

FRANKFURT 2004
REFERENCE NUMBER: 130080

Peter Ackroyd

THE LAMBS OF LONDON

"A delicious entertainment" *Sunday Telegraph*

Brother and sister Charles and Mary Lamb become acquainted with self-educated bookseller's son, William Henry Ireland. Mary shares William's love of Shakespeare, and, he, thanks to a mysterious patron, happens upon previously unseen works by the Bard. But are they real works, or forged, and, if so, by whom? As suspicion grows, Mary's mental state deteriorates. A gripping story of art imitating art, *The Lambs of London* brilliantly recreates an urban world of scholars and entrepreneurs, actors and theatre managers, a world of betrayal and deceit. Ingenious.

Material: Finished copies **Sales: Chatto UK; Editions Philippe Rey France; Meulenhoff NL; Knaus Verlag Germany; Neri Pozza Italy**

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PETER ACKROYD'S BRIEF LIVES: CHAUCER

Chaucer – courtier, diplomat, judge, poet, debtor, suspected rapist, author of the first novel in modern English. This is the first in a series of ten short biographies, which will be supported by a massive publicity campaign. Forthcoming: JMW TURNER (2005); NEWTON.

Material: Finished copies **Sales: Chatto UK; Editions Philippe Rey France**

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THE CLERKENWELL TALES

"Tremendous" *Independent on Sunday*

Set in London in 1399, *The Clerkenwell Tales* depicts a world where people's preoccupations are not that dissimilar from our own, positing a popular cult around the 'mad' nun, Sister Clarice, whose visions of earthly doom capture the public imagination. Meanwhile, a group of religious terrorists plan five acts of violence to occur at five key sites in London. And within this group, there is a second, secret group with another agenda still – to dethrone King Richard II, and crown his cousin Henry Bolingbroke in his place. But what does Sister Clarice know of all this? And what does it have to do with the murder of a merchant, or the sadomasochistic rituals in Latin between a canon and his yeoman? And how are any of these characters connected to the religious reformists in Avignon, who have appointed a rival pope? *The Clerkenwell Tales* is a medieval thriller par excellence.

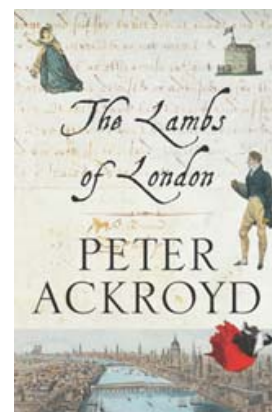
Material: Finished copies **Sales: Chatto UK, Nan Talese USA, Philippe Rey France, Edhasa Spain, Meulenhoff Holland, Knaus Verlag Germany, Zysk Poland; Livanis Greece; Teorema Portugal; Alkim Turkey. Peter Ackroyd is also published by: Stock France, Frassinelli Italy, Teorema Portugal, BB Art Czech, Inostranka & Nezarisimaya Gazeta Russia, Polirom Romania, Chajak Korea, Alma Lithuania.**

Also by Peter Ackroyd:

ALBION: THE ORIGINS OF THE ENGLISH IMAGINATION

"His masterpiece" *The Herald* **Material:** UK paperback edition

LONDON: THE BIOGRAPHY



“Indispensable” *The Observer* **Material:** UK paperback edition

THE PLATO PAPERS

‘Exquisite’ *Independent* **Material:** UK paperback edition

FORTHCOMING:

Peter Ackroyd’s long-awaited biography of SHAKESPEARE.

Adalet Ağaoğlu

CURFEW (Üç Beş Kişi)

Murat, the beautiful rebel, who has disgraced his reputable family by falling in love with the singer, Selmin, is due to meet his meek and troubled sister, Kismet, off the night train from Eskişehir to Istanbul. His uncle, Ferit, the Paris educated industrialist, has also loved Selmin, but his crime is rather his pragmatic politics, which leaves him cut off from his idealistic university friends. And then there is Kardelen, Kismet's only friend, alone on the eve of her bittersweet wedding, and the opposing matriarchs – Türkan Hanim and Neval Rifatzade – doyennes of different, disappearing worlds, worlds subject to the same 2am curfew and the constant refrain of political violence ("Three dead. Four wounded...")



CURFEW is set in various locations across Turkey over three hours of one night in June 1980 ("Night time. June. But still some time to the longest day and shortest night..."), at a time of curfew in anticipation of the military coup of September that year. Seven linked characters reveal their lives to build an intricately detailed yet panoramic human portrait of Turkey in the post-war era.

Press Reviews of CURFEW:

"In a deft interweaving of individual stories that's reminiscent of Egypt's Naguib Mahfouz, Agaoglu assembles from intriguingly dramatic fragments the experiences of a thirtyish woman determined to live independent from restrictive traditional mores, her brother in his tragicomic pursuit of a haughty nightclub singer, and other family, lovers, and antagonists whose fates prove inextricably connected. Convincing characterisations and a keen sense of how cultural history influences personal destiny make this an absorbing and unusually satisfying realistic novel." KIRKUS REVIEWS

"I guess our recent history will be written about a few times, or maybe many times, but no other writer will ever match Adalet Agaoglu in terms of her strength and uniqueness." (Ahmet Cemal)

Material: Turkish and US editions

Sales: University of Texas Press USA (out of print) Previous Publishers: Klartext Verlag, Ararat Verlag, Germany.

"Yazsonu" (The End of Summer) will be published by Uitgeverij 3C in Holland in November 2004; "Olmeye Yatmak" (Lying Down to Die) will be published by Unionsverlag in Germany in 2006 (translation ready Spring 2005); "Fikrimin Ince Gulu" (Fine Rose of My Thought) will be published by Lagudera in Greece in 2005/6.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ADALET AGAOGLU is one of the leading contemporary authors in Turkey, and has received the prestigious Aydin Dogan Foundation prize (awarded once every five years for the best book published during this time), the Turkish Presidential Award of Merit for her services to art and culture, an Honorary PhD from the University of Anatolia, and an Honorary PhD from Ohio State University, USA. Her writing addresses solitude, political and social issues, changing values, and the role of women in society, and is acclaimed for its technical, and formal innovations.

Adalet Agaoglu is married and lives in Istanbul.

Uzma Aslam Khan

SHORTLISTED FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PRIZE (EURASIA REGION), 2004,
AND THE MOST WIDELY PUBLISHED PAKISTANI AUTHOR EVER

TRESPASSING

'A contemporary romantic tragedy displays a startlingly fresh voice as Khan illuminates the complex social, religious, and economic mores of Pakistan while offering an outsider's hard-eyed perspective on American attitudes during the first Gulf War... A rare, wonderful gift of a novel that defies mere plot synopsis... seamlessly merges the personal with the larger sociopolitical conundrums we all face today.'

Kirkus Reviews (starred review)

'...we glimpse a Pakistan – in particular, the environs of Karachi – that no writer in English has, as far as I know, ever depicted before... a delicate erotic tale spun from threads of timeless myth'

Independent
'Original and emotional... as intricately patterned and vivid as lengths of top-quality silk.'

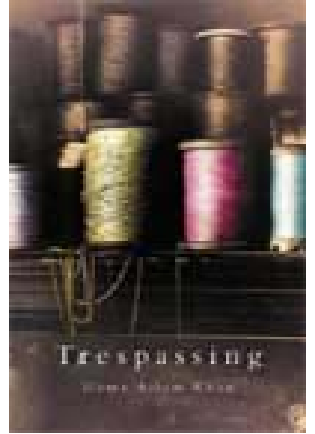
Sunday Telegraph

'Uzma Aslam Khan's stunning, intricate novel... the book's epic scope is enhanced by its interweaved narratives of beautifully realised characters.'

Metro

'*Trespassing* is a self-confident novel that marks the emergence of a new generation of Pakistani novelists.'

Tariq Ali



From "the excellent young Pakistani writer, Uzma Aslam Khan" (to quote Boyd Tonkin) comes a hugely accomplished novel largely set in Karachi in the summer of 1992.

Daanish is a journalist who has returned to Pakistan from America, only to find himself at home nowhere. Acquiescing to fate and his mother's desire for him to get married, he is soon introduced to Nissrine. But it is Nissrine's best friend, Dia, who attracts him. Dia, nineteen, the daughter of Riffat, a successful businesswoman, has never known what happened to her father. Dia and Daanish embark on a secret affair, an affair much facilitated by Salaamat, a partially deaf former freedom fighter who now works as a chauffeur. Unbeknownst to Dia, Salaamat knows much of her parents' histories: he knows what happened to her father and he knows her mother's secret too.



TRESPASSING is haunting and beautiful, as satisfying and thrilling as Arundhati Roy's THE GOD OF SMALL THINGS, and, woven within a delicate structure that perfectly compliments its themes of craftwork and collecting, the characters – and their destinies – are utterly clear and compelling.

Material: Many editions

Sales: Flamingo UK; Metropolitan USA; Penguin India; Alhamra Pakistan; Editions Philippe Picquier France; Europa Verlag Germany; Neri Pozza Italy; Alfaguara World Spanish; RBA Catalan; Van Gennepe NL; Psychogios Greece; Ambar Portugal; Ordfront Sweden; Inkilap Turkey; Alfa Narodna Knjiga Serbia; Det Norske Samlaget Norway

Abdelkader Benali

WINNER OF THE LIBRIS PRIZE, 2003

THE LONG-AWAITED (DE LANGVERWACHTE)

"Sublime" – *HP de Tijd*

"An extraordinarily rich novel" – *De Telegraaf*

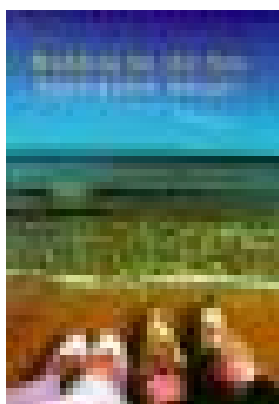
"...an eternal fairytale about how people are formed, how coincidences and impulsive choices can decide fate, about how people can get to know each other in magical ways or lose each other in equally extraordinary ways." *Spitz*

An unborn child on New Year's Eve narrates from the womb of a young mother, Diana, waiting for the family to assemble before emerging. The father is Mehdi, son of Driss, erstwhile butcher, a man pathologically incapable of passing his driving test, and Malika, the tea-addict. The child tells of how Mehdi's secret love for Diana is revealed one hallucinogenic night: the moment of conception. A family story in which characters interfere and interact with one another, and successive generations dispute their differences. A literary roller-coaster, this is a light-footed tale about wedding dresses that refuse to get married, an unsellable butcher's shop that is somehow sold all the same, and the narrator's godfather, a man who can only fall asleep after he has seen fireworks.

Material: Finished copies of Dutch edition, sample translations in English and Italian **Sales:** **Vassallucci NL (original publisher); Fazi Editore Italy; Grijalbo Mondadori Spain.**

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WEDDING BY THE SEA (BRUILOFT AAN ZEE)



A prize-winning novel that creates a rich picture of the contrasting worlds and cultural conflicts of East and West.

Twenty-year-old Lamarat Minar returns home from Holland to a deserted seaside village in Morocco for his sister Rebekka's wedding. During the festivities, however, he discovers that the groom has made his escape – to the local brothel, 'Lolita'.

Lamarat is given the task of retrieving Mosa, the reluctant husband-to-be, and returning him to his waiting bride. With the help of know-all taxi driver Chalid, and after many U-turns, detours and hairpin bends, Lamarat finds Mosa, and drags him back to the village by the sea where Rebekka is waiting to administer a sweet and gruesome revenge...

Material: many editions **Sales:** **Vassallucci (original publisher); Weidenfeld & Nicholson UK; Arcade USA; Piper Verlag Germany; Albin Michel France; Grijalbo Mondadori Spain; Fremad Denmark; Babel Israel; Kedros Greece; Teorema Portugal; Marcos y Marcos Italy; Det Norske Samlaget Norway; Kronta Lithuania.**

ABDELKADER BENALI, 29, is the author of **WEDDING BY THE SEA (BRUILOFT AAN ZEE)**, which won the Geertjan Lubberhuizen Prize, was nominated for the Libris in 1997, and won the Premier Roman Etranger in France.



Ottavio Cappellani

WHO IS LOU SCIORTINO? (CHI E' LOU SCIORTINO)

The superb fictional debut of a Sicilian Roddy Doyle. When a policeman is murdered in the little shop owned by "Uncle Mimmo" (in truth, no-one's uncle at all), the finger is pointed at Nick, a "neo-melodic" musician, whose band, *Tears and Saints*, have cornered the market in marriages, barbeques and ex-slave conventions (but in his heart Nick is a tough, glamorous rock star).

Meanwhile on the other side of the world, Lou Sciortino – grandson of the biggest and most envied boss of the Sicilian-American mafia in Los Angeles, who only wants Lou to be a really nice, decent person and concentrate on his job laundering the family money by producing the films of Leonard Trent (writer, director, actor and madman) – is about to find himself in a lot of trouble... When a bomb explodes in the offices of 'Starship Movies', Lou is sent back to safe Sicily to stay with family friends, because a really nice

decent person doesn't take part in mafia wars. But keeping his distance from his grandfather, the family, and all-out mafia war is as big a problem for Lou as his love of gin. And then Lou is asked to investigate a strange musician named Nick and a murder in a small shop...

