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KEY=UNFERTH - TESSA DYER

Vacation

Grove Press The story of a wife, a husband, and a stranger with problems.

Wait Till You See Me Dance

Stories

“Deb Olin Unferth’s stories are so smart, fast, full of heart, and distinctive in voice—each an intense little thought-system going out earnestly in search of strange new truths. What an important and exciting talent.”—George Saunders For more than ten years, Deb Olin Unferth has been publishing startlingly askew, wickedly comic, cutting-edge fiction in magazines such as *Granta*, *Harper’s Magazine*, *McSweeney’s*, *NOON*, and *The Paris Review*. Her stories are revered by some of the best American writers of our day, but until now there has been no stand-alone collection of her short fiction. *Wait Till You See Me Dance* consists of several extraordinary longer stories as well as a selection of intoxicating very short stories. In the chilling “The First Full Thought of Her Life,” a shooter gets in position while a young girl climbs a sand dune. In “Voltaire Night,” students compete to tell a story about the worst thing that ever happened to them. In “Stay Where You Are,” two oblivious travelers in Central America are kidnapped by a gunman they assume to be an insurgent—but the gunman has his own problems. An Unferth story lures you in with a voice that seems amiable and lighthearted, but it swerves in sudden and

surprising ways that reveal, in terrifying clarity, the rage, despair, and profound mournfulness that have taken up residence at the heart of the American dream. These stories often take place in an exaggerated or heightened reality, a quality that is reminiscent of the work of Donald Barthelme, Lorrie Moore, and George Saunders, but in Unferth's unforgettable collection she carves out territory that is entirely her own.

I, Parrot

A Graphic Novel

Catapult "[Unferth's] language is sly and bitterly funny, matched in mood by Haidle's monochromatic, inkwash-style artwork, which plays up the story's whimsy as well as its sadness." —The New York Times Book Review

Daphne is willing to risk everything to get her son back. Surreal, funny and deeply affecting, *I, Parrot* is the tale of mother, a son, forty-two endangered parrots, and a fierce search for redemption and a "freer world." When Daphne loses custody of her son, she is willing to do whatever it takes to get him back—even if it means enlisting the help of the wayward love of her life, a trio of housepainters, a flock of passenger pigeons, a landlady from hell, a super-sized bag of mite-killing powder, and more parrots than she knows what to do with. *I, Parrot*, by acclaimed author Deb Olin Unferth with stunning illustrations by artist Elizabeth Haidle, dips into the surreal with poignancy and humor. In this riveting, funny, and tragic graphic novel, Daphne must risk everything. Her quest is ultimately a tale about civilization's decline, the heartbreak of extinction, and the redemption found in individual revolution. "A lovingly crafted world of gray, at once complex and weightless." —Roman Muradov, author of *Lost and Found*

Revolution

The Year I Fell in Love and Went to Join the War

Henry Holt and Company Rising literary star Deb Olin Unferth offers a new twist on the coming-of-age memoir in this utterly unique and captivating story of the year she ran away from college with her Christian boyfriend and followed him to Nicaragua to join the Sandinistas. Despite their earnest commitment to a myriad of revolutionary causes and to each other, the couple find themselves unwanted, unhelpful, and unprepared as they bop around Central America, looking for "revolution jobs." The year is 1987, a turning point in the Cold War. The East-West balance has begun to

tip, although the world doesn't know it yet, especially not Unferth and her fiancé (he proposes on a roadside in El Salvador). The months wear on and cracks begin to form in their relationship: they get fired, they get sick, they run out of money, they grow disillusioned with the revolution and each other. But years later the trip remains fixed in her mind and she finally goes back to Nicaragua to try to make sense of it all. Unferth's heartbreaking and hilarious memoir perfectly captures the youthful search for meaning, and is an absorbing rumination on what happens to a country and its people after the revolution is over.

