

Olio By Tyehimba Jess The Rumpus Net

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Olio - Tyehimba Jess 2016-04-12

With ambitious manipulations of poetic forms, Jess presents the sweat and story behind America's blues, worksongs and church hymns."

Counting Descent - Clint Smith 2017-01-06

Black Harvard Doctorate in Poetics launches poetry that explores modern blackness. Clint Smith's debut poetry collection, *Counting Descent*, is a coming of age story that seeks to complicate our conception of lineage and tradition. Smith explores the cognitive dissonance that results from belonging to a community that unapologetically celebrates black humanity while living in a world that often renders blackness a caricature of fear. His poems move fluidly across personal and political histories, all the while reflecting on the social construction of our lived experiences. Smith brings the reader on a powerful journey forcing us to reflect on all that we learn growing up, and all that we seek to unlearn moving forward. - Winner, 2017 Black Caucus of the American Library Association Literary Award - Finalist, 2017 NAACP Image Awards - 2017 'One Book One New Orleans' Book Selection

Heartland - Sarah Smarsh 2019-09-03

Finalist for the National Book Award *Finalist for the Kirkus Prize*

Instant New York Times Bestseller *Named a Best Book of the Year by

NPR, New York Post, BuzzFeed, Shelf Awareness, Bustle, and Publishers

Weekly* An essential read for our times: an eye-opening memoir of

working-class poverty in America that will deepen our understanding of

the ways in which class shapes our country and "a deeply humane

memoir that crackles with clarifying insight".* Sarah Smarsh was born a

fifth generation Kansas wheat farmer on her paternal side, and the

product of generations of teen mothers on her maternal side. Through

her experiences growing up on a farm thirty miles west of Wichita, we

are given a unique and essential look into the lives of poor and working

class Americans living in the heartland. During Sarah's turbulent

childhood in Kansas in the 1980s and 1990s, she enjoyed the freedom of

a country childhood, but observed the painful challenges of the poverty

around her; untreated medical conditions for lack of insurance or

consistent care, unsafe job conditions, abusive relationships, and limited

resources and information that would provide for the upward mobility

that is the American Dream. By telling the story of her life and the lives

of the people she loves with clarity and precision but without judgement,

Smarsh challenges us to look more closely at the class divide in our

country. Beautifully written, in a distinctive voice, *Heartland* combines

personal narrative with powerful analysis and cultural commentary,

challenging the myths about people thought to be less because they earn

less. "Heartland is one of a growing number of important

works—including Matthew Desmond's *Evicted* and Amy Goldstein's

Janesville—that together merit their own section in nonfiction aisles

across the country: America's postindustrial decline...Smarsh shows how

the false promise of the 'American dream' was used to subjugate the

poor. It's a powerful mantra" *(The New York Times Book Review).

The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing - Mira Jacob 2014-07-01

A winning, irreverent debut novel about a family wrestling with its future

and its past—for readers of J. Courtney Sullivan, Meg Wolitzer, Mona

Simpson, and Jhumpa Lahiri NAMED ONE OF THE BEST BOOKS OF

THE YEAR BY THE BOSTON GLOBE, KIRKUS REVIEWS, BUSTLE, AND

EMILY GOULD, THE MILLIONS With depth, heart, and agility, debut

novelist Mira Jacob takes us on a deftly plotted journey that ranges from

1970s India to suburban 1980s New Mexico to Seattle during the

dot.com boom. *The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing* is an epic, irreverent

testimony to the bonds of love, the pull of hope, and the power of making

peace with life's uncertainties. Celebrated brain surgeon Thomas Eapen

has been sitting on his porch, talking to dead relatives. At least that is

the story his wife, Kamala, prone to exaggeration, tells their daughter,

Amina, a photographer living in Seattle. Reluctantly Amina returns home

and finds a situation that is far more complicated than her mother let on,

with roots in a trip the family, including Amina's rebellious brother Akhil,

took to India twenty years earlier. Confronted by Thomas's unwillingness

to explain himself, strange looks from the hospital staff, and a series of

puzzling items buried in her mother's garden, Amina soon realizes that

the only way she can help her father is by coming to terms with her

family's painful past. In doing so, she must reckon with the ghosts that

haunt all of the Eapens. Praise for *The Sleepwalker's Guide to Dancing* "With wit and a rich understanding of human foibles, Jacob unspools a story that will touch your heart."—People "Optimistic, unpretentious and refreshingly witty."—Associated Press "By turns hilarious and tender and always attuned to shifts of emotion . . . [Jacob's] characters shimmer with life."—Entertainment Weekly "A rich, engrossing debut told with lightness and care."—The Kansas City Star "[A] sprawling, poignant, often humorous novel . . . Told with humor and sympathy for its characters, the book serves as a bittersweet lesson in the binding power of family, even when we seek to break out from it."—O: The Oprah Magazine "Moving forward and back in time, Jacob balances comedy and romance with indelible sorrow. . . . When her plot springs surprises, she lets them happen just as they do in life: blindsidingly right in the middle of things."—The Boston Globe

Poetry Slam - Gary Mex Glazner 2000

Offers an assortment of slam poems and includes articles on such topics

as setting up and judging slams, using props, and slam aesthetics.