A novel in which your friends are not your friends, some killers are very glamorous in black Armani, grandfathers aren't silly old men at all, hairstyles are explosions, nice decent people can still bring on the apocalypse, and the reader asks the question – can the inimitable Lou Sciortino negotiate countless party girls, coiffeurs, crazy actors, lunatic musicians, small shopkeepers, and Sicilian wives to solve the murder?

This book, intended to be the first in a series, is utterly unique: a beautifully written, witty, authentic and gripping novel that reveals how today's mafia works.



OTTAVIO CAPPELLANI is a journalist with a daily column on the Sicilia newspaper and writes for several other Italian papers. He is also a songwriter and musician and fronts a band.

Material: Finished copies of Italian edition (first print run 9,500 copies)
Sales: Neri Pozza Italy (published September 2004)

José Luis Correa

QUINCE DIAS DE NOVIEMBRE (TWO WEEKS IN NOVEMBER)

A modern-day version of Dashiell Hammett's Sam Spade or Raymond Chandler's Marlowe... in the Canary Islands.

Ricardo Blanco, at 44 years of age, has managed to reign in his wayward life, and, with the help of a friend's money, has set up a detective agency in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. Then, a beautiful woman assigns him the task of investigating the apparent suicide of her fiancé and this submerges him in two worlds that are at once seductive and dangerous: the world of bars and the world of the cruises and parties of the "rich kids" of Las Palmas. Blanco ventures there with the insinuating impunity of the private detective, but is nonetheless susceptible to the fatal attractiveness of his client, who threatens his apparent emotional detachment. QUINCE DIAS DE NOVIEMBRE is the first in a series to feature the detective, Blanco, as the main character set in an unusual territory for the noir genre: Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.



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MUERTE EN ABRIL (DEATH IN APRIL)

This is Correa's second novel starring Ricardo Blanco, the detective from Gran Canaria, lover of Jazz, women, film and crime fiction, who is destined to become one of the greats of the literary detective novel.

Nobody misses Mario Bermudez, an obscure and cowardly type, when he disappears one Friday in April. That's why his corpse has been rotting for three days in the bathroom. That's why there is no one around to explain what the man is doing lying in the shower dressed in matching embroidered bra, knickers and stockings. But when the following Friday another man is found with the same symptoms of asphyxiation and also dressing in women's clothing, and then later more men are found this way, the whole of Las Palmas is shocked.



JOSE LUIS CORREA (Las Palmas 1962) is a teacher at the University of Las Palmas in Gran Canaria. He has won a number of different prizes for his writing, including the Premio Benito Perez Armas (Santa Cruz de Tenerife 2000) for his novel "They killed me so badly" and the Premio Vargas Llosa (Murcia 2002) with "Take a Look at Carla".

Material: Finished copies of Spanish editions

Sales: Alba Editorial Spain (original publisher)

Robert Craig

MORE LIKE WRESTLING THAN DANCING

'certain to pull in intelligent readers interested in the psychological and sociological aspects of relationships.' *Time Out*

'a superbly crafted second novel' *Daily Express*

'...intelligent but never high-faluting, earthy but never crude, realistic but never boring.' *Bradford Telegraph & Argus*

'Craig's treatment of the girls is warm-hearted, fond, and full of foible-driven laughs, but it's the men's web of subterfuge which provokes the real side-clutching.' *i-D Magazine*

Sex and the City girls Anna and Natasha are looking for fun, love and money. But they're stuck with the dregs of Bradford manhood...

Anna and Natasha are two old friends who share a grotty flat. By day they work side by side in a shoe shop, and on Saturday nights they frequent the dodgy local nightclub, the Apollo. There, they're becoming increasingly fed up with the calibre of men they meet – stupid, offensive, boring or a combination of all three. The friends visit the upmarket club, Bartok's, where Anna meets Richard and Natasha, Geoffrey. Everything seems perfect but the course of true love does not run smooth: Richard is married, and Geoffrey is living a lie... This is a witty, compelling and eye-opening exposé of the single life, friendship, and the realities of trying to get romantic relationships to work.

Material: Finished copies

Sales: Weidenfeld & Nicolson UK; Bastei Luebbe Germany; Red Fish Publishers Russia.

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COVER TO COVER



Avid reader Tanya Stephens is a 29-year-old graphic designer who is beginning not to see the point of having either friends or lovers. And when Tanya finds a book ostensibly about her own life in a second-hand bookshop, the line between fiction and reality begins to blur...

"Funny, intelligent and gripping – an impressive and enjoyable debut."

David Nobbs (author – *The Fall and Rise of Reginald Perrin*)

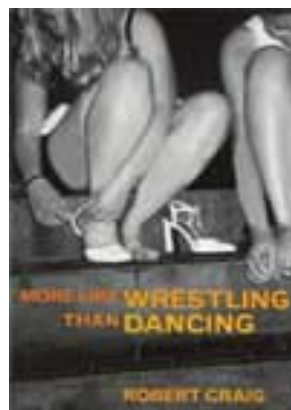
"Craig's debut novel is an intriguing read... a well structured exploration of emotional relationships." *Times*

"As a sly dig at chick-lit, and the readers who identify with the genre's heroines, this is an entertaining first novel." *Independent on Sunday*

"A smart, funny novel... With its twisting plot and sharp observations, this is a wonderful debut from a talented new writer." *Sainsbury's Magazine*

Material: Finished copies

Sales: Weidenfeld & Nicolson UK; Bastei Lubbe Germany; Høst & Søn Denmark; Kedros Greece; Magyar Könyvklub Hungary.



Tessa de Loo

THE SON FROM SPAIN (DE ZOON UIT SPANJE)

Gerlof de Windt, retired teacher of classical languages, is very ill. His children want to make his last birthday into an unforgettable family celebration. That is not going to be easy because one of them, the rebel Bardo, was banished from the house twenty-five years ago and has not been back since. He drifts around in the south of Spain and no one knows what kind of life he leads. To reunite father and son – before it is too late – the only daughter of the family has sought contact with him and has managed to convince him to come back for this last opportunity.

The apparent certainties of life in a well-to-do and well structured world comes up against the idea of freedom based on conviction that Bardo stands for, and the moral consequences thereof. The still smouldering feud between father and son threatens to flair up again, while the question of who will have to look after father on his deathbed hangs like a dark cloud over the festivities. Because everyone is so busy – except perhaps Bardo?

Material: Proofs **Sales:** De Arbeiderspers NL (original publisher); C Bertelsmann Germany

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A BED IN HEAVEN (EEN BED IN DE HEMEL)

'A virtuoso performance' *Publishers' Weekly*

'One of the most extraordinary and haunting novels I have read.' *The Independent*

Material: many editions. **Sales:** De Arbeiderspers NL; Bertelsmann Germany; Arcadia UK; Soho Press USA; Karisto Finland; Eroika Czech Republic; Magyar Könyvklub Hungary.

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THE TWINS (DE TWEELING)



FILM ADAPTATION 'TWIN SISTERS' OSCAR-NOMINATED FOR BEST FOREIGN-LANGUAGE FILM

'Completely original... A fiction whose poise, compassion and breadth takes the reader's breath away.' *The Sunday Times*

Born in Cologne, the twins Lotte and Anna are separated when young, following the death of their parents. Lotte is raised in luxury in Holland, and Anna raised by an uncaring farming family in Germany. Their fates differ markedly: Lotte is engaged to a Jew, who later dies at Auschwitz. Anna marries an SS officer, who is later killed in battle. Fifty years after the end of the Second World war, chance finally reunites the twins at a health resort, but the reunion is not an easy one...

Material: many editions

Sales: De Arbeiderspers NL; Bertelsmann Germany; Gotica Portugal; Kinneret Israel; Arcadia UK; Soho Press USA; Karisto Finland; Alfa Turkey; Eroika Czech Republic; Slovo Russia; Alfa-Narodna Knjiga Serbia; Pracownia Slow Poland; Nippon Shuppan Japan; Giunti Italy; Minerva Nova Hungary.

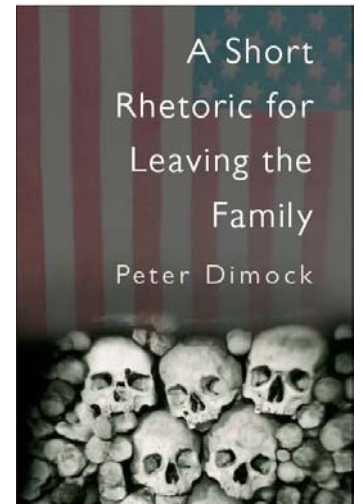
Peter Dimock

A SHORT RHETORIC FOR LEAVING THE FAMILY

"An intriguing, even perplexing, enactment of memory that journeys into the coldness that lay at the heart of America's Vietnam." *Ariel Dorfman*

"This is a singular book... possesses the rich, intricate, and subtle patternings of the verbal lacemaker's craft." *Toni Morrison*

Eerie in its timing, Peter Dimock's debut novel examines the conscience of the United States and one of its leading families during the Vietnam War. Central to the story are photographs of a US officer committing a war crime. The officer's brother, a conscientious objector and as such an embarrassment to his father who is highly placed in Washington, comes into possession of the photographs and refuses to return them. Because of this refusal, he is denied access to his brother's sons.



In an epistolary structure, the book looks at some old-fashioned virtues in a rhetorical manner. A serviceman's duty and loyalty to his country during wartime; the old 'I was just obeying orders' argument. Duty and honour to one's family; the sins of the father visited on the sons. Cowardice and death; how did Shakespeare put it? "Cowards die many times before their death, the valiant die but once." How virtue extends beyond death, and so on.

Hundreds of novels have explored war. But A SHORT RHETORIC FOR LEAVING THE FAMILY is the first to explore the world of the architects of the Vietnam war, and it cuts terribly close to home. Peter Dimock brilliantly exposes the pained heart of a single family and offers a vision of what their way of life still costs us all. His book raises with startling freshness ancient yet urgent questions about relations between image, word, and act.

Prepare yourself to leave the family and look at the world anew. Then begin.



Material: Finished copies of the UK and US editions

Sales: Dalkey Archive Press USA (original publisher); Methuen UK

PETER DIMOCK is a former editor at Random House USA, now working at Columbia University Press.

Olivia Fane

THE GLORIOUS FLIGHT OF PERDITA TREE

Perdita Tree is the woman with everything: she is rich, beautiful, and lives in a free, prosperous country, in which her husband is a Member of Parliament. And yet she feels so bored and depressed, and suspects that her husband of having an affair.

It is May 1991. Holidaying in Corfu, Perdita learns that the pink mountains over the sea are in Albania, the country that has sought the financial aid of England to reconstruct itself. But Nicholas, Perdita's husband, having largely ignored the dossier detailing the financial appeal from Albania, thinks aid is unlikely. Perdita, the neglected wife, aligns herself with the Albanians, the neglected people, and sets off to visit them.

After negotiating a minefield in high heels ("will no one ever touch these legs again?"), Perdita meets Kukaj, who is handsome, unpredictable and just a little violent. It could be love... But then Perdita is kidnapped by a troubled half-English half-Albanian man named Alfred, and her stay in Albania appears to have become permanent. As a new spirit of democracy begins to emerge in the country after years of Communist tyranny, Alfred, obsessed with an idealistic, false view of England as the land of the free, wants Perdita to embody freedom for the Albanian people. Perdita plays along; she is always happy to be centre-stage. Then again, why hasn't the manly, wicked Kukaj come to rescue her yet?

Is Nicholas diplomatic enough to smooth over this international incident? Will Perdita ever escape the strange, besotted Alfred? And will she then be persuaded to return to her children, her former life as a politician's wife? And is Albanian peasant garb quite as magnifique as she claims?

THE GLORIOUS FLIGHT OF PERDITA TREE is a novel in which the heroic Alfred's idealism finds expression through Perdita's vanity, in which nothing is more seductive than a table, two chairs, and the prospect of interrogation, a pair of flared trousers can land you in prison, and the reader, understanding how freedom is so widely abused and misunderstood, asks, if it carries with it such a sense of responsibility, then how much freedom do we really want?

OLIVIA FANE is the author of *LANDING ON CLOUDS* ("...a tantalising story that leaves readers free to choose how many layers they unpeel" *The Sunday Times*; "utterly convincing" *Marina Warner*; "disturbing, shrewd, funny – a most impressive debut" *Victoria Glendinning*), whose combination of intellectual ideas and clear, involving prose won her a Betty Trask Award, and drew comparisons with Iris Murdoch.

Material: Edited Typescript

Sales: Maia Press UK (Spring 2005 publication)

Eugenio Fuentes

THE PIANIST'S HANDS (LAS MANOS DEL PIANISTA)

"Fuentes follows in the wake of writers such as Vazquez Montalbán and Juan Madrid, in creating Ricardo Cupido. The characters stay in the mind. Fuentes takes great care in revealing aspects of the human condition. The business of relating the mystery, as with Simenon, is subsidiary, a simple background on which to inscribe various lives." *El Cultural*

The expanding city of Breda will soon have a luxury housing complex in the suburbs, in spite of difference between the business partners involved. One day, the corpse of one of the partners is found in one of the new buildings. A failed pianist appears the most likely murder suspect. Ricardo Cupido investigates.

Material: Finished copies **Sales:** Tusquets Spain; Ambar Portugal; Louis Audibert France; Feltrinelli Italy; Goldmann Germany; Radio play: WDR (Germany).