Vacation

Grove/Atlantic, Inc. A PEN Translates Award-winning collection of short stories about life in North Korea under Kim Jong-Il, written in secret by a dissident author. *The Accusation* is a revelatory work of fiction that exposes the truth of the North Korean regime. Set during the period of Kim Jong-Il's leadership, the seven stories that make up *The Accusation* throw light on different aspects of life in this most bizarre and horrifying of dictatorships. One story, "Life of a Swift Seed," tells of a war hero and former ardent Communist who plants an elm tree in his back garden to commemorate one of his brothers-in-arms. When the tree is to be cut down to make way for a power line, the man is ready to defend it with his life, leaving a family friend to decide whether to intercede. In another story, "City of Specters," a Pyongyang mother's young son misbehaves during a party rally, crying out when he sees a portrait of Karl Marx, whom he thinks is a monster of Korean myth known as the Eobi. In one other story, a mother attempts to feed her husband during the worst years of North Korea's famine, and in another, a woman in a perilous situation meets the Dear Leader himself. As a whole, *The Accusation* is a vivid and frightening portrait of what it means to live in a completely closed-off society, and a heartbreaking yet hopeful portrayal of the humanity that persists even in such dire circumstances. "Searing fiction by an anonymous dissident . . . A fierce indictment of life in the totalitarian North."—New York Times

Log of the S.S. The Mrs. Unguentine

Dalkey Archive Press "Forty years ago I first linked up with Unguentine and we made love on twin-hulled catamarans, sails a-billow, bless the seas . . ." So begins the courtship of a certain Unguentine to the woman we know only as Mrs. Unguentine, the chronicler of their sad, fantastical tale. For forty years, they sail the seas together, alone on a giant land-covered barge of their own devising. They tend their gardens, raise a child, invent an artificial forest-- all the while steering clear of civilization. *Log of the S.S. The Mrs Unguentine* is a masterpiece of modern domestic life, a comic novel of closeness and difficulty, miscommunication and stubborn resolve. Rarely has a book so perfectly registered the secret solitude of marriage,

how shared loneliness can result in a powerful bond. "Log of the S.S. The Mrs. Unguentine is a captivating short work almost beyond description." - Verlyn Klinkenborg, *The New Yorker* "No one captures the mind of a control freak like Stanley Crawford." -Ed Park, *The Village Voice* "I'll tell you a book I want to teach. by Stanley Crawford. Its out of print. How can a book like that be out of print? If I wrote that book and it went out of print, I just dont know what I would do. Id have to call the police, I think." -Deb Olin Unferth

Revolution

The Year I Fell in Love and Went to Join the Sandinistas

St. Martin's Griffin Hailed as a "virtuosic one-woman show" (*Time Out New York*) this *New York Times* Book Review Editor's Choice pick tells the funny and poignant story of the year the author ran away from college with her idealistic boyfriend and followed him to Nicaragua to join the Sandinistas. Despite their earnest commitment to a myriad of revolutionary causes and to each other, Deb and her boyfriend find themselves unwanted, unhelpful, and unprepared as they bop around Central America, looking for "revolution jobs." The year is 1987, a turning point in the Cold War, although the world doesn't know it yet, especially not Unferth and her fiancé (he proposes on a roadside in El Salvador). The months wear on and cracks begin to form in their relationship: they get fired, they get sick, they run out of money, they grow disillusioned with the revolution and each other. But years later the trip remains fixed in her mind and she finally goes back to Nicaragua to try to make sense of it all. Unferth's heartbreaking and hilarious memoir perfectly captures the youthful search for meaning, and is an absorbing rumination on what happens to a country and its people after the revolution is over.

Daddy's

featherproof books Lindsay Hunter tells the stories no one else will in ways no one else can. In this down and dirty debut she draws vivid portraits of bad people in worse places. A woman struggles to survive her boyfriend's terror preparations. A wife finds that the key to her sex life lies in her dog's electric collar. Two teenagers violently tip the scales of their friendship. A rising star of the new fast fiction, Hunter bares all before you can blink in her bold, beautiful stories. In this collection of slim southern gothics, she offers an exploration not of the human heart but of the spine; mixing sex, violence and love into a harrowing, head-spinning read.

Hurt People

A Novel

FSG Originals Summer of 1988. Leavenworth, Kansas: a town with four major prisons, gripped by the recent escape of a convict. Yet for two young brothers, all that matters is the pool in their apartment complex. They spend their blissful days practicing dives while their divorcée mother works her day shift at the golf course and their policeman father patrols the streets. But when a mysterious stranger appears poolside and creates a rift between the brothers, the younger one wonders just what these visits to the pool might ultimately cost. Based on Cote Smith's well-received short story of the same name, *Hurt People* will hold you in its grip to the very last page. Eerily atmospheric, lean, and forceful, this is a debut from a slyly talented new writer.