Dark Matter - Sheree R. Thomas 2004-01-02

Dark Matter is the first and only series to bring together the works of

black SF and fantasy writers. The first volume was featured in the "New

York Times," which named it a Notable Book of the Year.

Gumbo Ya Ya - Aurielle Marie 2021-09-21

Gumbo Ya Ya, Aurielle Marie's stunning debut, is a cauldron of hearty

poems exploring race, gender, desire, and violence in the lives of Black

girls, soaring against the backdrop of a contemporary South. These

poems are loud, risky, and unapologetically rooted in the glory of Black

girlhood. The collection opens with a heartrending indictment of

injustice. What follows is a striking reimagination of the world, one

where no Black girl dies "by the barrel of the law" or "for loving another

Black girl." Part familial archival, part map of Black resistance, *Gumbo*

Ya Ya catalogs the wide gamut of Black life at its intersections, with

punching cultural commentary and a poetic voice that holds tenderness

and sharpness in tandem. It asks us to chew upon both the rich meat and

the tough gristle, and in doing so we walk away more whole than we

began and thoroughly satisfied.

Customs - Solmaz Sharif 2022-03-01

The Great Believers - Rebecca Makkai 2018-06-19

PULITZER PRIZE FINALIST NATIONAL BOOK AWARD FINALIST A

NEW YORK TIMES TOP 10 BOOK OF 2018 LOS ANGELES TIMES BOOK

PRIZE WINNER ALA CARNEGIE MEDAL WINNER THE STONEWALL

BOOK AWARD WINNER Soon to Be a Major Television Event, optioned

by Amy Poehler "A page turner . . . An absorbing and emotionally

riveting story about what it's like to live during times of crisis." —The

New York Times Book Review A dazzling novel of friendship and

redemption in the face of tragedy and loss set in 1980s Chicago and

contemporary Paris In 1985, Yale Tishman, the development director for

an art gallery in Chicago, is about to pull off an amazing coup, bringing

in an extraordinary collection of 1920s paintings as a gift to the gallery.

Yet as his career begins to flourish, the carnage of the AIDS epidemic

grows around him. One by one, his friends are dying and after his friend

Nico's funeral, the virus circles closer and closer to Yale himself. Soon

the only person he has left is Fiona, Nico's little sister. Thirty years later,

Fiona is in Paris tracking down her estranged daughter who disappeared

into a cult. While staying with an old friend, a famous photographer who

documented the Chicago crisis, she finds herself finally grappling with

the devastating ways AIDS affected her life and her relationship with her

daughter. The two intertwining stories take us through the heartbreak of

the eighties and the chaos of the modern world, as both Yale and Fiona struggle to find goodness in the midst of disaster. Named a Best Book of 2018 by The New York Times Book Review, The Washington Post, NPR, San Francisco Chronicle, The Boston Globe, Entertainment Weekly, BuzzFeed, The Seattle Times, Bustle, Newsday, AM New York, BookPage, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Lit Hub, Publishers Weekly, Kirkus Reviews, New York Public Library and Chicago Public Library

Look - Solmaz Sharif 2016-07-05

Digte. In this array of poems, lists, shards, and sequences, Sharif assembles her family's and her own fragmented narratives in the aftermath of warfare

Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude - Ross Gay 2015-01-16

Winner, 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award, poetry category Winner, 2016 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Prize Finalist, 2015 National Book Award, poetry category Finalist, 2015 NAACP Image Awards, poetry category Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude is a sustained meditation on that which goes away—loved ones, the seasons, the earth as we know it—that tries to find solace in the processes of the garden and the orchard. That is, this is a book that studies the wisdom of the garden and orchard, those places where all—death, sorrow, loss—is converted into what might, with patience, nourish us.