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THE BLOOD OF THE ANGELS (LA SANGRE DE LOS ANGELES)

"Without doubt we are in the presence of a great novel." *Revista Fusión*

A gun is stolen from Julian Monasterio's safety deposit box at the bank, and, later the same day, used to kill the popular sports' teacher, Gustavo Larrey, at his daughter's school. Ricardo Cupido investigates.

Material: Spanish edition; English sample **Sales:** Alba Spain (original publisher); Arcadia UK

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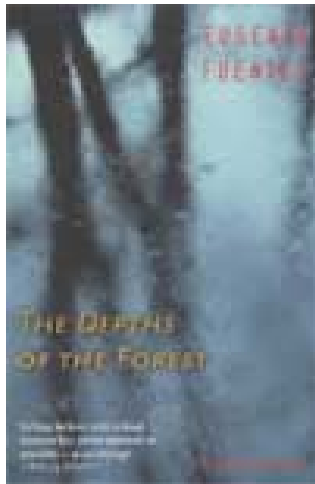
THE DEPTHS OF THE FOREST (EL INTERIOR DEL BOSQUE)

WINNER OF THE ALBA/PRENSA CANARIA PRIZE

"A most welcome addition, not just to crime fiction, but to literature in general" *The Independent*

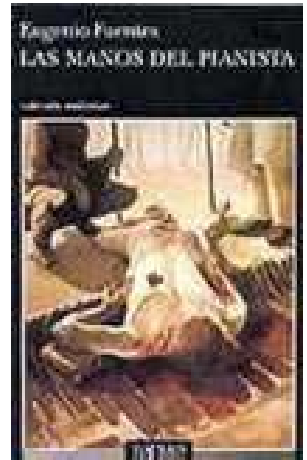
Gloria, a beautiful woman – an artist – is murdered in a national park in rural Spain. Her grieving boyfriend, a lawyer, hires the reserved but personable private detective, Ricardo Cupido, to investigate her death. As his enquiry develops, he finds many potential murderers in the local community: Gloria's awestruck teenage cousin, David; a talentless sculptor and former lover of Gloria's; Camila, her envious business partner; and even the local duenna, Dona Victoria, and her sinister sidekick, Octavio, possess a motive... Ricardo Cupido investigates.

Material: Spanish, English, German and Italian editions



Sales: Alba Spain; Gallimard France; Klett Cotta (and DTV paperback)

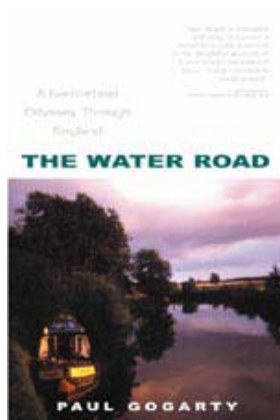
Germany; Marsilio Italy; Arcadia UK & USA; Ambar Portugal; Inostranka Russia; Alfa-Narodna Knjiga Serbia; Lagoudera Greece; De Geus Netherlands; Marjan Tisak Croatia; Magyar Könyvklub Hungary; Unis Corp Bulgaria. Radio play: WDR (Germany).



Paul Gogarty

THE WATER ROAD

"A writer who is always good company." *Daily Telegraph*



A celebration of a secret England, a powerful personal odyssey, a magical rite of passage. To escape the hurrysickness of modern life, acclaimed travel writer and TV presenter Paul Gogarty disappears for four months into a maze of canals linking the Thames with the Severn, Mersey and Trent. Here he discovers a world no less enchanted than Alice's – a secret network as powerful as ley lines.

On this journey across the face of England – a hidden garden flashed with kingfishers and colourful narrowboats, glorious sunshine and sleeting rain- the author weaves a mesmerising tale packed with drama, hilarious encounters and illuminating reflection as he revels in the canal network's second golden age following a century of neglect.

Material: UK edition

Sales: Robson Books UK & USA

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THE COAST ROAD: 3,000 Miles At The Edge of England

'A wonderful summer odyssey' *Daily Mail*

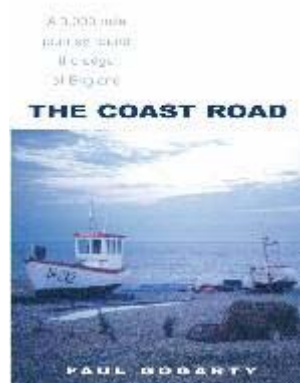
A fascinating journey along England's coast road.

Within the next one hundred years, the conveyor belt of the Gulf Stream will almost certainly switch off, suddenly plunging Britain into the kind of arctic conditions its latitude deserves – three months of snow annually, and ice floes off the coast. But now, the picture is very different.

THE COAST ROAD presents an idiosyncratic and illuminating snapshot of England what it is to be English today. Paul Gogarty travels 3,000 in a motorhome, exploring intimate coastal communities and pondering the future of the English coast.

THE COAST ROAD is a warm-hearted tribute to England's coastline written by a romantic spirit who beautifully captures both the idiosyncracies of the nation and the euphoria of being on the open road.

Material: UK edition **Sales: Robson Books UK & USA**



PAUL GOGARTY is the author of THE WATER ROAD (Robson Books, 2003), which won two of the seven coveted Guild of Travel Writers awards in 2003. He is a contributor to the *Daily Telegraph*, *Sunday Times*, *The Times*, *Guardian* and *Daily Express*. He is travel editor on *Cosmopolitan* magazine and for three years was a regular presenter on BBC1's *Holiday* programme. Married with two children, Paul Gogarty lives in London.

Maarten 't Hart

THE SUN DIAL (DE ZONNEWIJZER)

'Rose was dead and I didn't know what to wear.'

Leonie Kuyper's best friend, Rose dies, apparently from sunstroke. She leaves everything to Leonie, with just one demand – that Leonie will take the best possible care of her three cats. Moving into her apartment to fulfil this duty, Leonie soon finds herself attracted to the idea of occupying the identity vacated by her friend. Gradually, as she starts her life in impersonation of the dead Rose, Leonie realises what Rose's life must really have involved, and the uncertainty surrounding exactly how she died. Leonie starts looking for answers, 't Hart casually increasing the tension. Was Rose, a chemist, involved in the manufacture of the illegal drug Ecstasy? Had Rose discovered that research findings were being falsified at her work place?

The question arises: did Rose really die from simple sunstroke after all?

A novel for anyone who has ever wanted to take over someone else's life and wear their clothes, an ingenious and utterly compelling murder mystery, as "fascinating and highly readable" as Patricia Highsmith found 't Hart's

earlier work.

'Reading Maarten 't Hart is pure pleasure. THE SUNDIAL is a great story...' *De Groene Amsterdammer*; *'A bizarre, enjoyable detective story with a great storyline.'* *De Morgen*

Material: Dutch and German editions; English translation

Sales: De Arbeiderspers NL (original publisher); Piper/Arche Germany; Atlantis Sweden; Arcadia UK and USA; Livros do Brasil Portugal.

&

LOTTE WEEDA

A powerful new novel about fate, delusion and mass hysteria.

In a community in the south of Holland, a woman takes pictures of random villagers. She's putting a book of photos together. One old man is deeply affected by the photographer. He imagines that the children from his first and second marriages are not his. While his delusion takes on more and more tragic proportions and finally results in his death, the photo book is published. Initially the old photographed villagers are very happy with it but quite soon after publication the villagers begin to die one after another... Does being included in the book mean a death sentence or is it an illusion? The narrator, as he is pulled into the misery of others, begins to worry that he too has been marked for death now that his photo is in the book.

Throughout all the tragic-comic events there are also partial and complete love stories. And in the background the drastic consequences of delusions on a governmental level: diseases break out leading to millions of animals having to be destroyed...

Material: Dutch edition **Sales:** De Arbeiderspers NL (original publisher); Piper Verlag Germany. **Previous publishers:** Artia Denmark, Longanesi Italy, Belfond France, Lumen Spain, Karolinum Czech Republic.

Film Rights (DE NAKOMER / THE AFTERTHOUGHT): Jonathan Kelly/TAT Films.



Maarten 't Hart's story, "Midsummer in April" was featured in Granta 83 (This Overheating World), September 2003. A second story, "Rats", relating 't Hart's role as advisor on rats during the filming of Werner Herzog's 1979 remake of "Nosferatu" appeared in Granta 86 (Film).

Kristien Hemmerechts

THE GARDEN OF INNOCENTS (DE TUIN DER ONSCHULDIGEN)

Three sisters are on the way to a place in Spain where they spent their childhood summers. Judith is driving; she's the eldest, and the organiser of this journey. She must look after Heleen well, for whom this is a precarious adventure. After all Heleen needs order and regularity. In the back sits Nora, the actress, third in line but also playing a leading role during this journey. For her the journey is something she cannot deny Judith and that takes her back to the place she lost her innocence. Three close-knit sisters travel through a fragmentary landscape of memories. From their remembered pieces an intriguing family portrait builds up. The writing in THE GARDEN OF INNOCENTS is at one moment exuberant, at another finely controlled, telling a story about the infallible memory of the body, about truth and fabrication, about guilt and innocence.



'The power of THE GARDEN OF INNOCENTS lies not in the telling, the traits of character, or the events. Meaning is given in the first instance by the atmosphere that Hemmerechts' poetic and uncluttered style creates. An atmosphere that strongly resembles that of 'The Three Sisters' – which we still do not know if Chekhov meant as a comedy or a tragedy. With Hemmerechts I would choose the latter.' *NRC Handelsblad*

'Hemmerechts' poetic and crystal clear style creates an atmosphere that is reminiscent of Chekhov's 'The Three Sisters' *Boeken*

Material: Dutch and German editions; French translation

Sales: Atlas, NL (original publisher); Diana Germany; Actes Sud France (to be published April 2004).

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THE LAST TIME (DE LAATSTE KEER)

A strong vivid novel from Hemmerechts. DE LAATSTE KEER offers a fearless, completely honest, unobstructed clear view on complex emotional reality" *De Morgen*

"A wonderfully readable mix of satire and relationship comedy, a deconstruction of the erotic in a light package" *DS Letteren*

"A stunning book" *Algemene Dagblad*

"DE LAATSTE KEER is an ode to fantasy, so that real life is momentarily no longer relevant and can even deteriorate" *de Volkskrant*

"In this novel Hemmerechts's style and themes fall perfectly in place" *het Financieele Dagblad*

June 2001. The Twin Towers are still standing, the stock market has yet to begin its steep fall, and in cinemas across Western Europe, *Amélie* is winning the hearts of an eager public. The young widow Yoko Debondt sees the movie and decides to follow Amélie's example: she too will play fairy godmother and help others. But when she takes a hitchhiker home to her house one morning, she quickly discovers the stark difference between movies and reality... Movies have the additional advantage of being odourless, while in the city where she lives it has begun to stink horrendously. A novel about love and friendship, saying goodbye and loss, in which a young woman becomes increasingly involved in the fate of her city – and in that of the man with whom, much to her surprise, she has fallen in love.

Material: Dutch edition **Sales: Atlas NL (original publisher). Previous Publishers: Editions de la Difference France; Eroika Czech Republic; Diana Germany; Editions de la Difference and Actes Sud France.**

Radhika Jha

THE ELEPHANT AND THE MARUTI

'...perhaps no Indian since Ruskin Bond, has used the English language so beautifully. (Radhika) Jha's use of language is often surreal.' *The Statesman*

'...brilliant tales... a heady concoction with complex characters and situations providing a glimpse into worlds far removed from each other.' *Deccan Herald*

A freak episode involving an elephant and a Maruti has unforeseen consequences; a seething communal cauldron boils over in grotesque fashion in a half-forgotten hamlet in south India; love, fear and intrigue are on the menu in a restaurant in faraway France; and a diffident young schoolgirl in awe of beauty discovers its darker side in a curious encounter.

Rich and evocative, this collection enhances Radhika Jha's reputation as a writer of sensory and philosophical power.

Material: Finished copies

Sales: Penguin India; Arena Holland; Neri Pozza Italy; Editions Philippe Picquier France; Dom Quixote Portugal.

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SMELL



After the death of her father Leela's family is forced to leave Kenya. Leela ends up with her aunt and uncle in a high-rise banlieu flat. This cheerless protection is short-lived and Leela finds herself alone on the streets of an alien city. Struggling to survive, she discovers an unusual quality in herself – her extraordinary sensitivity to smell. A seemingly innocuous and occasionally useful attribute, it gradually begins to colour her every emotion and response. Soon, the dark feral stench of her own body threatens to overpower her, and Leela fears that she may have lost all control over her own life.

"A novel to rival Patrick Suskind's *Perfume*... An outstanding novel."
Punch

"Intensely felt and beautifully written, Jha's is a remarkable debut."
Sudhir Kakar

Material: many editions

Sales: Penguin India (original publisher); Philippe Picquier France; Neri Pozza Italy; Arena Holland; Soho Press USA; Quartet UK; Blanvalet/Bertelsmann Germany; Natur och Kultur Sweden; Dom Quixote Portugal; Diigisi Greece; Fuso Japan; Hed Arzi Israel; Ediciones el Cobre Spanish; Wydawnictwo Pracownia Slow Poland; Alfa Narodna Knjiga Serbia.

Film Rights sold to Noel de Souza; Serge Bourguignon to direct.