Last Night in Twisted River

A Novel

Random House In 1954, in the cookhouse of a logging and sawmill settlement in northern New Hampshire, an anxious twelve-year-old boy mistakes the local constable's girlfriend for a bear. Both the twelve-year-old and his father become fugitives, forced to run from Coos County—to Boston, to southern Vermont, to Toronto—pursued by the implacable constable. Their lone protector is a fiercely libertarian logger, once a river driver, who befriends them. In a story spanning five decades, *Last Night in Twisted River* depicts the recent half-century in the United States as “a living replica of Coos County, where lethal hatreds were generally permitted to run their course.” What further distinguishes *Last Night in Twisted River* is the author's unmistakable voice—the inimitable voice of an accomplished storyteller.

Waiting for the Mahatma

Vintage In the novels of R. K. Narayan (1906-2001), the forefather of modern Indian fiction, human-scale hopes and epiphanies express the promise of a nation as it awakens to its place in the world. In *Waiting for the Mahatma*, a young drifter meets the most beautiful girl he has ever seen—an adherent of Mahatma Gandhi—and commits himself to Gandhi's Quit India campaign, a decision that will test the integrity of his ideals against the strength of his passions. This novel, written after India's independence, is a masterpiece of social comedy, rich in local color and abounding in affectionate humor and generosity of spirit.

The Stone that the Builder Refused

A Novel of Haiti

Vintage The Stone that the Builder Refused is the final volume of Madison Smartt Bell's masterful trilogy about the Haitian Revolution—the first successful slave revolution in history—which begins with *All Souls' Rising* (a finalist for the National Book Award and the PEN/Faulkner Award) and continues with *Master of the Crossroads*. Each of these three novels can be read independently of the two others; of the trilogy, *The Baltimore Sun* has said, “[It] will make an indelible mark on literary history—one worthy of occupying the same shelf as Tolstoy’s *War and Peace*.”

There Will Be No More Good Nights

Without Good Nights

Fiction. The characters in this collection are searching for something more: in the markings on tortoise shells, on other planets, with new lovers and altered identities. These characters know there are whole worlds out there that have never been seen, some as distant as the Amazon rain forest, others as close as a neighbor's house, the curtains left open. Laura van den Berg helps us discover these worlds, blending the mundane and routine with the strange and unexpected. The search won't always end with the stories--these restless narrators will always be left with mysteries unsolved, questions unanswered and hidden aches not quite healed--but what they see along the way will be nothing short of marvelous.

Only in London

Anchor Four strangers meet on a turbulent flight from Dubai to London: Amira, a canny Moroccan prostitute; Lamis, a 30-year old Iraqi divorcee; Nicholas, an English expert on Islamic art; and Samir, a Lebanese man who is delivering a monkey on a mission he doesn't fully understand. Once safely on British soil, Lamis and Nicholas fall in love, Samir chases after blond British youths, and Amira reinvents herself as a princess, the better to lure clients at the best London hotels. Through the city and across cultural borders, *Only in London* wittily portrays the smells, sounds, and sights of London's lively Arab neighborhoods, as well as the freedoms the city both offers and withholds from its immigrants.

You'd be a Stranger, Too

Stories

Fiction. "In serial dioramas of 'strange unpacking,' Weston Cutter's *Stranger* invents a singing human science. With Nabokovian care, here are homes and lots and bodies, objects, inverted for their layers, laid open both in witness and design. Here is a calculus of hidden hours and the light of those and what was made between us. Here is a huge eye"—Blake Butler. "Stories built from carved, chiseled, and finely-wrought sentences—Weston Cutter's hand with prose is deft and intricate, and at times dazzling"—Aimee Bender.

Best Debut Short Stories 2020

The PEN America Dau Prize

Catapult The essential annual guide to the newest voices in short fiction, selected this year by Tracy O'Neill, Nafissa Thompson-Spires, and Deb Olin Unferth **Who are the most promising short story writers working today? Where do we look to discover the future stars of literary fiction? This book will offer a dozen compelling answers to these questions. The stories collected here represent the most recent winners of the PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize for Emerging Writers, which recognizes twelve writers who have made outstanding debuts in literary magazines in the previous year. They are chosen by a panel of distinguished judges, themselves innovators of the short story form: Tracy O'Neill, Nafissa Thompson-Spires, and Deb Olin Unferth. Each piece comes with an introduction by its original editors, whose commentaries provide valuable insight into what magazines are looking for in their submissions, and showcase the vital work they do to nurture literature's newest voices.**