They Can't Kill Us Until They Kill Us - Hanif Abdurraqib 2017-11-14

*2018 "12 best books to give this holiday season" —TODAY Show *Best Books of 2018 —Rolling Stone "A Best Book of 2017" —NPR, BuzzFeed, Paste Magazine, Esquire, Chicago Tribune, Vol. 1 Brooklyn, CBC, Stereogum, National Post, Entropy, Heavy, Book Riot, Chicago Review of Books, The Los Angeles Review, Michigan Daily *American Booksellers Association (ABA) 'December 2017 Indie Next List Great Reads' *Midwest Indie Bestseller In an age of confusion, fear, and loss, Hanif Abdurraqib's is a voice that matters. Whether he's attending a Bruce Springsteen concert the day after visiting Michael Brown's grave, or discussing public displays of affection at a Carly Rae Jepsen show, he writes with a poignancy and magnetism that resonates profoundly. In the wake of the nightclub attacks in Paris, he recalls how he sought refuge as a teenager in music, at shows, and wonders whether the next generation of young Muslims will not be afforded that opportunity now. While discussing the everyday threat to the lives of black Americans, Abdurraqib recounts the first time he was ordered to the ground by police officers: for attempting to enter his own car. In essays that have been published by the New York Times, MTV, and Pitchfork, among others—along with original, previously unreleased essays—Abdurraqib uses music and culture as a lens through which to view our world, so that we might better understand ourselves, and in so doing proves himself a bellwether for our times. "Funny, painful, precise, desperate, and loving throughout. Not a day has sounded the same since I read him." —Greil Marcus, Village Voice

African American Pride - Tyehimba Jess 2003

Honoring the accomplishments of African-American men and women from the colonial period to the present day, this inspirational study honors the people, places, and events that have transformed America, with profiles of Crispus Attucks, Colin Powell, Zora Neale Hurston, George Washington Carver, Leontyne Price, W. E. B. Du Bois, and others.

Ghost Of - Diana Khoi Nguyen 2018

Winner of the Omnidawn Open Poetry Book Prize

The Water Statues - Fleur Jaeggy 2021-09-07

Family, obsession, and privilege boiled down by the icy-hot Swiss-Italian master stylist Fleur Jaeggy Even among Fleur Jaeggy's singular and intricate works, *The Water Statues* is a shiningly peculiar book. Concerned with loneliness and wealth's odd emotional poverty, this early novel is in part structured as a play: the dramatis personae include the various relatives, friends, and servants of a man named Beeklam, a wealthy recluse who keeps statues in his villa's flooded basement, where memories shiver in uncertain light and the waters run off to the sea. Dedicated to Ingeborg Bachmann and fleshed out with Jaeggy's austere yet voluptuous style, *The Water Statues*—with its band of deracinated, loosely related souls (milling about as often in the distant past as in the mansion's garden full of intoxicated snails)—delivers like a slap an indelible picture of the swampiness of family life.

The Atmospherians - Alex McElroy 2021-05-18

Best Book of 2021 by Esquire Book You Need to Read in 2021 by Harper's Bazaar "Darkly funny and glitteringly satirical, *The Atmospherians* unforgettably takes aim at wokeness, wellness, and toxic masculinity." —Esquire This "edgy, addictive" (Kirkus Reviews, starred) satire about two best friends who form *The Atmosphere*—a cult designed to reform problematic men—is "a book to be devoured" (Vanity Fair). Sasha

Marcus was once the epitome of contemporary success: an internet sensation, social media darling, and a creator of a high-profile wellness brand for women. But a confrontation with an abusive troll has taken a horrifying turn, and now she's at rock bottom: canceled and doxxed online, isolated in her apartment while men's rights protestors rage outside. Sasha confides in her oldest childhood friend, Dyson—a failed actor with a history of body issues—who hatches a plan for her to restore her reputation by becoming the face of his new business venture, *The Atmosphere*: a rehabilitation community for men. Based in an abandoned summer camp and billed as a workshop for job training, it is actually a rigorous program designed to rid men of their toxic masculinity. Sasha has little choice but to accept. But what horrors await her as the resident female leader of a crew of washed up, desperate men? And what exactly does Dyson want? Explosive, dazzling, and wickedly funny, *The Atmospherians* is "a book written with this exact cultural moment in mind" (Oprah Daily).