Christine Leunens

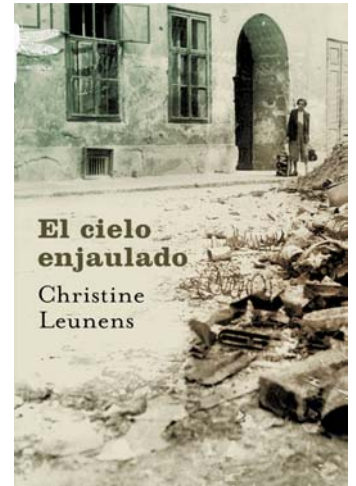
CAGING SKIES

"Little by little, Elsa leaked out of her enclosure, strayed out into every corner of the house. The table was two floors below her and on the opposite side of the room and even there she disturbed me, made her presence felt. In my bed at night, she switched places with me, she enjoying the softness of my bed, and I finding myself cramped up in her airless niche."

A truly extraordinary novel, CAGING SKIES tells the story of Johannes, a young teenager and avid member of the Hitler Youth in the 1930s, whose parents have concealed a Jewish girl named Elsa in their large house in Vienna, Austria. Then Johannes, housebound following a serious injury that leaves him disfigured, discovers Elsa, and, keeping their contact secret, falls in love with her, manipulating and manipulated by her hunger for company. After the deaths of his parents and grandmother, only Johannes and Elsa remain, and, even after the Second World War ends, Johannes maintains the illusion of the conflict in order to remain with her. An epic story of great passions and dangerous lies, this is a gripping, masterful work that lays bare the darkest corners of the human soul, an inimitable book that builds upon Leunens' darkly comic and highly acclaimed first novel, PRIMORDIAL SOUP (Dedalus, 1999; "a remarkable debut novel... *The Sunday Times*; "highly original", *Cosmopolitan*; "a small masterpiece" *Marie-Claire*.) It is likely to strike a chord with lovers everywhere.

Material: Edited typescript and finished copies of the Spanish edition

Sales: Planeta Spain; Meridiano Zero Italy; Talpress Czech Republic



CHRISTINE LEUNENS is American but lives in Caen, France. She is the granddaughter of the famous Belgian painter, Guillaume Leunens, an international fashion model (having worked for Givenchy, Paco Rabanne, Nina Ricci, Vogue, Harper's Bazaar, Elle, and Cosmopolitan), and an award-winning screenwriter.

Karel G. van Loon

THE MOST WIDELY PUBLISHED DUTCH WRITER EVER

"This remarkable Dutch novelist is not just one to watch - he is one to live by." *The Times*

THE INVISIBLE ONES (DE ONZICHTBAREN)

"In the evening we will sit on the veranda and I will tell you about the events that have made me who I am: a blind refugee from Burma in a camp in the Thai jungle. Through my life story I will show you my country, the way you can see the whole garden in a dewdrop."

Min Thien, a lawyer in a sleepy provincial town in Burma, does all he can to avoid confrontations with the military regime of his country. But one bad day he incurs the wrath of the district commander. From that moment on, he is shadowed, intimidated and thwarted. When his wife, after many unfruitful years, becomes pregnant, he decides that he wants a different future for his child. In fleeing his country, he loses everything that is precious to him: his wife, his unborn child, and the sight in the only good eye he had left. THE INVISIBLE ONES is a gripping novel about the life of a refugee. Hair-raising descriptions of the fate of Burma's political prisoners alternate with Buddhist mythical stories and moving memories of a carefree childhood. And just like the protagonists in van Loon's previous novels, Min Thien is also searching for the true nature of love.

"The accessibility that Glastra van Loon achieves in his work, and which flows forth by itself from his fluid natural writing style, is another plus point. Burma is known as one of the most closed off foreign lands, which struggles under a strict dictatorship and about which very little information leaks out. As a lesson in modern history, in the form of a movingly told story, THE INVISIBLE ONES is definitely a success." *Spits*

Material: Dutch edition; English sample. **Sales:** Veen (original publisher); G. Kiepenheuer Germany; Norstedts Sweden

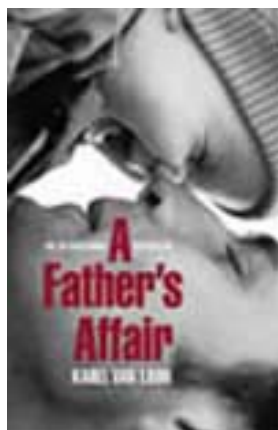
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LISA'S BREATH (LISA'S ADEM)

Material: Dutch, German editions **Sales:** Veen NL (original publisher); G. Kiepenheuer Germany; Norstedts Sweden; Gummerus Finland; Fazi Editore Italy; Pont Hungary

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DE PASSIEVRUCHT (published in the UK as A FATHER'S AFFAIR)



"Stunning in its simplicity" *Time Out*

Material: many editions

Sales: Veen NL; Gustav Kiepenheuer Germany; Norstedts Sweden; Albin Michel France; Grijalbo Spain; Patakis Greece; Cappelens Norway; Kinneret Israel; Gummerus Finland; Fazi Editore Italy; Kodansha Japan; Canongate UK & USA; Gendas Gerel Turkey; Hoest & Son Denmark; Pont Hungary; Metafora Czech; Alfa-Narodna knjiga Serbia; Dom Quixote Portugal; New Sprouts Publisher Taiwan; AST Russia; W.A.B. Poland; Record Brazil; Bard Bulgaria; HarperCollins Canada; Marjan Tisak Croatia; Globus R Albania; Edda Iceland; Pegasus Estonia; Madris Latvia; Serambi Ilmu Semesta PT Indonesia; Zalozba Tuma Slovenia.

Film rights – 24fps.

Website: www.karelglastravanloon.nl

Jeffrey Moore

WINNER OF THE COMMONWEALTH PRIZE FOR BEST FIRST BOOK

THE MEMORY ARTISTS

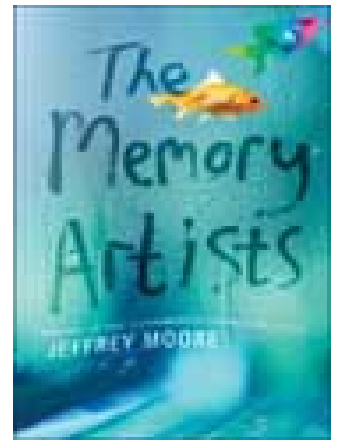
'Leaves the reader spellbound' *Scotland on Sunday*

'Moore's finely honed wit had me barking with laughter... all the hallmarks of his fiction are here. They include an ability to create engaging characters, and a fine balance of warmth, insight and eviscerating humour.' *Independent*

Noel Burun is a hypermnestic and a synaesthete: he cannot forget anything, and when people speak he sees their words as vibrant explosions of colour, his understanding dependent on the patterns he detects in their speech. His mother, Stella, on the other hand, has Alzheimer's. She and Noel struggle to make sense of their worlds in a house saturated with memories – those of a man who remembers too much, and a woman who remembers too little.

Norval is Noel's double: a one-time novelist and full-time Lothario whose memory is tainted by an unfinished love story. He, along with JJ, who is trapped by nostalgia for his childhood, and Samirah – who is trying to escape a former identity – all have a role to play in Noel's heartbreaking and often hilarious quest to find a cure for his mother's condition.

This riveting and utterly ingenious second novel is so "full of quirks and quick-turns, wit and erudition" (*Guardian*) that it will take your breath away.



Material: Finished copies **Sales:** Weidenfeld & Nicolson UK; Penguin Canada; Marcos y Marcos Italy; Eichborn Germany; Prometheus NL; offers in from France

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PRISONER IN A RED-ROSE CHAIN



'The extravagance of the plot is matched by the exuberance of the writing.' *Sunday Telegraph*

"A lively, clever, entertaining, heartfelt, emotional rite of passage. Moore's satirical view of academia has real bite. His ability to craft engaging scenes with witty dialogue and solid character work promises well for the future..." *Publishers' Weekly*

It is by no means clear just how much control Jeremy Davenant has over his own destiny. For he is convinced that the blueprint of his future already exists - on a page ripped from a random book. Romantic, fatalistic, quixotic, he blithely teaches with forged credentials at a Montreal university while waiting for his life to unfold. And unfold it does - one glance from a dark lady in the street below, and his life veers into chaotic

mischance and obsession.

The trouble is, the world is full of signs for Jeremy. The Page - ripped out of an encyclopaedia and given to him by his Uncle Gerard - is supposed to chart out his life; which explains why the Zulu tyrant Shaka, the Indian love epic Shakuntala, and the city of Shaktyorsk in the Ukraine all start to feature in his life - along with William Shakespeare and, of course, his Dark Lady. But Milena's life (not to mention her sexual identity) requires as much decoding as the Page, and Jeremy stumbles after her into farce and - for a brief spell - bliss.

Material: many editions

Sales: Thistledown Press Canada; Weidenfeld & Nicholson UK; Penguin Putnam USA; Serpent a Plumes France; Editions de la Pleine Lune Quebec; Eichborn Germany; Prometheus NL, Marcos y Marcos, Italy, Fuso Japan; Acanilado Spain; Empiria Greece.

Film rights sold to Valkyrie Film Productions (UK/Canada co-production).

Website: www.jeffreymoore.org

Anita Nair

MISTRESS

When Chris arrives at a riverside resort in South India to meet Uncle, a well-known Kathakali dancer, he walks into a world of masks and repressed emotions. His presence brings everything to the surface. Radha, a young woman seemingly content yet torn between two worlds finds her passion is awakened; Uncle finally has to face his past as he tells Chris his life story; Shyam can no longer hide from the fact that his wife doesn't love him. Uncle's story is interwoven with the present day developments and, as more of the past is revealed, things come to a head between Chris, Radha and Shyam. Modern Indian identity, it's roots, the search for meaning, dance, music and passionate love are all reflected upon and in each other in this beautiful written, intricately structured novel.

Material: Unedited Manuscript **Sales:** Penguin India

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LADIES COUPÉ

"One of the most important feminist novels to come out of South India."
Daily Telegraph 'Incantatory' *India Times*

"The intimate setting gives a new spin on the tradition of the woman's confessional, marking out Nair as a writer to watch." *Giles Foden*

A deliciously warm, funny, tender novel about love, marriage and family in India – and everywhere... Meet Akhila: forty-five and single, an income-tax clerk, and a woman who has never been allowed to live her own life – always the daughter, the sister, the aunt, the provider. Until the day she gets herself a one-way ticket to the seaside town of Kanyakumari at the southernmost tip of India.

In the intimate atmosphere of the ladies-only carriage, Akhila meets: Janaki, pampered wife and confused mother; Margaret, the chemistry teacher who takes a practical approach to her husband's tyranny; the wise child, Sheela; the perfect wife and daughter, Prabha Devi; and Marikolanthu, a young girl whose innocence is destroyed by lust. Akhila asks the women she is travelling with the question that has been haunting her all her adult life: can a woman stay single and be happy, or does she need a man to feel complete?

Material: many editions. **Sales:** Penguin India (original publisher); Chatto UK; St Martin's Press USA; Arbeiderspers NL; Alfaguara Spain; Philippe Picquier France; Neri Pozza Italy; Hoffmann und Campe Germany; Diigisi Greece; Machborot Israel; Dom Quixote Portugal; Swiat Literacki Poland; Citlembik Turkey; Alfa-Narodna knjiga Serbia; Eroika Czech Republic; Forlaget Hjulet/ALOA Denmark; Marjan Tisak Croatia; Nova Fronteira Brazil; Tranan Sweden; Magyar Konyvklub Hungary; Didakta Slovenia; Varrak Estonia; Tyto Alba Lithuania; Atena Latvia.

Film Rights sold to Castle Peak Productions.

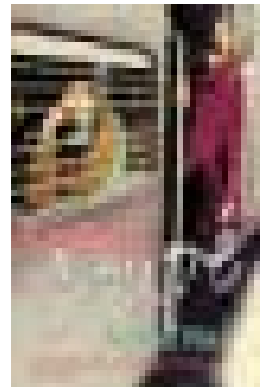
THE PUFFIN BOOK OF WORLD MYTHS

This is Anita's first book for children and is part of a two-book series on myths and legends. Includes legends and myths from Mesopotamia, North America, Ethiopia, Thailand, Germany, Japan, India... Beautifully told, each a few pages long with wonderful illustrations, Anita warmly brings the characters alive in her own inimitable, entertaining, accessible way.

Material: Proofs **Sales:** Puffin India

ANITA NAIR is the author of one previous novel, THE BETTER MAN, a collection of short stories, SATYR OF THE SUBWAY, and a volume of poetry, MALABAR MIND.

Website: www.anitanair.net



Tor Nørretranders

THE GENEROUS MAN (DET GENERØSE MENNESKE)

'The Generous Man' develops an overlooked strand of Darwinian thought. In addition to the efficiency and survival instincts essential to successful evolution or natural selection, Nørretranders argues that animal and human alike must show their worth physically by 'doing something difficult' in order to impress potential mates. Imagine the unwieldy plumage of a male peacock – precisely the sort of 'generous' symbol that Nørretranders has in mind to convey that sexual selection almost seems to go against the cold adeptness usually associated with the 'survival of the fittest'.

"...a potent book of a high international standard. ...A very sexy book." *Berlingske Tidende*

"Nørretranders has become the Jules Verne of our time." *Information*

Material: Finished copies of Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Estonian, Japanese, and German editions

Sales: People's Press Denmark (original publisher); Aschehoug Norway; Book House Publishing Sweden; Art House Finland; El Paradiso Estonia; Artist House Japan; Rowohlt Germany; Four Walls Eight Windows USA. Previous Publishers: Tiderne Skifter Denmark, Penguin Press UK, Penguin Putnam USA, Rowohlt Germany, Cappelen Norway, Bonnier Sweden, De Arbeiderspers NL, and Kinokuniya Japan.

