tension and the strictures of tradition, told in elegant, assured prose. The novel begins in 1953, with eight-year-old Vikram Lall a witness to the celebrations around the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II, just as the Mau Mau guerilla war for independence from Britain begins to gain strength. In a land torn apart by idealism, doubt, political upheaval and terrible acts of violence, Vic and his sister Deepa must find their place among a new generation. Neither colonists nor African, neither white nor black, the Indian brother and sister find themselves somewhere in between in their band of playmates: Bill and Annie, British children, and Njoroge, an African boy. These are the relationships that will shape the rest of their lives. We follow Vikram through the changes in East African society, the immense promise of the fifties and sixties. But when that hope is betrayed by the corruption and violence of the following decades, Vic is drawn into the Kenyatta government's orbit of graft and power-broking. Njoroge, his childhood friend, can abandon neither the idealism of his youth nor his love for Vic's sister Deepa. But neither the idealism of the one nor the passive cynicism of the other can avert the tragedies that await them. The In-Between World of Vikram Lall is a profound and careful examination of one man's search for his place in the world, with themes that have run through Vassanji's work: the nature of community in a volatile society, the relations between colony and colonizer, and the inescapable presence of the past. It is also, finally, a deeply personal book speaking to the people who are in the in-between.

MONKEY HUNTING

A NOVEL

[Ballantine Books](#) In this deeply stirring novel, acclaimed author Cristina García follows one extraordinary family through four generations, from China to Cuba to America. Wonderfully evocative of time and place, rendered in the lyrical prose that is García's hallmark, Monkey Hunting is an emotionally resonant tale of immigration, assimilation, and the prevailing integrity of self.

THE BELIEVERS

A NOVEL

[Harper Collins](#) “[Zoe Heller] is an extraordinarily entertaining writer, and this novel showcases her copious gifts, including a scathing, Waugh-like wit.”—New York Times Best-selling author Zoe Heller has followed up the critical and commercial success of What Was She Thinking? Notes on a Scandal with another tour-de-force on the meaning of faith, belief, and trust: The Believers. Tragic and comic, witty and intense, The Believers is the story of a dysfunctional family forced by tragedy to confront their own personal demons. In the vein of Claire Messud and Zadie Smith, Zoe Heller has written that rare novel that tackles the big ideas without sacrificing page-turning readability.

KABUL BEAUTY SCHOOL

AN AMERICAN WOMAN GOES BEHIND THE VEIL

[Random House](#) Soon after the fall of the Taliban, in 2001, Deborah Rodriguez went to Afghanistan as part of a group offering humanitarian aid to this war-torn nation. Surrounded by men and women whose skills—as doctors, nurses, and therapists—seemed eminently more practical than her own, Rodriguez, a hairdresser and mother of two from Michigan, despaired of being of any real use. Yet she soon found she had a gift for befriending Afghans, and once her profession became known she was eagerly sought out by Westerners desperate for a good haircut and by Afghan women, who have a long and proud tradition of running their own beauty salons. Thus an idea was born. With the help of corporate and international sponsors, the Kabul Beauty School welcomed its first class in 2003. Well meaning but sometimes brazen, Rodriguez stumbled through language barriers, overstepped cultural customs, and constantly juggled the challenges of a postwar nation even as she learned how to empower her students to become their families' breadwinners by learning the fundamentals of coloring techniques, haircutting, and makeup. Yet within the small haven of the beauty school, the line between teacher and student quickly blurred as these vibrant women shared with Rodriguez their stories and their hearts: the newlywed who faked her virginity on her wedding night, the twelve-year-old bride sold into marriage to pay her family's debts, the Taliban member's wife who pursued her training despite her husband's constant beatings. Through these and other stories, Rodriguez found the strength to leave her own unhealthy marriage and allow herself to love again, Afghan style. With warmth and humor, Rodriguez details the lushness of a seemingly desolate region and reveals the magnificence behind the burqa. Kabul Beauty School is a remarkable tale of an extraordinary community of women who come together and learn the arts of perms, friendship, and freedom.