Sleep Donation

Vintage Newly illustrated and available for the first time in years, a haunting novella from the uncannily imaginative author of the national bestsellers *Swamplandia!* and *Orange World*: the story of a deadly insomnia epidemic and the lengths one woman will go to to fight it. Trish Edgewater is the Slumber Corps' top recruiter. On the phone, at a specially organized Sleep Drive, even in a supermarket parking lot: Trish can get even the most reluctant healthy dreamer to donate sleep to an insomniac in crisis--one of hundreds of thousands of people who have totally lost the ability to sleep. Trish cries, she shakes, she shows potential donors a picture of her deceased sister, Dori: one of the first victims of the lethal

insomnia plague that has swept the globe. Run by the wealthy and enigmatic Storch brothers, the Slumber Corps is at the forefront of the fight against this deadly new disease. But when Trish is confronted by "Baby A," the first universal sleep donor, and the mysterious "Donor Y," whose horrific infectious nightmares are threatening to sweep through the precious sleep supply, her faith in the organization and in her own motives begins to falter. Fully illustrated with dreamy evocations of Russell's singular imagination and featuring a brand-new "Nightmare Appendix," Sleep Donation will keep readers up long into the night and long after haunt their dreams.

You Shall Know Our Velocity (Or, Sacrament)

Vintage Canada In his first novel, Dave Eggers has written a moving and hilarious tale of two friends who fly around the world trying to give away a lot of money and free themselves from a profound loss. It reminds us once again what an important, necessary talent Dave Eggers is.

The Bird Market of Paris

A Memoir

Macmillan An avian expert and poet traces her loving relationship with her fellow bird-loving grandfather in 1980s Miami, describing how he taught her to care for and understand birds before his death and how she pursued recovery from alcoholism during a fateful trip to the Parisian bird market. 40,000 first printing.

One Hundred Apocalypses and Other Apocalypses

McSweeney's Lucy Corin's "eye popping, enlightening read" (Publishers Weekly), now in paperback. At the heart of Lucy Corin's dazzling collection are one hundred apocalypses: visions of loss and destruction, vexation and crisis, revelation and revolution, sometimes only a few lines long. In these haunting and wickedly funny stories, an apocalypse might come in the form of the end of a relationship or the end of the world, but they all expose the tricky landscape of our longing for a clean slate. In three longer stories, contemporary American life is playfully, if disturbingly, distorted: the rite of passage for adolescent girls involves choosing the madman who will accompany them into adulthood; California burns to the ground while, on

the east coast, life carries on; and a soldier returns home broke from war to encounter a witch who extends a dangerous offer. At once mournful and explosively energetic, *One Hundred Apocalypses and Other Apocalypses* is "deeply rooted in the politics and upheaval of our times" (Lambda Literary).

The Convalescent

Open Road + Grove/Atlantic "One of the most amusing and poignant anti-heroes since Gunter Grass's *The Tin Drum*" lives up to his misfit heritage in this ribald debut (Spike Magazine). Ask Rovar Ákos Pfliegman about himself and he'll say: "I have no life. I have no known relatives, no known friends. I'm barely human. I'm a hairy little Hungarian pulp. I am a sorry gathering of organs. That is all." But there is more to Rovar than meets the eye. He has a pet beetle named Mrs. Kipner, he is a butcher plagued by rare ailments, he sells meat out of a broken-down bus next to a river in suburban Virginia, and he is the last of the Pfliegman line, a not-too-bright pagan clan that reaches back to pre-medieval Hungary. He also believes he'll fulfill the ignoble destiny of inbred self-destruction that has wiped out all Pfliegmans before him. But against all odds, and the cruel laws of nature, this unlikely loner, seller of fresh mutton at unbeatable prices, unloved lover, and historian of the unimportant is still capable of being reborn in the most extraordinary way. "Innocent and wise, grave and hilarious, bleak and hopeful, fast-paced and meditative, heartbreaking and heart healthy, evanescent and concrete" (Heidi Julavits), *The Convalescent* "nods to all sorts of greats—Kafka, Rushdie, Darwin and Grass, to name a few. But Anthony's style—funny, immediate and unapologetically cerebral—carves out a space all its own" (Publishers Weekly, starred review).