The Gypsy Moth Summer - Julia Fierro 2017-06-06

"Fierro doesn't just observe, she knows. Like all great novelists, she gives us the world." - Amy Bloom, bestselling author of *Away* and *Lucky Us* It is the summer of 1992 and a gypsy moth invasion blankets Avalon Island. Ravenous caterpillars disrupt early summer serenity on Avalon, an islet off the coast of Long Island—dropping onto novels left open on picnic blankets, crawling across the T-shirts of children playing games of tag and capture the flag in the island's leafy woods. The caterpillars become a relentless topic of island conversation and the inescapable soundtrack of the season. It is also the summer Leslie Day Marshall—only daughter of Avalon's most prominent family—returns with her husband, a botanist, and their children to live in "The Castle," the island's grandest estate. Leslie's husband Jules is African-American, and their children bi-racial, and islanders from both sides of the tracks form fast and dangerous opinions about the new arrivals. Maddie Pencott LaRosa straddles those tracks: a teen queen with roots in the tony precincts of East Avalon and the crowded working class corner of West Avalon, home to Grudder Aviation factory, the island's bread-and-butter and birthplace of generations of bombers and war machines. Maddie falls in love with Brooks, Leslie's and Jules' son, and that love feels as urgent to Maddie as the questions about the new and deadly cancers showing up across the island. Could Grudder Aviation, the pride of the island—and its patriarch, the Colonel—be to blame? As the gypsy moths burst from cocoons in flocks that seem to eclipse the sun, Maddie's and Brooks' passion for each other grows and she begins planning a life for them off Avalon Island. Vivid with young lovers, gangs of anxious outsiders; a plotting aged matriarch and her husband, a demented military patriarch; and a troubled young boy, each seeking his or her own refuge, escape and revenge, *The Gypsy Moth Summer* is about love, gaps in understanding, and the struggle to connect: within families; among friends; between neighbors and entire generations.

Ugly Music - Diannely Antigua 2019-05-15

Poetry. African & African American Studies. Latinx Studies. Women's Studies. Diannely Antigua's debut collection, *UGLY MUSIC*, is a cacophonous symphony of reality, dream, trauma, and obsession. It reaches into the corners of love and loss where survival and surrender are blurred. The poems span a traumatic early childhood, a religious adolescence, and, later, a womanhood that grapples with learning how to create an identity informed by, yet in spite of, those challenges. What follows is an exquisitely vulgar voice, unafraid to draw attention to the distasteful, to speak a truth created by a collage of song and confession, diary and praise. It is an account of observation and dissociation, the danger of simultaneously being inside and outside the experiences that mold a life. *UGLY MUSIC* emerges as a story of witness, a realization that even the strangest things exist on earth and deserve to live. "Diannely Antigua's *UGLY MUSIC* is a beautiful disturbance of erotic energy. This debut counters the pull of thanatos with the effervescent allure of pure imagination, and everything is dangerously alive. Antigua's seduction is both intellectual and physical, a force strong enough to counter the emotional pains recounted here—an abandoning father, trespassed bodies, pregnancies lost, wanted, feared. At times, the speaker of these poems trespasses on her own body, as if to say a body is both precious and to be ruined, used, used up. At its deepest song, this is a theological protest and investigation by a speaker wrestling with faith and fathers, with unapologetic desire. These poems have found a way to circumvent the most precarious silences, to boast and to rue." -- Catherine Barnett

The Curious Thing: Poems - Sandra Lim 2021-09-14

In this gorgeous third collection, Sandra Lim investigates desire,

sexuality, and dream with sinewy intelligence and a startling freshness. Truthful, sensuous, and intellectually relentless, the poems in *The Curious Thing* are compelling meditations on love, art making, solitude, female fate, and both the mundane and serious principles of life. Sandra Lim's poetry displays stinging wit and a tough-minded approach to her own experiences: She speaks with Jean Rhys about beauty, encounters the dark loneliness that can exist inside a relationship, and discovers a coiled anger on a hot summer day. An extended poem sequence slyly revolves the meanings of finding oneself astray in midlife. A steely strength courses through the volume's myriad discoveries—Lim's lucidity and tenderness form a striking complement to her remarkable metaphors and the emotional clamor of her material. Animated by a sense of reckoning and a piercing inwardness, these anti-sentimental poems nevertheless celebrate the passionate and empathetic subjective life.

Midwest Gothic - Laura Donnelly 2020-08-15

Poetry. Winner of the 2019 Richard Snyder Memorial Publication Prize.