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HAVING FAITH IN FAITH (AT TRO PÅ AT TRO)

The idea behind this book is that faith is important, while the object of faith is not necessarily so. Or, as Lance Armstrong has it, "I believed in belief for its own shining sake".

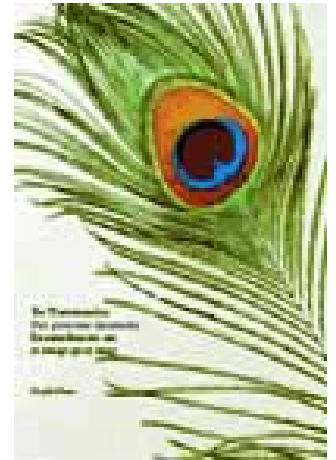
Based on recent discoveries in the behavioural sciences, such as experimental economics and game theory, this book argues that it is a common human attitude towards the world to have faith. It is vital in human interactions; and it is no coincidence that the importance of anchoring behaviour in risk-laden 'trust' is stressed in worlds as far apart as Kierkegaard's existentialist Christianity and modern theories of bargaining behaviour in economic transactions. Both stress the importance of the inner, subjective conviction as the basis for actions, the feeling of an inner glow: "I believed in belief for its own shining sake."

HAVING FAITH IN FAITH therefore argues that the difference between a religious and an atheistic view of faith need not be as huge as we imagine. The emphasis here is on the process of faith, rather than the object of faith. The phenomenon of faith in itself, as opposed to a particular set of beliefs, is universal and varies little between world religions, and even secular world views: could faith itself prove the ideal antidote to fundamentalist religious thinking?

Material: Danish edition and English sample **Sales:** Anis Denmark (original publisher)

TOR NØRRETRANDERS is a hugely acclaimed science writer who found an international readership with his landmark study of consciousness, 'The User Illusion' (Denmark, 1991, UK/USA 1998).

Website: www.tor.dk



Willem Jan Otten

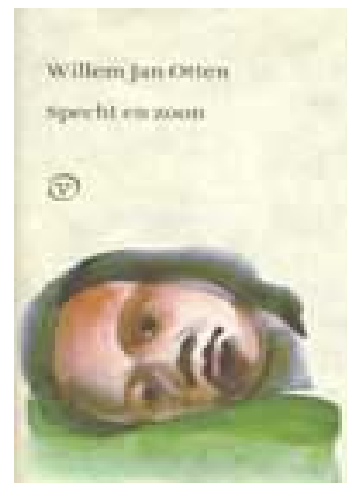
LIFE PAINTING (SPECHT EN ZOON)

"Willem Jan Otten surpasses himself in his new novel. His new novel sings in places, more than I have ever heard before. Not Gregorian chants but Ottenorian. Read this book with your ears wide open." *Vrij Nederland*

"Wonderfully the canvas is not the only main character in SPECHT EN ZOON, there is also the painter Felix Vincent with his shame, confusion and doubt. His struggle with the commission he has received is what ultimately makes this a novel that doesn't just lead you to believe but also to think. As is the purpose of literature." *NRC Handelsblad*

"Otten has hit a nerve" *Trouw*

"This new novel is once again confirmation of Otten's great talent." *Nederlands Dagblad*



This is a short and extremely powerful new novel from one of Holland's greatest living writers. Reminiscent of Oscar Wilde's "The Picture of Dorian Gray" – a novel narrated by a canvas, an extraordinary eye-witness and participant in an extraordinary story.

A young painter, loved for his fine and true-to-life portraits, receives a commission that is unlike any he's had before: make a portrait of a dead boy. 'You will save a life with it' says the boy's extremely rich father. The painter knows he will have to surpass himself. He takes on the job. Who was the boy? Why is he dead? Why, when the painting is finished, does the father not come to collect it? And why is the painter actually making this painting?

LIFE PAINTING is an extraordinary and thrilling novel about the desire to bring someone into the world. But also about love and death, betrayal and trust, truth and falsehood, lies and honesty. It's breathtaking how Willem Jan Otten, with all the story-telling talent he has at his disposal, plays with secrets and riddles that the reader can only unravel at the very end. Ten years after his last novel (NOTHING WRONG WITH US) Otten once again shows that he can write in a much shorter space than many of his contemporaries, an ingenious, contemporary and truly gripping novel.



WILLEM JAN OTTEN has written poetry, stories, prose, theatre, reviews and essays. In 1999 he won the Constantijn Huygensprize for his whole oeuvre. Of his previous novel ONS MANKEERT NIETS (NOTHING WRONG WITH US), *De Volkskrant* said: "A writer really has a great deal to offer if he succeeds in seemingly effortlessly dealing with such a complex and serious theme in a solid, supple, excitingly paced story."

Material: Dutch edition and English sample

Sales: Uitgeverij Van Oorschot (original publisher); S Fischer Verlag Germany

Rascha Peper

DISEMBARKING (WIE SCHEEP GAAT)

'Flawless' *De Groene Amsterdammer*

'Peper deals with all the story lines with masterful ease. Peper's warm and rich universe makes the characters leap out of the novel; they become real.'

Financieel Dagblad

Immediately a bestseller in Holland, this new novel from one of Holland's best writers was well worth waiting for. Peper's novels are superbly crafted and unputdownable.

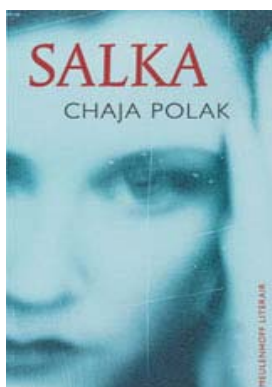
A disappearance is central to the plot of DISEMBARKING (WIE SCHEEP GAAT). Hannah, the main character is dead. Drowned, she lies on the bottom of the sea, in the saloon of a sunken yacht, pregnant. Once

Hannah had a relationship with Gerard, a rather unworldly student who later becomes an oceanographer. But because her body has never been reclaimed from the water, Gerard, Hannah's father (an old tailor living in the Hague), the diver – Robin – another of Hannah's former lovers, who now seeks to investigate the wrecked yacht for her remains, and Emma, Hannah's teenage niece, cannot properly mourn her, all fixated with her. And just as the 10,000 little plastic ducks that Gerard has thrown to the seas east of Tasmania must each take a different stream to resurface on far away shores, so too must the four main characters take different paths too. This is an imposing, imaginative and moving novel, as deep and pleasurable as a long, hot bath, and far-reaching like the sea.

Material: Dutch edition **Sales: Veen NL (original publisher); Marebuch Verlag Germany. Previous Publishers: Rowohlt Germany (DOOI).**



Chaja Polak



SALKA, A LITERARY ODE TO A MOTHER

In SALKA, the new novel by Chaja Polak, the writer builds a monument for her mother, whose life spanned most of the twentieth century, a century hope and amazement, but also of one of the greatest crimes in history.

Salka is seen in this novel through the eyes of her eldest daughter, Fanny. Fanny describes her mother with great compassion, but is at the same time a merciless narrator – even towards herself. Effortlessly her story moves through time (with the Second World War as the magnetic centre) and returns to consider the same themes; Salka's funeral; the laying of the tombstone; the last days in the hospital; the journey Fanny

takes to Poland with her brother; being in hiding; the camp. Precisely by describing the small things, the everyday, the human, so the drama and tragedy of a whole century is captured in one person's life, Salka's life.

A beautifully written, cleverly structured, very moving novel where children are the driving force and reason for strength in adversity; about being left behind, about how the experience of the camps effects the lives and attitudes of the twentieth century. The portrait of an extraordinary woman, told in such a way that the tension and pace never falter.

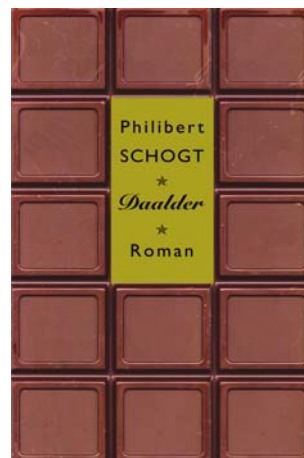
Material: Dutch edition.

Sales: Meulenhoff NL Previous publishers: Vassallucci NL, Editrice La Giuntina Italy, Canongate UK; Piper Verlag Germany; Tiderne Skifter Denmark; HaKibbutz Israel.

Philibert Schogt

DAALDER'S CHOCOLATES

Philibert Schogt here takes as his theme the search for perfection. The story details the bittersweet life of a real connoisseur, Joop Daalder, Dutch immigrant and celebrated chocolatier in Toronto. Then a super-deli is built next to his shop where three trendy 'chocolatiers' steal his clients. The last straw is when the deli's car park is expanded and his shop has to be destroyed. Joop fights against it, in spite of alienating his wife and being laughed at by his son. As the plot proceeds, we learn of Joop's childhood, when, already an outsider in a family of intellectuals and musicians, where food was of no interest, his taste buds develop unnoticed by the others until he finds his vocation and true happiness as an apprentice to master chocolatier Sorel in France. DAALDER is about love of quality in an era of the perfectly packaged imitation.



"Simplicity in form, balance in taste – that is the credo of the chocolatier, and clearly of this writer too. In both cases it works... DAALDER is a tragicomedy that tastes of more." *Algemeen Dagblad*

"DAALDER has in certain ways something in common with Susskind's famous novel [*Perfume*]... In a way it is the civilised person's version of Susskind's savage story... His depiction of his characters has something of the great American master Updike... Schogt manages in this unassuming novel to bring out sparks of tragedy and happiness, passion and despair, criticism and acceptance, egoism and idealism. In the end it has most in common with a Joop Daalder chocolate – simple, without frills but with sensory nuances that stay with you for a long time." *Trouw*

Material: Dutch, German, and Italian editions; English translation.

Sales: **De Arbeiderspers NL (original publisher); Four Walls Eight Windows USA; List Verlag Germany; Garzanti Italy**

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THE WILD NUMBERS

Professor Isaac Swift is verging on middle age and mediocrity. Suddenly, in the midst of his despair, he finds the solution to the Wild Number problem, a puzzle that has stumped scholars for centuries. But, before he can celebrate, his unhinged mature student, Leonard Vale, accuses him of plagiarism. This is a first novel in which flawed, sympathetic characters strive for the immortality of mathematical genius.

"I have never read a better fictional description of what it's like to work in pure math[s]." Amir D Aczel, author of *Fermat's Last Theorem*.

"An excellent first novel!" *Daily Express*



Material: Many editions. **Sales:** **De Arbeiderspers NL (original publisher); Gollancz UK; Knaus Germany; Four Walls Eight Windows/Plume USA; Polis Greece; Guncel Turkey; Kyungmoon Korea**

PHILIBERT SCHOGT was born in Holland, but grew up in Canada, later returning to the Netherlands to study philosophy and mathematics at the University of Amsterdam. After receiving his MA, he abandoned academia to devote more time to writing fiction, meanwhile earning a living as a freelance translator and Dutch teacher. FORTHCOMING: a new novel.

Mineke Schipper

NEVER MARRY A WOMAN WITH BIG FEET:

Women in proverbs from around the World

"A fascinating analysis of more than 15,000 proverbs... an engrossing book." *Times Literary Supplement*

"Schipper's prose is light, fast-paced and witty, and her analysis of what lies behind the proverbs is completely gripping." *Daily Telegraph*



The Sena in Malawi and Mozambique have a proverb: 'Never marry a wife with bigger feet than your own.' And the Chinese have an astonishingly similar message. In cultures all over the world, the ideal woman has been depicted in proverbial form – in the author's words, "the world's smallest literary genre". This extensive corpus of proverbs from 245 languages delineates the feminine ideal and vilifies her fear-inducing counterpart – the talented, intelligent, powerful, defiant, or occult woman.

Proverbs perpetuate contrasting views of men and women. Men are inexorable tyrants and shameless profiteers, and men are insecure fearful beings. Women are lamentable victims, and women are extremely powerful. These contradictions are exposed directly and surreptitiously in proverbs, a language in which very little appears to change and yet change is constant as male and female roles and domains become increasingly integrated.

Structured to represent the focus of the proverb genre, NEVER MARRY A WOMAN WITH BIG FEET collates and draws global conclusions from the experience of woman both interculturally and physically – women's bodies, both in terms of different parts of the body and its beautification; phases of life, from girls to brides, wives, co-wives, widows, mother-in-law, grandmothers; women's basics of life, such as love, sex, pregnancy and childbirth; female power. This is a stylish critical anthology, a unique and incomparable resource.

"A fine contribution to the cosmopolitan conversation that ought to come with globalization." *K. Anthony Appiah, Princeton University*

"...no one who casually picks it up will be able to put it down, as gems of inspired sayings, bon mots, zany jokes, and insightful analyses leap out of every page." *Wendy Doniger, University of Chicago*

Material: Finished copies of UK and NL editions

Sales: **Yale University Press (UK and USA); Spectrum Holland; Oceano World Spanish; Beijing October China (simplified characters); Eichborn Verlag**

MINEKE SCHIPPER is professor of intercultural literary studies at the University of Leiden. Her previous books have been published in the UK (Cassell, Continuum, Allison & Busby), USA, Holland (Ambo, Contact), France, and Germany (DTV).