Abroad

A Novel

Sarah Crichton Books Not since Donna Tartt's *The Secret History* has a novel this intoxicating captured the headiness and dark temptations of university life. The old Etruscan city of Grifonia swarms with year-abroad students—thousands of them from all over. Ostensibly, they've come to study. But really they are here to reinvent themselves, to shuck their identities and buck constraints far from the watchful eyes of parents and others who know them too well. There's a reason Henry James's young ladies went to Europe with chaperones. Today's young ladies don't. In *Abroad*, the bestselling novelist Katie Crouch—whose *Girls in Trucks* brilliantly portrayed the cruelties of postcollege New York life on a Southern girl trying to make her way—tears a story from international

headlines and transforms it into a page-turning parable of modern girlhood, full of longing and reckless behavior. As the heroine (and the reader) of *Abroad* will soon discover, Grifonia is a city filled with dangerous secrets of many kinds: ancient, eternal, infernal. "Prepare to have your heart broken while laughing out loud at this breathtaking, scathingly sardonic novel," wrote *People* magazine's reviewer about Crouch's *Men and Dogs*. "From her opening line. . . Crouch grabs you and never lets go." In *Abroad*, Crouch's mesmerizing talents are again on full display.

The Death of a Civil Servant

Alma Classics In 'The Death of a Civil Servant', an administrative clerk accidentally sneezes on a hierarchical superior at the opera, which results in great embarrassment and hilarious and futile attempts at atonement. The other short stories included in this volume, 'A Calculated Marriage', 'The Culprit', 'The Exclamation Mark', 'The Speech-Maker', 'Who Is to Blame?' and 'A Defenceless Creature' are in the same absurdly comical vein. This short collection shows Chekhov in an amusing, playful light, poking fun at the greed, sycophancy and ignorance of his characters, with the moral detachment that also characterizes his major, serious works.

Making Literature Now

Stanford University Press How does new writing emerge and find readers today? Why does one writer's work become famous while another's remains invisible? *Making Literature Now* tells the stories of the creators, editors, readers, and critics who make their living by making literature itself come alive. The book shows how various conditions—including gender, education, business dynamics, social networks, money, and the forces of literary tradition—affect the things we can choose, or refuse, to read. Amy Hungerford focuses her discussion on literary bestsellers as well as little-known traditional and digital literature from smaller presses, such as McSweeney's. She deftly matches the particular human stories of the makers with the impersonal structures through which literary reputation is made. Ranging from fine-grained ethnography to polemical argument, this book transforms our sense of how and why new literature appears—and disappears—in contemporary American culture.

One Hundred Twenty-One Days

Deep Vellum Publishing "Audin plays with codes, numbers and dates to create a fascinating and unsettling story."—*Le Temps* This debut novel by mathematician and Oulipo member Michèle Audin retraces the lives of French mathematicians over several generations through World Wars I and II. The narrative oscillates stylistically from chapter to chapter—at times a novel, fable, historical research, or a diary—locking and unlocking codes,

culminating in a captivating, original reading experience. Michèle Audin is the author of several works of mathematical theory and history and also published a work on her anticolonialist father's torture, disappearance, and execution by the French during the Battle of Algiers.

Love Like That Stories

Henry Holt and Company Named a Best New Book of 2021 by Vogue and Refinery29 Named a Most Anticipated Book of 2021 by Lit Hub Named one of "5 Hot Books" by The National Book Review Longlisted for the PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize for a Debut Short Story Collection "For a friend who needs a reminder that love is weird, humans are complicated, and bad things often get better or at least later become funny stories to tell our friends." —Vanity Fair A sharp, witty book about brilliant, broken women that are just the right amount wrong. Whether diving into complicated relationships or wrestling with family ties, the girls and women who populate this collection—misfits and misanthropes, bickering sisters, responsible daughters, and unhappy wives—don't always find themselves making the best decisions. A woman struggles with a new kind of love triangle when she moves in with a divorced dad. A lonely teenage beach attendant finds uneasy comradeship with her boss. A high school English teacher gets pushed to her limits when a student plagiarizes. Often caught between desire and duty, guilt and resentment, these characters discover what it means to get lost in love, and do what it takes to find themselves again. Utterly singular and wholly unforgettable, Emma Duffy-Comparone's stories manage to be slyly, wickedly funny at even their darkest turns and herald the arrival of an irreverent and dazzling new voice.