"The poems in *MIDWEST GOTHIC* make the daily deliciously strange-- 'the daily / which isn't still at all but a whirring / gone deep.' They make us work our way inside them, but once I entered this book, I didn't want to leave. I wanted to stay in 'the copper-tipped town;' I wanted to stay with the delphinium, 'a choir of indigo, ' and 'cornfields made surreal / in the dark.' These difficult times have tested my faith in many things, including language, and *MIDWEST GOTHIC* arrived just in time to remind me what poems can do."--Maggie Smith

Soulfires - Daniel J. Wideman 1996

Shares the views of young African-American men on love and violence

Song - Brigit Pegeen Kelly 1995

Winner of the 1994 Lamont Poetry selection of The Academy of American Poets. "Kelly has a talent for coaxing out the world's ghosts and then fixing them in personal landscapes of fear and uncertainty.... Smoothed by nuances of sound and rhythm, her poems exude an ambiguous wisdom, an acceptance of the sad magic that returns us constantly to the lives we might have led."--Library Journal

Some Say the Lark - Jennifer Chang 2017-10-10

"Some Say the Lark is a piercing meditation, rooted in loss and longing, and manifest in dazzling leaps of the imagination—the familiar world rendered strange." —Natasha Trethewey Chang's poems narrate grief and loss, and intertwines them with hope for a fresh start in the midst of new beginnings. With topics such as frustration with our social and natural world, these poems openly question the self and place and how private experiences like motherhood and sorrow necessitate a deeper engagement with public life and history. From "The Winter's Wife": I want wild roots to prosper an invention of blooms, each unknown to every wise gardener. If I could be a color. If I could be a question of tender regard. I know crabgrass and thistle. I know one algorithm: it has nothing to do with repetition or rhythm. It is the route from number to number (less to more, more to less), a map drawn by proof not faith. Unlike twilight, I do not conclude with darkness. I conclude. Jennifer Chang is the author of *The History of Anonymity*, which was a finalist for the Glasgow/Shenandoah Prize for Emerging Writers and listed by *Hyphen Magazine* as a Top Five Book of Poetry for 2008. Her poems have appeared in *American Poetry Review*, *Best American Poetry 2012*, *The Nation*, *Poetry*, *A Public Space*, and elsewhere. She is an assistant professor of English and Creative Writing at George Washington University and lives in Washington, DC with her family.

Ants Among Elephants - Sujatha Gidla 2017-07-18

A Wall Street Journal Top 10 Nonfiction Book of 2017 A Publishers Weekly Best Book of 2017 A Shelf Awareness Best Book of 2017 "Ants Among Elephants is an arresting, affecting and ultimately enlightening memoir. It is quite possibly the most striking work of non-fiction set in India since *Behind the Beautiful Forevers* by Katherine Boo, and heralds the arrival of a formidable new writer." —The Economist The stunning true story of an untouchable family who become teachers, and one, a poet and revolutionary Like one in six people in India, Sujatha Gidla was born an untouchable. While most untouchables are illiterate, her family was educated by Canadian missionaries in the 1930s, making it possible for Gidla to attend elite schools and move to America at the age of twenty-six. It was only then that she saw how extraordinary—and yet how typical—her family history truly was. Her mother, Manjula, and uncles Satyam and Carey were born in the last days of British colonial rule. They grew up in a world marked by poverty and injustice, but also full of possibility. In the slums where they lived, everyone had a political side, and rallies, agitations, and arrests were commonplace. The Independence movement promised freedom. Yet for untouchables and other poor and working people, little changed. Satyam, the eldest,

switched allegiance to the Communist Party. Gidla recounts his incredible transformation from student and labor organizer to famous poet and founder of a left-wing guerrilla movement. And Gidla charts her mother's battles with caste and women's oppression. Page by page, Gidla takes us into a complicated, close-knit family as they desperately strive for a decent life and a more just society. A moving portrait of love, hardship, and struggle, *Ants Among Elephants* is also that rare thing: a personal history of modern India told from the bottom up.

Calamities - Renee Gladman 2020-07-28

WINNER of the 2017 Firecracker Award for Nonfiction from CLMP A collection of linked essays concerned with the life and mind of the writer by one of the most original voices in contemporary literature. Each essay takes a day as its point of inquiry, observing the body as it moves through time, architecture, and space, gradually demanding a new logic and level of consciousness from the narrator and reader.