Karl Shaw

SCANDAL LISTS

"In 1992 the Pennsylvanian judge Charles Guyer was sacked after a hidden video camera recorded him offering a novel form of plea-bargaining. He offered convicted men lighter sentences if they allowed him to shampoo their hair..."

(Criminal Judges, # 10)

"15 bowls of noodle soup, 100 pieces of sushi, 5 plates of wheat noodles, 5 plates of beef with rice and 5 plates of curry and rice in 2 hours (Japanese National Eating Championships)."

(Fascinating Food Records, # 1)

A celebration of the peculiar... a fascinating trawl through the dustbins of history...

This is an amazing collection of the most disgusting, outrageous and bizarre true historical oddities. Subjects covered in this comprehensive volume include Death and Sex, Saints and Sinners, Crime and Punishment and 'Ad Nauseam', including fetishes of the famous and several historically creative uses for formaldehyde.

In the lists appearing here you will discover:

Who was the first president of the United States to throw up on live TV

Which tune is the chart-topper in Britain's crematoria

Who were history's most gifted psychopaths

Which king owned a golf bag made from an elephant's penis, and why

Which queen died of blood poisoning after sucking the pus out of her husband's septic wound.

Prepare to be amazed, appalled, disgusted, and hugely entertained by this wealth of historical facts – most incredible, some impossible, and all absolutely true! If you've ever wondered what really happened in the lives of the royal families and other statesmen of the world you have to read this book, which reveals what the usual history books try to cover up... Twisted humour at its very best.

Material: Edited typescript (November 2004)

Sales: Broadway Books UK and USA

Previous Publishers: Robson Books, Virgin, Robinson, and Michael O'Mara UK; Nezavisimaya Gazeta Russia; Domino Publishing Czech Republic; Heyne Germany; Magyar Könyvklub Hungary.

KARL SHAW trained as a journalist before moving to design and advertising, and is an occasional freelance writer and illustrator.

Sunny Singh

NANI'S BOOK OF SUICIDES

WINNER OF THE MAR DE LETRAS PRIZE, SPAIN

"A first novel of rare scope and power" *The Hindustan Times*

"She definitely has the talent." *The Indian Express*

Sammie, the cocaine-snorting international wanderer who moves from a small town childhood in India to Mexico, is linked inextricably to mythical women in a debut novel that embodies Hindu tradition and culture, which, left untouched by the Enlightenment, makes no distinction between the real and the magical. But the woman who most influences Sammie is Nani, her frail yet ruthless grandmother, who is a witch with the power to enter dreams and shape them. A first novel of exceptional talent, *Nani's Book of Suicides* explores the cultural identity of an Indian woman through a fund of myths, family lore and contemporary reality.

Material: Finished Copies

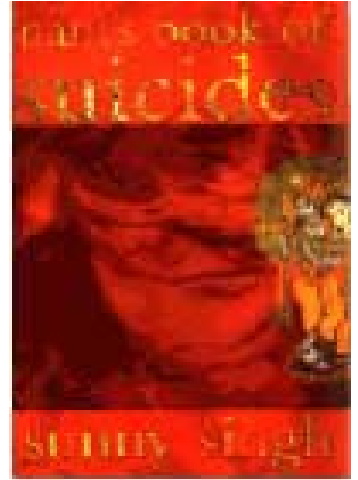
Sales: HarperCollins India, Ediciones El Cobre World Spanish.

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KRISHNA'S EYES

Krishna has been in New York, making documentaries. But, following the death of her grandmother, the all-knowing Dadiji, Krishna returns to her home village in a part of India so feudal, almost medieval in its ways, that, in spite of her essential urbanity and modernity, she must make concessions to tradition. A strange bequest awaits Krishna upon her return. From beyond the grave, Dadiji directs Krishna to enact her dharma (duty), which, it transpires, is to document on film the last days of Damayanti, a strong-minded lawyer who, upon the death of her husband, will commit sati. Krishna, the "warrior" and the first girl child to be born to her family in five centuries, finds herself caught between the modern world of loose ties and casual relationships (as personified by her westernised lover, Natchek), and the older ties of blood and obligation, where honour transcends love. Always a rebel, Krishna has to confront the fact that her dharma comprises an act as conforming and backward as it is subversive...

Material: Unedited Typescript **Sales:** Ediciones El Cobre Spain



SUNNY SINGH is a playwright and author. Born in Varanasi, India, she has worked in Mexico, Chile, and South Africa, having graduated with honours from Brandeis University, USA, with a degree in English and American Literature. Sunny also has an MA in Spanish Language, Literature and Culture. She is enrolled in a PhD programme at the Universitat de Barcelona since October 2002. Sunny lives and writes in Barcelona, Spain.

Website: www.sunnysingh.net

Paul Sussman

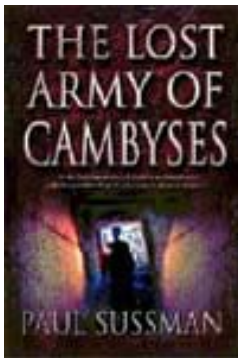
THE LAST SECRET OF THE TEMPLE

Inspector Yusuf Khalifa of the Luxor Police is back!! When Dutch archaeologist Piet Jansen is found murdered, Khalifa soon finds alarming parallels with his first murder case of thirteen years earlier, in which an Israeli woman, Hannah Schlegel, was found dead at Karnak. Against the advice of his superiors, Khalifa, uneasily collaborating with an Israeli police officer, Arie Ben-Roi, who, in turn depends on the information uncovered by Palestinian journalist Layla al-Madani, soon realises that the identity of Schlegel's murderer involves the mystery surrounding an age-old religious treasure smuggled to the castle of Castelombres in France, and the whereabouts of aged Nazi sympathisers...

Material: Edited Typescript

Sales: Transworld UK (publication Spring 2005); Piper Germany; AST Russia; Presses de la Cite France; Plaza y Janes Spain; Mondadori Italy; Unieboek NL; Metafora Czech Republic & Slovakia; Cappelen Norway; Tiderne Skifter Denmark.

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THE LOST ARMY OF CAMBYSES

'A great adventure, one of the most intriguing mysteries of the past, a great novel masterfully written.' *Valerio Massimo Manfredi*

'A plot as complex as a hall of mirrors, and almost as gripping as a death threat.' *Kirkus Reviews*

A contemporary thriller set against an epic backdrop, a refreshingly different, powerful, and action-packed first novel by a hugely talented author.

THE LOST ARMY OF CAMBYSES introduces readers to the beguiling Egyptian detective, Inspector Yusuf Khalifa. His preliminary enquiries into a modern-day murder soon show him a mystery involving hidden treasure, greed, fanaticism, violence, love, secrets, betrayal, and further death.

And, as the mystery deepens, Khalifa finds himself faced with the question of how, in 523 BC, the emperor Cambyses' army of 50,000 men could simply disappear in a sandstorm forever.

Material: UK, US, German, Italian, Dutch, Greek editions

Sales: Transworld UK; Piper Kabel Germany; Unieboek NL; St Martin's Press/Thomas Dunne Books USA; Presses de la Cite France; Plaza y Janes Spain; Mondadori Italy; Cappelen Norway; Oceanida Greece; Kadokawa Japan; AST Russia; Wahlstrom & Widstrand Sweden; WSOY Finland; Columbus Slovakia; Metafora Czech Republic; LAL Kitap Turkey; Opus Press Israel; Tiderne Skifter Denmark; Varrak Estonia; Kontinents Latvia; Bard Bulgaria; Alma Lithuania; Record Brazil; Ulisseia Portugal; Magyar Konyvklub Hungary; Laguna Serbia; RAO Romania; Enigma Croatia.

Film rights sold to Apollo Films; Audio rights sold to WF Howes.

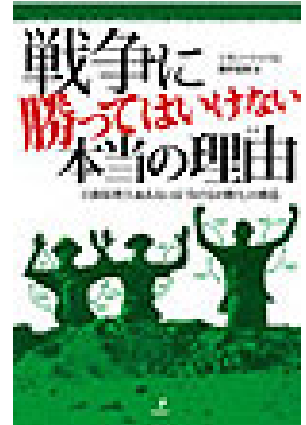


Shimon Tzabar

THE WHITE FLAG PRINCIPLE: How to Lose a War (and Why)

Sun Tzu, military philosopher and author of *The Art of War*, had it wrong: the best way to win is (usually) to lose. Employing historical documents, charts, drawings, diagrams, and formulas, satirical historian, Shimon Tzabar, provides a concise analysis of military history from a wholly new perspective. Arguing that, in the long term, winning is for losers, his brilliant book – both serious and hilarious – is a step-by-step practical guide to Successful Military Disaster ("It is hardly necessary to point out that a contiguous enemy is always preferable to a non-contiguous one"). Tzabar makes the case for peace as a discreetly pragmatic means to political victory.

Featuring observations on war from the Battle of Arbela in 331 BC and fully updated from its first edition (of 1972) to America's recent interventionist jaunt in Afghanistan, and speculations on the future of the war on terror, THE WHITE FLAG PRINCIPLE bears comparison to the fierce satire of Jonathan Swift, or even Jerome K. Jerome. The author, who has just finished his unauthorised autobiography, is a cartoonist, poet, and former newspaper columnist, is also editor of *Israel Imperial News*.



"Tzabar's black humour is reminiscent of Heller's *Catch 22* and Brecht's *Mother Courage*, a delightful world of inverted but forceful logic." *Biblio*

"Sun Tzu suggested 'When at the zenith of strength, feign weakness', but he did not develop this idea with Tzabar's gleeful enthusiasm. It will annoy people who think 'It matters not who won or lost. But how you played the game'. Tzabar, a former terrorist, is clear: victory's not all it's cracked up to be – winning is for losers. History is on his side. You cannot rely on inefficiency (your enemy, heaven forbid, might be even more hopeless), so he provides that practical advice on coming second. In case the worst happens, there's a chapter on 'How to recover from an accidental victory': for the best case scenario, there's a chapter on surrendering. Other chapters concentrate on the run-up to war: how to manage a bad foreign policy and ruin a flourishing economy; how to splinter a united society; building your army up for defeat; and – importantly – tactics. If you find von Clausewitz and Sun Tsu dry, try this book. This is as good a time as any to develop an interest in military strategy."

Fortean Times

"A book that you read smiling except when you're laughing out loud" *Le Monde*

Material: many editions

Sales: Four Walls Eight Windows UK and USA; Ullstein Germany; Høst and Søn Denmark; Basilico Japan; Lagoudera Greece; Podium Holland; Am Oved Publishing House Israel; Siglo XXI Spain

Website: www.israelimperialnews.org

Dubravka Ugresic

Winner of the *Italian Premio Feronia 2004*

(also awarded to Saramago, Coetzee, Gunther Grass, Ismail Kadare, Nadine Gordimer)

Winner of the first *English PEN Writers in Translation Award, 2004*.

THE MINISTRY OF PAIN (MINISTARSTVO BOLI)

Tanja Lucic is a young professor of literature at the University of Amsterdam. There, she finds her students are only a little younger than herself, and, like her, ex-Yugoslavs, refugees, exiles. Some of her students also work at the "Ministry", a shop making things for the porn industry. All of her students have been uprooted, must confront their memories – emotional cocktails of loss, guilt and trauma – and ask whether they can salvage what is left of their broken lives. Amid the tense political climate of the war crime trials at the Hague, the novel elaborates a growing attraction between Tanja and her student Igor, but can future generations be spared the horror and suffering that they have witnessed? In a sophisticated first-person narrative, Ugresic asks to what extent exiles can ever truly give voice to their feelings in any language.

Material: Croatian edition **Sales:** **Fabrika Serbia; Faust Vrancic Croatia; Saqi Books UK; De Geus NL; Swiat-Czarne Poland; Berlin Verlag Germany; Fayard France; Anagrama Spain; Albert Bonniers Förlag Sweden; Bompiani Italy; Gyldendal Norsk Forlag Norway; Fakel Express Bulgaria; Zalozba Meander Slovenia; Tiderne Skiffer Denmark**

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THANK YOU FOR NOT READING (ZABRANJENO CITANJE)



'...savage, quotable and perceptive. ...I held my breath while I raced through this entertaining volume, hoping against hope that Ugresic would sustain *Thank You For Not Reading* to the last page. The good news is that she does, triumphantly. But you will have to buy it to find out how.' Robert McCrum, *The Observer*

Dubravka Ugrešić asks whether the act of reading, like smoking, "can have an aura of glamour only where it does not exist". Though never deviating far from questions of the cultural import and literary value of the book, Dubravka's frame of reference nevertheless accommodates Croatian football, Kirk Douglas, and, beguilingly, 'How I could have been Ivana Trump, and where I went wrong.' Shrewd, perceptive, and very funny, this

book is a subversive masterpiece and a challenge to an industry susceptible to fads and the production of intellectually slight but purportedly commercial work.