Milk Blood Heat

Grove Press **LONGLISTED FOR THE PEN JEAN STEIN AND ROBERT W. BINGHAM AWARDS A NATIONAL BOOK FOUNDATION 5 UNDER 35** "A gorgeous debut" (Lauren Groff) from Dantiel W. Moniz, one of the most exciting discoveries in today's literary landscape, *Milk Blood Heat* depicts the sultry lives of Floridians in intergenerational tales that contemplate human connection, race, womanhood, inheritance, and the elemental darkness in us all. A **livewire debut** from Dantiel W. Moniz, one of the most exciting discoveries in today's literary landscape, *Milk Blood Heat* depicts the sultry lives of Floridians in intergenerational tales that contemplate human connection, race, womanhood, inheritance, and the elemental darkness in us all. Set among the cities and suburbs of Florida, each story delves into the ordinary worlds of young girls, women, and men who find

themselves confronted by extraordinary moments of violent personal reckoning. These intimate portraits of people and relationships scour and soothe and blast a light on the nature of family, faith, forgiveness, consumption, and what we may, or may not, owe one another. A thirteen-year-old meditates on her sadness and the difference between herself and her white best friend when an unexpected tragedy occurs; a woman recovering from a miscarriage finds herself unable to let go of her daughter—whose body parts she sees throughout her daily life; a teenager resists her family's church and is accused of courting the devil; servers at a supper club cater to the insatiable cravings of their wealthy clientele; and two estranged siblings take a road-trip with their father's ashes and are forced to face the troubling reality of how he continues to shape them. Wise and subversive, spiritual and seductive, *Milk Blood Heat* forms an ouroboros of stories that bewitch with their truth, announcing the arrival of a bright new literary star.

The Dead Father

Farrar, Straus and Giroux *The Dead Father* is a gargantuan half-dead, half-alive, part mechanical, wise, vain, powerful being who still has hopes for himself—even while he is being dragged by means of a cable toward a mysterious goal. In this extraordinary novel, marked by the imaginative use of language that influenced a generation of fiction writers, Donald Barthelme offered a glimpse into his fictional universe. As Donald Antrim writes in his introduction, "Reading *The Dead Father*, one has the sense that its author enjoys an almost complete artistic freedom . . . a permission to reshape, misrepresent, or even ignore the world as we find it . . . Laughing along with its author, we escape anxiety and feel alive."

The Secrets We Kept

A novel

Vintage **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** • A thrilling tale of secretaries turned spies, of love and duty, and of sacrifice—inspired by the true story of the CIA plot to infiltrate the hearts and minds of Soviet Russia, not with propaganda, but with the greatest love story of the twentieth century: *Doctor Zhivago* • A **HELLO SUNSHINE x REESE WITHERSPOON BOOK CLUB PICK** At the height of the Cold War, Irina, a young Russian-American secretary, is plucked from the CIA typing pool and given the assignment of a lifetime. Her mission: to help smuggle *Doctor Zhivago* into the USSR, where it is banned, and enable Boris Pasternak's magnum opus to make its way into print around the world. Mentoring Irina is the glamorous Sally Forrester: a seasoned spy who has honed her gift for deceit, using her magnetism and charm to pry secrets out of powerful men. Under Sally's

tutelage, Irina learns how to invisibly ferry classified documents—and discovers deeply buried truths about herself. *The Secrets We Kept* combines a legendary literary love story—the decades-long affair between Pasternak and his mistress and muse, Olga Ivinskaya, who inspired *Zhivago's* heroine, Lara—with a narrative about two women empowered to lead lives of extraordinary intrigue and risk. Told with soaring emotional intensity and captivating historical detail, this is an unforgettable debut: a celebration of the powerful belief that a work of art can change the world.

It Devours!

A Welcome to Night Vale Novel

HarperCollins A new page-turning mystery about science, faith, love and belonging, set in a friendly desert community where ghosts, angels, aliens, and government conspiracies are commonplace parts of everyday life. *Welcome to Night Vale...* “Brilliant, hilarious, and wondrously strange. I’m packing up and moving to Night Vale! -Ransom Riggs, #1 New York Times Bestselling Author of *Miss Peregrine’s Home for Peculiar Children*. From the authors of the New York Times bestselling novel *Welcome to Night Vale* and the creators of the #1 international podcast of the same name, comes a mystery exploring the intersections of faith and science, the growing relationship between two young people who want desperately to trust each other, and the terrifying, toothy power of the Smiling God. Nilanjana Sikdar is an outsider to the town of Night Vale. Working for Carlos, the town’s top scientist, she relies on fact and logic as her guiding principles. But all of that is put into question when Carlos gives her a special assignment investigating a mysterious rumbling in the desert wasteland outside of town. This investigation leads her to the Joyous Congregation of the Smiling God, and to Darryl, one of its most committed members. Caught between her beliefs in the ultimate power of science and her growing attraction to Darryl, she begins to suspect the Congregation is planning a ritual that could threaten the lives of everyone in town. Nilanjana and Darryl must search for common ground between their very different world views as they are faced with the Congregation’s darkest and most terrible secret.