Less - Perfection Learning Corporation 2019

Little Fires Everywhere (Movie Tie-In) - Celeste Ng 2020-03-17

The #1 New York Times bestseller! Now a Hulu original series starring Reese Witherspoon and Kerry Washington. "I read *Little Fires Everywhere* in a single, breathless sitting." —Jodi Picoult "To say I love this book is an understatement. It's a deep psychological mystery about the power of motherhood, the intensity of teenage love, and the danger of perfection. It moved me to tears." —Reese Witherspoon "Extraordinary . . . books like *Little Fires Everywhere* don't come along often." —John Green From the bestselling author of *Everything I Never Told You*, a riveting novel that traces the intertwined fates of the picture-perfect Richardson family and the enigmatic mother and daughter who upend their lives. In Shaker Heights, a placid, progressive suburb of Cleveland, everything is planned—from the layout of the winding roads, to the colors of the houses, to the successful lives its residents will go on to lead. And no one embodies this spirit more than Elena Richardson, whose guiding principle is playing by the rules. Enter Mia Warren—an enigmatic artist and single mother—who arrives in this idyllic bubble with her teenaged daughter Pearl, and rents a house from the Richardsons. Soon Mia and Pearl become more than tenants: all four Richardson children are drawn to the mother-daughter pair. But Mia carries with her a mysterious past and a disregard for the status quo that threatens to upend this carefully ordered community. When old family friends of the Richardsons attempt to adopt a Chinese-American baby, a custody battle erupts that dramatically divides the town—and puts Mia and Elena on opposing sides. Suspicious of Mia and her motives, Elena is determined to uncover the secrets in Mia's past. But her obsession will come at unexpected and devastating costs. *Little Fires Everywhere* explores the weight of secrets, the nature of art and identity, and the ferocious pull of motherhood—and the danger of believing that following the rules can avert disaster. Named a Best Book of the Year by: People, The Washington Post, Bustle, Esquire, Southern Living, The Daily Beast, GQ, Entertainment Weekly, NPR, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, iBooks, Audible, Goodreads, Library Reads, Book of the Month, Paste, Kirkus Reviews, St. Louis Post-Dispatch, and many more... Perfect for book clubs! Visit celesteng.com for discussion guides and more.

Unmark - Montreux Rotholtz 2017-10-10

Poetry. Winner of the 2015 Burnside Review Press Book Award, selected by Mary Syzbist. "'To mark' means many things: to stain, to sign, to correct, to celebrate. Montreux Rotholtz's UNMARK ambitiously means much more, performing and undoing those acts, correcting definitions, understandings, and then unraveling those corrections in a headlong, fearless drive toward what is 'just.' These poems leave only what 'claw[s] to remain'--and astonish with the lushness inside that leanness, where 'the hot cloud [is] slung/around us, ' and the 'pale green coronas' of 'lit sea-lanterns' 'fill the space.' Lyric traditions--confession, fable, love poem, elegy, fugue, prayer--ghost through these constantly inventive poems and let us hear the strangeness of language, its overabundance and partialness, the way it both dissociates and connects. The beautiful, sensual intensity of these poems is haunted, assured: each one leans toward us, 'feeling / for [our] fragile pressures, ' to 'clarify [our] ear.'"--Mary Syzbist

The Book of X - Sarah Rose Etter 2019-07-16

*The Believer Book Awards, 2019: Editors' Longlists in Fiction *The Northern California 'Golden Poppy' Book Awards 2019, Fiction longlist *A Best Book of 2019 —Vulture, Entropy, BuzzFeed, Thrillist "Etter brilliantly, viciously lays bare what it means to be a woman in the world, what it means to hurt, to need, to want, so much it consumes everything." —Roxane Gay, author of *Bad Feminist* "I loved every page of

this gorgeous, grotesque, heartbreaking novel." —Carmen Maria Machado, author of *Her Body and Other Parties* A surreal exploration of one woman's life and death against a landscape of meat, office desks, and bad men. *The Book of X* tells the tale of Cassie, a girl born with her stomach twisted in the shape of a knot. From childhood with her parents on the family meat farm, to a desk job in the city, to finally experiencing love, she grapples with her body, men, and society, all the while imagining a softer world than the one she is in. Twining the drama of the everyday — school-age crushes, paying bills, the sickness of parents — with the surreal — rivers of thighs, men for sale, and fields of throats — Cassie's realities alternate to create a blurred, fantastic world of haunting beauty.

Leadbelly - Tyehimba Jess 2005

National Poetry Series winner makes compelling poetry from the tumultuous life of blues singer Leadbelly.

Hidden in History: The Untold Story of Female Artists, Musicians, and Writers - Myra Faye Turner 2018-11-08

Of the few historical shortlists women make as influencers in the arts; the same few names are recognized; making the catalogue of powerful and gifted females feel like a small and exclusive club. The truth is; however; that far more women than we know can be credited with contributions to the industries in which they honed their crafts. In 1940; when the world was at war and the Civil Rights Movement had yet to turn the page of history; Hattie McDaniel became the first black woman to win an Academy Award. She and Anna May Wong fought hard to pave the way for actresses of color and fight against racial stereotypes. Maria Tallchief was the first; and one of the only; Native American prima ballerinas to push past the stage wings toward the limelight. More than just performers; these women were people as well. In *Hidden in History: The Untold Stories of Female Artists; Musicians; and Writers*; the lives of many of these artists are explored; from Edmonia Lewis' wrongful expulsion from higher learning to the boundary-breaking talents of the International Sweethearts of Rhythm and their untraditional start as a school band. This book is an open door to the lives of 10 female artists; wordsmiths and performers whose work has often been overlooked in the dusty pages of an often male-dictated narration.