Material: Many editions **Sales:** **Dalkey Archive Press UK/USA; De Geus NL; Suhrkamp Germany; La Fabrica Spain; Fakel Bulgaria; Swiat Poland; Samizdat 92 Yugoslavia; Konzor Croatia**

Praise for Dubravka Ugresic:

"A writer to follow, a writer to be cherished..." *Susan Sontag*

"Ugresic has a unique tone of voice... a madcap wit and a lively sense of the absurd... ingenious" *Marina Warner*

"Ugresic writes with a sharpened pen. Her voice is unique, her writing elegant and dangerous... irresistible." *Scotland on Sunday*

Previous publishers of Dubravka Ugresic: **Dalkey Archive Press, Northwestern University Press & New Directions USA; Virago & Weidenfeld & Nicholson UK; Samizdat 92 Yugoslavia; Konzor Croatia; Nijgh & Van Ditmar NL; Suhrkamp Germany; Plon France; Stigmati Bulgaria; Mlada Fronta Czech; Raduga & Azbooka Russia; Rilindija Albania; Swiat & Czarne Poland; Lumi Slovenia; Rosinante Denmark; Tokio Japan; Europa & Kijarat Kiado Hungary; Kastaniotis Greece; Bompiani Italy; Gyldendal Norsk Norway; Azbooka Russia; Niculescu Romania; Alfaguara Spain; Cavalo de Ferro Portugal.**

Manon Uphoff

THE BASTARD SON (DE BASTAARD)

'Impresses us on every page' *Vrij Nederland*

Bastiaan, the illegitimate son of a landowner fights for the rights of the firstborn, against his younger half-brother, Thomas. Thomas is angelically beautiful but a tyrannical child that is spoiled and adored by everybody. As children, a friendship develops between the boys, but this is overshadowed by knowledge of a future rivalry. Arinde, Thomas's mother, fights for her son's rights, but Maurice, the landowner, thinks him frivolous – an unsuitable heir. Subtle, totally involving, and ultimately tragic, DE BASTAARD is a masterful new novella from one of Holland's most highly regarded writers.

'She shows an irresistible narrative style in stories demanding the lifeblood of a true writer. The behaviour of her characters makes sense, not because they are so recognizable, but because the author prescribes the conventions so authoritatively, which is the only way literature can be convincing.' *De Volkskrant*

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THE CATCHER (DE VANGER)

Nominated for the 2003 Libris Prize and made into a film for TV

"Exquisite" Spits

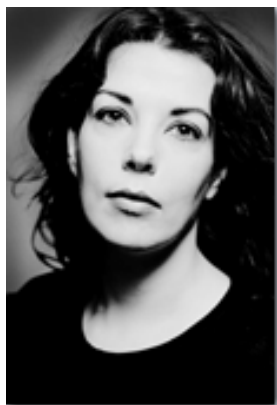
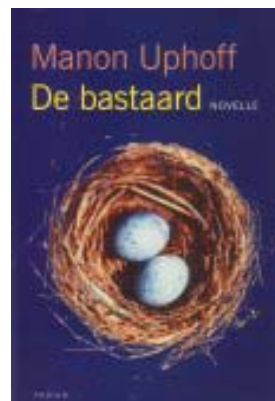
A young woman inherits the big old family house, on condition that she restores it. The carpenter appears, their relationship develops, her brothers are furious. But by then the four-poster bed is in the making, and so is her baby. Later, the carpenter takes the child from its crib, gazes at it tenderly, and, accidentally, lets it slip out of his hands. Then, he disappears. But in the claustrophobic tense world captured in Uphoff's sublimely terse prose, can we be sure any of this actually happens?

"In the succinct style that suits her so well and with a minimum of words Uphoff conjures up a spine-tingling drama." *Elsbeth Etty NRC Handelsblad*

"Because the metaphors and details are no longer part of the story, but have become the story itself, THE CATCHER is light as an ice crystal. Razor-sharp, the language cuts carefully through the page. The language is undressed and stands naked. This naked is new chez Uphoff and it renders you speechless... light, clear and razor sharp to the core. To cherish and gaze at in wonder." *Het Financieele Dagblad*

"Through the concise but precise observations the story seems wrapped in silence. The outside world is an unreal presence, by which the tragedy becomes something intimate and fragile" *Trouw*

Material: Finished copies **Sales:** Podium **Previous Publishers:** DVA Germany



MANON UPHOFF (1962) was born in Utrecht, and trained to be a teacher as well as studying literary theory at the University of Utrecht. Her stories have been published in various important Dutch periodicals and she writes regularly for newspapers and magazines.

Website: www.manonuphoff.nl

Henk van Woerden

WINNER OF THE FRANS KELLENDONK PRIZE 2003

LIMITED VISION (MOENIE KYK NIE)

This companion to Van Woerden's EEN MOND VOL GLAS personalises Apartheid, as the narrator's blind 'glass' eye and the author's painterly eye view the same world differently. Here the politics is domestic, as a family that has newly relocated to the Cape from late-1950s Holland has to accommodate racial segregation, the death of their mother, and her replacement with an abusive, coloured stepmother.

'Your pen is as good as your paintbrush' Adriaan van Dis

'MOENIE KYK NIE had to be written the way it is written, perfect in every detail. That makes it a dream debut.' Elsbeth Eddy.

Material: Dutch edition. **Sales:** Podium NL (original publisher)

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TIKOES

In TIKOES Henk van Woerden interweaves a man's relationship with a woman, and a man's relationship with his homeland. Against the chaotic backdrop of southern Africa, the story unfolds of an apparently frivolous travel companion, as elaborated by a narrator who stands between two continents. The young Tikoës matches his homeland in beauty but both 'loves' are scarred by a violent past that sharpens the dilemma of return.

"Van Woerden shows himself to be a writer who in an almost laconic way can tell a harrowing story, in a language that sparkles with sensuality and is proof of great stylistic control" Jury of Libris Literatuur prize

Material: Dutch edition **Sales:** Podium NL (original publisher)

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A MOUTHFUL OF GLASS/THE ASSASSIN (EEN MOND VOL GLAS)

Winner of the Alan Paton/Sunday Times award; the Geertjan Lubberhuizen Prize; nominated for the Libris and AKO Prizes.

In 1966 Demitrios Tsafendas killed the South African premier Hendrik Verwoerd. Van Woerden, the Dutch Coetzee, reconstructs his life, giving an intimate and insider account of the South African trauma, then and now.

Material: Many editions **Sales:** Podium Holland; Granta UK; Metropolitan USA; Kedros Greece; Queillerie South Africa; Gyldendal Norsk Norway; Lettre International Germany (extract); Berlin Verlag Germany; Tiderne Skifter Denmark; Actes Sud France; Grijalbo Mondadori Spain; Temas e Debates Portugal; Ancora del Mediterraneo Italy. Radio BBC World Service; Theatre: Sir Anthony Sher – play I.D at the Almeida, Autumn 2003.

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FORTHCOMING, A NEW NOVEL:

ULTRAMARIJN (ULTRAMARINE)

Beginning in the 1950s, Henk van Woerden's new novel is set somewhere between east and west, in a cultural borderland. There, a gifted musician named Joakim falls in love with his half-sister, the flamboyant and determined gourmet Aysel. Joakim is banished from his home town, and Aysel goes missing, is presumed dead, only to re-emerge 'forgotten among strangers' in Europe. As the great culinary and musical traditions of their homeland give way to vacant visual culture, tourism, and polluted beaches, and Joakim fails to live up to his talent, ULTRAMARIJN provides a scintillating evocation of the eastern Mediterranean in the second half of the twentieth century, eventually reuniting the lost lovers. A kaleidoscopic story of broad scope, evocative, wistful and sensual too.

Material: Manuscript (to be published Spring 2005)

Alex Wheatle

ISLAND SONGS

In the village of Claremont, Jamaica, no one knows a thing about Joseph's past. Why did he just appear in the middle of the night offering himself as a labourer, in exchange for board and lodging? Why, for thirty years, has he made no mention of his family at all? While Joseph wrestles with his conscience, his son David is planning a future away from home, and heads for the capital, Kingston. And Joseph's daughters, Jenny and Hortense, are locked in a life-long relationship of love and hate in equal measure, a relationship that only deepens in complexity with their marriages, and their departure for England... A beautiful evocation of twentieth-century Jamaica, its history and traditions, and equivocal status as an overlooked outpost of the dwindling British Empire, this is an epic of love, diaspora, and sorely tested family loyalties.

Material: Unedited Typescript **Sales: Allison & Busby UK (to be published June/July 2005)**

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CHECKERS (written with Mark Parham)

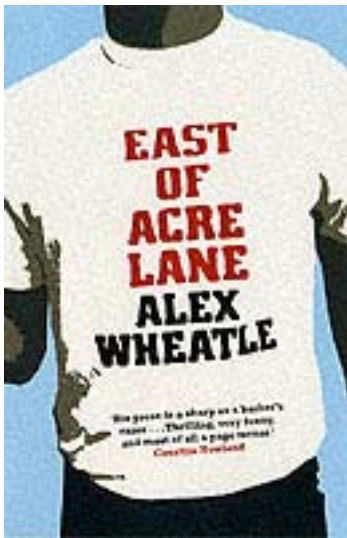
Eddy Maynard needs to get an illegal shipment to its destination. A simple operation – he 'could do it with his eyes closed.' But there is just one problem – his East London 'firm' needs to work closely with the crew from South London to be able to pull this one off. Things swiftly start to go wrong... The first in a proposed trilogy of London gangland thrillers, this was a number one crime fiction bestseller. The second book, TALKING LEAD, will be completed later this year.

Material: UK edition **Sales: X Press UK**

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EAST OF ACRE LANE

Biscuit feels like his life is running out of control. He needs to sort himself out fast, but how?



Biscuit and Coffin Head are reluctant drug-pushers on Acre Lane for the gangland boss, Nunchaks. He wants to give it up but he also needs to support his family – his mother, his sister Denise and his brother, Royston. He knows he should be looking for a job, Carol tells him that every time they meet.

Perhaps he should listen to Jah Nelson, who tells him that education is the key. But Biscuit has chosen a bad time to sort himself out: Brixton is angry – temperatures are high and ready to burst and, worst of all, Denise has just caught the eye of Nunchaks. As the riots begin, Biscuit has to make a choice, whatever the consequences that will change his life forever.

"Alex Wheatle's second novel is a rhythmic, fast talking tour of the tower blocks of South London... It is this blend of frantic action and thoughtful writing that ranks Alex Wheatle... as one of the most exciting writers of the black urban experience." *The Times*

Material: UK and French editions

Sales: Fourth Estate UK; Au Diable Vauvert France.

Film Rights: V22/Channel Four

ALEX WHEATLE is the award-winning author of **BRIXTON ROCK** (Black Amber Books UK, audio rights WF Howes), which was published in 1999. Of Jamaican origin, he was born in South London, and a performance poet (the Brixton Bard) and DJ. He now works with Book Trust to introduce literature to the dispossessed.

Adam Zameenzad

PEPSI AND MARIA

"...imagine a hybrid of *City of God* and *The Wizard of Oz*... a crossover triumph" *The Independent*

Pepsi is a smart street kid in an unnamed South American country – an orphan of circumstance, whose mother is dead and whose father, a famous politician, has disowned him. At his side is Maria, a girl kidnapped from her real family who has found in Pepsi a true 'brother'. In this hard-hitting yet fantastic tale, Pepsi's mission is to escape the sadistic Caddy, a policeman in cahoots with his father, whose one aim is to exterminate him, and to return Maria to her home – the rubbish-tip township she calls 'Heaven'.

Adam Zameenzad portrays the lives of social outcasts, loners, losers, the deprived and the dispossessed. He aims to give voice to the voiceless, and make visible the invisible. In this remarkable novel, the children's zest for life and the beauty of the world around them ensure that their dramatic and poetic story, while dealing with the appalling reality of street children's lives, is uplifting to the spirit.

PEPSI AND MARIA features Zameenzad's unsentimental, trademark humour and distinctly fictional milieu, drawing attention to the plight of street children, trying to give voice to the voiceless. Without question an important novel – an incredibly moving story, and effortlessly entertaining too. From the highly acclaimed author of MY FRIEND MATT & HENA THE WHORE, CYRUS CYRUS, LOVE BONES & WATER and THE THIRTEENTH HOUSE.

Material: Finished copies

Sales: Maia Press UK; Christian Bourgois France.

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MY FRIEND MATT AND HENA THE WHORE

"A truly remarkable novel" *Punch*

"Outstanding" *Sunday Times*

Kimo, Golam, Matt, and Hena live in an African village that is dying. So they embark on a search for an older cousin who has supposedly made it big in the city, but they find on their journey a country paralysed by famine and civil war. Although they are soon little more than skeletons, the children are full of resources with which to meet this world. One is laughter; another is Hena's practical intelligence. Their willingness to help those less able to cope is a powerful affirmation of man's fundamental humanity towards his fellow man.

Material: Finished copies

Sales: Christian Bourgois France, Giunti Italy

Adam Zameenzad has also been published by Viking & Random House USA; Klett Cotta Germany; Van Gennep NL; Marcos y Marcos Italy; Christian Bourgois France; Ediciones Versal Spain; Mellefolkeligt Samvirke Denmark; Am Oved Israel; Ordfront Sweden; Pax Norway; Treville Japan.