The Funeral Party

A Novel

Schocken August 1991. In a sweltering New York City apartment, a group of Russian émigrés gathers round the deathbed of an artist named Alik, a charismatic character beloved by them all, especially the women who take turns nursing him as he fades from this world. Their reminiscences of the

dying man and of their lives in Russia are punctuated by debates and squabbles: Whom did Alik love most? Should he be baptized before he dies, as his alcoholic wife, Nina, desperately wishes, or be reconciled to the faith of his birth by a rabbi who happens to be on hand? And what will be the meaning for them of the Yeltsin putsch, which is happening across the world in their long-lost Moscow but also right before their eyes on CNN? This marvelous group of individuals inhabits the first novel by Ludmila Ulitskaya to be published in English, a book that was shortlisted for the Russian Booker Prize and has been praised wherever translated editions have appeared. Simultaneously funny and sad, lyrical in its Russian sorrow and devastatingly keen in its observation of character, *The Funeral Party* introduces to our shores a wonderful writer who captures, wryly and tenderly, our complex thoughts and emotions confronting life and death, love and loss, homeland and exile.

Your Name Written on Water

An Erotic Novel

YOUR NAME WRITTEN ON WATER, winner of an international contest for erotic literature in Spanish and a bestseller in Spain, is a startling and charged exploration of desire and narcissism that reads like Carole Maso's **AUREOLE** with a twist of **THE STORY OF O**. Sofía works in a gallery in Madrid, the young wife of an architect whose love for her has hardened into a passionate and destructive resentment. Her life is transformed when one afternoon, by chance, she spends her lunch hour at a public pool outside the city. There she meets Marina, a woman who is her doppelgänger. They are immediately drawn together - so powerfully that Sofía feels it all may be a trick of her fevered mind - and together they forge a love that is tender as well as passionate, with an intimacy that is almost eerie. When Sofía learns that Marina is leaving for a job in Rome, she sees the perfect exit from a marriage that has become tyranny. And so they go, twin fugitives after desire - but pursued as well by the spectre of danger. **YOUR NAME WRITTEN ON WATER** is a stunningly accomplished and deeply psychological novel with the charge of an erotic thriller.

The Easter Parade

A Novel

Picador In *The Easter Parade*, first published in 1976, we meet sisters Sarah and Emily Grimes when they are still the children of divorced parents. We observe the sisters over four decades, watching them grow into two very different women. Sarah is stable and stalwart, settling into an unhappy marriage. Emily is precocious and independent, struggling with

one unsatisfactory love affair after another. Richard Yates's classic novel is about how both women struggle to overcome their tarnished family's past, and how both finally reach for some semblance of renewal.

The Fan Man

Pharos "Horse Badorties (Son of the Ginger Man, father of the Dude) rides again...Badorties' narration of his down-at-the-heels drug-fueled befuddlement in New York City circa 1970." --

Barcelona Days

Hachette UK In this captivating novel, an erupting Icelandic volcano grounds all flights in and out of Europe, forcing four vacationing Americans to reckon with the problems they'd hoped to leave behind in Barcelona. Whitney and Will are a perfect couple by all appearances, their relationship rock-solid, and their engagement soon to be announced. Before their impending nuptials, however, Whitney suggests a lighthearted experiment: why not give each other three romantic "free passes" before getting married? Three opportunities to imagine other lives before returning with new appreciation for each other. On what's meant to be the last night of a romantic Barcelona vacation, they agree to regale one another with details of these harmless trysts. They grin and bear it, and fall asleep feeling mostly satisfied, and relieved to be firmly together again. But then a volcano erupts overnight, spewing a cloud of ash across Europe and grounding all flights indefinitely. Trapped in Barcelona, their paths intertwine with a star basketball player, his future dashed by a crippling injury, and a foreign exchange student with a double life, about to return home and face reality. Whitney and Will flirt, provoke, dance, and drink. Over the next three days, they will use and be used by their new friends, once again testing the boundaries of their relationship -- but this time, can it survive?