The Crown Ain't Worth Much - Hanif Abdurraqib 2017-05-15

The Crown Ain't Worth Much, Hanif Willis-Abdurraqib's first full-length collection, is a sharp and vulnerable portrayal of city life in the United States. A regular columnist for MTV.com, Abdurraqib brings his interest in pop culture to these poems, analyzing race, gender, family, and the love that finally holds us together even as it threatens to break us. Terrance Hayes writes that Abdurraqib "bridges the bravado and bling of praise with the blood and tears of elegy." The poems in this collection are challenging and accessible at once, as they seek to render real human voices in moments of tragedy and celebration.

Trophic Cascade - Camille T. Dungy 2017-03-07

Winner of the Colorado Book Award in Poetry (2018) In this fourth book in a series of award-winning survival narratives, Dungy writes positioned at a fulcrum, bringing a new life into the world even as her elders are passing on. In a time of massive environmental degradation, violence and abuse of power, a world in which we all must survive, these poems resonate within and beyond the scope of the human realms, delicately balancing between conflicting loci of attention. Dwelling between vibrancy and its opposite, Dungy writes in a single poem about a mother, a daughter, Smokin' Joe Frazier, brittle stars, giant boulders, and a dead blue whale. These poems are written in the face of despair to hold an impossible love and a commitment to hope. A readers companion will be available at wesleyan.edu/wespress/readerscompanions.

Happiness - Aminatta Forna 2018-03-06

The prize-winning author of *The Memory of Love* investigates London's hidden nature and marginalized communities in this fascinating novel. London, 2014. A fox makes its way across Waterloo Bridge. The distraction causes two pedestrians to collide—Jean, an American studying the habits of urban foxes, and Attila, a Ghanaian psychiatrist. Attila has arrived in London with two tasks: to deliver a keynote speech on trauma, and to contact a friend's daughter Ama, his "niece" who hasn't called home in a while. Ama has been swept up in an immigration crackdown, and now her young son Tano is missing. Jean offers to help Attila by mobilizing her network volunteer fox spotters. Soon, rubbish men, security guards, hotel doormen, traffic wardens—mainly West African immigrants who work the myriad streets of London—come together to help. As the search for Tano continues, a deepening friendship between Attila and Jean unfolds. Attila's time in London causes him to question his own ideas about trauma, the values of the

society he finds himself in, and a personal grief of his own. In this delicate tale of love and loss, of thoughtless cruelty and unexpected community, Aminatta Forna asks us to consider our co-existence with one another and all living creatures, and the true nature of happiness.

The Small Backs of Children - Lidia Yuknavitch 2015-07-07

National Bestseller A masterful literary talent explores the treacherous, often violent borders between war and sex, love and art. With the flash of a camera, one girl's life is shattered, and a host of others altered forever.

. . . In a war-torn village in Eastern Europe, an American photographer captures a heart-stopping image: a young girl flying toward the lens, fleeing a fiery explosion that has engulfed her home and family. The image wins acclaim and prizes, becoming an icon for millions—and a subject of obsession for one writer, the photographer's best friend, who has suffered a devastating tragedy of her own. As the writer plunges into a suicidal depression, her filmmaker husband enlists several friends, including a fearless bisexual poet and an ingenuous performance artist, to save her by rescuing the unknown girl and bringing her to the United States. And yet, as their plot unfolds, everything we know about the story comes into question: What does the writer really want? Who is controlling the action? And what will happen when these two worlds—east and west, real and virtual—collide? A fierce, provocative, and deeply affecting novel of both ideas and action that blends the tight construction of Julian Barnes's *The Sense of an Ending* with the emotional power of Anthony Marra's *A Constellation of Vital Phenomena*, Lidia Yuknavitch's *The Small Backs of Children* is a major step forward from one of our most avidly watched writers.