FILM RIGHTS to MY FRIEND MATT & HENA THE WHORE with writer/director Franc Roddam (Quadrophenia, Moby Dick, Lords of Discipline)

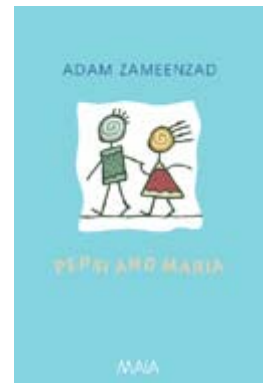
Praise for Adam Zameenzad:

"Quite unlike anything else..." *Daily Telegraph*

"One of the best reviewed and most original writers in the language." *Publishing News*

"Truly funny and gloriously inventive." *Malcolm Bradbury*

Website: www.adamzameenzad.com

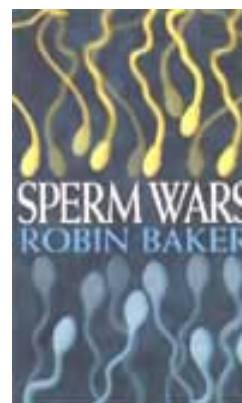


Selected Backlist Titles

Robin Baker

SPERM WARS

SPERM WARS is Robin Baker's revolutionary thesis about sex. Evolution has programmed men to conquer and monopolize women while women, without ever knowing they are doing it, seek the best genetic input on offer from potential sexual partners. He reveals the new facts of life: 10 per cent of children are not fathered by their 'fathers', less than 1 per cent of a man's sperm is capable of fertilizing anything, and a woman is far more likely to conceive through a casual fling than through sex with her regular partner. Baker employs his trademark formula of describing fictionalised scenes and then explaining the science behind the actions to demonstrate how our everyday behaviour fits into a pattern of evolution. SPERM WARS is a popular science classic that will surprise, entertain, and even shock.



By the same author: BABY WARS, and SEX IN THE FUTURE

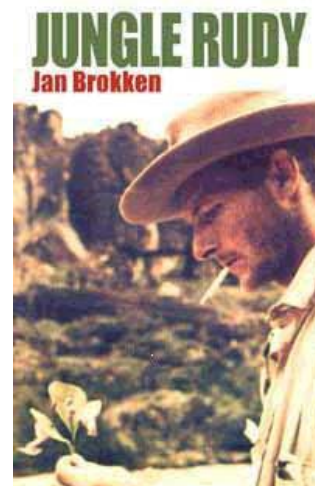
Material: Many editions **Sales:** Macmillan UK, Basic Books USA, Arbeiderspers NL, Yuan Fang China, Vaike Vanker Estonia, Limes Verlag Germany, Jota Czech Republic, Pecker Israel, Diana World Spanish, Kachi Korea, Baldini & Castoldi Italy, Record Brazil, Lattes France, HarperCollins Canada; Forum Sweden; Borgen Denmark; Kawade Shobo Japan.

Jan Brokken

JUNGLE RUDY

"A splendid book – Brokken manages to turn Truffino into an unforgettable tragic hero." *NRC Handelsblad*

Jan Brokken's account of his search for Rudy Truffino, the mysterious founder of the Canaima National Park in Venezuela starts out as an adventure story, as Brokken makes his way to this remote area. The book moves between biography, history, anthropology and travel. The first of three parts covers Brokken's first trip and his growing obsession with Rudy Truffino, his countryman. The myth of Rudy expounded in the first part is deconstructed in the second part as details of his life story emerge from interviews with his relatives and with his Indian employees. In the third part of the book Brokken undertakes a tough trek in the jungle, testing out his own jungle credentials, and demonstrating just how remarkable Rudy's achievements in that inhospitable environment were.



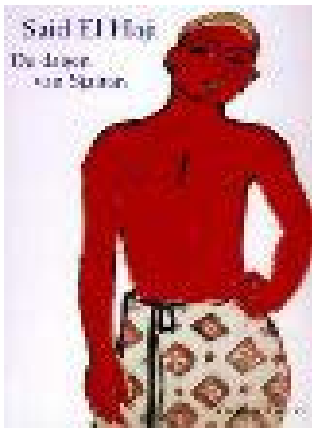
The real star of the book, though, is neither Rudy, nor Jan Brokken. It is the unique landscape where evolution has taken a different, largely unknown path, with enormous waterfalls and rivers and a wide variety of lethally poisonous snakes.

Material: Finished copies of NL and UK editions

Sales: Atlas (original publisher) NL; Marion Boyars UK & USA; Hanser/Zsolnay Germany (also THE BLIND PASSENGERS, THE SAD CHAMPION) Previous publishers: Lonely Planet Journeys Australia; Alba Editorial Spain.

Said El Haji

THE DAYS OF SHAYTAAN (DE DAGEN VAN SJAITAN)



Hamid would rather draw clouds than go to Koran school. From a Moroccan and strict Islamic family, Hamid starts to rebel more and more against his authoritarian father and the morals and rituals that structure the world of his family home. Hamid finds his alter ego in the man being called 'Shaytaan' – whose inflammatory speeches cause havoc in the local teahouse and mosque, and offloads the frustration he can't get rid of at home on to the imam of the small provincial Muslim community. A novel of oppositions and of different voices, of a son coming of age, and questioning what he has been lead to believe, this is an insightful, intimate, witty and highly original first novel. "An ambitious debut... We will undoubtedly be hearing a lot more from El Haji in years to come." *NRC Handelsblad*

Material: Dutch and French editions, sample English translation

Sales: Vassallucci NL (original publisher); Gaïa Editions France

Joris Luyendijk

EGYPT: EEN GOEDE MAN SLAAT SOMS ZIJN VROUW (EGYPT: A GOOD MAN SOMETIMES HITS HIS WIFE)

After studying Arabic in Amsterdam, a young man goes to live for a year in Cairo amongst Egyptians of his own age – Muhammad the Feminist, Ali the Warrior, fundamentalist Imad, Liberal Hazem. He talks to them about love, Islam, the West, sex, democracy, homosexuals, Jews, emancipation, and the meaning of life. A magnificent, hilarious and honest book about whether it is ever possible to integrate in an Islamic society, this is colourful, refreshing travel writing with a difference.

By the same author: EEN TIPJE VAN DE SLUIER (A TIP OF THE VEIL): 'Islam for Beginners'

Material: Dutch and German editions; sample English translation

Sales: Podium NL; Rotbuch Verlag Germany; Dar E Amar World Arabic.



Joydeep Roy-Bhattacharya

THE GABRIEL CLUB



"An impressive debut, serious and passionate" *J M Coetzee*

A political thriller set in Eastern Europe, this debut novel concerns a dissident group in Budapest, Hungary, in the 1970s. The founding member of the group mysteriously disappears. Nearly 20 years later, a wax figure of the missing woman is found floating down the Danube, a circle of red roses around her head. A police investigation ensues, and the members of the 'Gabriel Club' must return to face their past. An extraordinary interrogation of memory and identity, THE GABRIEL CLUB is also an intense and engrossing mystery... THE GABRIEL CLUB was shortlisted for India's top literary prize – the Crossword Prize – alongside Anita Desai (Fasting, Feasting), Salman Rushdie (The Ground Beneath Her Feet), and Vikram Seth (An Equal Music).

Material: many editions **Sales:** Penguin Books India, Granta UK, Actes Sud France, Edhasa Spain, Neri Pozza Italy, Europa Hungary, Prometheus Netherlands, Knaus Verlag Germany.

New books from Holland:

BROTHER by Laurens Abbink Spaik

When Sebastiaan receives news from his long lost brother, presumed dead, he leaves everything behind. He says farewell to his pill-popping friends, parts from his new love Kim, and, in his pair of yellow shoes, and carrying a customs-sensitive drinking yoghurt bottle, he mingles with pilgrims and moves, via Lourdes, to Barcelona to meet his brother. The journey becomes a pilgrimage, an endurance test, and increasingly crusade-like as he nears his brother. Sebastiaan begins to understand that he will have to make many sacrifices to reach Dimitri, and recover his own lucky streak.

A dramatic, impressive and unforgettable debut novel from a young lawyer turned author. Tears, inappropriate laughter, anxiety and hilarity alternate at a great pace. Abbink Spaik has a great eye for detail and his ingenious satirical style is reminiscent of Arnon Grunberg.

Material: finished copies **Sales:** Podium

HEMELSTOF by Gie Bogaert

"Stories can save us. They give us back the things we thought we had lost forever, or that we thought no longer existed. They comfort us. They give us reasons to go on with what we think is important: ranging our lives, taking the dog out, loving a man"

HEMELSTOF is a collection of colourful, subtle, interlinked stories about loss. A tightrope walker loses his love, young Lena's father dies, a mother grieves the accidental death of her daughter, Ian loses his innocence. In HEMELSTOF a powerful storyteller speaks, creating a fantastic yet familiar world with great sensitivity to poetic detail, beautiful prose and striking imagery. The eternal themes of love and death are drawn in unique ways.

Flemish author, Bogaert is the author of short stories and novels (including DE LIEFDEVERZAMELAAR – THE LOVE COLLECTOR), which was highly acclaimed. A germanophile, he teaches prose at the Schrijvers Academie in Antwerp. "Gie Bogaert is a secret tip for literary connoisseurs" Vrij Nederland

Material: finished copies **Sales:** Podium

NO ESCAPE FROM HOLLYWOOD by Maartje Duin

Penniless, Maartje Duin travels to Hollywood to make her dream reality: to move in the world of stars, glitter and glamour and then write a book about it. She fearlessly steps into a world that attracts her as much as it repels her. Disguised as a journalist she manages to infiltrate exclusive 'star' parties and meets the most eccentric people. Initially everything looks like it is going to plan. But failure to gatecrash the Oscars lands Maartje in jail. Suddenly life in Hollywood is not so easy to describe. Little by little her joie de vivre abandons her and she's nearly, like so many others, smothered by this surreal city of dreams, illusions and crippling loneliness.

This wonderfully anecdotal, insightful, revealing account (of a Hollywood we don't usually see) is a hilarious journey through glamour to reveal all that lies behind it. From Tom Cruise's Scientology Church to Madonna's Kabbalah Centre, from the ghettos of Snoop Doggy Dogg to the election party for Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Material: Manuscript **Sales:** Podium

MY GRANDFATHER, THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER ANIMALS by Al Galidi

A young boy paints a portrait of the village of El Nebbi in southern Iraq, where a small community has lived in the same way for centuries. Stories, habits, dreams and illusions have always existed. And yet something has changed: events on the world stage have consequences for daily life. Traditions are broken and people become scared. To calm their fear stories are told, stories that must be heard but also distrusted. 'Careful, little one,' my grandfather always said. 'Beware of putting something in your head that you can't get out again. Take it from me that when the bird swallowed a stone, he first checked to make absolutely sure that his hole is big enough to get rid of it.' In MY GRANDFATHER, THE PRESIDENT AND OTHER ANIMALS we see Saddam Hussein's Iraq through the eyes of a young boy. It is a strange world full of beauty, violence, hope and love, where fear plays a permanent role.

Al Galidi has published collected journalism and poetry and with this novel confirms his talent as a novelist. He comes from Southern Iraq and has lived in Holland as a political refugee for several years.

Material: Manuscript **Sales:** De Arbeiderspers

THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN (HEMELRIJK) by The Lau

A first novel from the Dutch Nick Cave... In a house of faded grandeur live Casper Hemelrijk and his wife Hester, occupying just a few rooms. Casper grew up in a small artistic community, and is reflecting upon his earlier years – his childhood sweetheart and one true love of his life that just disappeared one day, the rivalry between him and a slightly older boy from the village in all its ugly guises, the love of a father for his son. Casper Hemelrijk's life is recaptured in spite of his slowly disappearing memory through conversations, dreams, flashbacks and recollections.

HEMELRIJK is written in a concise, emotionally powerful style and is the life story of a passionate man, told partly through the eyes of his loyal gardener, Joris, who also does the shopping, and listens to the witty and often confused words of the old man, and partly by the old man himself. This is The Lau's debut novel, and full of sharp observations and authentic dialogue, a story told with great compassion, a story of (lost) love and the pleasures of life, as well as the realities of old age, and the approach of death. "A fascinating read" *Metro*

Material: Finished copies **Sales:** Vassallucci

BEWARE YOUR SHOE SOLE: Etiquette of the Middle East, by Eva Ludemann

There are few things that offend an Arab more than pointing your shoe sole at him. It means you rate him as little as you do the dust and dirt. Not for nothing did the Iraqis attack the fallen statue of Saddam with their slippers and shoes. Differences between western etiquette and that of the Middle East often lead to misunderstandings and provoke many questions. What does it mean if someone does not want to shake your hand? How do you refuse a cup of coffee without insulting your host? How do you do business? How do arrange a meeting?

Eva Ludemann answers these kinds of practical questions. All the do's and don'ts are addressed, from gestures and posture to behaviour in the street and at home. This book is a solid aid for anyone who is going to the Middle East, or anyone who wants to know more about Arab life and culture.

Material: Manuscript **Sales:** Podium

THE SOURCE CODE: the adventure of an invention, by Eric Smit

The unlikely but true story of a Dutch TV repairman who created shocking new technology only, subsequently, to take his discovery with him to his grave...

It is 1999. In his attic in Nieuwegein Jan Sloot created a revolutionary coding technique to shrink digital files. From now on all the world's films could fit it on one cd-rom. Scientifically the technique is inexplicable, but Sloot showed by demonstrations that his discovery worked. The Sloot Digital Coding System would become the Holy Grail in the electronics industry. Silicon Valley is interested. The invention would be worth millions of dollars, all the names in Dutch and international business agreed. But the euphoria about the technological innovation of the century is short-lived. Completely out of the blue Sloot dies and with him the source code of his invention disappears.

The mystery around Sloot's discovery is still very much alive today. Quote journalist Eric Smit offers a treasure trove of bizarre and revealing details that will stun readers.

Material: Finished Copies **Sales:** Podium