Vicky Swanky Is a Beauty

McSweeney's In *Vicky Swanky Is a Beauty*, Diane Williams lays bare the urgency and weariness that shape our lives in stories honed sharper than ever. With sentences auguring revelation and explosion, Williams's unsettling stories—a cryptic meeting between neighbors, a woman's sexual worries, a graveside discussion, a chimney on fire—are narrated with razor-sharp tongues and naked, uproarious irreverence. These fifty stories hum with tension, each one so taut that it threatens to snap and send the whole thing sprawling—the mess and desire, the absurdity and hilarity, the bruises and bleeding, the blushes and disappointments and secrets. An audacious, unruly tour de force, *Vicky Swanky Is a Beauty* cements Diane Williams' position as one of the best practitioners of the short form in

literature today.

Barn 8

A Novel

Graywolf Press An unforgettably exuberant and potent novel by a writer at the height of her powers Two auditors for the U.S. egg industry go rogue and conceive a plot to steal a million chickens in the middle of the night—an entire egg farm’s worth of animals. Janey and Cleveland—a spirited former runaway and the officious head of audits—assemble a precarious, quarrelsome team and descend on the farm on a dark spring evening. A series of catastrophes ensues. Deb Olin Unferth’s wildly inventive novel is a heist story of a very unusual sort. Swirling with a rich array of voices, *Barn 8* takes readers into the minds of these renegades: a farmer’s daughter, a former director of undercover investigations, hundreds of activists, a forest ranger who suddenly comes upon forty thousand hens, and a security guard who is left on an empty farm for years. There are glimpses twenty thousand years into the future to see what chickens might evolve into on our contaminated planet. We hear what hens think happens when they die. In the end the cracked hearts of these indelible characters, their earnest efforts to heal themselves, and their radical actions will lead them to ruin or revelation. Funny, whimsical, philosophical, and heartbreaking, *Barn 8* ultimately asks: What constitutes meaningful action in a world so in need of change? Unferth comes at this question with striking ingenuity, razor-sharp wit, and ferocious passion. *Barn 8* is a rare comic-political drama, a tour de force for our time.

The Age of Miracles

A Novel

Random House **NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF THE YEAR BY People · O: The Oprah Magazine · Financial Times · Kansas City Star · BookPage · Kirkus Reviews · Publishers Weekly · Booklist NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER** “A stunner.”—Justin Cronin “It’s never the disasters you see coming that finally come to pass—it’s the ones you don’t expect at all,” says Julia, in this spellbinding novel of catastrophe and survival by a superb new writer. Luminous, suspenseful, unforgettable, *The Age of Miracles* tells the haunting and beautiful story of Julia and her family as they struggle to live in a time of extraordinary change. On an ordinary Saturday in a California suburb, Julia awakes to discover that something has happened to the rotation of the earth. The days and nights are growing longer and longer; gravity is affected; the birds, the tides, human behavior, and cosmic rhythms are thrown into disarray. In a world that seems filled

with danger and loss, Julia also must face surprising developments in herself, and in her personal world—divisions widening between her parents, strange behavior by her friends, the pain and vulnerability of first love, a growing sense of isolation, and a surprising, rebellious new strength. With crystalline prose and the indelible magic of a born storyteller, Karen Thompson Walker gives us a breathtaking portrait of people finding ways to go on in an ever-evolving world. “Gripping drama . . . flawlessly written; it could be the most assured debut by an American writer since Jennifer Egan’s *Emerald City*.”—The Denver Post “Pure magnificence.”—Nathan Englander “Provides solace with its wisdom, compassion, and elegance.”—Curtis Sittenfeld “Riveting, heartbreaking, profoundly moving.”—Kirkus Reviews (starred review) Look for special features inside. Join the Circle for author chats and more.

The Age of Wire and String

Granta Books In *The Age of Wire and String* Ben Marcus welds together a new reality from the scrapheap of the past. Dogs, birds, horses, automobiles and the weather are some of the recycled elements in Marcus's first collection - part fiction, part handbook - as familiar objects take on markedly unfamiliar meanings. Gradually, this makeshift world, in its defiance of the laws of physics and language, finds a foundation in its own implausibility, as Marcus produces new feelings and sensations - both comic and disturbing - in the definitive guide to an unpredictable yet exhilarating plane of existence.

Birds of a Lesser Paradise

Stories

Simon and Schuster Presents a collection of stories focusing on the moments when bonds with nature become evident, including the story of a mother and son attempting to reclaim an African gray parrot and of a population control activist who longs to have a baby.