Understanding Colson Whitehead - Derek C. Maus 2021-04-07

An inviting point of entrance into the truth seeking, genre defying novels of the award-winning author In 2020 Colson Whitehead became the youngest recipient of the Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction. Although Whitehead's widely divergent books complicate overarching categorization, Derek C. Maus argues that they are linked by their skepticism toward the ostensible wisdom inherited from past generations and the various forms of "stories" that transmit it. Whitehead, best known for his Pulitzer Prize winning novel *The Underground Railroad*, bids readers to accompany him on challenging, often open-ended literary excursions designed to reexamine—and frequently defy—accepted notions of truth. *Understanding Colson Whitehead* unravels the parallel structures found within Whitehead's books from his 1999 debut *The Intuitionist* through 2019's *The Nickel Boys*, for which he won his second Pulitzer Prize for Fiction. By first imitating and then violating their conventions, Whitehead attempts to transcend the limits of the formulas of the genres in which he seems to write. Whitehead similarly tests subject matter, again imitating and then satirizing various forms of conventional wisdom as a means of calling out unexamined, ignored, or malevolent aspects of American culture. Although it is only one of many subjects that Whitehead addresses, race is often central to his work. It serves as a prime example of Whitehead's attempt to prompt his readers into revisiting their assumptions about meanings and values. By upending the literary formulas of the detective novel, the heroic folktale, the coming-of-age story, the zombie apocalypse, the slave narrative, and historical fiction, Whitehead reveals the flaws and shortcomings by which Americans have defined themselves. In addition to evoking such explicitly literary storytelling traditions, Whitehead also directs attention toward other interrelated historical and cultural processes that influence how race, class, gender, education, social status, and other categories of identity determine what an individual supposedly can and cannot do.

When I Grow Up I Want to Be a List of Further Possibilities - Chen Chen 2017-04-11

This award-winning debut interrogates the fragile, inherited ways of approaching love and family from Asian American, immigrant, and queer perspectives.

Silence - Erling Kagge 2017-11-21

What is silence? Where can it be found? Why is it now more important than ever? In 1993, Norwegian explorer Erling Kagge spent fifty days walking solo across Antarctica, becoming the first person to reach the South Pole alone, accompanied only by a radio whose batteries he had removed before setting out. In this book, an astonishing and transformative meditation, Kagge explores the silence around us, the silence within us, and the silence we must create. By recounting his own experiences and discussing the observations of poets, artists, and explorers, Kagge shows us why silence is essential to sanity and happiness—and how it can open doors to wonder and gratitude. (With full-color photographs throughout.)

Deluge - Leila Chatto 2020-04-21

"To write a series of poems out of extreme illness is a bracing accomplishment indeed. In *Deluge...* Leila Chatti, born of a Catholic mother and a Muslim father, brilliantly explores the trauma." —Naomi Shihab Nye, *The New York Times* In her early twenties, Leila Chatti started bleeding and did not stop. Physicians referred to this bleeding as flooding. In the Qur'an, as in the Bible, the Flood was sent as punishment. The idea of disease as punishment drives this collection's themes of shame, illness, grief, and gender, transmuting religious narratives through the lens of a young Arab-American woman suffering a taboo female affliction. *Deluge* investigates the childhood roots of faith and desire alongside their present day enactments. Chatti's remarkably direct voice makes use of innovative poetic form to gaze unflinchingly at what she was taught to keep hidden. This powerful piece of life-writing depicts Chatti's journey from diagnosis to surgery and remission in meticulous chronology that binds body to spirit and advocates for the salvation of both. Chatti blends personal narrative, religious imagery, and medical terminology in a chronicle of illness, womanhood, and faith.

Made to Explode: Poems - Sandra Beasley 2021-02-09

With lacerating honesty, technical mastery, and abiding compassion,

Made to Explode offers volatile poems for our volatile times. In her fourth collection, acclaimed poet Sandra Beasley interrogates the landscapes of her life in decisive, fearless, and precise poems that fuse intimacy and intensity. She probes memories of growing up in Virginia, in Thomas Jefferson's shadow, where liberal affluence obscured and perpetuated racist aggressions, but where the poet was simultaneously steeped in the cultural traditions of the American South. Her home in Washington, DC, inspires prose poems documenting and critiquing our capital's institutions and monuments. In these poems, Ruth Bader Ginsberg shows up at the Folger Shakespeare Theatre's show of *Kiss Me Kate*; Albert Einstein is memorialized on Constitution Avenue, yet was denied clearance for the Manhattan Project; as temperatures cool, a rain of spiders drops from the dome of the Jefferson Memorial. A stirring suite explores Beasley's affiliation with the disability community and her frustration with the ways society codes disability as inferiority. Quintessentially American and painfully timely, these poems examine legacies of racism and whiteness, the shadow of monuments to a world we are unmaking, and the privileges the poet is working to untangle. *Made to Explode* boldly reckons with Beasley's roots and seeks out resonance in society writ large.